

WAR MUNITIONS BLOW UP

\$25,000,000 Loss In New York Explosion and Fire.

WAREHOUSES BURN

Three Dead and Many Injured By Shock That Shakes Five States —Washington Gets Tip of Impending Danger.

New York—Property loss estimated at \$25,000,000 was caused early Sunday by a series of terrific explosions of ammunition awaiting shipment to the entente allies and stored on Black Tom Island, a small strip of land jutting into New York Bay off Jersey City.

The loss of life cannot be determined definitely until there has been opportunity to check up the workmen employed on the island and on boats moored nearby.

Three are known to be dead and at least five more are missing. Scores of persons were injured, some of them probably mortally.

The detonations, which were felt in five states, began with a continuous rapid fire of small shells, the blowing up of great quantities of dynamite, trinitrotoluene and other high explosives, followed by the bursting of thousands of shrapnel shells, which literally showered the surrounding country and waters for many miles around.

Fire started soon after the first great crash, which spread death and desolation in its wake, destroyed 13 of the huge warehouses of the National Storage company on Black Tom Island and six other warehouses in which were stored merchandise valued at between \$12,000,000 and \$15,000,000. The flames, shooting into the clouds, were reflected against New York's "skyline" of towering office buildings, which only a few minutes before were shaken to their foundations as by an earthquake. Miles of streets in Manhattan alone were strewn with broken glass and shattered signs.

The cause of the disaster has not been determined. Officials of the National Storage company and the Lehigh Valley railroad, which also suffered heavily through loss of property, declared, however, that reports to them showed a fire started shortly after 1 o'clock Sunday morning on a barge belonging to an independent towing company that had been moored alongside a dock used by the railroad company to transfer ammunition shipments from trains to vessels in the harbor.

The barge, it was said was there without authority of either the railroad or the storage company. The officials refused to disclose the name of the independent towing company, saying they were investigating "to ascertain whether the barge purposely had been set on fire as the result of a plot."

Advance Tip Given.
Washington, D. C.—The government Secret Service was notified three days ago that several enemies of England had been employed by German agents to precipitate just such an explosion of ammunition as took place in New York harbor. The informant said that the men were Irishmen, probably members of the Sinn Fein.

What steps were taken to guard against the catastrophe is not known. In any event, they were futile. The Secret Service now is running down its clues in the hope that it will enable the apprehension of the criminals if it should turn out the tragedy was caused by human agency.

The information came from a source which in the past has proved absolutely reliable. It failed to disclose the names of the men in the plot and it is not certain they can be obtained. However, it is understood the source is to be "tipped" again, in the hope that some further details may be secured which will aid in the arrest of the men involved.

Not Liable to Foreign Duty.
Washington, D. C.—Mooted questions about the status of state troops called for the Mexican emergency are decided in an opinion given Secretary Baker by Brigadier General Crowder. General Crowder holds that the state soldiers are not subject to duty outside of the United States unless and until they are formally drafted by order of the President; that they are under control of the Federal government and not of their respective state governors, and that they are entitled to the same pensions and privileges as regulars.

Petrograd Fire Reported.
Berlin—Reports of a great conflagration at Petrograd, in which a bridge across the river Neva, 12 large steamers, including several trans-Atlantic liners, and the Pufflog gun works and other establishments were destroyed, are printed in the Lokal Anzeiger. The newspaper adds: "The police suspect that the conflagration was the work of anarchists, who planned to burn all public buildings being used for military purposes."

URGENT NEED FOR NAVAL BASE ON COLUMBIA IS ESTABLISHED

Washington, D. C.—The Lane amendment to the naval bill, appropriating \$500,000 to establish a submarine and torpedo boat base on the Columbia river, will be accepted by the house conferees if Secretary Daniels will inform them that he favors the appropriation at this time. This was learned by Representatives Hawley, Sinnott and McArthur Saturday. They immediately arranged a conference with Secretary Daniels and later in the day presented to him the reasons why, in their judgment, this base should be authorized without further delay.

Before calling on Secretary Daniels the house members conferred with Captain J. S. McKean, aide for material and chief adviser of the secretary on matters of this character.

Captain McKean heartily approved the Lane amendment and said the Navy department was in favor of establishing two submarine bases on the Pacific Coast at this time, one on the Columbia and the other at San Diego. Captain McKean then went with the Oregon members to call on Secretary Daniels.

