

# THREE THOUSAND; DEAD 6000 INJURED; 25000 HOMELESS

## Is the Result of Halifax Explosion the Worst Accident of the Whole War to Date

As the result of the terrible explosion aboard a munition ship in Halifax harbor Thursday morning part of the north end of the city and along the water front is in ruins and the human life is appalling. Late estimates place the number of dead at 2,000 to 3,000, as the known dead number 1,200 and 1920 persons yet unaccounted for. The number of injured is placed at 6,000, while 25,000 estimated as being homeless.

The collision, which occurred between the two steamers took place near the point of the harbour known as Pier 3 and was between a French munition ship, the Mont Blanc and the Norwegian steamer Imo.

The Mont Blanc lies in the narrow harbor a battered smoke-torn wreck, while the Norwegian boat is beached on the Dartmouth side of the harbor.

At nine o'clock the city was enjoying its usual period of calm and the streets were crowded with the usual number of people who were unconsciously wending their way to work. Little thinking of what was in a few minutes to befall them. In the outskirts the little children were running in the streets under the calm sunshine.

Suddenly, like a bolt from the blue there came an explosion. From one end of the city to the other glass fell and people were lifted from the sidewalks and thrown flat into the streets. In the downtown offices just beginning to hum with the usual day's activity, clerks and heads alike covered under the shower of falling glass and plaster which fell about.

The collision was a terrific one, the munition boat being pierced on the port side practically to the engine room.

Practically all the north end of the city known as Richmond was laid waste. The destruction extends from North Street Railway Station north as far as Africville to Bedford Basin and covers about two square miles.

The Mont Blanc carried about 4,000 tons of high explosives, including a stock of benzine. After her crew left her she steered in toward the Halifax side of the harbor and the city received the full force of the explosion.

The rescuers, who were early on the scene, say that the sights in the public schools at the north end of the city were pitiable. They found the bodies of dozens of little children

and scores of others with broken limbs and covered with blood.

The force of the explosion was felt 60 miles from Halifax glare being broken in the Learmont Hotel at Truro.

All telegraph wires were prostrated and when the explosion occurred the operators jumped from their keys and raced for the open. All the telephones were also put out of business. For a time Halifax was completely isolated from the outside world.

The big building of the Acadia Sugar Refinery was razed to the ground, and the only tangible sign that it ever existed is a pile of smouldering ruins. The dry dock and the buildings which surrounded it were all destroyed, while an unofficial rumor says that at the Richmond school, which housed hundreds of children, only three escaped alive and so with many places.

Voluntary relief was rushed to the city as soon as word of the disaster was communicated to the outside points. Sixty doctors coming from outside points at once threw themselves into the work of aiding and operating. Hundreds more have come since, the United States being as generous as any part of Canada.

Hardly a house in Halifax had any glass left in it. Hundreds of people were killed by flying glass, and hundreds more blinded and otherwise crippled for life. Many had their eyes torn out by the concussion of the explosion.

The accident tore up the docks and wharfs and is the greatest disaster of the whole war.

A heavy snowstorm came over the city next day.

The city was at once put under martial law.

Every town and city council has sent relief; the Dominion Government has appropriated \$500,000. Massachusetts offered \$1,000,000, and the U. S. Government \$5,000,000.

There was much distress among Newcastle people who had relatives in the stricken city. An uncle of Mrs Frank Hare was killed. This was the only fatality among our people. Miss Frances Fish wired she was injured but safe. Mrs. McCullough, daughter of Mrs J D McAuley was badly injured and is in Truro hospital. Her husband was also hurt but not seriously. Wm. Creaghan and Jack Nicholson of Newcastle;

Miss Catherine MacMillan, of Jacques River; Miss Constance Wilson of Millerton, and Miss Lottie Loggie of Loggieville, were all in the city, and all are home safe. Miss Helen McCurdy, daughter of Rev J F McCurdy of Redbank, is safe.

Mrs Oondron, daughter of Mr and Mrs Brown of Douglastown, was cut by glass. She returned home on Tuesday.

### LOCAL ITEMS

Whole Wheat Flour at the Radio Flour Mill Today, \$6.00 per bag. 51-1

Newcastle Rink opens to-morrow Night. Twelve Bands for skating. 51-1

HON. F. B. MCCURDY IS ELECTED  
Hon. F. B. McCurdy, Parliamentary Secretary of Militia, a brother of E. A. McCurdy of Newcastle is elected by acclamation in Colchester, N. S., his Laurierite opponent retiring.

REV W R ROBINSON SPEAKS  
HERE SATURDAY NIGHT  
A public temperance meeting will be addressed in the Temperance Hall on Saturday evening, at 8 o'clock, by Rev W R Robinson of St John, and others who will explain the working of the new Prohibition Act. The public are welcome.

UNION STRONG AT DOUGLASTOWN  
Douglastown Temperance Hall was filled Monday night to hear the Unionist speakers—W S Loggie, Ex-Mayor Southart, James Stables and Rep S J MacArthur. R H Josselyn, a Liberal presided. The audience was strongly with the speakers. At the close some thirty or forty electors remained behind and took active part in perfecting organization.

PTE WALLACE TRAVIS STILL MISSING  
Mrs Annie Travis has received official word from Ottawa that the only information available at Militia Headquarters regarding her son Wallace, is the report to the effect that he was missing Aug 15th, 1917. Enquiries are, however, constantly being made concerning missing men and should any definite information be obtained she will be notified immediately.

