

TERRIFIC EXPLOSION SENDS LONDON INTO BOMB-PROOF CELLARS

Munitions Factory in Outskirts of City Completely Destroyed.

MORE THAN 50 ARE KILLED

London, Jan. 20.—(U. P.)—The death list from last night's fire and explosion in a munitions plant near London was raised tonight to between 50 and 60 by the death of 21 injured in various hospitals. Eighty or more persons are still in hospitals suffering from injuries.

The wildest rumors were current until the official announcement of the explosion. The terrific force of the explosion was felt all over the city, and in many adjacent suburbs. In some localities windows were literally blown out. The sky was brilliantly lighted with a rose-pink glare of the explosion.

Thousands Leave Buildings.
Hundreds and thousands of Londoners ran out into the streets and sought bomb-proof cellars, thinking the noise heralded another Zeppelin raid. The official statement late today asserted that three rows of houses were destroyed with the entire munitions plant. All of the munitions at this spot were involved in the explosion. The government declared, however, that the disaster would practically have no effect on future production of munitions for England's armies.

The section that felt most violently the force of the explosion was East London. There horns were torn off their hinges, windows shattered and lights extinguished. Fear-crazed citizens turned in alarms, and fire engines and ambulances scurried through the streets. Everybody had the same thought at first—a Zeppelin raid.

Relatives of Workmen Frantic.
All sorts of vehicles were commandeered by the police in removing the victims of the catastrophe. A cordon of police was immediately thrown about the affected section to keep back frantic relatives and friends of the workers, as well as morbid sightseers.

Investigation of I. W. W. Riots Asked
Washington, Jan. 20.—(U. P.)—Senator Jones, Washington, today presented a resolution by which the Yakima, Wash., Trades and Labor council and the Central Labor council of Seattle asking for a congressional investigation of the I. W. W. riots at Everett, Wash., November 4, 1916, in which seven were killed and many injured.

Snowshoe Club to Make Mt. Hood Trip
A snowshoe club party of 15 members will leave the Union depot at 10 o'clock this morning for a trip to Mt. Hood. It has been raining all day in the Mount Hood section and skiing will be the very best.

KRYPTOK
Without Lines in the Lens
Two lenses with two purposes
Look up—look down, the distant scene becomes sharp and distinct, and the printed page is clear and easy to read.

Such is the Comfort and Helpfulness of Thompson's Kryptok Lenses.
Thompson Optical Institute
Second Floor, Corbett Bldg.
Portland's Oldest and Largest Exclusive Optical House

LANDMARK TO BE WRECKED

Plant of Oregon Iron & Steel Works at Oswego, which long ago proved to be an industrial failure and a big financial loss to its promoters, and which will be wrecked and cleared away.

One of the old landmarks of this region, the Oregon Iron & Steel blast furnaces at Oswego, is to be wrecked. The work is to begin within a short time, and that once interesting, and for a time famous, enterprise will be cast into the discard.

50 YEARS OF BARTER ENDS IN TRANSFER OF DANISH WEST INDIES
From the National Geographic Society.
The transfer of the three islands which comprise the Danish West Indies to the United States by Denmark marks the culmination of a bit of bartering which began nearly 50 years ago, when the American government offered \$7,500,000 for the 133 square miles of territory in the Antilles, the price exceeding by \$300,000 the price paid to Russia in the same year (1867) for the vast, rich territory of Alaska, comprising an area more than four thousand times as large. The sale was not consummated, because the United States senate failed to ratify the treaty. Fourteen years ago negotiations were renewed and a price of \$5,000,000 was agreed upon, but this time the Danish parliament refused to sanction the sale, although the islands had been governed at a loss to the mother country for many years, in fact since slavery was abolished in 1848, thereby putting an end to the profitable operation of the sugar plantations.

By the purchase of these islands from Denmark for \$25,000,000 the United States government becomes undisputed master of the East Atlantic and will hold the commercial and naval key to what is conceded to be the most important strategic domain in the western hemisphere. The islands are located 160 miles from Havana, 1600 miles from New York, 1212 miles from the Panama canal and but 325 miles from La Guayra, Venezuela.

Islands Discovered by Columbus.
These islands of the Virgin group—St. Croix, St. Thomas and St. John, in the order of their size and population—were discovered by Columbus in 1492. Spanish, British, French, Dutch and Danish flags have floated over one or all of the islands at various times. St. John, lying 10 miles southeast of Porto Rico, has an area of 84 square miles, and is the most prosperous of the group, with its two towns of Christianstad and Frederikstad. It was held at one time by the Knights of Malta, having been given to that famous order by Louis XIV of France. St. Thomas, which lies only 40 miles east of Porto Rico, was at one time the chief distributing center of West Indian trade, its importance being directly attributable to the fact that the mother country, Denmark, maintained its neutrality during the numerous European wars of the eighteenth century. The temporary occupation of the island by the British during several periods of the Napoleonic wars added further to the importance of the chief port, Charlotte Amalie, where merchant vessels rode at anchor in the ancient land-locked harbor while waiting for convoys to protect them on the voyage across the Atlantic. This town, with a population of less than 10,000, mainly negroes, is still an important coaling station for steamers in the West Indian trade. With a depth of from 27 to 35 feet of water, the harbor is the most commodious and largest merchant ships which sail these seas. The export and import trade has become negligible since the rapid decline of the sugar industry in the Danish government has tried in vain to revive by granting annual subsidies.

