

NEW YORK JARRED BY BIG EXPLOSION

Financial Center on Wall Street Scene of Shock.

29 DEAD, MANY HURT

Noon Hour Catastrophe Causes Great Panic—Evidence Discloses Plot and Warning Given.

New York.—A mysterious explosion in Wall street, near Broad, believed by trained department of justice and police investigators to have been caused by an infernal machine, rocked the heart of New York's financial district at noon Thursday, leaving death and destruction in its wake. At least 29 persons were killed, more than 200 were injured, the banking house of J. P. Morgan & Co., the United States sub-treasury and assay office were partially wrecked and property damage estimated in excess of \$1,000,000 was caused.

Thomas W. Lamont of the J. P. Morgan firm expressed the belief, however, that the explosion was purely an accident caused by a collision between an explosive wagon and another vehicle. The firm had received no threats of any kind, he said, and there was no real reason for the planting of a bomb outside the firm's office.

The noon hour had struck and an endless stream of office workers had just started pouring into the streets from buildings in the neighborhood. Suddenly a cloud of yellowish-black smoke and a piercing jet of flame leaped from the street outside the Morgan office.

Then came a deafening blast. A moment later scores of men, women and children were lying prostrate on the ground and the streets were covered with debris from thousands of broken windows and the torn facades of adjacent buildings. Two minutes later the stock and curb exchanges, the financial pulse of the world, had closed.

Panic and confusion reigned in the heart of New York's financial district. Thousands of clerks and stenographers fled in terror from adjoining structures. Scores fainted, fell and were trampled on in the rush. Meanwhile the noise of the explosion, which was heard throughout lower Manhattan and across the river in Brooklyn, brought thousands of the curious to the scene.

Sub-treasury officials, fearing that an attempt might be made to rob the building, all the windows of which were broken, requested assistance of the military authorities at Governor's island and a company of soldiers was sent to guard the institution.

Hurry calls were also sent to all hospitals in the downtown section of New York and scores of ambulances were soon speeding through the narrow streets. Dressing stations were established in the lobbies of buildings nearby, where the less seriously injured were given treatment.

Chief Police Inspector Laney reported that he had found evidence to justify the conclusion that the explosion was caused by a huge bomb loaded with T. N. T.—trinitrotoluol—reinforced with iron slugs fashioned from window weight bars. Pieces of these slugs were found in several adjacent structures. This type of weight bars, a close inspection by police and department of justice agents disclosed, is not used in any building within a radius of several hundred feet from the explosion.

Warning that radicals planned a renewal of bombing outrages were sent less than a month ago to all eastern clients of the William J. Burns detective agency, according to a statement by Mr. Burns, who said he was convinced that the explosion was a premeditated attack and was not accidental.

Legion to Fight Prices.

New York.—The American Legion has announced formation of plans to mobilize its forces for a war against the high cost of living. In every community where there is a post the legion contemplates organizing retail dealers into an association, prospective merchant members of which, it is said, have pledged discounts approximating 5 per cent from the current selling prices to the 2,000,000 members of the legion and their families.

SUBMIT WORLD COURT PLAN

Letter From League Council Goes to Nations—Defers Opinion.

London.—The headquarters of the league of nations has just made public the text of the project for a permanent court of international justice, as adopted by The Hague committee of jurists, of which Elihu Root was a member, together with a letter from the council of the league to all governments which have entered the league. The letter says: "The council does not propose to express any opinion on the merits of the scheme until it has had a full opportunity of considering it."

It states, however, that the project was prepared by a most competent tribunal representing widely different national points of view and adds: "The council would regard an irreconcilable difference of opinion on the merits of the scheme as an international misfortune of the gravest kind. It would mean that the league was publicly compelled to admit its incapacity to carry out one of the most important of the tasks which it was invited to perform. The failure would be great and probably irreparable; for, if agreement proves impossible under circumstances apparently so favorable, it is hard to see how and when the task of securing it will be successfully resumed."

The council states it will later submit its recommendations to the assembly of the league of nations.

The draft of the proposed court given out today consists of 62 articles, divided into three chapters on organization, competence of court and procedure. A preamble states the general purposes of the court as follows:

"A permanent court of international justice to which parties shall have direct access, is hereby established, in accordance with article 14 of the covenant of the league of nations. This court shall be in addition to the court of arbitration organized by The Hague convention in 1899 and 1907, and to the special tribunals of arbitration to which nations are always at liberty to submit their disputes for settlement."