NOTICE TO FARMERS  
Cards requesting information about seed will be distributed in a few days by the school teachers. These cards are for information only and no person is bound in any way by them. Every man receiving one is requested to fill it out immediately and return to the teacher.

If any do not receive cards, state seed requirements for 1918 to the Secretary of an Agricultural Society or to the N. B. Department of Agriculture, Fredericton. 51-1

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is catarrh. Catarrh being greatly influenced by constitutional conditions requires constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally and acts thru the Blood on the Mucous Surfaces of the System thereby destroying the foundation of the disease giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in the curative powers of Hall's Catarrh Cure that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials. Address: F. J. Cheney & Co. Toledo, Ohio. Sold by all Druggists, 75c.

DOAKTOWN NURSES IN SIR JOHN EATON'S RELIEF PARTY  
Sir John Eaton's special relief train from Toronto to Halifax consisting of three car loads of supplies, including clothing for men, women and children, provisions, surgical supplies and building material and his two private cars carrying a staff of doctors and nurses (the nurses including Misses Beatrice Ellis and Miss May Freede of Doaktown, N. E.) and twelve men to handle supplies, passed through New day afternoon. Sir John is in charge of the party.

LISTEN TO THIS!  
SAYS CORNS LIFT  
RIGHT OUT NOW

You ladies, men and women who are bothered with corns and who have at least once a week invited an awful death from lockjaw or blood poison are now told by a Cincinnati authority to use a drug called freestone, which the moment a few drops are applied to any corn, the soreness is relieved and soon the entire corn, root and all, lifts out with the fingers.

It is a sticky ether compound which dries the moment it is applied and simply shrivels the corn without inflaming or even irritating the surrounding tissue or skin. It is claimed that a quarter of an ounce of freestone will cost very little at any of the drug stores, but is sufficient to rid one's feet of every hard or soft corn or callus.

You are further warned that getting at a corn is a suicidal matter.

## XMAS 1917

Some of the things we would suggest as suitable for Xmas Gifts and which we can supply from large general stock

Fur and Cloth Caps, Misses Angora Sets, Mens Silk and Silk and Wool Mufflers, Neck Ties, Silk, Excelda and Lawn Handkerchiefs, Sweaters, Wool Hockey Caps, Kid, Mocha and Wool Gloves and Mitts, Silk and Cashmere Hosiery, Over Boots, Coesy Corner Slippers, Felt Boots Buck Skin Moccasins, Hockey Boots and Skates, Snow Shoes, Thermos Bottles, Gillette Razor Sets, Flash Lights, Pocket Knives, etc

### JOHN FERGUSON & SONS

LOUNSBURY BLOCk PHONE 10

## FLOUR and FEED

WHOLESALE and RETAIL

Radio "Flour" Middlings and Bran  
A 98 lb. Bag of "Radio" To-day  
**\$6.00**

Made in Newcastle from No. 1 Hard Wheat

### STOTHART MERCANTILE CO., LTD.

PHONE 46 NEWCASTLE

## Suitable Gifts for Christmas

Wax Sets	Perfumes from 25c to \$3.00
Fancy Tags and Twines	Engraved Booklets of all patterns
Combination Toilet Sets	Fancy Note Paper and Correspondence Cards
Leather Bound Manicure Sets	Pipes, Razors, Cigars of all kinds

Prices Moderate

### Morris Pharmacy

## Beveridge Paper Company Limited

14-19 ST. THERESE ST. MONTREAL

THERE IS NOTHING IN PAPER AND PAPER GOODS WE CAN'T SUPPLY

XMAS WILL SOON BE HERE!—How is your stock of Wrappings, Colored and Crepe Tissues, Lunch Sets, etc? We have three splendid lines of Xmas Papeteries in Fancy Boxes and Prices Right.

Try Our STORMPROOF and STORMKING Rubber Roofing

SPECIAL AT THE HAPPY HOUR SATURDAY

"The Law of the Land," probably the best known of all of George Broadhurst's plays, is to appear at the Happy Hour Theatre Saturday with Mme. Petrova as star. "The Law of the Land" is one of the most gripping dramas ever filmed. Director Tourneur found it necessary to inject much of what is called "comedy relief" and this has been most cleverly done. In particular is T. Vivian as the butler a leavening influence. Another amusing character is the Inspector's brand new son who shouts into the telephone what his father fondly believes to be a message—strictly in code. The theme has been worked out with more than ordinary care and ends in a stirring climax that will not be easily forgotten. Don't miss "The Law of the Land" at the Happy Hour Saturday.



DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS  
"DOWN TO EARTH"  
ARTCRAFT-PICTURES

HAPPY HOUR NEXT WEDNESDAY

## HAPPY HOUR---FRIDAY

WILLIAM FOX Presents  
GEO. WELSH in  
"HIGH FINANCE"

## SATURDAY



MME. PETROVA  
in  
"THE LAW OF THE LAND"  
A Paramount Picture

A human interest story running the whole gamut of emotions. Adapted from George Broadhurst's famous play that thrilled theatre-goers throughout the land.

At great expense, we have arranged to show this great photoplay Saturday. We suggest you see it early, as the demand for seats will undoubtedly be unprecedented in this town.

Admission, 10c and 15c

We Will Hold our  
**Xmas Opening**  
ON  
**Wednesday December 12th**

Our Line this year is Larger and Better than ever before

Call and examine our Stock and have your wants laid away for you

### DICKISON & TROY

Druggists and Opticians Phone 75