Goral Harbor Excellent.
St. John, largest and most important of the islands, lying four miles to the east of St. Thomas, has an area of 21 square miles. It is scarcely more than a 10-mile ridge with but one distinguishing feature, Goral bay, the best harbor of refuge in the Antilles. Cruxby, a village of 1000 inhabitants on the northern shore, is the center of population. While Danish is the official language of the islands, English is quite generally spoken. The monotony of existence is not infrequently broken by earthquakes and hurricanes.

Commodore Phythian Is Dead at Annapolis
Washington, Jan. 20.—(U. P.)—Just as Admiral Dewey's funeral cortege was passing the navy department this afternoon word was received from Annapolis of the death of Commodore Robert Lee Phythian, retired, who was a student at the academy when Dewey attended.

Mexicans Indicted By Federal Jury
San Antonio, Texas, Jan. 26.—(U. P.)—Leopoldo Sanchez, Gonzales Flores and Serviano Flores today were indicted by the federal grand jury on charges of exporting 10,000 rounds of .36-36 caliber Winchester cartridges into Mexico November 19, 1916. They were arrested and gave bonds to appear in court today.

BLAST FURNACES OF OSWEGO STEEL PLANT ARE TO BE WRECKED

Enterprise Thought to Mean Much Was Made Worthless by Mesaba Discovery.

Pig Iron Made in 1867
High Price of Scrap Iron at Present Induces Owners to Order Destruction of Once Famous Plant.
One of the old landmarks of this region, the Oregon Iron & Steel blast furnaces at Oswego, is to be wrecked. The work is to begin within a short time, and that once interesting, and for a time famous, enterprise will be cast into the discard.

It was here on August 24, 1867, that the first pig iron in the United States west of the Rocky mountains, was made, and it came from ore mined in the hills of the present town of Oswego, seven miles south of the business center of Portland. There were many effervescing heresies in the modest blast shops at Oswego at that time. Wonderful things were expected by the people, as a result of the new venture. There were visions of an enormous payroll. There were others of great business structures, beautiful homes, splendid churches, palatial theatres and all the concomitants of a live metropolis.

Spotted By a Discovery.
There were those expecting that location to become the heart of Portland. It would require substantial banking houses to handle the finances of the industries which would spring up. There would be rolling mills adjacent to the river. There would come carshops in Portland and machine shops would help consume the product of the furnaces. Carshops would supply railroads with their rolling stock, and steamships would receive their equipment of machinery from Oswego. A Pittsburgh on a modest scale was being sprung up and flourish, his manufacture would be a demand for its manufactures.

Was Incorporated in 1869.
Though pig iron was produced in 1867, the company was not incorporated until 1868. At that time the project was reorganized by the Ladd family and the late Simeon G. Reed, and now the property of the Ladd estate, Reed college and one or two other small interests.

Black Wedding Is New York's Latest
Fashion Model Becomes Bride of Designer With Sable Decorations From Limousine to Breakfast Service.
New York, Jan. 20.—(U. P.)—A black wedding, one of the most remarkable ceremonies ever performed in this country and one which made even blase New York sit up and stare, was celebrated at the Church of St. Vincent de Paul here today.

Economic Questions Discussed at Vienna
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Freighter Wins in Duel With U-Boat
New York, Jan. 20.—(U. P.)—The British cargo steamer Lyndenhall, arriving here today from Naples, brought news of a battle off Sicily on the last trip across, during which a submarine was fought off with a little 12-pound gun mounted at the ship's stern. Thirty shells out of about 100 fired by the submarine, was stated, hit the steamer, but none in a vital place.

Congressional Fight Promised on Grayson

Senators Smoot and Harding Declare They Will Say Something Regarding Naming of Grayson a Rear Admiral.

Washington, Jan. 20.—(U. P.)—That open attacks on both floors of congress will be made on the president's promotion of Dr. Cary T. Grayson, lieutenant commander, to be a rear admiral, is certain. Senators Smoot and Harding declared today they will "have a thing or two to say about the promotion of the man who has been the president's personal physician and friend for four years."

