New Halifax Rises From Ruins

T. SHERMAN ROGERS, CHAIRMAN HALIFAX RELIEF COMMISSION

TEMPORARY BUILDINGS ERECTED TO HOUSE THE HOMELESS

IN THE STRICKEN AREA AFTER THE EXPLOSION

SOME OF THE 400 NEW HOMES ERECTED BY RELIEF COMMISSION

Handsome Homes Replace Those Demolished in the Great Disaster That Wrecked Big Area One Year Ago

A YEAR ago, on December 6, one-fifth of the city of Halifax was blasted off the map by the explosion of the steamer Mont Blanc's cargo of TNT. About 2,000 people were killed, between 5,000 and 6,000 were wounded, 36 were made totally blind, the sight of about 350 people was seriously impaired, a large number of dependents were left uncared for, and about $35,000,000 worth of property was wiped out in a few seconds.

A year has passed. What has been done for Halifax and what has Halifax done for itself?

A generous and sympathetic world handed Halifax $3,500,000 to aid in alleviating its distress. The British government gave $5,000,000 and the Canadian government, already under vast expense because of the war, gave $5,000,000 shortly after the TNT explosion occurred, and later added $7,000,000 more so that Halifax would be assured of a square deal.

The sum totals $20,500,000—one of the greatest contributions ever made by a big-hearted public to a stricken city.

What has been done, or is being done, with this vast sum? Many people who opened their hearts and their purses to Halifax would like to know, and this article is designed to supply the information.

The figures given above tell in part what was done for Halifax, but what Halifax has done for itself is a far longer story. Although the victim of a disaster which at once ranked her among the great tragedy cities of the world—Pompeii, Martinique, Galveston and San Francisco—Halifax staggered to her feet a few seconds after the titanic blast had laid waste her streets, destroyed her homes and littered the snow with her dead, and went to work to fetch order out of chaos.

"From a spectacular and heroic point of view," declared George MacDonald of the Canadian Press, "this continent has never produced such a daring set of civilian heroes as sprang up at the call of duty in those bleak December days in Halifax. History teems with horrors—recent history particularly—but no parallel exists for the sequence of affliction with which Halifax was deluged. Swift and appalling death from the withering explosion, mad panic at the fear of a worse disaster from a magazine disruption, horror from the fires which greedily devoured the ruins, torture from the rapidly changing weather conditions which went from blizzard to rain and from rain to zero conditions in the three days succeeding the day of the catastrophe. Fate seemed to have ceased its assaults only when it had exhausted its repertoire of calamities.

"Set against this appalling challenge was the unknown and untried courage of Halifax's citizens. How they battled through the combination of anguish and misery, almost alone for a week, is one of the most inspiring dramas of history."

So much for what Halifax started to do, from the pen of "one who watched this Homeric battle" as a press correspondent. Chief among the plain business men of heroic mold was Robert T. MacIlreith, an ex-mayor of Halifax, who had organized an emergency relief station at the city hall within an hour after the Imo had rammed the Mont Blanc and let loose the devastating explosives pent up in the hold of the latter ship. MacIlreith and his loyal associates not only got on the job at once, but stayed there, practically without rest or sleep for ten days, succoring the wounded, housing the homeless, feeding the destitute, caring for the dependents, providing fuel and transportation, fighting fire and burying the dead.

Every man of force and initiative and managerial ability went to work without a moment's delay. The private car of George E. Graham of the Dominion Atlantic was partly wrecked by the blast, but General Manager Graham at once became a leading spirit in the great task of organizing temporary relief and his railroad gave invaluable assistance in the crisis.

In a week the emergency shelter committee, directed by W. S. Davidson, chairman, housed 6,000 people and a large number were even cared for the very first night. Hospitals were established and 4,000 patients treated in an incredibly short time. Two thousand bodies were handled by the mortuary department.

