

TERRIBLE EXPLOSION HALIFAX HARBOR

NO AMERICAN TROOPS IN HARBOR FOR EMBARKATION.

Doctors and Surgeons From Boston and Elsewhere Hurry to Scene and Work of Re-Establishing Normal Wire Communication Begins.

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 6.—The munitions ship which was in collision with the cargo boat was the Mont Blanc, a French steamship of 2,250 net tons.

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 6.—Between 300 and 1,000 persons were killed, according to careful estimates tonight, when the French munitions ship, Mont Blanc blew up in Halifax harbor after a collision with a Belgian relief ship at 9 o'clock this morning.

Virtually all the north end of the city was laid waste and the property damage will run far into the millions.

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Scores of persons were injured by the collapse of the railway station, arena rink, military gymnasium, sugar refinery and elevators.

All business has been suspended. Armed guards of soldiers and sailors patrolling the city. Not a street car is moving and part of Halifax is in darkness tonight.

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 6.—10 p. m.—Chief of Police Hanrahan estimated tonight that the number of dead may reach 2,000.

The Mont Blanc arrived at a United States Atlantic port on November 7. No details are available for her movements since that date.

Boston, Mass., Dec. 6.—A special train carrying forty doctors, nurses and supplies will leave Boston for Halifax tonight.

Ottawa, Ont., Dec. 6.—No troops were waiting at Halifax for embarkation, according to officials of the military department here.

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 6.—The fire was brought under control this afternoon. Richmond is destroyed. Several hundred persons have been killed and the wounded number thousands.

Montreal, Dec. 6.—The dead in the Halifax disaster are estimated at 1,200 by officials of the telegraph companies, although it is explained that the information upon which the estimate is based is unofficial.

The crew of the Mont Blanc escaped safely from the blazing vessel. The pilot asserts the collision was due to confusion of signal whistles.

The damage along the water front cannot yet be estimated. Many of the buildings are removing the dead.

The collision which resulted in probably the worst disaster in the history of the Dominion occurred near pier 8 in the narrow leading from the harbor to Bedford Basin.

was bound from New York for Bedford Basin when the relief ship Ioma bound for sea crashed into her.

The Mont Blanc was pierced on the port side almost to the engine room. The other ship, which was only slightly damaged, backed away when flames burst out on the munitions ship, and was abandoned by the crew.

In the main part of the city where the buildings are chiefly of stone or concrete the damage was confined to the shattering of windows and most of the casualties in this section were caused by flying glass.

In the west and northwest ends the damage was more extensive and there the walls of many houses were blown to bits.

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Five minutes after the explosion the streets in all parts of Halifax were filled with frenzied, panic-stricken throngs striving to reach the outskirts in an effort to escape what they believed was a raid by a German fleet.

Later reports show that a heavy cold wave visited the stricken section and many hundred lives were lost from freezing and hunger.

Mrs. E. S. Ford Hostess. On Tuesday afternoon Mrs. E. S. Ford charmingly entertained the members of the Tuesday Afternoon Book Club, at her home on Main Street.

The parlor, where the guests were entertained, was made lovely in decoration with baskets of sweet peas, fern and sweet alyssum.

Current Events and War Summary Mrs. T. W. Watson The Founding of Pennsylvania, Mrs. M. S. Clifton.

Settlement of the town of Bath in North Carolina, Mrs. W. E. Uzell.

Instrumental Solo, "Concert Etude," McDowell, Miss Williams.

Encore, "Japanese Butterfly," Foidini, Vocal Duet, "Go Pretty Rose," Mrs. E. S. Ford and Miss Williams.

At the close of the literary feature a delicious course of hot rolls, Crème à la Chikien in patties, cheese straws and coffee was served.

Mrs. Bennett Perry was the visiting guest at this meeting.

Knitting! Knitting! Knitting! The fourth box of knitted garments has been sent to headquarters in Atlanta by the Red Cross Chapter of Louisburg.

The women are doing splendid work in the knitting. They have learned the necessity of haste in this work that the "Boys" may be kept warm.

