

GIGANTIC MUNITIONS SMASH IN CANADIAN CAR CO.'S PLANT

Half a Million 3-inch Shells for Russian Government Destroyed
in Series of Terrific Explosions at Factories
In New Jersey.

A despatch from New York says:—A fire which broke out in the munition plant of the Canadian Car & Foundry Works near Kingsland, New Jersey, on Thursday afternoon completely destroyed the factory, with a loss estimated all the way from \$4,000,000 up to \$10,000,000, forced the evacuation of a large part of the town of Kingsland, making 1,000 people homeless for the time.

For the space of more than five hours northern New Jersey, New York city and the western end of Long Island listened to a bombardment that approximated the sound of a great battle, a bombardment in which more than half a million three-inch high-explosive shells were discharged. Yet so far as the police and hospitals of all that section have been able to learn not a single life was lost, and no one was injured. Comparatively few windows were broken in the surrounding districts, and, indeed, the material loss outside the plant itself and the telephone lines running near it was very slight.

Police Prevent Casualties.

Consequently, as the flames reached each case of shells, and exploded the charges, the projectile shot high into the air—often several hundred feet. But as it descended without the fuse, which alone could explode the charge, its fall was only that of so much metal. Even so, the fact that not one of the thousands of people in the neighborhood was hurt, so far as could be learned, was due principally to the prompt police measures in clearing out the houses in the endangered districts near by.

The munition plant lies in the Jersey Meadows, seven miles west of the

Hudson, and about a mile east of the edge of the hill on which lie the twin towns of Kingsland and Lyndhurst. The company was just finishing an \$82,000,000 contract for the Russian Government, which had kept the plant busy for the past two years. Thirty-eight one and two story buildings had been erected in the meadow, and three shifts of 1,400 workmen each, mostly negroes, were employed in filling the explosives purchased from powder-companies into the shell cases, some of which were brought from the Bethlehem Steel Company and others made by the Canadian Car & Foundry Co., elsewhere. The contract was within two weeks of completion, and one of the shifts was laid off Tuesday night.

Fourteen Hundred Men Employed.

At work in the plant when the fire broke out were the 1,400 men, a considerable number of office employees and two or three hundred guards in uniform, who have been patrolling the factory ever since its erection. It was 3.40 when the blaze broke out in building No. 30, when ten or twelve men were at work cleaning the brass cases of the shells with denatured alcohol before the process of filling was begun. Somehow, from somewhere, a spark fell into a tub of the alcohol and set it ablaze. One theory is that an electric drop light hung above the tub had become short-circuited, and that the spark was a piece of burning insulation.

There was another story that the spark fell from the carbon of an arc light high above. However it began, the tub of alcohol was ablaze in a moment, and the workmen in the building turned and fled without delay.

NOTE IS CLEAR AND POSITIVE

Demands Restoration of Belgium, Serbia and Montenegro.

A despatch from London says: The Times' war editorial on Friday on the allies' note says: "Eminently courteous and friendly in tone, clear and positive in statement, closely reasoned, and animated by the lofty ideals of politics, morals to which the people of the United States have always paid homage, the reply of the allies to President Wilson's note must command the assent and approbation of the great nation who inherited, assimilated and developed the best principles and traditions of Western civilization. The German Government hastened to avail themselves of a phrase which they picked out of the President's note in order to curiously refuse the information which he asked. They made no avowal of their views as to the terms on which the war might be concluded," and told him in substance he was on a mistaken road to peace. The allies do not pretend in the present position to state all their war aims in detail, but declare the general objects with more amplitude and precision than in any statement they have yet made to their own countrymen."

The Only Terms.

The Times then enumerates the terms of the allies, viz: The restoration of Belgium, of Serbia and Montenegro and complete reparation for the damage they sustained, and the evacuation of the invaded territories of France, Russia and Rumania, with such reparation as is considered just. The reorganization of Europe, guaranteed by a stable regime and found-

ed upon the respected nationalities and full liberty and security of all great and small nations.