The reconstruction committee, headed by G. Fred Pearson, a newspaper proprietor, lost no time in organizing the work of building temporary homes for the homeless to cover the period which must elapse before permanent construction could be inaugurated. Mr. Pearson asked Col. Robert S. Low, the man who built the cantonments for the Canadian army, to give Halifax the benefit of his experience, and the colonel went to work at once with plenty of energy, and without pay, to put roofs over the heads of thousands of Halifax people. When he had struck his stride, the man who built Valcartier camp for the Canadian expeditionary force in record time, was finishing a four-room apartment, with bath, every hour. His apartment houses were much like the cantonment buildings at the army camps in Canada and the United States, and housing accommodations were soon ready for 5,000 people.

These various forms of temporary relief caused the expenditure of about $4,000,000, and while this imperative task was being performed plans were formulated for the rebuilding of the devastated area, the settlement of claims and the care of dependents.

The Canadian government, after receiving full reports of the property losses and the needs of Halifax for permanent pensions, rehousing, etc., announced that although no legal liability rested upon the crown, nevertheless the explosion was an incident of the great war which had done enormous damage to Halifax and its environs and for which Halifax was in no may to blame. Steamers loaded with great cargoes of explosives sought Halifax harbor to secure convoy across the Atlantic to the seat of war, and in numerous instances the people of the city whose homes had been destroyed did not even know that they were living on the edge of a volcano. In view of the fact that the French steamship Mont Blanc was "using the harbor in pursuance of the common purpose of the allied nations in carrying on the war," the Canadian government determined to pay all legitimate property losses and establish a pension fund to care for those made dependent by the disaster. The sum of $5,000,000 had already been appropriated, but an additional sum of $7,000,000 was at once placed at the disposal of the stricken city and the Halifax relief commission was appointed and given extraordinary powers to expend the money and afford the necessary relief.

The commission, consisting of T. Sherman Rogers, K. C., chairman; Judge William Bernard Wallace and Frederick Luther Fowke, with Ralph P. Bell as secretary, has been hard at work for months straightening out the tangled affairs of the devastated district, paying claims for damages, erecting new homes and providing permanent pensions for those who were made dependent. The broad powers of the commission were granted by two orders in council and by an act of the Nova Scotia legislature. There were so many complicated matters to settle that the commissioners were empowered to use their own judgment in settling individual claims, in awarding pensions, in expending all the money contributed with the exception of special sums donated for certain purposes, and in replanning and rebuilding the devastated area.

Through the generosity of the Canadian government, every individual who lost his home valued at not more than $5,000, has already had or is having built for him, free of charge, a new home better than the one destroyed by the blast. Claims exceeding $5,000 are being settled by the commissioners, and over 15,000 claims for household and personal effects have already been paid. Five hundred people are receiving permanent pensions and disability allowances.

The Halifax relief commission, upon taking office, secured the services of a first-class firm of architects, and also employed a town-planning adviser. There was a splendid chance to put over a town-planning scheme, architecturally and otherwise, that would be a credit to both Halifax and to Canada, and the commission did not overlook the opportunity confronting it. One thousand homes, not only thoroughly practical, but beautiful, have been planned by the architects, new streets and avenues have been laid out in the devastated area and the replanning and rebuilding program is being carried out with the idea of making Halifax more beautiful than ever.

Months ago contracts were let for 400 houses which were to be completed before winter set in. This work has been done and the remaining permanent homes needed are also under way. The new houses are artistic in design, and of many different types. There is a natural granite procurable in Halifax, and a hydro-stone material closely resembling this is being used, as well as cream-white stucco and rough textured brick.

In the Gottingen street area the houses are grouped around courts, and lawns and playgrounds are part of the general development. The architects have considered the devastated area as an entirety for development purposes, and as the commission backing them has full power to carry out its ideas, the result should be a very interesting experiment in housing and town planning.

The new main boulevards laid out by the commission are 80 feet wide, and the secondary streets vary in width from 50 to 60 feet. Fort Needham, a very picturesque spot of historic interest, has been taken over for park purposes by the commission, and throughout the new development large spaces have been set apart as places of amusement and recreation.