The three representatives urged Secretary Daniels to write Chairman Padgett, of the house naval committee, recommending concurrence of the house in the senate amendment. Secretary Daniels said he would talk with Mr. Padgett about the amendment. The Oregon members tried to exact from him a promise that he would "talk favorably," but he would not commit himself.

Injunction Order Against Longshoremen Strikers Reasonably Modified

Portland—At the conclusion of a two-day preliminary hearing on the merits of the temporary restraining order issued July 19 against striking longshoremen, on petition of the San Francisco & Portland Steamship company, Federal Judge Wolverson Saturday ordered that the injunction be continued pending further the final hearing to determine whether it shall be made permanent.

In granting the preliminary injunction, however, he modified considerably the terms of the previous temporary restraining order.

In general terms, this order restrained the men from interfering unlawfully with the business or property of the company, or with non-union men employed by the company.

Judge Wolverson said he would permit picketing on condition that it be carried on peacefully. He defined "peacefully" to be without threats, violence, vile language or any form of intimidation against strikebreakers.

Explosion Wrecks Grants Pass Irrigation Plant—Plot Suspected

Grants Pass, Or.—What is believed to have been an attempt to blow up the pumping plant which supplies the South Side and Fruitdale ditches with irrigation water at the dam of the Rogue River Public Service corporation, three miles east of this city, was made at the pumping station early Saturday morning.

The night watchman at the pumping station had just stepped behind some heavy timbers when a terrific explosion occurred.

The turbines were damaged and timbers ripped off the dam. The damage to the plant will amount to approximately \$3000 although the most serious aspect at the present time is the loss of the irrigation water to several hundreds of acres of sugar beets.

Americans See Bullfight.
El Paso, Tex.—Hundreds of Americans crossed the Rio Grande Sunday to attend the first bullfight and broncho-busting contest held in Juarez since the Villa regime. General Francisco Gonzales, commandant, and Andres Garcia, Mexican consul, expressed gratification over the number attending. The bull ring was thronged with Mexican soldiers, rifles across their knees and cartridge belts swung about their bodies. Interspersed between them sat American men and women and hundreds of gaily-dressed Mexicans.

Check Order Rescinded.
Washington, D. C.—Postmaster General Burleson has suspended until further notice his recent orders authorizing postmasters to collect checks on banks in small communities where there are no members of the Federal Reserve system. The suspension was ordered at the suggestion of the Federal Reserve board. Members of the board said the recommendation was made because more time is necessary to perfect the check collection plan.

Garment Workers Accept Agreement.
New York—At a spirited meeting, which lasted until after midnight, the general committee of the Garment Workers' union decided Thursday by a close vote to accept the three years' agreement signed by officials of the union and representatives of the manufacturers, thus ending the lockout and strike which for three months has paralyzed the women's clothing industry of this city. The vote was 43 in favor in the settlement to 40 against it.

GERMAN SUBMARINE MERCHANTMAN MAKES DASH FOR OPEN SEA

Baltimore, Md.—On the second anniversary of Germany's declaration of war against Russia, the German submarine merchantman Deutschland set out from Baltimore on a return voyage to Germany with a declaration of confidence from her commander, Captain Paul Koenig, that he would take her home in spite of the heavy odds she would face when the three-mile limit in the Atlantic ocean is reached.

The submersible was towed out of the slip where she was berthed 23 days ago, at 5:40 o'clock Tuesday afternoon. After getting into midstream the tow line of the tug Timmins was cast off and the Deutschland proceeded down the river under her own power. The Timmins went to one side, the coast guard cutter Wissahickon to the other and the harbor police boat Lannan brought up the rear to prevent undue crowding by the small fleet of launches that followed.

Capatin Koenig and his crew of 27 men embarked with the knowledge that a man hurried to a telephone with a message to agents for the entente allies that the Deutschland had started. They knew how long he had watched at the end of a nearby pier, day and night, but the little captain went out of Baltimore harbor smiling and waving his cap.

His last words in the harbor were of praise for America and for his treatment here by Baltimore customs authorities. To Guy Steele, surveyor of customs, he said: "We came here dubious about our reception. We go back certain that the friendliest of feeling exists in America for Germany. You have been more than courteous and the fatherland will not forget it."

Captain Koenig knows that eight warships of the entente allies are waiting for him at the edge of the three-mile limit, spread out in a radius of five miles.