The restitution of territories previously severed from allied nations by force or contrary to the wishes of their populations.

The liberation of Italians, Slavs, Rumanians and Czech Slavs from foreign domination.

The retirement of the Turkish Empire from Europe.

The expression "they must provide restoration of the provinces torn from the allies by force against the wish of the inhabitants" is a clear reference, says the Times, to Alsace-Lorraine.

The editorial concludes: "We feel confident the excellent impression which the allies' reply to Germany created must be confirmed and intensified by the more ample answer we make at the suggestion of the President."

FIVE LIVES LOST IN MONTREAL FIRE

Maid Perished While Making Attempt To Save Children.

A despatch from Montreal says:—Fire claimed five victims in the destruction of the Idealograph Moving Picture Theatre, at 1691 Notre Dame Street west, at 2 o'clock Thursday morning. The victims were the children and maid of Dr. and Mrs. J. H. Leblanc, a dentist, at 1689 Notre Dame Street west, who were in the family's living quarters on the third floor. Dr. and Mrs. Leblanc were out spending the evening with friends, and had left their four children in charge of the maid and an elderly servant, Mme. Bouchard.

TWO AUSTRIAN SUBMARINES CAPTURED BY ITALIAN NAVY

Harbor of Pola Again Bombarded By French and Italian Hydroplanes.

A despatch from Rome says: The capture of two submarines is reported in an announcement on Sunday from the War Office. The statement follows: "The enemy submarine Vc12, which the German navy ceded to Austria-Hungary, has fallen into our hands, and become a unit of our torpedo squadrons. Another enemy submarine the VT12, belonging to the

Austro-Hungarian navy, also is in our possession.

"Italian and French hydroplanes on Friday dropped bombs on the enemy's works at Pola. Enemy aeroplanes made a counter-attack, but were repulsed. One of our hydroplanes successfully fought three enemy aeroplanes.

"Enemy aeroplanes bombed our torpedo boats at sea without effect. All our units returned to their base undamaged."

LEADING MARKETS

Breadstuffs.
Toronto, Jan. 16.—Manitoba wheat—No. 1 Northern \$2.07½; No. 2 do., \$2.04½; No. 3 do., \$2.01½; No. 4 wheat, \$1.86½; track, Bay ports. Old crop trading 40 above new crop.
Manitoba oats—No. 2 C.W., 70½c; track, Bay ports.
American corn, No. 3 yellow, \$1.08½; shipment within 30 days.
Ontario oats—No. 2 white, 64 to 65c; nominal; No. 3 white, 63 to 65c; nominal, according to freights outside.
Ontario wheat—New No. 3 Winter, per car lot, \$1.78 to \$1.80; No. 3 do., \$1.76 to \$1.78, according to freights outside.
Peas—No. 3, \$2.40, according to freights outside.
Barley—Malt, \$1.13 to \$1.20, according to freights outside.
Buckwheat—\$1.25, according to freights outside.
Rye—No. 2, \$1.37 to \$1.39, according to freights outside.
Manitoba flour—First patents, in jute bags, \$9.90; 2nd do., \$9.40; strong bakers' do., \$9.70 to \$2.80.
Ontario flour—Winter, according to sample, \$7.30 to \$7.50, in bags, track Toronto, prompt shipment.
Millfeed—Car lots—Delivered Montreal freights, bags included, bran, per ton, \$32; shorts, do., \$37; good feed flour, per bag, \$2.70 to \$2.80.
Hay—No. 1, per ton, \$12.50 to \$13.50; No. 2, do., \$9 to \$11, track Toronto.
Straw—Car lots, per ton, \$9.50 to \$10, track Toronto.