Article 2 and 3 gives the membership of the court as follows:

"The permanent court of international justice shall be composed of a body of independent judges, elected regardless of their nationality from amongst persons of high moral character who possess the qualifications required in their respective countries for appointment to the highest judicial offices, or are jurisconsults of recognized competence in international law."

"The court shall consist of 15 members, 11 judges and four deputy judges. The number of judges and deputy judges may be hereafter increased by the assembly upon the proposal of the council of the league of nations to a total of 15 judges and six deputy judges."

"The manner of choosing the judges by the different national groups is provided. The members of the court are elected for nine years. The president and vice president of the court serve for three years. The seat of the court is established at The Hague; a session shall be held each year beginning June 15, and an extraordinary session may be called whenever necessary by the president of the court, who must reside at The Hague."

"The full court shall sit, but if 11 judges are not available, nine judges shall suffice to constitute the court. Three judges sit in chambers annually to hear and determine summary procedure. Salaries of the court are fixed and expenses borne by the league of nations."

"Article 31 gives the court jurisdiction over suits between states. The court is open by right to states belonging to the league. Other states may have access to it under conditions provided by the league."

Article 33 provides:

"When a dispute has arisen between states and it has been found impossible to settle it by diplomatic means and no agreement has been made to choose another jurisdiction, the party complaining may bring the case before the court. The court shall first of all decide whether the preceding conditions have been complied with; if so, it shall hear and determine the dispute according to the terms and within the limits of the next article."

The questions which the court is competent to determine between members of the league are given as follows:

"The interpretation of a treaty. "Any question of international law. "The existence of any fact which, if established, would constitute breach of an international obligation."

Premier's Election Sure.

Paris.—Premier Alexandre Millerand agreed to be a candidate for the presidency of the republic, to succeed President Deschanel, who has tendered his resignation. M. Millerand's acceptance as a candidate for the presidency has virtually averted the presidential crisis, as it is conceded by all sides in the chamber of deputies and senate that his election is certain. He would receive more than 700 votes.

\$3,000,000 Damages Given.

Duluth, Minn.—The Great Northern Railway company was held responsible for the origin of the forest fire that swept the Cloquet district, October 12, 1918, and the district court has awarded to 278 plaintiffs damages approximating \$3,000,000. The verdict is directed against W. D. Hines as wartime director of railroads.

Robbers Dynamite Bank.

Sioux City, Iowa.—Robbers dynamited the Pierce bank of Linn Grove, Ia., 100 miles northeast of here, and stole \$10,000 in United States bonds and \$1000 in cash early Friday. Police are scouring the country here for the bandits, who escaped in a motor car.

STATE NEWS IN BRIEF.

Willamina.—Mills here are unable to fill all the orders being received from various sections of the state. Every mill is working overtime at present and no shutdown is anticipated for the winter.

Willamina.—The hop crop is somewhat lighter than was expected in this locality, though the grade of hops is excellent and the absence of aphid is conspicuous. No damage is expected from the recent rains.

Moro.—The county farm bureau will unload a 8000-gallon car of gasoline at Moro this week into storage provided by the farmers. The supply will be sold at 30 cents as against 42 cents charged from local pumps.

Salem.—The capital stock of the Spaulding Logging company of Salem has been increased from \$150,000 to \$2,500,000, according to notice filed in the state corporation department.

Albany.—The county court of Marion and Linn counties probably may not be able to complete the new steel bridge across the North Santiam river at Mehama this year, as a result of high water in the river this week, which washed out the false structural work.

Salem.—Thirty-eight aliens now receiving medical treatment at the state hospital left here Wednesday in charge of six attendants for New York City, where they will sail to their native lands. Another shipment of six Mexicans will be made later in the month.

Prineville.—The frequent rains in this section of the country are proving harmful to many farmers who have not their second crop of hay stacked. In Ochoco valley, under the irrigation project, hundreds of tons of hay is ready to be stacked, but all work is stopped.

Hood River.—A crew of wreckers has begun razing the old Wau Guin hotel, pioneer resort hostelry, the site of which was recently purchased by S. Benson, who will finance the construction of Oregon's first exclusive all-season tourist hotel, for Henri Thiele of Portland.

Medford.—Property owners and other citizens of Jacksonville held a mass meeting Wednesday night for the purpose of discussing ways and means to combat the movement started by Medford and Ashland business men to have the courthouse removed from Jacksonville to this city.

Bend.—A marked decrease in orders received at the pine milling plants of the Brooks-Scanlon Lumber company and the Shevlin-Hixon company is reported here by the general managers of the two local companies. The decline in business is virtually coincident with the rise of freight rates, it is said.