The dominion and imperial government owned the water front property which bore the brunt of the Mont Blanc explosion, and the reconstruction of this area is in charge of governmental departments. Part of this section of the devastated area is now the site of a new steel shipyard employing about 5,000 men, who are engaged in building steel steamships of 10,000 tons. This new industry, of vast benefit to Halifax, was established following the disaster, and, no doubt, because of the disaster.

In view of what she has suffered and overcome in the past, Halifax may well lift with pride a head "bloody but unbowed," and say with W. E. Henley, the author of "Invictis:"

"Out of the night that covers me,
Black as the pit from pole to pole,
I thank whatever gods may be
For my unconquerable soul."

Keeping Workers Amused

"The greatest problem with war workers is keeping them amused," says J. H. Connor, who is in charge of the welfare work at the United States Explosives Plant "C" at Nitro, W. Va. "For unless the workers are able to find entertainment they won't work.

"At the present time there are 15,000 workmen at Nitro and it is planned to increase that number to 40,000. But despite the high wages it is difficult to keep the 15,000 there. Wages are almost unbelievably high. For example: Office boys are started at $75 a month; stenographers at $150, and I have seen the weekly pay envelopes of many carpenters with more than $100 inside. However, it is an actual fact that 20 per cent of the workmen who are transported there at the expense of the government disappear en route and more than 50 per cent of those who arrive do not stay more than two or three days.

"You see, Nitro is a new town about twelve miles from Charlestown, W. Va. It's in a dry section of the country with absolutely nothing to attract workers except high wages. And as soon as the majority of workers save a bank roll they depart for pleasanter and wetter climes.

"That's why a welfare department has been established at this plant, where a million pounds of powder will be manufactured daily when everything is in operation. It was found that unless the men were amused when they finished their work they simply wouldn't remain—no matter what wages were paid.

"Of course we do all the welfare work that is being done in the most modern plants. We have various kinds of hospitals, free medical attention and all that sort of thing. We even fill the teeth of the workmen free of charge. Houses are being built so that the workmen may bring their families and there is everything for their creature comforts, but that isn't enough. The workmen miss the excitement of life in the big cities—they miss the lights, the rush and that feeling of being 'in the swim,' so to speak. While they were merely onlookers they felt that they were taking part in the day's events. When they get to Nitro they soon become dissatisfied and depressed.

"A person who has never worked in a place of this kind cannot appreciate how essential amusement is to his well being. But I must say that we are doing everything possible to keep the workers happy and contented. I'm here in New York to recruit a band and arrange for the appearance of a few musical plays. Of course the summer months will not be so depressing, for we have built scores of bath houses on the river near the plant and hundreds of rowboats and canoes have been ordered. It's the dull winter we're most afraid of."

QUITE SO.

Kaiser—I say, Max, what does Wilson mean by all this talk he's giving us?

Max—He means, All Highest, to say, "If you'll come down, we won't shoot."

LETS CHICKENS HAVE WINE

French Professor Says They Thrive on It, and Lay Many More Eggs for Their Owner.

Mrs. Hen says to her lord and master, "Another little drink wouldn't do me any harm." It'll be no use for him to argue the point. She is backed by authority.

The professor of agriculture at Fontainebleau, France, has been making a discovery about eggs.

He took a dozen hens and gave six of them a little wine each day and kept the other six enforced teetotalers. Stimulant triumphed over prohibition and the teetotalers were beaten to a frazzle! They laid only 27 eggs, as compared with the wine bibbers 180, and the latter were much superior in quality.

It is a dangerous discovery to have made in these days of strikes, especially with winter coming. Now that women are getting their rights everywhere (or most everywhere), it is quite conceivable that all hens will go on strike and refuse to lay eggs unless they get their beer.

Literary Simile Discredited.

Since powder came into use in war writers have been fond of comparing the roar of cannon to a thunder storm, thunder being given first rank as the greatest imaginable noise. But nature must take second place hereafter as a noise producer. The gunfire in Flanders has been heard frequently in London, while the limits of the sound produced by the famous mine under Vimy ridge have not been determined. On the other hand, no peal of thunder has ever been heard, so far as is known, more than twenty miles. When lightning destroyed a church at Lostwithiel England, to the accompaniment of one of the most terrific thunder crashes ever recorded, not a sound of it was heard thirty miles away.—People's Home Journal.

