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A Healing Salve
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Always keep a jar handy
Send 3c in stamps for
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**MINE DISASTER
AT STELLARTON**

**EXPLOSION TRAPS MINERS JUST
AFTER THE DAY SHIFT
HAD LEFT AT FIVE
O'CLOCK.**

First Sad Reports of Pictou County
Disaster Have Been Fully Verified
And There is Little Hope For the
Sixty-Six Men Still in the Mine.

HALIFAX, January 23—An explo-
sion occurred this evening at the Allan
shaft, Acadia Coal Company's col-
lieries, Stellarton. About one hundred
men were in the shaft at the time.
Seven have just been brought up alive.
The Draeger men are going down.
Emergency apparatus of all kinds is
being concentrated.

The explosion occurred shortly af-
ter 5 o'clock, a few minutes after the
day shift had left. A blast of smoke
was seen to come from the mouth of
the pit but no noise was heard, even
by those on the surface nearby.

STELLARTON, N. S., Jan. 24—Amid
scenes which beggar description, forty
bodies were taken from the Allan
shaft here today, as hundreds of wom-
en and children stood about in the
piercing cold, waiting with tear-dim-
med eyes and tense nerves as each
body came up the lift.

As the great hawser wound up its
gruesome load, women rushed to the
pit mouth, tiny children hanging on
to their skirts and then one in the
throng would cry as she saw the
body. "Oh, God; it's my Jim." And so
the day wore on, while to the waiting
crowd it seemed like months—wear-
ing on the nerves of the rescuers as
man after man was found cold in
death.

It is estimated that the dead will
number 106, for there is not the slight-
est hope for those who have not yet
been reached. About forty of the men
who lost their lives are natives of
Stellarton, Westville and surrounding
towns, while the remainder are for
the most part Belgians and other for-
eigners. Two of the bodies brought
to the surface today are as yet unident-
ified.

There was but little surface explo-
sion for the trouble occurred at the
1,200 foot level and the splendid pow-
er of the pit mouth, was not dam-
aged except for some broken glass.

The old people of the town talk of
it as the second Ford pit disaster, and
compare the scenes and the death list
as men are being brought up from
the darksome, gas-smelling bowels of
the earth whose fathers and relatives
went to their deaths in the disaster
of thirty-five years ago.

There is now no gas to be contended
with in the mine—the greatest enemy
of the Draeger men who are hard at
work reclaiming the bodies.

MINE WILL BE SAVED

An official of the company, in con-
versation with your correspondent to-
night, said that there was every hope
of recovering the mine. It was at
first feared that this valuable mine
would be a total loss and while the
work has not proceeded sufficiently
to date to permit of a comprehensive
survey being made the indications
point strongly to the possibility of
putting the mine in working order
again at no distant date.

At the time the explosion occurred,
between seven and eight hundred tons
of coal were being hoisted daily, and
coming as it did in the midst of a
coal famine the outlook is anything
but bright. As a result of the explo-
sion and coal shortage the entire plant
of the Nova Scotia Steel and Coal
Company has been closed down until
Tuesday next.

More effective rescue work will be
done tomorrow, owing to the arrival
of a special train from the Cape Breton
coal field, bringing twenty-eight
experienced Draeger men and their
apparatus.

Tales told of the sights seen by the
dim light of a miner's lantern by res-
cuers rival the fiction stories of great
disasters in the coal field of Wales. So
sudden was the explosion and so utter-
ly without warning that men were
found still gripping the handles of their
picks, ready to strike another blow
at the coal below them: Others were
in the act of placing a charge to
loosen some particularly stubborn
block in the seam. One little trap-
door lad was found with a bit of bread
in hand. He had been "sneaking" a bite
between times while he attended to his
work. Those on the surface can but
imagine the conditions under ground
while many of the rescuers when asked
to tell of their experiences simply
shake their head and say nothing, for
they are all miners and hence they
feel more keenly the work which they
are engaged upon.

McQuarrie's undertaking rooms are
being used as a temporary morgue
and in all probability there will be
a mass funeral when all the victims
will be buried.

Many of the blinds on the houses
along Red Row, where the company's

houses stand, are drawn, telling only
too plainly that within there are
breaking hearts and children who are
sobbing for a daddy who stares with
sightless eyes at the black wall of coal
in some gallery in the Allan shaft and
who will never again greet them with
a grimy kiss as he returns from his
shift at eventide.

