

**Snowfall Cools
Burning Ruins
In Stricken City**

(Continued from Page One.)

nurses and medical supplies, arrived here today from Moncton, Truro and Windsor. Other special trains have been sent with injured persons to Windsor and other places where there are large hospitals.

Smoldering ruins and piles of debris of demolished houses continue to give up their dead victims of yesterday's explosion in such numbers as to surpass any disaster on this continent in recent years.

Number of Dead Uncertain.

Estimates of the number of dead at 2,000 or more appeared to be borne out by the rapidly filling morgues and increased numbers of deaths reported from hospitals, private homes, churches and schools where hundreds of injured are being cared for by their more fortunate townsmen and members of relief parties from nearby cities. The exact number of dead, it appeared certain today, might never be known on account of the many persons—entire families in some instances—of whom no trace ever will be found other than charred bones in the ruins of their homes.

Loss Stagers City.

Dawn found the city still staggering under the frightfulness of its losses in human life and hundreds who had stood all night in lines formed at improvised morgues continued their vigil with alternate expression of fears and hopes on their faces. Others besieged the hospitals for news of the missing, and meanwhile relief parties continued their work of succor among the injured whom they found in the devastated Richmond and Dartmouth sections of the city. Aid from the outside in the form of tons of supplies gave early evidence that fears of a food shortage were unfounded and left city and government officials free to direct the rescue work in which soldiers, sailors and police are being assisted by bluejackets from an American warship in the harbor.

Over the flame-swept area of Richmond, of approximately two and a half square miles, many searchers continued their efforts today to making sure that all of the injured were removed to hospitals.

Newspaper Man's Experience.

William Barton, former telegraph editor of the Montreal Gazette, now traveling auditor for the Canadian imperial munitions board at Ottawa, related today his experiences during the explosion, which occurred while he was at breakfast in the Halifax hotel.

"In 10 seconds it was all over," Mr. Barton said. "A low rumbling, a quake shock, with everything vibrating, then an indescribable noise, followed by the fall of plaster and the smashing of glass. In such moments the human mind does not hesitate; a cry went up, 'A German bomb!' A rush for the door, headlong down the hallway amid falling pictures, glass and plaster, to the swinging doors of a few seconds before, now ripped from their hinges, through great projecting triangular pieces of glass to the street. Here I found myself with a burden. How she had come into my arms I do not know, yet here she was, hysterically shrieking, 'Oh, my poor sister, my poor sister.'"

Giant Smoke Cloud.

"Outside overhead a giant smoke cloud was moving northward; danger seemed over. I crossed the road, laid my feminine burden on a doorstep and returned to the hotel. My aid, for I was unscathed, was possibly needed far more there. I made my way upstairs to the rooms of two friends. The rooms were vacant, but normal, even the glass unbroken—and few panes of glass remain unbroken in this area. Once more I was in the street, meeting my companions on the threshold. They, too, were unscathed."

"Our plans were quickly made. We were off to the immediate vicinity of the disaster, for, among many theories, we accepted as most plausible the blowing up of a munition ship. Towards Citadel hill we wended our way and the further we went the more horrid the aftermath. The improvised stretcher met us on all sides, converging into the main thoroughfares from the highways and byways. The wounded were everywhere, but most of these unfortunates could hobble or walk; we kept onward."

No Panic Among Soldiers.

"Our hurry-scurry had led to the armory. Here the khaki-clad men were already on parade, many of the soldiers showing wounds bound with handkerchiefs. "As we passed they were already on the march toward the more devastated area. The order had gone forth 'commandeer all vehicles, auto or horse.' A cordon was drawn across the streets and passengers were forced to alight and resumed their journeys aloft. There was grim work ahead."

Shells Whiz Through Air.

It was established today that it was 25 minutes after the collision before the explosion occurred. At the first shock houses rocked, vessels broke from their moorings, bits of shells whistled through the air, buildings fell upon their occupants, shrieks and moans rose for a second above the awful din, and in all parts of the city men, women and children ran into the streets, many of them insufficiently clad. Then fire broke out in a hundred places.

People Fled in Terror.

Orders were at first given that everybody should flee to the south of the city, and in a short time Burlington streets resembled a road of Belgium or Serbia when the inhabitants fled before the Germans. Every variety of vehicle was pressed into service for the sick and infirm. Men, women and children, some carrying hastily snatched belongings, hurried along the pavements and overflowed the streets. Stores were deserted, houses forsaken, and the entrance to Point Pleasant park was soon black with human beings, some massed in groups, some running frantically back and forth. The wildest rumors were in circulation, and every bearer of tidings was immediately surrounded. The stories lost nothing in the telling.

