

INTENSE SUFFERING IN CROWDED BROAD STREET HOSPITAL

VICTIMS' BURNS SHOW BLAST'S UPWARD FORCE

Broad St. Hospital Cares for 180 Persons, of Whom Nine Die.

DISTRESSING SCENES

Some Lost a Leg, Arm, Ear or Nose Without Any Other Injury.

SOLES OF FEET BURNED

Mrs. Morgan and Mayor Hylan Offer Help to Institution and Sufferers.

Broad Street Hospital was established as the central station for treating the wounded and during the afternoon and evening it was besieged by frantic crowds of men and women seeking their missing relatives and friends.

One hundred and eighty persons were cared for there, and of that number eighty were injured so seriously that they had to go on the dressing tables. In every one of those cases the patients were terribly burned. Of the nine who died in the institution in the afternoon, six had more than two-fifths of the surfaces of their bodies burned.

A few minutes after the explosion occurred the ambulances were carrying the dying and injured to the hospital, only a half mile from the scene of the explosion. Many walked with the assistance of policemen and friends.

Crowds soon formed a line in the street and the ambulances drove through the narrow lane at full speed. The wounded were hurried from ambulance to hospital as quickly as possible and the ambulances were rushed back to carry more victims.

In less than an hour every bed was filled. The wounded, in litters on the floor, awaited patiently their turns. The operating tables were filled, while the physicians worked as rapidly as they could for hours.

Fifty Red Cross nurses and physicians were attending a lecture on disaster relief at 220 West Forty-second street when word of the explosion arrived. They dashed downtown and soon after the first arrivals at the hospital a score of their number were at work putting into practice some of the things they had just been told. The nurses extended comfort and first aid to the wounded awaiting operation. They established an information bureau and sent messages to homes and relatives as fast as they identified the wounded.

Wounded Are Hazy as to Cause.

Physicians and nurses questioned scores of the wounded, especially those whose injuries were not serious and who were able to leave after dressings had been made. Without exception the answers given were that the victims did not know what had happened.

Their stories were all the same. They were walking in Broad or Wall street, there was no indication of anything happening, and the next moment came the terrific explosion which knocked them off their feet and left them stunned. Many could not recall where they were specifically; they said they were in the financial district, and the next thing they knew were in the hospital.

Trying to describe their sensations, most of the wounded said they thought the explosion had been directly overhead. The force seemed to come up, they believed. The physicians said such must literally have been the case. Many had had burns on the palms of their hands and the soles of their feet, and the upper parts of their feet and hands were not injured. In several instances noses and ears were blown off clean and other parts of the bodies were not injured. Several persons lost legs and arms, blown completely off.

Mayor Hylan visited the hospital soon after noon and asked whether assistance or supplies were needed. The Mayor walked through the wards and the improvised rooms where the wounded were lying in rows. He saw the badly burned and mutilated and spoke to many of them. He saw physicians working with as great speed as possible, as they cut

Clothes Burned Off, but He Saved Cigar

FRED D. SOPER of 1190 Dean street, Brooklyn, a retired business man, was returning home from a directors' meeting. The explosion stunned him, groped his way across Wall street and sat down on the Morgan steps. His clothing was burned nearly off. After his burns had been dressed in Broad Street Hospital he sat up in bed and looked at the pile of rags which had been his clothes. The only thing not burned which he had was a cigar case and in it he found one whole cigar. "Guess that cigar deserves being smoked," the cheerful patient remarked, and the nurses propped him in bed while he smoked it.

limbs and arms, dug glass from deep wounds and bound up gaping skulls. The Mayor said he never had seen anything so horrible. He was moved deeply, and told the physicians to call on the city for anything they wanted. Mrs. J. P. Morgan was another anxious visitor. She saw many of the patients were asked whether they would be believed could not live. She asked for the privilege of replacing the full store of supplies used in enormous quantities during the day. Wagonloads of cotton, bandages and gauzes followed in a procession all the afternoon from the Red Cross storerooms.

Considering the task confronting them and the number of the wounded packed into the little hospital, the managers proceeded with remarkable order and calmness in those first trying hours. Relatives were permitted to go to the bedside until the wounds had been dressed. Except for the cries of anguish in the rooms above, there was little noise in the building.

Some persons were burned beyond recognition. Their possessions, such as watches, pieces of clothing and jewelry, were placed in packages and shown to those who visited. The visitors made anxious inspections. Most gave cries of relief when they failed to make an identification, but occasionally there came a heart-breaking sob which told that another person had realized his worst fears.