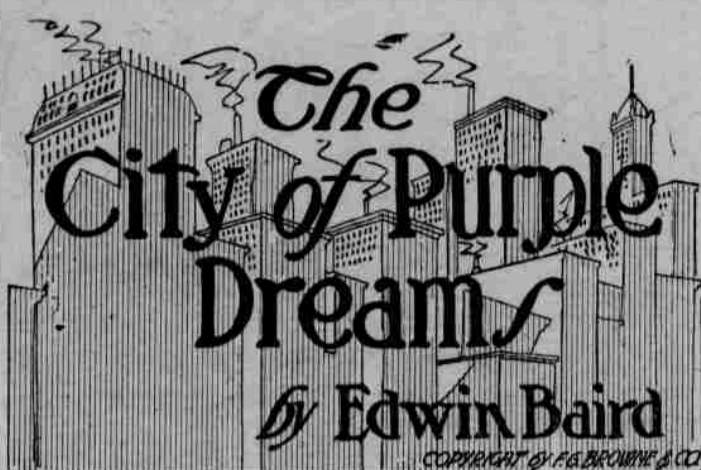
Eugene.—Three new structures have been erected on the grounds of the Lane county fair and even with the additional exhibit space all stock stalls have been spoken for. The pavilion is expected to be crowded to overflowing, according to Will C. Yorlan, executive secretary of the fair association.

Medford.—In the opinion of District Attorney Roberts the report of State Banking Superintendent Bennett upon the condition of the defunct bank of Jacksonville will not be ready for at least ten days. The bank examiners are still facing a tedious task in auditing the books, as they were in a chaotic condition when the bank failed.

Salem.—More revenue raising without increasing the taxation burdens on land was the chief subject discussed at the recent meeting of the National Tax association at Salt Lake City, Utah, according to Frank Lovell, state tax commissioner, who returned from that city last week. Mr. Lovell said representatives were present at the convention from 41 states.

The Dalles.—Poultry culling demonstrations will be held in Wasco county for three days commencing October 16, according to an announcement made by E. R. Jackman, county agent. Charles S. Brewster, formerly head of the poultry department of the Oregon Agricultural college, will conduct the demonstrations at Chenoweth, Thompson's addition and Dufur.

Roseburg.—Mrs. J. M. Lane, a resident of North Roseburg, has completed 40 days of fasting, according to an announcement made public here Friday. Mrs. Lane was not on a "hunger strike" but took this method of disposing of some stomach ailment. She says she has taken only a little lemon and orange juice during her fasting period and the experience has cost her a loss of 25 pounds in flesh. She has not been confined to bed any of the 40 days.



CHAPTER VIII.—Continued.

"I like to hear a man talk that way. I despise modesty in business. Of course you are coming in with us? As I said, we shall require five additional millions, perhaps more, to work the thing properly. There is no need now to go into further details. You understand the situation even better than I do." He paused.

"Since this is Saturday," said Fitzhugh, "and since nothing can be gained by your knowing my decision before Monday, I shall meet you Monday morning at ten o'clock and will then give you my answer."

A slight frown appeared on Otis' thin face. He began gathering up his data. "Very well. At what place?"

"At my brokers—Shirley & Co., in the Merrimac block."

"At ten? Very well. I know already what your answer will be—an emphatic 'yes.' Suddenly he stood up, with a sweeping gesture, as though to force into the background everything pertaining to business.

"Now let's talk no more shop. We've had enough for one night."

While they were exchanging parting words the hall door opened and Mrs. Otis and Kathleen entered. Fitzhugh's heart seemed to stop for the infinitesimal part of a second, and then, as Kathleen came down the hall, it leapt, bounded, raced on with mad-dancing speed. He tingled to his finger tips. It was the first time he had seen her since that moonlight night two summers ago. Then, with the soft June moon on her glorious hair, a gauzy scarf over her bare shoulders, he had thought her exquisite, ethereal. Now, with her sables, her turban of white fur, the tang of the frosty night in her glowing skin, he thought her ravishing, distractingly beautiful.

Momentarily Otis seemed to hesitate, as though reluctant to do something that might afterward earn him a rebuke. But as Kathleen and her mother drew near he intercepted them with his guest and presented him, first to his wife then to his daughter.

As the girl spoke an acknowledgment of Fitzhugh's salutation she looked up for the first time into his eyes. The next instant she started visibly, and, seemingly unconscious of her act, did a rather singular thing: she came very close to him and looked searchingly into his face. The bright color heightened in her cheeks. Her fingers closed convulsively on the muff she carried. Her eyes traveled swiftly over him to his feet, and came to rest again on his face. She seemed in a state of bewilderment.