When later flying automobiles brought the good word that the danger was under control, the crowds returned to find their homes a mass of wreckage or in ashes, and relatives dead or wounded.

Report 2,000 Killed.

Fires are still burning in the sections of Halifax which were devastated by yesterday's disastrous munitions ship explosion. A heavy snow-storm set in early this morning, ser-

iously impeding the work of rescuing the injured and recovering the bodies of the dead.

Truro, N. S., Dec. 7.—No accurate statement of the number of persons killed and wounded as a result of the blowing up of the French munitions steamer Monte Blanc in Halifax harbor yesterday after collision with the Belgian relief steamer Imo was available early today. Estimates made by hundreds of survivors who came here during the day and night varied from 200 to 2,000 killed. The property damage, chiefly along the water front and in the manufacturing, wholesale and residential districts, will reach several millions of dollars.

A telegraph operator sent here from Halifax by the Western Union Telegraph company said today that he saw the bodies of several sailors of the United States navy who had been killed by the explosion yesterday.

The report that the military hospital at Rockhead, close to the narrows, had been destroyed and all the patients killed, has proved untrue. Scratches and cuts from flying glass were the worst injuries suffered by the patients, with two exceptions, although the building was virtually wrecked.

Red Cross Sends Supplies.

Washington, Dec. 7.—Arrangements for dispatching a third relief train at 11 a. m. today from New York to carry supplies and assistance to Halifax were made by the Red Cross. Railway officials are assisting and will push the train through as fast as possible.

John F. Moors will be in charge of the Red Cross relief work in Halifax. All supplies will be directed to him and the work of surgeons, nurses and social workers will be under his direction. Surgeons and nurses are being rushed to the scene in three trains.

From Boston a medical base hospital, consisting of 15 physicians and 30 nurses, has been ordered to Halifax with a full corps of surgeons and nurses, whose work will be supplemented by that of an organized body of social workers. The train from New York will not arrive there before midday tomorrow.

Liner Nieuw Amsterdam Safe.

New York, Dec. 7.—Word that the passengers and crew of the Holland-America Line steamer Nieuw Amsterdam is safe in Halifax was received at the local offices of the line today.

Eye Witnesses Describe Horrors.

St. John, N. B., Dec. 7.—Eye witnesses of the Halifax explosion reaching here today told details of the horrors through which they passed. In the party were 14 young women students from Mount St. Vincent's academy.

Esmond P. Barry, St. John postal clerk, was at Richmond during the worst of the catastrophe.

Die Like Flies.

"It was terrible," he said; "people dying in our car like flies. Some of them came to the place with noses shot off, eyes put out, faces slashed with flying glass, limbs torn and distorted. On one occasion while we were working around a wrecked building we could see a little baby fifty feet or more underneath a burning mass, crying for aid. We could not get within 30 feet of the child and had to watch while it burned to death. Men, women and children were lying in the streets and hundreds must be buried beneath wreckage."

J. C. Gillespie, a train conductor, said that at Richmond fully 50 per cent of the buildings collapsed. Babies were lying in the streets dead. Ernest Cameron, a Canadian Pacific telegraph operator, and all his family, were killed.

U. S. SOLDIERS IN FRANCE RECEIVE "FOURRAGERE"

(By Associated Press.)

With the American Army in France, Thursday, Dec. 6.—The first American unit to receive the coveted "Fourragere" (a French military decoration worn on the left shoulder), in the colors of the ribbon of the cross of war, is American sanitary section No. 5. Notification of the award was announced at headquarters today.

The section previously had received two official citations. A general order from General Fétain stated they were for "splendid conduct before the enemy." In forwarding the communications the chief of the French military mission attached to the American army added:

"This glorious distinction is a merited reward for the brave men composing the section, who on a famous battlefield have given evidence of the fraternity and solidarity between the soldiers of France and America, united in the common cause."

Information as to the exact nature of the section's services was unavailable at headquarters tonight.

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The materials are selected from the products of the best known weavers.

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From America the famed Worumbo and Hockanum weaves; Soft Vicunas, Worsteds and Shetlands.