The Vatican contains 1,000 halls and rooms and covers 14 acres of ground.

DANDRUFF MAKES HAIR FALL OUT

A small bottle of "Danderine" keeps hair thick, strong, beautiful.

Girls! Try this! Doubles beauty of your hair in a few moments.

Within ten minutes after an application of Danderine you can not find a single trace of dandruff or falling hair and your scalp will not itch, but what will please you most will be after a few weeks' use, when you see new hair, fine and downy at first—yes—but really new hair—growing all over the scalp.

A little Danderine immediately doubles the beauty of your hair. No difference how dull, faded, brittle and scraggy, just moisten a cloth with Danderine and carefully draw it through your hair, taking one small strand at a time. The effect is amazing—your hair will be light, fluffy and wavy, and have an appearance of abundance; an incomparable lustre, softness and luxuriance.

Get a small bottle of Knowlton's Danderine for a few cents at any drug store or toilet counter, and prove that your hair is as pretty and soft as any—that it has been neglected or injured by careless treatment—that's all—you surely can have beautiful hair and lots of it if you will just try a little Danderine.—Adv.

Why They Are Cheerful.

"Those aviators all seem to be cheerful fellows."

"Why shouldn't they be? Don't they all have a chance to see the clouds' silver linings?"

Catarrh Cannot Be Cured

by LOCAL APPLICATIONS, as they cannot reach the seat of the disease. Catarrh is a local disease, greatly influenced by constitutional conditions. HALL'S CATARRH MEDICINE will cure catarrh. It is taken internally and acts through the Blood on the Mucous Surfaces of the System. HALL'S CATARRH MEDICINE is composed of some of the best tonics known, combined with some of the best blood purifiers. The perfect combination of the ingredients in HALL'S CATARRH MEDICINE is what produces such wonderful results in catarrhal conditions. Druggists 75c. Testimonials free. F. J. Cheney & Co., Props., Toledo, O.

The Very Name Jars on Him.

"Can't you find congenial work?"

"Madam, for me no work is congenial."—Boston Evening Transcript.

Statistics show a marked decrease of pauperism in Ireland.

The cherry, peach and plum originated in Persia.

PROVEN SWAMP-ROOT AIDS WEAK KIDNEYS

The symptoms of kidney and bladder troubles are often very distressing and leave the system in a run-down condition. The kidneys seem to suffer most, as almost every victim complains of lame back and urinary troubles which should not be neglected, as these danger signals often lead to more dangerous kidney troubles.

Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root which, so many people say, soon heals and strengthens the kidneys, is a splendid kidney, liver and bladder medicine, and, being an herbal compound, has a gentle healing effect on the kidneys, which is almost immediately noticed in most cases by those who use it.

A trial will convince anyone who may be in need of it. Better get a bottle from your nearest drug store, and start treatment at once.

However, if you wish first to test this great preparation send ten cents to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., for a sample bottle. When writing be sure and mention this paper.—Adv.

Sun Bean for Him.

Mother was having home Sunday school services. A song suitable for the kindergarten worshiper was selected. Spying Uncle Harry driving up the other children at once "cut services," but Nancy Jane continued her wavering solo, "Sun bean, sun bean, Jesus wants me for a sun bean. I'll be a sun bean for him."

EAT A TABLET! DYSPEPSIA GONE

PAPE'S DIAPEPSIN INSTANTLY RELIEVES SOUR, GASSY OR ACID STOMACHS.

When meals hit back and your stomach is sour, acid, gassy, or you feel full and bloated. When you have heavy lumps of pain or headache from indigestion. Here is instant relief!

Just as soon as you eat a tablet or two of Pape's Diapepsin all the dyspepsia, indigestion and stomach distress ends. These pleasant, harmless tablets of Pape's Diapepsin never fail to make upset stomachs feel fine at once, and they cost very little at drug stores. Adv.

Dark.

"Don't you know I tol' yo' not to go swimmin' wid no white trash chillun, eh?" sternly asked Sambo Johnsing.

