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The Daily Capital Journal

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OVER 4000 DAILY

THIRTY-NINTH YEAR—NO. 154

SALEM, OREGON, MONDAY, JULY 31, 1916

PRICE TWO CENTS STANDS AND NEWS
STANDS—FIVE CENTS

MUNITIONS EXPLOSION WAS FELT IN FIVE STATES

Roar of Explosions Hurting of Missiles Made It Like European Battlefield—Concussion Smashed In Windows Five Miles Away—Ten Lives Lost and Damage May Reach \$40,000,000—Fire Started On Loaded Cars

THE BLACK TOM EXPLOSIONS EPILOGUE

The cause—still unknown—Known dead—two. Twenty-five missing. The injured—116. Destroyed by explosions or fires—17 warehouses, six piers, four barges, one tug boat, 85 freight cars, many of them loaded with munitions.

Estimated Property Damage.

On Black Tom peninsula:
National Storage company plant and stores, \$12,000,000.
Lehigh Valley railroad, \$1,125,000.
Central Railroad of New Jersey, \$50,000.
Ammunition in cars and barges, \$5,000,000.
Moran Towing company, barges, \$60,000.
Other barges and cargoes, \$200,000.
Total, \$18,500,000.

In Greater New York, (mostly plate glass), \$300,000.
In Jersey City, (mostly windows), \$250,000.
On Ellis Island, \$100,000.
On Bedloe Island, where Statue of Liberty is located, \$150,000.
New Jersey points outside of Jersey City and Black Tom peninsula, \$150,000.
Total damages, \$19,500,000.

Responsibility for the Catastrophe.

Four inquiries to fix responsibility under way by:
The federal government (under law regarding interstate transportation of explosives).
Jersey City (under municipal explosive regulations).
The railroads, (to fix blame, if any, among their own employees).
The police authorities around Black Tom.

Arrests Made So Far.

Albert M. Dickman, Lehigh Valley railroad agent, stationed on Black Tom peninsula.
Alexander Davidson, superintendent of the National Storage company's property on Black Tom peninsula.
Warrant has been issued for arrest of T. B. Johnson, president of the Johnson Lighterage company.
All three men charged with "criminal and gross negligence" in causing death of one of the known victims of the explosion.

By J. P. Yoder,
(United Press Staff Correspondent.)

New York, July 31.—What appears to be the first real evidence regarding cause of the great Black Tom explosion that rocked New York, Jersey City and nearby towns and was heard in five states Sunday, came this afternoon in a statement from John Kilfoyle, 197 Baltic street, Brooklyn. Kilfoyle worked unloading ammunition from freight cars Saturday.

In a statement made to Police Sergeant O'Connor of Jersey City this afternoon, Kilfoyle said the fire started in ammunition loaded freight cars and not on the Johnson company's explosive carrying barge.

Kilfoyle, according to O'Connor, told the following story:

"I worked late Saturday night unloading freight cars. I was tired and went to sleep about 300 yards from the end of the peninsula. About one o'clock some one awakened me saying there was a fire. I looked and saw it was the freight cars.

"Some time later I was knocked unconscious by the first explosion which I am sure was freight cars. Then the stuff on the barge let go."

If Kilfoyle is sure of his facts he probably will be the star witness at any investigations.

Late this afternoon police officials and officials of the Lehigh Valley road, after a careful examination of their records, placed their extreme estimate of dead at ten.

Cause Still Unknown.

New York, July 31.—Mystery early today still beclouded the real cause of the explosion and fire which early Sunday morning occurred on Black Tom island. Whether a fire, starting on the barge loaded with nitro cellulose or ignition of freight cars loaded with high explosives was the cause, no one could tell today. Perhaps the exact cause never will be known.

The condition of the area of devastation made it impossible today to examine the scene of the first terrific impact. At 8 o'clock flames were still flaring high from wreckage of railroad cars and warehouses and Black Tom, which is really a peninsula. At that hour shrapnel and three inch shells buried deep in the ruins were being ignited occasionally by the heat, in a desultory pop-pop that kept workmen and crowds of spectators at respectable distances.

Dead, missing and injured lists admittedly were mere estimates up to noon today. The very nature and extent of the blast and fire made impossible thus early anything like definite compilation of life loss. Only a visit to the scene can make one realize how difficult it will be, even after several days of search of ruins and records to tell the exact loss.

Three Dead, 23 Missing.

Up to 8 o'clock only three known dead were marked down. Twenty-three others were missing and 116 were known to have been injured. The list of injured does not include those hurt miles away from the fire by flying glass.