"We shall have to pass unseen within that radius in order to escape," he said. "We shall have to make that passage under conditions not entirely advantageous. Were the water at that point 150 feet deep it would be easier. We could submerge deeply enough to pass underneath the warships. But the water there is not 150 feet deep. We shall, therefore, have to pass between the warships."

There was a determined look on the captain's face as he expressed confidence that he would get through.

Austrian Army Cut Off From German Aid by Russian Forces

London—The second anniversary of Germany's declaration of war on Russia finds the relative positions of the belligerents very different from those of the first anniversary. The entente allies are now pursuing a successful offensive on all fronts, and the central powers are virtually everywhere on the defensive.

Emperor William celebrated the occasion by the issue of proclamations to his army and navy and people which breathed a spirit of continued confidence in ultimate victory for Germany.

The operations on the Eastern front continue to surpass those in the West in dramatic interest. The military critics express great admiration for the Russian tactics, one of the important objectives of which, in their opinion, has been to isolate the Austrians from the German armies on the Russian front. This, it now is contended, has been virtually accomplished by the Russians driving a wedge into the Austro-German positions along the front of Kovel-Vladimir-Volynsk.

The view here is that if the Germans have thus accepted severance from the Austrians, the most decisive result of the whole of the Russian General Russloff's strategy will have been obtained, it being argued by the military observers that without German support the Austrian armies will become demoralized and collapse.

Army Writers Curbed.
San Antonio, Tex.—General Funston sent to the War department at Washington a telegram announcing his intention to rid the various guardsmen camps of newspaper correspondents who send out false accounts of conditions in the camps. He referred to such correspondents as "pests," and said he had endured them as long as he purposed to. An order has been sent to all district commanders along the border covering future action against newspaper men sending out dispatches which may be classed as untruthful.

Cotton Market Advances.
New York—A sensationally rapid advance of about \$1.75 per bale followed the publication of the government cotton report in the market here Tuesday morning. Just before the official condition of 72.3 per cent, against \$1.1 last month and the 10-year average of 78.5, was published, a canvass of local exchange indicated an average expectation of 76.5 per cent, and the government report was far below the most bullish of recent private figures.

Papers Cut Down Pages.
New York—Publishers of daily newspapers in Greater New York, at a meeting Wednesday, took action which will result in a decrease of the number of pages in their morning, evening and Sunday issues of 121 pages a week, to relieve the newspaper paper situation, which is regarded by the publishers as serious. Action also was taken to eliminate returns of unsold copies.

AMERICANISM DEMANDED

Charles E. Hughes' Acceptance Speech Sets Forth Campaign Issues and Asserts American Rights.

Charles E. Hughes outlined in his speech of acceptance in New York, Monday night, the issues upon which he will conduct his campaign for the presidency.

Mr. Hughes assailed the administration for the course it has pursued with reference to Mexico, maintenance of American rights during the European war, preparedness and other great questions of the day. He declared for a new policy of "firmness and consistency" toward Mexico, for "the unflinching maintenance of all American rights on land and seas," and for adequate National defense; adequate protection on both our Western and Eastern coasts.

"We denounce all plots and conspiracies in the interest of any foreign nation," said Mr. Hughes. "Utterly intolerable is the use of our soil for alien intrigues. Every American must unreservedly condemn them and support every effort for their suppression."

The nominee assailed the administration for its "direction of diplomatic intercourse" from the beginning, declaring that where there should have been conspicuous strength and expertise there had been weakness and inexperience. He cited Santo Domingo as an instance where appointments had gone to "deserving Democrats" and to the failure to continue Ambassador Herrick at his post in Paris after the war had started as "a lamentable sacrifice of international repute."

"I endorse the declaration in the platform in favor of woman suffrage," Mr. Hughes declared, and he added: "Opposition may delay, but in my judgment cannot defeat, this movement. I favor the vote for women."

One-fourth of the speech was devoted to Mexico. Step after step taken by the administration with reference to Mexico was assailed, from the days of Huerta to the note sent the de facto government by the State department June 20 last, part of which was quoted in the speech. The seizure of Vera Cruz, the nominee said, was "war, of course."

"Later we retired from Vera Cruz," he continued, "giving up this noble warfare. Recently the naked truth was admitted by a Cabinet officer. We are now informed that we did not go to Vera Cruz to force Huerta to salute the flag. We are told that we went there to 'show Mexico that we were in earnest in our demand that Huerta must go.'"