"But he wa'n't white before he went in," replied Sambo's small son.—Boys' Life.

An ordinary human being uses up 267 cubic feet of air each 24 hours.

The Chinese do not, as a rule, appreciate foreign sweetmeats.

SPANISH INFLUENZA

Do Not Fear When Fighting a German or a Germ!

By DR. M. COOK.

The cool fighter always wins and so there is no need to become panic stricken. Avoid fear and crowds. Exercise in the fresh air and practice the three C's: A Clean Mouth, a Clean Skin and Clean Bowels. To carry off the poisons that accumulate within the body and to ward off an attack of the influenza bacillus, take a good liver regulator to move the bowels. Such a one is made up of May-apple, leaves of aloe, root of jalap, and is to be had at any drug store, and called "Pleasant Purgative Pellets."

If a bad cold develops, go to bed, wrap up well, drink freely of hot lemonade and take a hot mustard foot-bath. Have the bedroom warm but well ventilated. Obtain at the nearest drug store "Anuric Tablets" to flush the kidneys and control the pains and aches. Take an "Anuric" tablet every two hours, together with copious drinks of lemonade. If a true case of influenza, the food should be simple, such as broths, milk, buttermilk and ice-cream; but it is important that food be given regularly in order to keep up patient's strength and vitality. After the acute attack has passed, which is generally from three to seven days, the system should be built up by the use of a good iron tonic, such as "Irontic" tablets, to be obtained at some drug stores, or that well known blood-maker and herbal tonic made from roots and barks of forest trees—sold everywhere as Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery.

Stop Losing Calves

You can Stamp Abortion Out of YOUR HERD and Keep It Out

By the use of DR. DAVID ROBERTS' "Anti-Abortion"

Small Expense. Easily Applied. Sure Results. Used successfully for 30 years. Consult Dr. DAVID ROBERTS about all animal ailments. Information free. Send for FREE copy of "The Cattle Specialist" with full information on Abortion in Cows. DR. DAVID ROBERTS VETERINARY CO., 160 Grand Ave., Waukesha, Wis.

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MORGAN'S SAPOLIO SCOURING SOAP

Economy in Every Cake

Land Buyers' Excursion

Personally conducted—Never has there been such demand for farm products nor prices as high. This will continue, as we must feed the world. Join us Dec. 3d, see those rich black lands of Eastern N. Carolina. Big demand, all you can raise; fine climate; hunting, fishing, boating great! Land at $30 per acre; equal to $300 per acre elsewhere. Write Chas. H. Bartow, Houghton Bldg., Columbus, O.

WEAK KIDNEYS MEAN A WEAK BODY

When you're fifty, your body begins to creak a little at the hinges. Motion is more slow and deliberate. "Not so young as I used to be" is a frequent and unwelcome thought. Certain bodily functions upon which good health and good spirits so much depend, are impaired. The weak spot is generally the bladder. Unpleasant symptoms show themselves. Painful and annoying complications in other organs arise. This is particularly true with elderly people. If you only know how, this trouble can be obviated.

For over 200 years GOLD MEDAL Haarlem Oil has been relieving the inconvenience and pain due to advancing years. It is a standard, old-time home remedy, and needs no introduction! It is now put up in odorless, tasteless capsules. These are easier and more pleasant to take than the oil in bottles.

Each capsule contains about one dose of five drops. Take them just like you would any pill, with a small swallow of water. They soak into the system and throw off the poisons which are making you old before your time. They will quickly relieve those stiffened joints, that backache, rheumatism, lumbago, sciatica, gall stones, gravel, "brick dust," etc. They are an effective remedy for all diseases of the bladder, kidney, liver, stomach and allied organs.

GOLD MEDAL Haarlem Oil Capsules cleanse the kidneys and purify the blood. They frequently ward off attacks of the dangerous and fatal diseases of the kidneys. They have a beneficial effect, and often completely cure the diseases of the bodily organs, allied with the bladder and kidneys.

If you are troubled with soreness across the loins or with "simple" aches and pains in the back take warning, it may be the preliminary indications of some dreadful malady which can be warded off or cured if taken in time.

