

THE DAILY NEWS

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PRINCE RUPERT, B. C., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1917.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

AWFUL DESTRUCTION CAUSED IN HALIFAX

WHOLE BLOCKS LAID FLAT--PROPERTY DAMAGE \$200,000,000--HUNDREDS KILLED

HALIFAX IN RUINS THROUGH EXPLOSION AND FLAMES

COMMUNICATION ESTABLISHED WITH DEVASTATED CITY YESTERDAY AFTERNOON—TWELVE HUNDRED KILLED, THOUSANDS INJURED—PROPERTY DAMAGE TWO HUNDRED MILLIONS

(Special to The Daily News.)

St. John, N. B., Dec. 7.—The city of Halifax is now suffering from one of the greatest catastrophes which has ever happened to any city in Canada. Nearly half of the north end of the city is lying flat. Hardly a building remains. The dead are lying thick in the streets, and all the hospitals are filled to overflowing. Many of the injured have been compelled to walk about untreated, as there is not sufficient accommodation remaining in the city to take care of them. Up to 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon, the flames were raging throughout the ruined portion of the city, but at that time, they were got under control, although vast clouds of smoke are still rising from the holocaust pile.

The French munition ship *Mont Blanc* was leaving her pier, early yesterday morning, when in some manner she was rammed by a Norwegian relief ship carrying foodstuffs. The munition ship took fire, and on the flames reaching her cargo of munitions, she blew up with a tremendous explosion, the concussion of which caused the contents of the ship to explode as well, and not a house in the city escaped damage. The explosion caused conflagrations to break out over an area of two square miles, which burned furiously till well on into the afternoon.

Richmond Destroyed.

The suburb of Richmond, which lies further up the harbor, is totally destroyed. The force of the explosion was such that pieces of iron and shrapnel were found three miles from the waterfront. The damage to property is estimated at two hundred million dollars and among the buildings destroyed are the new deep water freight terminals belonging to the Canadian government at the north end of the city. No report has yet been received about the ocean terminals, and it is believed that they have escaped undamaged. A number of the C. P. R. operators were among the injured.

Casualties.

The death toll is estimated at about twelve hundred, and is being added to hourly. Two thousand persons have been severely injured, while thousands more with slighter injuries were compelled to wander about helpless through the wrecked streets all day, unable to find accommodation. The civic authorities have organized relief for the sufferers, but with such a large portion of

the city uninhabitable, they have been laboring under extreme difficulties.

Direct Advice.

Direct advice last night from the ruined city stated that the disaster was caused by the blowing up of a French munition ship, which was rammed by a Norwegian ship carrying foodstuffs. Property damage has been enormous. The berth of the cruiser *Niobe* was near the affected area and her fate is unknown. All the buildings along the waterfront were blown to pieces and the area of destruction covers several miles. The Canadian government depot used by the C. P. R. collapsed and the big Government repair plant at Willow Park in the northwestern section of the city was wrecked. The whole section of the city north of the Queens Hotel has been destroyed by fire. Special trains with doctors and nurses are en route to Halifax.

BRITISH MAKE GAINS NEAR LAVACQUERIE

(Special to The Daily News.)

London, Dec. 7.—Bourlon is like a pocket of hell today. The ground is pockmarked by the dread disease of war. Corpses are scattered around thickly, while the defenders are too busy to bury them. The horrible stench from these torn and mangled remains rises to mingle with the fumes of exploding shells loaded with Prussian gas, while overhead the Boche shrapnel bursts in an everlasting barrage. The British lines southwest of Lavacquerie have advanced slightly.

PRINCE RUPERT BARBERS HAVE RAISED PRICES

A meeting of all the barbers in Prince Rupert was held last evening, when the question of prices was discussed. In view of the ever rising cost of everything used by barbers, it was felt that to equalize things a small raise in the price of haircutting would have to be made.

All barbers' supplies have made sharp advances recently and there is no sign that they have yet reached their maximum. This change in prices will take effect from December 10, but will not affect the prices for children.

"THE LOVE THIEF"

The play to be shown at the Westholme tonight is one of the Fox masterpieces. It contains a story of Mexico, the land of frijoles, and is of two women who love the one man. This is rather a delicate position for any poor fellow to be in any time, and among a hot-blooded people like the Mexicans, becomes rather embarrassing. The play is full of incident and there is not a dull moment from beginning to end. There will also be a Pathe Gazette showing some of the latest events of recent history, together with a fine comedy.

Xmas post cards, 2 for 5c at McTae Bros. 287.