They anticipate sending another box of as many garments before Christmas dash local.

Conference Appointments.

The annual conference of Eastern Division of the Methodist Episcopal church for North Carolina, held at Greenville came to a close on Monday evening.

Presiding Elder—J. E. Underwood. Benson Circuit—J. T. Stanford. Cary Circuit—G. W. Starling.

Clayton—O. R. Hinson. Four Oaks Circuit—T. E. Davis. Franklinton Circuit—T. A. Sykes. Garner Circuit—E. B. Craven.

Raleigh—Central, D. N. Caviness; Edenton Street, M. Bradshaw; Epworth, R. F. Taylor; Jenkins Memorial, J. W. Potter.

Selma—C. K. Proctor. Smithfield—S. A. Cotton. Tar River Circuit—S. A. Lee.

Youngsville Circuit—H. M. Jackson. Zebulon Circuit—G. W. Fisher. Supt. Anti-Saloon League—R. L. Davis.

Editor Raleigh Christian Advocate—L. S. Massey. Supt. Methodist Orphanage—A. S. Barnes.

Editor Nashville Christian Advocate—T. N. Ivey. President Louisburg College—F. S. Love.

Conference Missionary Society—N. H. D. Wilson. Henderson—First Church, L. E. Thompson.

North and South Henderson—W. G. Lowe. Nashville Circuit—L. B. Jones.

Rocky Mount—First Church, R. Craven; North and South Rocky Mount, J. W. Hoyle, Clark Street, B. B. Slaughter.

Spring Hope Circuit—W. T. Phips. Red Cross Campaign.

Mr. Ivey Allen, of Louisburg, has been appointed Campaign Manager of this Christmas Membership Campaign in Franklin County.

Central Citizens Committee: Mayor L. H. Joyner, Messrs. A. W. Alston, E. H. Malone, E. L. Best, A. F. Johnson, W. B. Morton, W. R. Mills, Messdames M. C. Pleasants, J. A. Turner, W. M. Gilmore, Malcolm McKinney, J. M. Allen, Miss Elizabeth A. Allen.

Executive Committee: Messrs W. H. Ruffin, J. M. Allen, M. S. Clifton, A. H. Fleming, Messdames W. E. White, R. F. Yarborough, Geo. Cralle, K. K. Allen.

Every patriotic citizen in America as well as in Franklin county, who is not already a member, is expected to join the Red Cross next week.

This is all that will be required of you. Of course if you are able to engage in any of the various phases of Red Cross work that is being done, all the better, but if you cannot, pay your dollar and line up with this patriotic movement that is looking toward the helping of "Our Boys" in the Camps and in the trenches.

A rumor has gained some currency that joining the Red Cross is like joining the army, that when you are once in it, you are liable to be sent to France or any where else the Government may see fit to send you.

Not only are those living in the towns expected to join the Red Cross, but those living in the country as well. Where as many as ten can be gathered together in a group, an auxiliary will be formed where regular Red Cross work may be done.

But no matter what part of Eastern Franklin County you may live in, send your dollar to Mr. Ivey Allen, or to any other member of his committees, all of whom live in Louisburg, and you will become a member of the Louisburg Chapter.

In the name of suffering humanity, in the name of "Our Boys," we appeal to every patriotic citizen of Franklin county to join the Red Cross next week and thereby help to win the war a little quicker.

Read Thoughtfully President Wilson's Appeal.

To the people of the United States. Ten million Americans are invited to join the American-Red Cross during the week ending with Christmas eve.

You should join the American Red Cross, because it alone can carry the pledges of Christmas good will to those who are bearing for us the real burdens of the world war, both in our own army and navy, and in the nations, upon whose territory the issues of the world-war are being fought out.

You should join the Red Cross because this arm of the national service is steadily and efficiently maintaining its overseas relief in every suffering land, administering our millions wisely and well and awakening the gratitude of every people.

Our consciences will not let us enjoy the Christmas season if this pledge of support to our cause and the world's weal is left unfulfilled. Red Cross membership is the Christmas spirit in terms of action.