Go to your druggist today and get a box of GOLD MEDAL Haarlem Oil Capsules. Money refunded if they do not help you. Three sizes. GOLD MEDAL are the pure, original imported Haarlem Oil Capsules. Accept No Substitutes.—Adv.

You Are Dying By Acid

When you have Heartburn, Gas, Bloat, and that Full Feeling after eating. TAKE ONE

EATONIC

FOR YOUR STOMACH'S SAKE

Rids you of the Excess Acid and Overload and you will fairly feel the GAS driven out of your body—THE BLOAT GOES WITH IT.

IT GIVES YOU REAL STOMACH COMFORT

Sold by druggists generally—If your druggist can't supply you a big box of Eatonic for 50c, send us this adv. with your name and address and we will send it to you—you can send us the 50c after you get it. Address Eatonic Remedy Co., 1018 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Which Was It?

Knicker—All exalted personage forgot himself.

Bocker—Or else remembered himself.

Have a Clear Skin.

Make Cuticura Soap your every-day toilet soap and assist it now and then by touches of Cuticura Ointment to soften, soothe and heal. For free samples address "Cuticura, Dept. X, Boston." At druggists and by mail. Soap 25, Ointment 25 and 50.—Adv.

As It Were.

"The Turtle is an unsociable critter."

"Lives too much within himself, so to speak."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Of the 650 tons of ivory brought annually into England, Sheffield consumes a third.

The Universal shipyard at Houston, Tex., has a woman oakum spinner who works nine hours every day.

Your Eyes Granulated Eyelids, Eyes inflamed by exposure to Sun, Dust and Wind quickly relieved by Murine EyeRemedy. No Smarting, just Eye Comfort. At Your Druggists or by mail 60c per Bottle. For Book of the Eye free write Murine Eye Remedy Co., Chicago.

The "Black Death," which ravaged China in 1546, is said to be breaking out again in Asia.

Important to Mothers

Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA, that famous old remedy for infants and children, and see that it Bears the Signature of Chas. H. Fletcher. In Use for Over 30 Years. Children Cry for Fletcher's Castoria

Cause for Sadness.

The Thrift Stamp—Why so jealous?

The Rubber Stamp—I'll never grow into a War Stamp.

ASTHMA INSTANTLY RELIEVED WITH ASTHMADOR OR MONEY REFUNDED ASK ANY DRUGGIST

PARKER'S HAIR BALSAM A toilet preparation of merit. Helps to eradicate dandruff. For Restoring Color and Beauty to Gray or Faded Hair. 50c. and $1.00 at Druggists.

EVERYBODY Suffering Piles, Fissures, Fistula, Ulceration, Constipation, Bleeding, Itching. Write for free trial. Painless Pile Cure, 8 E. Bacon, Auburn, Ind.

Government Homestead Land—Patent issued without Residence. Box 1348, East Silver Bldg., Minneapolis.

Every Woman Wants Paxtine ANTISEPTIC POWDER FOR PERSONAL HYGIENE Dissolved in water for douching, chronic pelvic catarrh, ulceration and inflammation. Recommended by Lydia E. Pinkham Med. Co. for two years. A healing wonder for nasal catarrh, sore throat and sore eyes. Economical. Has extraordinary cleansing and germicidal power. Sample Free. 50c. at all druggists or postpaid. The Paxton Toilet Co., Boston, Mass.

Do You Love Noiseless Music? Send us $3 cents and receive a VERSATONE PHONOGRAPH NEEDLE which, when used on any phonograph, gives a mellow, rolling, pleasing music. Our GUARANTEE good for one year. We also offer the GOLDSTONE VICTORIA NEEDLE with LIFE-TIME GUARANTEE for $5.00. Agents wanted everywhere. VERSATONE NEEDLE CO., 704 Republic Bldg., Cor. State and Adams Streets, CHICAGO, ILL.

Stop Your Coughing No need to let that cough racket. Stop the irritation, and remove tickling and hoarseness by soothing the inflamed throat with PISO'S