Memorial Asserts Enemies Have Seized Upon Practice to Inflamm Public Opinion.
REASONS ARE EXPLAINED
Move Made to Keep Self-Respect Intact in People and Retain Skill as Workmen.
Washington, Jan. 20.—(U. P.)—The compulsory employment of Belgian workmen in German establishments is being seized upon by the enemies of Germany as welcome opportunity for inflaming public opinion in neutral and hostile countries against this alleged latest violation of the Belgian people, according to a memorial from the German government dealing with the deportation of Belgian workers, which was delivered to the state department today by the German embassy.

Stop Orders Said to Have Been Issued to Ordnance, Supply Depot, Columbus.
El Paso, Texas, Jan. 20.—(U. P.)—Preliminary preparations looking to the withdrawal of General Pershing's punitive expedition from Mexico were in progress today. "Stop orders" have been issued to the ordnance and supply department at the Columbus base while, from private sources, it was reported that the American outposts at El Valle, Charcos and San Joaquin are being drawn into the field headquarters at Colonia Dublan. However, in military circles here lack of information is professed as to the actual movement of American outposts.

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Lawson Sees Vision of Big Leak Coming

Warns "Street Friends" to Seek "High Land and Dry"; Will Work All Night in Preparing Statement.

Boston, Jan. 20.—(U. P.)—Thomas W. Lawson today declared the country is about to see another leak to Wall street that will be as a "volcano to a bubble" in comparison with the last leak. He said he would give a detailed statement to the press tonight.

Wyoming to Vote Upon Prohibition
Cheyenne, Wyo., Jan. 20.—(U. P.)—The people of the state of Wyoming will vote upon a prohibition amendment to the state constitution in 1918. This was assured today when Governor Kendrick signed the bill just passed by the legislature submitting the question of a "wet" or "dry" state to a referendum vote.

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EDWARDS' Fortieth Annual Furniture Sale

Edwards' Annual Furniture Sale is a merchandise event of interest and importance to the furniture buyer—bright new furniture of real quality and approved design is included, with prices that mean savings not offered at any other time of year. You can outfit your entire home or only one room, and pay while using the furniture. Come to this sale! Come tomorrow! Or if you can't come, phone, or use the mail. Out-of-town folks are rendered the same personal service and the same credit terms as residents of Portland.

Distinctive OVERSTUFFED FURNITURE at Interesting Reductions

| | |
|--|---|
| \$31.50 Overstuffed Tapestry Chair | \$24.75 \$21 Tapestry Overstuffed Rocker, with winged back, for..... \$14.95 |
| \$75 Overstuffed Tapestry Davenport \$49 | \$23.50 Genuine Leather Overstuffed Rocker for..... \$15.85 |

Three loose cushions—assorted patterns of tapestry to choose from. Style exactly as cut. Terms, \$1.00 weekly.

"Simmons" Satin Brass Beds
At Clearance Reductions

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| \$22.50 | \$11.95 |
| \$29.50 | \$16.85 |
| \$27.50 | \$19.75 |
| \$37.50 | \$22.50 |
| \$38.50 | \$24.35 |
| \$40.00 | \$27.75 |
| \$42.50 | \$27.75 |
| (Extra Special) \$32.50 | \$18.75 |

Folding Tea Wagon \$7.85
Beautifully enameled in grey-mahogany and grained oak-silent rubber-tired wheels—the ideal service wagon for afternoon teas, breakfast table or sick room.
Regular Price \$11.50

Gilbert Mantel Clock \$1.98
Useful as well as ornamental; this Gilbert is a guaranteed timekeeper; strikes the hours and the half hours with a different chime. Exactly like cut.
Regular Price \$3.50

Use a Hugro Vacuum Carpet Sweeper —Pay 50c a Week
The Hugro Vacuum Carpet Sweeper has so many features for efficiently sweeping with little labor that a detailed description here is out of the question. The price is only **\$7.50** but it is worth twice the sum to the particular housewife who wants a sweeper that will not injure her floor coverings. Send for literature—or better call and inspect.

Fiberlin Linoleum 49c Yard
Fiberlin Linoleum lightens the work of scrubbing. This week EDWARDS 65c Fiberlin Linoleum—49c yard. Nine designs to choose from, and every one is a desirable pattern.

A Remarkable Dresser Offer
This is a well-designed and splendidly made genuine mahogany dresser of Colonial design. The top is 20 ins. by 42 ins. The mirror is a genuine French bevel glass, size 24 ins. by 30 ins. This is an extraordinary offer. If you can't come, phone or write. Out-of-town folks order early.

\$19.85
Regular Price \$33.50

Out-of-Town Folk Please Write
Residence out of the city does not prevent you from participating in Edwards' big sale and securing liberal credit terms. Order what you want and if it is not exactly as represented, ship it back to Edwards' expense—fair, is it not?

EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT
Exchange what you have and don't want for new furniture you do want. We will make a liberal allowance for your furniture in part payment for new. Some splendid bargains offered in the exchange department.

EDWARDS CO
FIFTH AND OAK STREETS