Then, recovering her composure as quickly as she had lost it, she murmured something conventional and was gone.

He never quite knew, when he found himself walking rapidly down the drive, with the snow swirling round him, how he got there. His brain was in a whirl, his pulse on fire, and over and over he repeated to himself: "She's wonderful—more wonderful than ever. . . . And she knows me!—knows me—Of them all she is the only one."

His appointment was with Hunt at a Michigan avenue club. It was here he renewed the third acquaintance of that memorable day. A "quiet little game" was brewing in an upper room, and he arrived in time to join at the beginning. The first deal fell to him, and as he shuffled the cards in high feather, exchanging quips with the men around the table sent his obvious good spirits, the door behind him opened and some new players entered.

The next moment Fitzhugh was being introduced to the new arrivals. "Mr. Fitzhugh, this is Artie Sparkle." A foppish young man, smiling vacuously, came forward with mingling step and held out a flabby, bejeweled hand.

The "quiet little game" lasted all Saturday night and until late Sunday afternoon. Fitzhugh's Golden Goddess, Luck, frowned upon him at first and he lost steadily; but later his superior playing began to tell, and as her inclemency gradually turned to smiles he won much faster than he had lost. He was decidedly the master of the others.

Artie Sparkle lost continually. Also, he continually drank. It was not quite clear whether his adversity was responsible for his intemperance, or vice versa, but certainly as his libations increased he played the more recklessly. He distributed his paper freely, but as he became more intoxicated there was a decided reluctance to the advances. At length he was flatly refused and advised to go to bed.

At this point Fitzhugh, who so far had loaned him nothing, removed the requested number of chips from his generous heap and shoved them across the table to the tipsy one, who with much difficulty counted them and gave in exchange his I O U for five hundred dollars. They soon went the

way of the rest, and he sat slumped down in his chair, his arms dangling limply at either side, his head sunken, his mouth open, leering stupidly from under drooping lids.

Fitzhugh caught his wandering eye. "Better try another stack, Sparkle," he invited in a friendly way, and began cutting off a small section of his chip pile. "How many may I help you to, Sparkle?"

Artie struggled valiantly to speak distinctly. "A thou—a thou—a hic! a thousand, ol' chap."

With considerable slowness and deliberation the transaction was made, and Fitzhugh pocketed Artie's I O U for a thousand dollars.

The early winter darkness had closed in before the game ended, and most of the gamblers were ready for bed.

Very quietly Fitzhugh went in turn to all those who had taken Artie's I O U's and bought them in. In all they amounted to over eight thousand dollars, and the ones he himself held brought the total to ten thousand five hundred.

Fitzhugh was alone in a private compartment of his broker's office on Monday morning when, promptly at ten, Otis entered. With a brief "Good morning," the capitalist came straight to the point.

"You are with us, Fitzhugh?" "Sit down, Otis. Make yourself comfortable. Try one of these cigars? You'll find them of an excellent flavor."

Otis took a cigar from the proffered case and sat on the edge of the only remaining chair in the small room. Resting a long hand on his knee, he tapped his wry fingers impatiently against his leg. He was a little annoyed by Fitzhugh's easy cordiality. He never liked to mix good fellowship with business.

"Well? You are coming in with us?"

"For all I am worth."

"Good!" Otis sat back a little farther on his chair and sniffed his satisfaction. "Good for you."

"What we want most of all just now is cash?"

"Yes, and lots of it."

Fitzhugh took out his check book, rested it on the small writing table,

"No!" Artie Jumped Violently. "You Let Me Have No Such Sum. It's a Falsehood!"

dipped a pen in the ink. "I will give you my check now for two hundred thousand."

Otis returned to the edge of his chair. "We must have at least half a million now, and perhaps five millions altogether. I thought we went into all that Saturday night."

"So we did. And I repeat I am with you for all I am worth."

Otis removed the glasses from his aquiline nose, and, twirling them on his finger, looked at the younger man inquiringly.

"I don't believe I quite understand you," he said.

"Didn't I speak distinctly? I say again I am ready to pool my interests with yours to the last cent I possess."

He opened his check book, filled in the date, stopped with pen poised. "Will you take my check for two hundred thousand?"

While Fitzhugh talked a great light had been dawning upon his caller. It now burst upon him effulgently and he saw the truth. He stood up.

"I understand," he said icily. "I hardly think there is need for further words."

He turned to go. But suddenly the thought of how simply he had been "taken in" became too much even for his half-starved sense of honor. He stopped at the door.