WOODROW WILSON, President of the American Red Cross. Remember Louisburg is asked to add one hundred and fifty new members.

List of Jurors. The following is a list of jurors drawn for January 1918 term of Franklin Superior Court.

First Week. Dunns—Alex Arnold, W. Millie Bunn, J. R. Ballentine, W. H. Fuller, B. S. Pace.

Harris—J. W. Baker, W. C. Ransdell Youngsville—S. C. Eaves. Franklinton—R. M. Brown, W. B. Wright, R. A. Wilder, B. A. White, W. R. Hunt, A. B. Wester, T. J. Conyers.

Sandy Creek—S. M. Parrish, R. E. Debnam, J. N. Gupton, J. P. Bledsoe, J. B. Jones.

Gold Mine—Jessie H. Griffin, G. W. Nelms, R. P. Jones, Geo. R. Andrews. Cedar Rock—J. Pete Davis, J. N. Wester, J. W. Eaves, C. W. Conn, T. M. Collins, J. T. Collins, J. E. Glasgow, Cypress Creek—C. W. Matthews.

Louisburg—E. Odum, E. T. Rudd, W. J. Macon, J. P. Hill. Second Week.

Dunns—E. L. Perry, A. C. Perry, Z. L. Cheaves, H. B. Hagwood, D. T. Hollingsworth, J. H. Weathers.

Harris—M. L. Fowler, J. V. Young, Youngsville—G. E. Winston. Franklinton—R. L. Wilder. Sandy Creek—J. J. Cooper.

Gold Mine—J. H. Burnette. Cedar Rock—W. O. Bowden, J. E. Sturdivant.

Louisburg—K. A. Perry, F. W. Whelless, J. E. Perry, W. J. Cooper. Marriage Licenses.

Register of Deeds Yarborough issued marriage licenses to the following couples during the month of November:

White—Herbert Hall Dale and Beulah A. Tucker, B. P. Hinton and Annie P. Strickland, H. T. Fuller and Alma Parrish, A. D. Privett and Effie May O'Neal, Harry E. Candler and Roxie P. Harris, Eddie Collins and Ada Lancaster, Robert Edgar Eaves and Mary Ellen Ayscue, Geo. A. Johnston and Fannie L. Thomas, Joseph Denton and Maggie C. Strickland.

Color—Frank Perry and Pattie Stamper, Darling Perry and Lucy B. Perry, Nathan Holden and Carrie McGhee, Johnnie Macon and Mary Jane Massenburg, Charlie Williams and Rosabelle Plummer, Walter Crossen and Hattie Boone, Moses Perry and Matilda Fuller, Jim W. Williams and Carolina Alston, John Williams and Annie May Scott, Henry Collins and Ricks Wright, Collins Gupton and Pearly Stallings, Ralph High and Rosa Jones, Henry Rodwell and Esser Alston, Jim Moore and Queena Massenburg, Sam D. Harris, and Pattie Lee Pearce, Ed Brooks and Lillie Coppedge.

A Tribute. Three times has our community been saddened by the tidings that one of our soldier boys had answered to

FIRST UNITED STATES DESTROYER LOST

THE JACOB JONES WAS TORPEDOED; SUNK THURSDAY.

Name of Gallant Commander, David Worth Bagley, Does Not Appear Among the List of Survivors—Sinking Occurred at 8 P. M. Thursday Night While the Ship Was on Patrol Duty—Jacob Jones Saved 305 Persons From the Orama When that Ship Was Torpedoed and Sunk.

Washington, Dec. 8.—The American Destroyer Jacob Jones was torpedoed and sunk in the war zone on Thursday with the loss of a large part of her crew. Thirty seven survivors were taken off in life craft. The names of ten survivors have been received up to this time. They are:

Lieutenant (junior grade) J. K. Richards, Ensign Nelson N. Gates, Assistant Surgeon—L. L. Adankiewicz, Fireman Charles E. Pierce, Seaman Timothy Edward Twomey, Seaman J. C. Johnson, Chief Machinist Mate Henry A. Stutzke, Fireman (second class) Edward F. Grady, Seaman John J. Mulvaney, Seaman Myron Flood.