"America," Mr. Hughes continued, "has no policy of aggression toward Mexico, no desire for any part of her territory, but wishes her to have peace, stability and prosperity."

"The conduct of the administration has created difficulties we shall have to surmount," he said. "We demand from Mexico the protection of the lives and property of our citizens and the security of our border from deprivations."

Safeguarding American rights abroad had not been accomplished by the administration, he said. There had been "brave words in a series of notes," but "what does it avail to use some of the strongest words known to diplomacy if ambassadors can receive the impression that the words are not to be taken seriously."

The nominee reiterated his declaration that had this government left no doubt that it meant to hold Germany "to strict accountability," there would have been no loss of life on the Lusitania.

Discussing preparedness Mr. Hughes said it was apparent that the United States was "shockingly unprepared."

"The administration has failed to discharge its responsibilities," Mr. Hughes continued. "Apparently it is now seeking to meet political exigencies by its naval program. But it has imposed upon the country an incompetent naval administration."

"We demand adequate protection on both our Western and Eastern coasts. We demand thoroughness and efficiency in both arms of the service. It seems to be plain that our regular army is too small. We are too great a country to require of our citizens who are engaged in peaceful vocations the sort of military service to which they are now called."

Of the present prosperity, Mr. Hughes said:

"We are living in a fool's paradise. 'It is,' he said, 'a prosperity brought about by the abnormal conditions of war. For the protection of the industries and workmen of the United States against the competition of 'an energized Europe.'"

Raiders Kill 2 Americans.
El Paso, Tex.—Carranzaists soldiers and customs guards are pursuing two of five Mexican bandits who crossed the American border Monday and fought with a detail of U. S. Cavalry, reinforced by a detachment of Mexican troops, killing two Americans and wounding a third in the desert south of San Ignacio, Chihuahua. Reports from Captain Marcelo Marullo, commanding the detachment, composed of about six soldiers and six Mexican guards, said that the outlaws were last seen eight miles south of the border.

Mr. Hughes said it was plain that we must have protection, up-building policies. Other measures, too, should be applied, he said, notably the up-building of a merchant marine.

To make peace lasting and effective when the present war shall end, Mr. Hughes advocated the formation of an international tribunal to dispose of controversies of a justiciable sort, backed by the co-operation of the nations to prevent war before peaceful methods of adjustment end.

Mr. Hughes also declared for the "conservation of the just interests of labor," for conservation of natural resources and for a national budget.

"Our opponents promised economy, but they have shown a reckless extravagance. It is time we had fiscal reform."

Mr. Hughes closed with an endorsement of the Republican platform adopted by the national convention and a formal acceptance of the nomination. Senator Harding, in his notification speech said:

"Mr. Hughes: The committee here assembled, representing all of the United States and territories, chosen by the Republican National convention, which met in Chicago on last June 7, is directed by that convention formally to notify you of its action in selecting you as its nominee for the Presidency of the Republic."

"Speaking for the committee, it is my pleasure to say directly what was conveyed to you by telegraph, while the convention was yet in session—that you are unanimous choice of the Republican National convention for the party standard-bearer."

"That convention uttered the principles of a confident, determined, reunited and enthusiastic Republican party, which turns to you, in highest respect and trust, as a nominee best typifying the party's purposes and the people's desires."

"Inasmuch as the unusual circumstance inspired an informal notice at the time of the convention's action and you then made an informal acceptance of the call to patriotic duty, which won the plaudits of our people, I shall not refer in detail to the actions of the convention or the declared principles to which the Republican party is committed. But it is fitting that I should speak the congratulations of this committee on your most extraordinary nomination."

"Notwithstanding your holding aloof from all conferences and participation, that unfailing understanding which directs popular sentiment to highest victory called you to the service of the party and the nation. Your record of public service, your well known and courageous views on public questions when in executive position, your abiding devotion to Republicanism, your possession of a confidence which has united all believers in Republican policies under our party banner, your unalterable and abiding Americanism, your high personal character and well-known capacity—all these have fixed you in the American mind as the best exponent of Republican principles and the wisest leader to restore American prestige and efficient government."

"We bring you now the commission to that leadership. We bring it in full confidence that the people will gladly acclaim the Republican restoration under your trusted leadership. We bring it in the highest appreciation of that peace of right and justice which your unwavering Americanism will hold secure rather than endanger. We bring it in the strong belief that American material good fortune, under Republican industrial preparedness, will be the glad reflex of our own peace and the world's peace and be held permanent under Republican protection. We bring it in firm conviction that you, sir, will hold that platform promises constitute a sacred party covenant and the expressed will of the people at the polls must find response in capable and efficient administration."