Country Produce—Wholesale.
Butter, fresh dairy, choice, 38 to 40c; creamery prints, 45 to 47c; solids, 43 to 43c.
Eggs—No. 1 storage, 39 to 40c; storage, selects, 42 to 43c; new-laid, in cartons, 60 to 65c; out of cartons, 58 to 60c.
Cheese—Large, 25½ to 26c; twins, 26 to 26½; triplets, 26½ to 26c.
Dressed poultry—Chickens, 22 to 24c; fowl, 19c; ducks, 20 to 22c; squabs, per dozen, \$4 to \$4.50; turkeys, 25 to 30c; geese, 18 to 18c.
Honey—White clover, 2½-lb. tins, 14c; 5-lb. tins, 13 to 13½c; 10-lb., 12½ to 13c; 60-lb., 12 to 13c; buckwheat, 60-lb. tins, 9 to 9½c.
Honey—extra fine and heavy weight, per doz., \$2.75; select, \$2.50 to \$2.75; No. 2, \$2 to \$2.25.
Potatoes—Ontario, per bag, \$2.25; British Columbia, per bag, \$2.25; New Brunswick Delawares, per bag, \$2.45 to \$2.50.
Beans—Imported, hand-picked, per bush, \$6; Canadian hand-picked, per bush, \$6.50 to \$7; Canadian primes, \$6 to \$6.50; Limas, per lb., 9½ to 10c.

Provisions—Wholesale.
Smoked meats—Hams, medium, 25 to 26c; 22 to 23c; cooked, 34 to 36c; rolls, 19 to 20c; breakfast bacon, 25 to 27c; backs, plain, 26 to 27c; bonless, 28 to 30c.
Cured meats—Long clear bacon, 18 to 18½c per lb.; clear bellies, 18 to 18½c.
Lard—Pure lard, tierces, 21½ to 21¾c; tubs, 21½ to 22c; pails, 22 to 22½c; compound, 16½ to 17c.

Montreal Markets.
Montreal, Jan. 16.—Oats—Canadian W. No. 2, 71c; No. 3, 69c; extra No. 1 feed, 69c. Barley—Manitoba feed, \$1; malt, \$1.30. Flour—Manitoba Spring wheat patents, firsts, \$10; seconds, \$9.50; strong bakers', \$9.30; Winter patents, choice, \$9.25; straight rollers, \$8.50 to \$8.80; do. bags, \$4.10 to \$4.25. Rolled oats—Bbls., \$7.25 to \$7.45; do. bags, 90 lbs., \$3.50 to \$3.60. Bran, \$32. Shorts, \$35. Middlings, \$38 to \$40. Moullie, \$40 to \$48. Hay—No. 2, per ton, per lot, \$13. Cheese—Fine, westerns, 25c; finest easterns, 24c. Butter—Choice creamery, 43 to 43½c; seconds, 40 to 41½c; seconds, 40 to 41c. Eggs—Fresh, 45 to 60c; selected, 42c; No. 1 stock, 40c; No. 2 stock, 34 to 36c. Potatoes—Per bag, car lots, \$1.75 to \$1.95.

Winnipeg Grain.
Winnipeg—Jan. 16.—Wheat—No. 1 Northern, \$1.81½; No. 2 Northern, \$1.78½; No. 3 Northern, \$1.74½. Oats—No. 2 C.W., 56½c; No. 3 C.W., 54½c; extra No. 1 feed, 54½c; No. 1 feed, 52½c; No. 2 feed, 51½c. Barley—No. 3, \$1; No. 4, 94c; rejected, 80c. Feed, No. 1, \$2.50; No. 1 N.W.C., \$2.58½; No. 2 C.W., \$2.55½.

United States Markets.
Minneapolis, Jan. 16.—Wheat—May, \$1.88; July, \$1.78. Cash—No. 1 hard, \$1.96 to \$1.97; No. 1 Northern, \$1.89 to \$1.92. No. 2 Northern, \$1.86 to \$1.92. Corn—No. 3 yellow, 91½ to 92½c. Oats—No. 3 white, 52½ to 54c. Flour—unchanged. Bran, \$27.50 to \$28.
Duluth, Jan. 16.—Wheat—No. 1 hard, \$1.89½; No. 1 Northern, \$1.88½; No. 2 Northern, \$1.83½ to \$1.85½; May, \$1.87½. Linseed, to arrive, \$2.86½; May, \$2.90½; July, \$2.92½.