Investigations were started today by

ALL STREET CAR EMPLOYEES WILL STRIKE TONIGHT

New York, July 31.—William B. Fitzgerald, national organizer for street railway employees, announced late this afternoon that all employees of the New York Railway company had been organized and a strike would be called tonight. He said the strike will "stop every surface car in Greater New York."

SOME QUEER FREAS OF GREAT EXPLOSION

Immigrants Surprised by Shower of Sheep Skin Lined Overcoats

New York, July 31.—Miss Liberty's gown was torn a little and some of her skin punctured by shrapnel bullets—but the famous statue on Bedloe Island today was found to be surprisingly free from injury, considering its location less than a mile from the Black Tom peninsula.

Many freakish incidents were reported here and elsewhere. The main door giving entrance to the Statue of Liberty was wrenched off its hinges as by a giant hand; the iron cover to a powder magazine was torn away, all doors were crushed in and probably a hundred bolts joining the plate which compose the giant figure were broken or sheared off. A number of angle bars were twisted. It was some caprice of the exploding forces that left the giant figure almost untouched.

There were lots of other freakish stunts which the explosive forces did in and around New York and lots of freakish things which people did under the stress of excitement. Here are a few:

John D. Rockefeller, Jr., up at Pocantico Hills, was awakened by the explosion, got up and tried to find out whether "earthquake" was located.

Policeman Henry Doherty, patrolling the waterfront in Jersey City, found himself in the water, with every stitch of his clothing stripped from him except a sort of breech cloth.

Charles Cutler, barge man, was hurled high into the air and landed safely and softly in a car of boxes.

Immigrants at Ellis Island were thankful for what was apparently a rain of heavy sheep skin lined overcoats. Nobody knows where they came from.

Not a solitary window in the 12 story building occupied by the New York Plate Glass Insurance company, which will have to pay millions in insurance for smashed windows in and around New York, was broken, although those in nearly every building around were shattered.

A janitor in a building far downtown forgot to close windows in the structure when he left Saturday noon. His forgetfulness saved the glass. The windows in every other building near about were broken.

COOLER WEATHER DUE IN CHICAGO; WAVE MOVES EAST

Chicago, July 31.—Cooler weather was in sight for the middle west today, after a day of record heat. A cool wave according to the weather forecaster, will hit this section tonight. Today it will be cooler than yesterday, but still hot.

Death toll in Chicago yesterday from the heat was 117. This makes a total of 264 deaths in Chicago in the last four days as a result of the heat. Ninety-nine babies have died since Friday night. The number of deaths in other cities throughout the middle west as a result of the heat were not obtainable. It was estimated, however, that they would add at least 150 to the list. Milwaukee alone reported 22 dead for yesterday. Sunday was Milwaukee's hottest day in 45 years. It was 102 degrees by the government thermometer. Heat records for Chicago were smashed as far back as 1901. A temperature of 101 was recorded. In July, 1901, the mercury registered 102 degrees.

So great was the jam at bathing beaches here that police reserves were called to clear the streets leading to the beaches.

Gary, Ind., was the hottest place on the map with 116. Three died from the heat there. It was comparatively cool along the Mexican border. El Paso and San Antonio registering 88.

WESTERN FRONT SHOWS NO CHANGE; TURKS ARE BEATEN

Petrograd, July 31.—After fierce fighting around Brody, the Russian forces have thrust their way forward again, this time taking ground from the Tenthons up to the rivers Graberki and Seret. The war office statement today made this announcement.

The war office asserted that in the region of the Stockhol river the Russian forces were fighting their way forward. At one point, among the prisoners captured in this thrust was the whole Thirty First Honved Austrian regiment—including the commander and his staff. At the other places along the Stockhol river, 935 Tenthons were captured with four machine guns.

Northeast and southeast of Baranovitch, the statement said, fierce artillery operations were in progress.

From the Caucasus, the Grand Duke Nicholas reported further advance from Erzingan and repulse of a Turkish attack directed towards Mossul in the region of Diaghiaiver.

PHOENIX MOSES' ARRIVES IN ARIZONA

Phoenix, Ariz., July 31.—"Phoenix Moses" came to town and the curious folk around are wondering where from.

Two tanned ranchers, working an irrigation ditch under the blazing sun this morning a few miles to the north of here, using a mud splattered shovel as a boat hook, pulled a tiny boat to the sandy bank of the ditch. It looked like a box some children might have decorated with huge sun flowers. It was gorgeously upholstered. The ranchers were mystified.