"Aye, sir, we bring it believing you will add to our self-respect, confidence and good fortune at home and to that respect and good opinion abroad which meets our higher American aspirations."

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184 Dead in Forest Fires.
Toronto, Ont.—With one town wiped out, another almost in ruins and a score of small settlements obliterated, Premier Hearst announced Tuesday night that 184 persons lost their lives in the forest fires in Northern Ontario. Only a heavy rainfall early Tuesday saved a great part of the province from destruction. Hundreds are homeless and the Dominion government has taken extraordinary measures to provide for refugees. Where the town of Matheson once stood there are only smoldering ruins and ashes.

WORLD'S DOINGS OF CURRENT WEEK

Brief Resume of General News From All Around the Earth.

UNIVERSAL HAPPENINGS IN A NUTSHELL

Live News Items of All Nations and Pacific Northwest Condensed for Our Busy Readers.

During July 28 and 29, the Russians captured 32,000 Germans.

The supreme lodge of Knights of Pythias is in session at Portland.

One hundred and eighty-four persons lose their lives in the forest fire in Ontario.

German aircraft make a raid on the English coast, dropping bombs at several points.

Winston Churchill, former first lord of the British admiralty, declares England was saved by her navy.

The German submarine Deutschland, preparing to leave American waters, fears an "accident" in Chesapeake bay.

Francis Joseph, emperor of Austria, contracted a severe cold while inspecting troops and is confined to his bed.

Mrs. Sarah Barr, one of the oldest white women in California died Tuesday at Monrovia, near Los Angeles, aged 102.

The heat wave that has enveloped Chicago and the Middle West, was broken Monday by a stiff breeze from the North.

England positively refuses to permit medicines for American Red Cross societies to pass the allies' lines into Germany or Austria.

The committee on industrial preparedness of the naval consulting board has completed a survey of the resources in case of war.

The U. S. court at Norfolk, Va., has rendered a decision which gives back to English owners the prize ship Appam, captured by the Germans.

The failure of the Pope's appeals to the warring nations for peace was admitted by the Pontiff in addressing a delegation of the youth of Rome.

During a quarrel between two employees of the Union Meat company at Portland, one man was knocked into a vat of boiling water and cooked alive.

Striking employees of the three large packing houses in East St. Louis have voted to accept the concessions made by the employers and to return to work Tuesday. About 4500 men are involved.

Henry Edward Duke, a barister and Unionist member of Parliament for Exeter, was appointed to be the new chief secretary of Ireland in succession to Augustine Birrell. The new chief secretary will have a seat in the British cabinet.

Nineteen days with the thermometer averaging 93 degrees was the record of the hot spell in Chicago. The highest temperature was 102; the lowest 61. A total of 325 deaths occurred, including 176 babies; 2600 prostrations were reported, and 890 horses dropped dead in the streets.

An aviator at San Diego, Cal., sends wireless messages at ten-minute intervals during a flight.

Mathematicians at Aberdeen, Wash., have figured out that by shaving yourself three times a week for 50 years, providing you take the money saved from barbers and place it at compound interest, a fortune of \$11,100 will have been accumulated.

B. F. Finn, 93 years old, of the McKenzie River region, Lane county, Oregon, claiming to have been the original of Mark Twain's character, "Huckleberry" Finn, has lost his case in court for the cancellation of a deed conveying the old Finn place.

The severity of the fighting since the beginning of the present offensive on the Western front is indicated by the list of casualties among officers, issued by the London war office, showing for the first three weeks of July 1108 killed, 2884 wounded and 491 missing.

Nearly \$700,000,000 for national defense in the fiscal year 1917 is the aggregate of proposed appropriations in the senate with passage of the army appropriation bill carrying in round numbers \$314,000,000. This grand total for preparedness still is subject to revision, however.

Senator Borah, of Idaho, has been selected as Western manager of the Republican campaign.

Eight persons are arrested in San Francisco, as parties to the placing of the bomb on the street which exploded during the preparedness parade, killing eight people and injuring 40.

Evangelist "Billy" Sunday will make the opening speech for the anti-saloon league in Portland, which plans to make Oregon "absolutely" dry. Sunday is reported to have refused an offer of \$150,000 to appear in the movies.