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| <i>Fur Lined Coats</i> | <i>Raglan Overcoats</i> |
| <i>Fur Collar Coats</i> | <i>Belted Overcoats</i> |
| <i>Short Town Ulsters</i> | <i>Double Breasted Overcoats</i> |
| <i>Great Storm Coats</i> | <i>Big Warm Motoring Coats</i> |
| <i>Trench Overcoats</i> | <i>Chesterfield Overcoats</i> |

For dress--for street--for business--for sports

\$20, \$22.50, \$25, \$30, \$35, \$40, \$45, \$50
\$30, \$75, \$85, \$90, \$100 and up to \$250

Young Men's Exclusive Snappy Styles

The ultra-fashionable that make men look young and give them the smart style that goes with being young. Dressy Clothes, Sporty Clothes, College Styles, Business Styles; perfectly tailored, in best fabrics and colorings.

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To the Wearers of the O. D.

Your needs and desires are paramount. To serve you fully officers of every rank and privates as well—that's the mission of this Military Shop.

Men now on furlough will find a half hour well spent in "dressing up" their uniforms here.



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Kingley Trousers, at \$3, \$4 and \$5.50

are very good investments these days. Worsteds, Striped Worsteds, Fancy Cheviots and Cassimeres. Sizes up to 52 waist; for dress or business wear; made to withstand hard usage and well tailored in every respect.

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200 dozen Imported Silk Neckwear, direct from Switzerland; made especially for us; very fine and heavy silk, in satin weaves; beautifully designed, exclusive patterns, wonderful value, **\$1.50** at

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Silk Neckwear, made especially for this Christmas season, large and liberal shapes, striped, Persian effects and pronounced patterns; all extra well made and will give good service. **\$1.00**

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Silk Neckwear, made from carefully chosen silks, selected from the best makers' stocks in New York and made up after our own special designs, in large open and four-in-hands, **50c and 75c** at

Men's Pajamas, \$1.50 to \$10.00

In Pongee, Outing Flannel, Silk and Linen and All Silk, in plain patterns and neat striped effects. All well made and finished and a most complete assortment to choose from.

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Dress and Street Gloves, in genuine Mocha Capes, in silk lined and wool lined, from the best makers. Warm and stylish at the same time and a fine selection in this stock.

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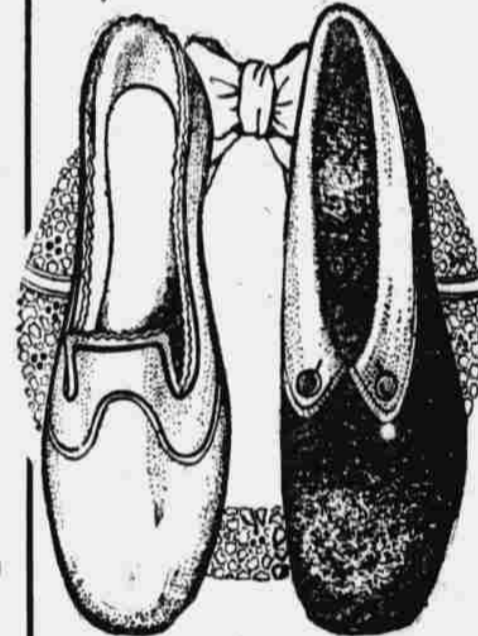
In all the new shades for present wear, made of pure Thread Silk and bought from the best makers. A good line of colorings in this lot and very low priced at these figures.

Men's Robes, \$4.95 to \$35

Bath and Lounging Robes, made of fine Blanket Robes, Fiber Silk, Silk and Satin and All Wool Blankets, in all the most desirable patterns. Nothing is a better gift to a man.

Main Floor, Men's Bldg.

Christmas SLIPPERS For Men



Nothing gives a man greater pleasure than a gift of an extra pair of Slippers—it shows a fine regard for his comfort, as well as being a most practical gift.

Felt Comfy Slippers, Livingston style, in navy blue, black, brown **\$2.25** and wine

Felt Slippers, with leather soles and heels, Hyla style, in brown, gray **\$2.75** and wine

Felt "Comfy" Slippers, Everett style, in navy blue and oxford **\$1.95** gray

Felt Slippers, with leather soles and heels, Opera style, in black **\$2.00** and oxford gray

Felt Slippers, leather soles and heels, Everett style, in black only, **\$1.50** at

Romeos, in black and tan, **\$2.45** and **\$2.95**

Everetts, in black and tan, **\$2.45** and **\$2.95**

Operas, in black and tan, **\$2.45** and **\$2.95**

Operas, in red, gray and green Morocco, **\$3.95** at

Operas, in tan alligator **\$3.95**

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