The sinking occurred at 8 p. m. while doed by a submarine while she was commanded by Lieutenant Commander David Worth Bagley, brother of Mrs. Josephus Daniels, wife of the Secretary of the Navy.

Commander Bagley's brother was the first American officer killed in the Spanish-American war.

The Jacob Jones was the ship which saved 305 persons from the Orama, a P. & O. liner converted into an auxiliary cruiser, on October 19th. The Orama had been attacked and torpedoed by a submarine while she was acting as a part of a convoy of merchant vessels under the escort of an American destroyer.

The Jacob Jones was one of the convoy. The Jacob Jones and another destroyer were detailed to remain by the Orama after the submarine had been attacked and put out of action. When the Orama began to settle it had grown dark and her crew abandoned her.

The Jacob Jones picked up in the darkness 305 of the 478 persons on board. The other vessels standing by rescued the remainder.

The Jacob Jones peace-time complement was 5 petty officers and 87 men. She was one of the newest and largest American destroyers with displacement of 1,050 tons and a length of 310 feet over all. She was completed in 1916 at the plant of the New York Ship Building Company, Camden, New Jersey. She burned oil, was driven by turbine engines and had speed of 29.57 knots an hour.

Commander Bagley Probably Lost. The disaster brings to the American people the first naval loss of great consequence since the country's entrance into the war. Inasmuch as Admiral Sims mentioned other officers among the survivors and did not mention Commander Bagley, it is feared he went down with his ship. From his report it would appear that the loss of life was upwards of 60.

The attack, which was at eight o'clock at night, was delivered by a torpedo. In the rolling ice seas of North Atlantic winter weather, the submarine probably had plenty of opportunity to pick her time for the shot. The submarine probably came upon the destroyer patrolling her coast in the dark and had all the best of the engagement. No details were contained in today's report, but it has been the case heretofore that when a submarine got a hit at a destroyer it is more due to a chance meeting, no matter how good was the fighting skill of the destroyer. The large loss of life would indicate that the torpedo, after its deadly charge of high explosives made a fair hit.

Later reports say that Commander Bagley was saved, together with several others not mentioned above.

Fiddler's Convention at Laurel. We are requested to state that the public is cordially invited to attend a Fiddlers Convention and box party at Laurel school house Friday night Dec. 21, 1917. There will be an admission of 10 and 15 cents. The proceeds are for the benefit of the school.

Honor Roll. The following is an honor roll for Seven Paths Academy, for month ending Dec. 7, 1917.

First Grade—Rona Wood, Effie Moore, Bruce Sykes, Essie Moore, Meda Griffin, Grace Strickland, Thelma Griffin, Milburn Moore, Willie Grey Moore.

Second Grade—Alma Strickland, Fannie Lee Strickland, Glennie Lester, Eulalia Wilder, Duard Strickland, Forest Vick.

Third Grade—Lillian Sykes, Isolene Moore. Fourth Grade—Ethel Jones, Harvey Strickland.

Fifth Grade—Emma Strickland, Burnice Strickland, Iolla Wilder. Sixth Grade—Clarence Moore, Bettie Moore, James Joyner, Beulah House, Gertie Griffin.

Seventh Grade—Glennie Wilder, Snowie Strickland, Christine Moore, Elizabeth Moore.

Eighth Grade—Bert Gay, Dwight Sykes. Ninth Grade—Gladys Wilder.

Items of Interest From Balance Rock. It has been some time since you have heard from us, but we have not been idle. Last Friday evening, Dec. 7th, the Community Club gave a play, "All a Mistake," which was enjoyed by everyone present.

Music for the occasion was furnished by Messrs. Robt. Staunton and Matthew Ayscue. After the play we had a box party. Then the boys voted for the prettiest girl, who proved to be Miss Pattie Jones Pace from Rolesville.

The proceeds, \$33 will be used for painting the school building, and for purchasing desks or a library. With best wishes to the Times.

Balance Rock Community Club. Why is it we never hear any complaint of the short skirts from the "spinsters of uncertain age?"