"It was very cleverly done," he congratulated. "You are a gifted actor."

"Then you won't accept my check?"

"No. This is no game for rabbits to play in."

Fitzhugh smiled. "So you think I am a rabbit?"

Otis deemed the question unworthy

an answer, and the door closed behind him.

CHAPTER IX.

Monday afternoon Fitzhugh rang the doorbell of Artie's apartment. Soon Artie appeared.

"My business," explained Fitzhugh, when the servant had gone, "has to do with your I O U's which I hold."

"Aw, yes. You did let me have a few hundreds, I remember."

"The total amount," said Fitzhugh, "is eleven thousand dollars."

"No!" Artie jumped violently. "You let me have no such sum. It's a falsehood!"

"Don't get excited. I bought in all your paper after the game. It totals eleven thousand dollars, just as I said."

Artie sprang to his feet, and, lighting a cigarette, began pacing nervously to and fro. Tossing the cigarette aside, he sat down, resting his elbow on his knee, and passed his hand shakily across his brow.

"I can't do anything for you now," he muttered, without looking up. "My allowance is overdrawn and I'm in a hole. You'll have to wait, that's all."

"Have I said I wouldn't?" suggested Fitzhugh.

Artie looked up quickly, a sudden glad hope leaping to his pale eyes. "Then you won't press me for it?" he wondered eagerly.

"I may not ask you for it at all. I may make you a Christmas present of the entire batch, if you wish."

"Only command me! I'll do anything you say."

"The last three days," continued Fitzhugh, watching the effect of his words, "I've had detectives working for me on a rather delicate matter. They were making a secret investigation of you and your family. I know to a cainty your financial status, your social standing, and I knew before I came here that you were unusually hard up at present. I need a social valet, and I'm willing to give you the job."

"My dear fellow—"

"I shall want to join the best clubs. Your part is obvious. You will introduce me to people whom I wish to meet, you will procure me the entrée to homes I wish to enter. There will be other commissions which I shall give you from time to time, and as you fulfill them I will return, one by one, your I O U's."

The effect of the proposal upon Artie was somewhat singular. He screwed up his mouth in a ludicrous manner and emitted a sound that was a cross between a baby's crow of delight and the screech of a peacock.

"It's ex-cruciating!" he cried, when he found his breath. "It'll be frightful fun!" He sobbed suddenly, "Aw—I say! One teeny-weeny peep at the slits, what?"

Fitzhugh showed him the I O U's and he nodded his head brightly. Then his mirth overcame him a second time and he went off into another peal of delight.

While Fitzhugh sat watching him in critical silence a servant entered and announced several callers.

"Ask 'em to toddle right in." Then, turning on Fitzhugh: "I'll try you on my friends—what?" He smiled prettily.

"I suppose I can stand it."

The four or five young men who entered were, for the most part, of Artie's class. They were flaccid, listless, seemingly consumed with ennui and a weary of the world. They talked languidly of tailors and different makes of motorcars. They expressed lukewarm preferences for a certain brand of cigarette or a particular kind of mixed drink. None had any individuality but all were cut from the same pattern.

Some time later, in the street below, Fitzhugh paused a moment in the falling snow and spoke feelingly to himself.

"It's enough," said he, "to make a man stop posing."

Then he went home, addressed an envelope to Kathleen Otis, slipped therein a one-dollar bill and after it a card, upon which he wrote:

"May you have a Merry Christmas as the wish of him who bought the soap and water."

Fitzhugh planned well in making Artie his "social valet." After that Monday conference in his broker's office he had surmised the relations between himself and Otis would therefore be unamicable. His surmise proved correct when not long afterward he met Otis and his wife one Sunday on the drive. He doffed his silk hat with a Chesterfieldian gesture—and was rewarded for his courtness by being ignored more pointedly than if he had been an utter stranger.

Clearly after this there was but one way for him to see Kathleen, and that was by the aid of Artie Sparkle. Fitzhugh never required a second attempt to scale the citadel of any home, no matter how "exclusive" that home might be. He immediately became "the sensation" wherever he went. What with his distinguished appearance, his flashing wit, his skill at repartee, and, above all else, his gift of adapting himself readily to any role and playing it with avidity, his popularity was of a wondrous growth. He never lacked an audience, nor did he ever fail to keep one hanging on his every word.

But Fitzhugh had little time to be a society pivot. Though he was become a lion he seldom went out to roar. Only when he believed he should see Her would he accept any of the invitations.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

All is fair in love—except brunettes.