The fire is being kept well under
control and will likely result in little
damage to the mine. General Man-
ager Prud'homme, who was formerly
secretary of the Belgian relief fund
for Canada, and a prominent Belgian,
is working long hours and tirelessly
in the work of rescue.

Mayor Campbell, of Stellarton, has
sent out appeals to the various towns
in the maritime provinces for contri-
butions or relief to the families of
the miners who lost their lives in the
disaster.

Hiram Donkin, deputy commissioner
of public works and mines, says the
Allan shaft is situated on the same
seam as the famous Old Ford pit, the
oldest colliery in Pictou county, which
was destroyed by an explosion, fol-
lowing a fire in 1882 when more than
100 men lost their lives and the mine
was flooded and became useless ever
after. The seam upon which this old
pit was situated is supposed to be the
largest in the world, having a thick-
ness of more than forty feet in some
places.

After the old Ford pit exploded, the
seam, or at least the main part of it,
remained unworked for many years,
although the Albion, Intercolonial and
other adjacent mines are all supposed
to be on seams connected with the
Old Ford. On account of its unusual
size and the quality of its coal, it was
considered desirable to re-open this
property, and about 1908 or 1909 a
shaft known as the "Allan" was sunk
to meet the old seam at a point nearly
a mile from the Old Ford pit head,
and not far from Lour's siding. This
second shaft, which is vertical, was
somewhat farther back from the East
River than the Ford, and 1,200 feet in
depth.

It should be explained, in passing,
that after the great explosion of 1882,
the Ford pit took fire and in order to
extinguish it the mine was flooded
with water from the East River. In
spite of that certain parts are known
to be burning to this day.

In working the Allan shaft property,
the miners have approached quite
close to the flooded galleries of the
Old Ford; so closely, in fact, that
they have been able to bore holes and
considerably lower the water in the
Ford by draining it off through other
levels of the Allan. Mr. Donkin es-
timates that at some points the men
have probably come within fifty feet
of the Old Ford galleries.

BOARD KEPT BUSY

HALIFAX, Jan. 24—The great dis-
aster at Stellarton, following as it
does closely after the New Waterford
explosion and the awful catastrophe
at Halifax, means additional work and
immensely increased expenditures for
the Workmen's Compensation Board.
Sixty-seven lives were lost at New
Waterford on July 25 and the board
immediately made adjustment of the
claims and are carrying on the pay-
ments.

**FOOD CONTROLLER HANNA HAS
RESIGNED**

Declares His Duties Interfered With
His Private Interests.

OTTAWA, January 23—The Hon.
W. J. Hanna has handed to the Prime
Minister his resignation as Food Con-
troller for Canada. The resignation
has been accepted and Mr. H. B.
Thomson, of Vancouver, who has been
associated with Mr. Hanna as Deputy
Food Controller for some months, has
been appointed his successor.

Mr. Hanna, in his letter of resig-
nation, explained that he could not
continue to exercise the duties of Food
Controller without serious impair-
ment of his private interests. The
Minister, in accepting the resignation,
expressed regret that Mr. Hanna had
found it necessary to relinquish his
duties and paid a tribute to the ability
and devotion he had brought to the ad-
ministration of his office.

In an official statement given out
in connection with the letter of resig-
nation, and the Prime Minister's re-
ply, it is explained that Mr. Hanna's
decision occasioned no surprise on
the part of those who are conversant
with his many other duties and activ-
ities.

Minard's Lintment cures Distemper.

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For Your Soldier!



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never forgets to keep
me well stocked with
WRIGLEY'S

Teeth, breath, appe-
tite and digestion all
benefit from it. Thirst
and fatigue fade
away. Pluck returns
by its magic aid.

After every
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MADE IN
CANADA

**The Flavour
Lasts!**



THE loaf that never
varies. The same
yesterday, today and to-
morrow—the
"REGAL" loaf.



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IS GOOD
FLOUR**

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To J. H. Longmire & Sons
Bridgetown, N. S.

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J. H. LONGMIRE & SONS
Queen Street, Bridgetown, N. S.

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the radical cure of constipation
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to do the work." 30 drops
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Meat, Corned Beef and Pork, Salt
Mackerel, Boneless Cod.

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Thomas Mack
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