Furniture wanted. Any quantity. Good prices paid for complete household furnishings and all kinds of tools, men's suits, boots, etc. Phone Red 243 or call on F. M. Crosby, 745 Third Ave.

Do not be misled by the bogey reports of the soldiers voting solid for Peck. If the result of the soldiers' vote is known so soon, there is evidently something wrong with the method of taking the vote. This kind of electioneering twaddle is shopworn and is only the dying gasps of the discredited Borden administration. They have never had any real arguments to put forward as a reason for being returned to power, and are depending upon sentiment rather than logic. Any elector who allows these "election boomerangs" to influence their vote will be ill advised.

NOT A SEPARATE BUT GENERAL PEACE WANTED

(Special to The Daily News.)

London, Dec. 7.—Leon Trotsky, the Russian Bolshevik foreign minister, now declares that the Russian government does not desire a separate peace, but a general peace among the belligerents. Hostilities Suspended.

Berlin, Dec. 7.—The suspension of hostilities over the whole Russian front for ten days has been arranged, beginning at noon today.

Discuss Terms.

Petrograd, Dec. 7.—The representatives of Germany, Austria-Hungary, Turkey and Bulgaria met the Russian emissaries at Brest Litovsk to discuss the terms of the armistice.

Trotsky's Threat.

Stockholm, Dec. 7.—Trotsky is apparently carrying out his threat to detain in Russia all British subjects, until the Russian prisoners in England are released.

VILLAGE OF AIYANSH WIPED OUT BY FLOODS

From further details which have reached town, the floods on the Naas river have been more serious than was at first presumed. The damage and loss has been very extensive. The Indians of the village of Aiyansh, Greenville and another have practically lost all their possessions. Their horses and cattle have all been drowned and the scene is one of devastation everywhere.

The natives of these three villages are now all the guests of the village of Gitlakdamiks, some two miles further up the river, which escaped. The flooded area was covered with water to a depth of from ten to twenty-four feet. Houses, plank walks, the carcasses of the horses and cattle and anything that would float have been carried down the river for miles until they met some obstruction, and all the way down the river is dotted with the wreckage.

The teacher and the nurse appointed by the Department of Indian Affairs had a rather exciting experience. The rising waters had reached to the first floor of their house before they were rescued. The Indians were all out in the boats and canoes trying to save as much of their effects as possible, and the two ladies were the last to leave the drowned village. Their stock of provisions for the winter is all gone.

It is now expected that the inhabitants of these four villages will all combine at Gitlakdamiks from now on, which will be one good thing coming from this cataclysm, as it will do away with their tribal feuds.

SHIPS SUNK

(Special to The Daily News.)

London, Dec. 7.—Sixteen British merchantmen over sixteen hundred tons were sunk by submarines last week.

Ladysmith Wellington Coal reduces your fuel bill and gives satisfaction. Phone 15. P. R. Coal Co.

WHAT THE VOTERS HAVE TO CONSIDER

The Military Service Act was alleged to be necessary because the boys were perishing at the front. They were allowed to perish for four months while the bill wended its leisurely way through Parliament. Still, it was to save the boys from perishing!

The C. N. R. steal of up to \$10,000,000 was to save that amount for the financial pirates of Toronto, the friends of MacKenzie and Mann. It passed through Parliament in two months.

The War Time Election Act was to save the election for the Tories and to save the Borden government's skin. It passed in six weeks. And yet some folk wonder who the Borden government is most concerned about, whether their own re-election or the boys at the front.

The idea of a Union government suggests something altogether different from the idea of the Union candidates being opposed in the great majority of the ridings throughout the Dominion, at the coming election. The desire to have Borden leading the alleged Union government cannot be said to be unanimous. It is a queer sight to see Borden crying for union after having done all that he possibly could to divide Canada, to set the English-speaking peoples against French Canada. Borden did it deliberately.

The local Conservatives are the official starters of Colonel Peck in this election campaign. They were in communication with him for a long time before there was any talk of Union Government. Chosen by the Conservatives first to back Borden and the great Conservative party, there is no great difficulty in backing Borden and an alleged Union government, now.

The Borden Government gave the vote to the women relatives of the soldiers and sailors because it thought their vote was sure for them, and not because of any right of the women of Canada. The Borden Government did not give the vote to any other women because it knew that the women had sized them up in the kitchen. A full dinner pail is the best critic a government can have.

Remember that a vote for the Borden Union Government is a vote for the nine men who control all the banks, insurance and transportation companies in Canada. They control Borden, Laurier would control them. That's why the election contest is so bitter. They want to retain their strategic position, whereby they can continue to hold up all Canada at their pleasure. A vote for Stork will help to bust this ring of profiteers.