Under the canopy of flowers was a week-old baby boy, faintly clothed and asleep. Astonished, two pair of rugged hands reached to lift the child from its handsome throne.

"Say, Pete, this is just like the Bible," said one of the pair, both of whom refused to give their names—said they were just mach laborers—reminded them of the infant Jesus.

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS CAPTURE PORTLAND

Portland, Ore., July 31.—Knights of Pythias from all over the United States took possession of Portland today. Formal sessions of the supreme lodge open tomorrow. The supreme temple, Pythian Sisters, begin their proceedings with a memorial in the Elks' hall this afternoon. Delegates to the grand lodge of Oregon, K. P., arrived on every train this morning.

Sixty-five thousand dollars to pay convention expenses was deposited at the First National bank today by Thomas D. Meares, supreme master of the exchequer.

Many prominent men are being boosted for the office of supreme vice-chancellor. Seven candidates are actively campaigning. John J. Brown, president vice-chancellor, automatically advances to the position of supreme chancellor during this biennial.

Among those in the race are Robert Barns, of San Francisco; William Ladew, of New York; C. S. Davis, of Denver; William Broening, of Baltimore; Richard S. White, of Milwaukee; F. M. Beckford, of Lenoira, N. H.; and Fred G. McArthur, of Winnipeg, Man.

Atlantic City supporters are already making the wedding ring with their urging that the next convention be held there. A number of other cities are actively after this prize. Those making the most aggressive fights at present are Buffalo, Pittsburg, Norfolk, Richmond and Chicago.

All delegates to the supreme lodge, the Oregon grand lodge and the Pythian Sisters supreme temple will meet tonight at a reception in the Baker theatre.

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ABE MARLIN

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The two ranchers drove to town on a buckboard, one holding the tiny boat across his knees.

Before delivering their precious charge to the authorities the two god fathers christened the child—"Phoenix Moses."

And today every woman in the whole region is wondering who the mother is who will live quietly by and watch Moses grow to manhood under some other mother's loving care.



RUSSIANS CAPTURE MANY PRISONERS IN CAMPAIGN IN GALICIA

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GERMANS CLAIM GAINS BUT THIS IS DENIED

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The official statement detailed "numerous" German counter attacks against Hem wood and extremely violent combats in that neighborhood, in which the Germans were repulsed.

"In the course of these attacks," the statement asserted, "our left bank batteries enfiladed the enemy, causing heavy losses to them."

Around Verdun German attacks on Hill 304 were checked by French fire. In the region southwest of Fleury, the French progressed further. A German grenade attack west of Vauxchapel was unsuccessfull.

EMPEROR CATCHES COLD

The Hague, July 31.—Emperor Franz Josef caught a severe cold while inspecting troops at Schoonburn Friday and is now confined to his bed according to advices received here today from Vienna.

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Carnegie hall, where the notification ceremonies will be held tonight, seats nearly 4,000 people and it was expected that every seat would be occupied at 8 o'clock when the meeting will be called to order. Senator Warren G. Harding of Ohio, who was chairman of the Chicago convention, will make the formal speech notifying Hughes that the party has selected him to make their presidential race. Then Hughes will respond—probably about 10,000 words outlining his views on every possible subject at issue between the two parties.

Every effort will be made tonight to make progressives feel at home. Roosevelt has been sent box seat tickets. A score of more former bull moose leaders will be present.

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In a market made up almost wholly of the operations of the professional element, prices generally were stronger. There was no evidence of public participation while the larger Wall Street interests were not in evidence as market factors.

Transactions in the early trading generally were light in volume on a movement of prices that tended in the direction of higher levels in the greater

THE WEATHER

Oregon: Tonight and Tuesday, partly cloudy west; fair east portion; westerly winds.

EXPLOSION KILLS SIX NEAR ST. HELENS

St. Helens, Ore., July 31.—Six men were killed today by an explosion on the Deer Island road. A powder house blew up.

The dead:
George Hammer.
Herman Voss.
Guy Lewis and son.
Joe Kellan.
One, unidentified.

All the victims were terribly mangled. The cause of the explosion is unknown.

FIRE STILL RAGES DOZENS OF TOWNS IN THE FIRE ZONE

North Bay, Ont., July 31.—On hundred and eighty four lives have so far been reported lost in the greatest forest fire northern Ontario has ever suffered, more than two million dollars property damage has been done.

The fire district forms a strip of territory shaped like the letter J with Bourkes forming the end of the base; Cochran the junction with the cross bar and Hearst and Iroquois at either end.