Live Stock Markets.
Toronto, Jan. 16.—Choice heavy steers, \$9.75 to \$10.35; do. good, \$9.25 to \$9.50; butchers' cattle, choice, \$9.25 to \$9.50; do. good, \$8.75 to \$9; do. medium, \$8.25 to \$8.50; do. common, \$7.60 to \$8; butchers' bulls, choice, \$7.75 to \$8.75; do. good bulls, \$7.25 to \$7.50; do. rough bulls, \$5 to \$5.15; butchers' cows, choice, \$7.75 to \$8.50; do. good, \$7.25 to \$7.50; do. medium, \$6.65 to \$7; stockers, \$5.65 to \$7.25; choice feeders, \$7 to \$7.75; canners and cutters, \$4.50 to \$5.50; milkers, choice, each, \$70 to \$100; do. common and medium, each, \$40 to \$60; springers, \$7 to \$10; light cows, \$3.25 to \$4; sheep, heavy, \$6 to \$7.50; calves, good to choice, \$11.75 to \$13; lambs, choice \$13 to \$14; do. medium, \$9.75 to \$10.25; hogs, fed and watered, \$13; do. weighed off cars, \$13.25; do. F.O.B., \$12.
Montreal, Jan. 16.—Choice steers, \$9; good steers, \$7.50 to \$8.25; butchers' bulls, \$7 to \$8; butchers' cows, \$5.50 to \$7.50; canners' bulls, \$5.50; canners' cows, \$5.40; grass fed calves, \$5.50; milk fed calves, \$10; lambs, \$12 to \$13.50; select hogs, \$12.75 to \$13.50.

OF GERMAN LOSSES 70 PER CENT. RECOVER.

A despatch from Berlin says: Of the total number of officers and men in the German army who were wounded during the second year of the war 70 per cent. fully recovered and went back to the trenches, according to official figures published by the German Government. Only 6.4 per cent. of the wounded were completely unfit for military service, and the other wounded were able to do military duty at home. Twelve hundred and fifty soldiers went blind during the war.

ROME CONFERENCE TURNING POINT IN WAR.

A despatch from London says: The Times in an editorial on Wednesday regarding the recent War Council held in Rome, says: "The conference just concluded in Rome may well prove one of the turning points in the war. More than one vital decision was reached with complete harmony. The road to victory, though it may be long, is now running straight to the appointed end."

ITALIAN BATTLESHIP HIT MINE 675 MEN ON BOARD PERISHED

The Disaster Occurred a Month Ago, But It Has Only Now Been Announced.

A despatch from Rome says: It is officially announced that the Italian battleship Regina Margherita struck a mine off the Albania coast and sank December 11. Six hundred and seventy-five men on board perished. Two hundred and seventy were saved. The battleship Regina Margherita was laid down in 1898, and completed in May, 1904. She was a vessel of 13,427 tons, 426 feet long, and had a

draught of 27 feet. Her usual complement was 730 men. The battleship carried four 12-inch, four 8-inch, twelve 6-inch guns, twenty 12-pounders, two 1-pounders, two maxims and four torpedo tubes.

The Regina Margherita was a sister ship of the Benedetto Brin, which was badly damaged by an explosion on board in 1915, in which a large number of her crew, including Rear-Admiral De Oerwin, were killed.

BRITISH CAPTURE POSITIONS ON FRONT OF NEARLY A MILE

Several Raids Also Resulted in the Bagging of Large Numbers of Prisoners.

A despatch from London says:—The British official communication issued on Thursday night says: "A number of minor enterprises were undertaken last night with excellent results. South of the Ancre we entered the enemy trenches at two places in the neighborhood of Grandcourt, and took prisoners. Early this morning a local operation on a large scale north-east of Beaumont-Hamel was completely successful. Our troops

carried an enemy trench on a front of three-quarters of a mile, and established our position. An enemy counter-attack this afternoon was caught in the open by our artillery, and broken up with loss. One hundred and seventy-six prisoners, including four officers, were taken in the course of the operations in this area. "Enemy trenches also were raided last night east of Armentieres, and north-east of Ypres. Many casualties were inflicted on the enemy."