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SAYS LAURIER WILL SWEEP ONTARIO

"There is every evidence," said Mr. McKinnon Stewart, who arrived in the city last evening on a business visit, "that the Unionist candidates throughout Ontario have already the fear of defeat in their hearts. I have attended many of their meetings just before leaving for the west, and beyond their appeals to sentiment and their exaggerated expressions of loyalty, combined with vilification of Quebec and everything French-Canadian, they have no actual argument to put forward for the return of Sir Robert Borden to power.

"The graft scandals and the high cost of living, together with the paltry treatment meted out to the dependents of the soldiers who are already overseas are proving stumbling blocks which the Unionists cannot get over. The argument that no one party is in itself strong enough to curb the profiteer does not go down in Ontario, because the people there know that Borden never even attempted to do anything in this direction. If he had even tried, he would have given some evidence of his good faith in this matter. But he did not.

"I have not depended upon the accounts of the important Liberal meetings as given in the press," continued Mr. Stewart. "I have taken the precaution of attending several of them myself, and what actually happened and the press reports do not always agree. In many cases, these meetings are not reported at all in the big dailies. Public feeling in Ontario is deeply aroused at this election. More so than any other I remember of and my memory goes way back. Dissatisfaction is extreme among the Ontario people with the manner in which the Military Service Act is being carried out. Ontario gets treatment of one kind and Quebec another. Rainville's letter was only too true, and from the way in which the instructions he said were issued are apparently being carried out, it is evident that the Borden Government never intended the Military Service Act to be imposed upon Quebec. The Ontario people are being inflamed against French Canada by the press, which is doing its best to accentuate any feeling between the peoples of the two provinces.

"I cannot understand," went on Mr. Stewart, "how Borden and his supporters can reasonably call themselves Unionists, when they are doing all in their power to cause disunion in eastern Canada. The whole thing is a farce. Mind you, I am not speaking as a Liberal. I voted upon my convictions for Borden at the last election, but there are thousands like-minded as myself this time in Ontario, who will not vote for Borden this time, and from the conviction that he is not the best man to return in the true interests of Canada. Above all, I am a Canadian, and to me the interests of Canada and the Empire come first. If I am any judge, Laurier will sweep Ontario this time."

SWISS NEUTRALITY

(Special to The Daily News.)

Berne, Dec. 7.—The American minister has handed a note to the Federal Council to the effect that the United States fully recognizes the neutrality of Switzerland.

A sale of Christmas novelties, fancy work and home cooking will be held by the Chapter HHI 60 I. O. D. E. at the Great War Veterans' rooms on Saturday, December 8, afternoon and evening.

ANOTHER HUN AIR RAID ON LONDON CITY

Twenty-five Enemy Aeroplanes Cross Coast—Six Bomb City and Start Fires—Two Brought Down.

(Special to The Daily News.)

London, Dec. 7.—Five different squadrons of German aeroplanes made a determined attack upon the city of London early yesterday. Crossing the coast line in different places, six of the enemy machines managed to get above the city at different points. Bombs were dropped which started conflagrations in several districts.

Two of the enemy machines were brought down by the anti-aircraft gunfire and their crews were captured alive. Seven persons were killed and twenty-five were injured severely. The remainder of the Hun aeroplanes were driven off by the British aviators who rose to the attack immediately the alarm was given.

Bombs were dropped at Sheerness, Gravesend, Chatham, Dover and Margate by the enemy machines.

The "Empire" man is
In his glory again. Mud
slinging is his favorite
pastime. The dirty names
which he used in connection with the Liberal party
in his paper last night are
characteristic of the man
and are his "highbrow"
methods of electioneering.
The electorate are fed up
on his blubberings and pay
little or no attention to it.

Remember, Laurier put Prince Rupert on the map. Borden has done everything to take it off. If you want Prince Rupert to go ahead, it will require Laurier to direct affairs. You know what Borden has done for Prince Rupert. Nothing! Vote for Stork and a live town.

The train from the east arrived last night about midnight. It was a heavy one, carrying very many passengers from the prairies to the coast for the winter. The passenger list of the steamer was the heaviest for a long time.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that under the provisions of the Dominion Elections Act, the following gentlemen have been duly appointed official agents for the candidates at the coming election:

For Col. C. W. Peck, W. E. Fisher, barrister-at-law, Prince Rupert, B. C.

For Alfred Stork, Fred. G. Dawson, merchant, Prince Rupert, B. C.

JNO. FLEWIN, Returning Officer for Skeena Electoral District.

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