The fire broke out at 4 o'clock Saturday afternoon and was reported simultaneously at several points forming a semi-circle from Bourks to Hearst over a hundred mile frontage.

Driven by a forty mile an hour wind from the south, the flames rolled over the countryside just like a heavy thunderstorm coming up ahead of a hurricane with everything as dry as tinder there was never a chance for people to save anything.

The villages of Bourkes, Ramore, Matheson, Mushka, Monteith, Kelse, Iroquois Junction, all were completely wiped off the map, the flames consuming everything before them. Cochran is still burning but all the business section of the mining town has gone, while Iroquois Falls has disappeared except the large pulp mills of the Abitibi Power and Pulp company.

A heavy rainstorm on Sunday providentially stopped further disaster.

The dead that have been recovered so far are as follows:
Ramore, 16; Matheson, 34; Nushka and Monteith, 98; Kelse, 2; Cochran, 20; Iroquois Falls, 15.

Most of the population are prospectors except at the larger towns such as Iroquois Falls, where the mills provide employment and at Cochran where there is a population of 2,000. Matheson has a population of 800 as has also Iroquois Falls while Iroquois Junction has about 900 population and Kelse 200.

Fate of Many Unknown

Toronto, Ont., July 31.—The biggest bush fire in history of Ontario province was still raging today. Loss of 200 lives is feared.

Already the fire has covered much of the territory from Cochran to Hearst. Timber, valued at millions of dollars, is believed to have been consumed. A dozen towns and villages are in the fire zone. Telegraphic communication has been destroyed and it is not known whether they were destroyed or not. Fate of two hundred settlers in the fire district is unknown.

The towns of Cochran and Matheson are reported to have been destroyed. Between them lie the settlements of Iroquois Falls, Hushka, Watahag and Kelson—all in the district reported swept by the flames.

number of issues. Modest weakness was reported in Third Avenue, but little of the stock came out.

Munition shares were firm and in some cases substantially higher.

While reactionary tendencies were reported in certain parts of the list in the early afternoon the general market held the early betterment, with operations extremely light. Traders put forth the idea the destruction to window glass from the explosion would cause enough ere purchases to add materially to the business of the fire companies, but the suggestion didn't take well enough to bring in inquiry for the fire shares, although Goodrich showed some firmness on traders operations.

In a good part of the afternoon stagnation was reported in most of the market.

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UNITED STATES WILL NOT STAND BLACKLIST

Washington, July 31.—The blow launched against the British blacklist in the American note published today is but the first act of aggressive move for this country's share in world trade, now and after the war, officials intimated today.

Government officials are inclined to see in the blacklist the allies' preliminary step in a trade war against Germany, which was clearly outlined at the economic conference at Paris some weeks ago. The necessity of keeping clear of "the war after the war" and of showing England that the United States as a neutral will not participate in, nor allow herself to become victim of, any such move, is understood to have been one underlying reason for the American blacklist protest.

The far reaching effect of the blacklist upon neutral trade and the feeling that the trade war to follow military peace may contain even more serious consequences to neutrals, determined the administration to enter a vigorous protest against the principal involved. It was feared the United States might be considered committed to the allies trade policy through keeping silent.

It is for this reason that England's preliminary reply to the protest, given the state department Saturday is unsatisfactory to the government. In it, the British foreign office took up only the question of immediate application and extent of the blacklist, without meeting this government's contention against the principle.

FRENCH RETAKE POSITION

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Fate of Many Unknown

Toronto, Ont., July 31.—The biggest bush fire in history of Ontario province was still raging today. Loss of 200 lives is feared.

Already the fire has covered much of the territory from Cochran to Hearst. Timber, valued at millions of dollars, is believed to have been consumed. A dozen towns and villages are in the fire zone. Telegraphic communication has been destroyed and it is not known whether they were destroyed or not. Fate of two hundred settlers in the fire district is unknown.

The towns of Cochran and Matheson are reported to have been destroyed. Between them lie the settlements of Iroquois Falls, Hushka, Watahag and Kelson—all in the district reported swept by the flames.

number of issues. Modest weakness was reported in Third Avenue, but little of the stock came out.

Munition shares were firm and in some cases substantially higher.

While reactionary tendencies were reported in certain parts of the list in the early afternoon the general market held the early betterment, with operations extremely light. Traders put forth the idea the destruction to window glass from the explosion would cause enough ere purchases to add materially to the business of the fire companies, but the suggestion didn't take well enough to bring in inquiry for the fire shares, although Goodrich showed some firmness on traders operations.

In a good part of the afternoon stagnation was reported in most of the market.