BRITISH WIN IN PALESTINE

Anzac Mounted Troops Destroy Turk Position At Rafa.

A despatch from London says:—The War Office reports: "On Tuesday our troops captured a strong enemy position consisting of six lines of entrenchments with six main redoubts and a central keep, covering Rafa, 30 miles north-east of El Arish, Egypt. The attacking force, composed of Anzac mounted troops and the Imperial Camel Corps, left El Arish on Monday, and the attack on the position commenced at 7 a.m. Tuesday. The fighting lasted until 5 p.m., when the position was finally carried.

"After the engagement a Turkish relief force was located, advancing from Shalal, 16 miles east of Rafa. This force was engaged at a point about four miles from the Rafa position, and was entirely destroyed.

"Up to the present we have taken 1,600 unwounded prisoners and four mountain guns. The enemy killed and wounded in our hands amount to 600."

200,000 BRITISH WOMEN TO WORK ON THE FARMS

A despatch from London says:—An important announcement regarding the employment of women in agriculture will be made shortly, according to the Daily News. The idea is to raise an army of 200,000 women workers. Several schemes have been under consideration, and the one to which President Prothero of the Board of Agriculture has given special attention, and which has been referred to Neville Chamberlain, Director of National Service, provides for women being billeted and paid a shilling a day.

183 SWEDISH SHIPS LOST DURING YEAR.

A despatch from London says: An Exchange Telegraph despatch from Copenhagen says that Sweden lost 183 ships, aggregating 113,000 tons, last year, of which 100 were torpedoed, with the loss of 27 lives. This report comes from Stockholm, and adds that during the same period Sweden built 81 ships, aggregating 47,000 tons.

POWDER EXPLOSION SHATTERS FACTORY

21 Men Reported Killed in Wreck at DuPont Plant At Haskell.

A despatch from New York says: Two of the powder magazines of the DuPont Powder Company, at Haskell, N.J., were blown up on Friday night. The explosions were of terrific force and were felt for many miles in all directions. The detonations were followed almost immediately by a fire, which could be seen as far away as Yonkers, and distant points in New Jersey. The Haskell plant covers several acres and is one of the company's largest. In the plant and the village were several hundred buildings. The concussion blew a tremendous hole in the side of a mountain, near which the plant was built. The loss of life is estimated at 21. Four hundred thousand pounds of powder was destroyed.

JAPANESE SHIP BLOWN UP IN PORT

Fire on Board Tsuku-ba Reaches Magazine and Destroys Ship.

A despatch from Tokio says: The Japanese battle cruiser Tsuku-ba was destroyed by an explosion on Sunday in the harbor of Yokosuka. Fire on the Tsuku-ba caused the magazine to blow up. One hundred and fifty-three members of the crew of the Tsuku-ba were killed and 157 injured, many of them seriously. Numerous members of the ship's company were rescued from the water. Most of the officers of the cruiser were ashore. The cause of the explosion is not known.

FORTY TURKISH VESSELS SUNK BY THE RUSSIANS.

A despatch from London says: A raid on the Anatolian coast by a Russian squadron is reported in a Central News despatch from Petrograd. The Russians sank forty Turkish sailing vessels which were carrying food to Constantinople.

MEN UNFIT FOR ACTIVE DUTY TO TAKE PLACES OF FIT MEN

A despatch from London says:—The scheme of co-ordinating the training of Canadians in England with the requirements in France, is proceeding satisfactorily. Officers from corps and divisional schools have been transferred by the general staff to England, and many of them are specialists in certain lines of instruction. The Canadian military school at Shorn-

cliffe is being reorganized. Col. Watty Burland, who has done exceptionally good work here, will command a double reserve battalion. Special instruction is now given to all men proceeding to France. A list has been compiled throughout all the Canadian centres in England of men fit for active service. Such will be replaced by unfit men and others incapacitated at the front.