Mrs. J. J. Phillips reached the hospital early in the afternoon and found her husband, of 31 Pine street, was there, badly burned and in critical condition. John Foley of 33 Greenwich street was on the way to the hospital to see his wife, a patient there, and was walking down Wall Street when the explosion occurred. He was carried to the hospital in critical condition. His wife was next to him.

Mr. and Mrs. John Falk of Sacramento, Cal., had stopped in New York for a few days sightseeing while waiting the steamer ship to carry them to their native home in California. They were having a look at the Wall Street district. Mrs. Falk carried in her handbag their passports and citizenship papers. Falk had a \$400 draft in his middle waistcoat pocket. When picked up after the explosion the couple's first thought was of the papers. No trace could be found of either handbag or papers, but the money was safe.

One of the managers of Harris, Winthrop & Co.'s brokerage office reached the hospital late in the afternoon on a search for a partner, J. O'Brien, a runner for the firm. The boy had disappeared and with him a certificate for 100 shares of Anaconda Copper, which he was carrying to another home. Terribly burned, the lad was found groaning on a cot. In the little pile of burned clothing beside his bed the copper certificate was found. It was more than half burned up.

PHONE WIRES JAMMED BY FRANTIC INQUIRIES

Calls Leap 300 Per Cent at Flash of Disaster.

Ten minutes after the explosion yesterday at Wall and Broad streets telephone wires of downtown Manhattan were jammed with calls, and within twenty minutes wire traffic had jumped 300 per cent. The newspapers, Police and Fire Headquarters and offices near the accident were besieged with inquiries. A statement issued by the New York Telephone Company yesterday afternoon said that all calls for physicians and to hospitals were given precedence, and there was little delay. Operators had just finished the usual "busy hour" traffic and many had gone to lunch or were in rest rooms. They were recalled and kept steadily at their posts until the calls slackened.

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BOMB PLOT ASSERT ALL INVESTIGATORS

Continued from First Page.

who took them to Secretary Houston. Summing up the reports last night, Mr. Houston said windows had been broken in the Assay office and the Treasury and that the assay building had been damaged somewhat. Only one Government employe was injured, he said.

Secretary Houston's first action was to send Ray Baker, Director of the Mint, from Philadelphia to New York. It was understood the action was taken because officials wished an immediate investigation to determine whether bullet or coin in either of the Government buildings had been lost or was in danger. The Government money vaults were not touched.

The Department of Agriculture sent David H. Price, explosives expert, to New York to help determine the nature of the explosive. Mr. Price is head of the division that investigates explosions. Secret Service agents also are working on the case as a result of damage to the Sub-Treasury, but the major Government investigation is being made by secret agents of the Department of Justice.

Flynn Says It Wasn't Accident.

From the time Chief Flynn assumed command of the Federal inquiry on his arrival here last night his discoveries are tending to confirm the theory that the explosion has been caused by a giant infernal machine. Members of the "Red" squad of the Department of Justice and Secret Service operatives, who were on the scene within a few minutes after the blast, found a few minutes after the roar and flash had died away, gathered innumerable scraps of evidence which could not be accounted for in any way if the explosion had not been deliberately planned.

They discovered upon the bodies of several of the victims who had been so close as to receive burns a yellowish acid substance, such as is hurled by nitrotrichloride, or TNT, the most powerful of all explosives, and one that has been used on several occasions by anarchists and communist plotters. The numerous iron slugs made from pieces of window sash weights which tore their way into the walls of all nearby buildings with terrific force and scattered like shrapnel through the streets would certainly not be carried in any ordinary dynamite or explosive cart. Federal agents remarked, and seemed to have come from a bomb of gigantic proportions.

It was recalled that there have been frequent menacing remarks made by anarchist and communist agitators to the effect that some time a great calamity would befall Wall Street "at the noon hour," and that attempts to this effect have appeared in "Red" radical handbills at intervals. The central executive committee of the Communist party recently gave wide distribution also to pamphlets calling upon the proletariat to join in an "armed uprising against the capitalist classes." These pamphlets contained the declaration: "The Communist party of America now sounds the call to revolution."

Murder Vehicle a Stolen Car.

A theory accepted by many of the Department of justice agents was that the cart on which the explosives were carried to the scene of the tragedy had been stolen and possibly camouflaged to look like the truck of some munitions concern, which would account for the statements of several persons that they saw a wagon bearing the name of a large explosives plant in the vicinity shortly before the accident.

Many of the Federal agents believe that the cart was driven off Wall street from the direction of the river by some person who intended to stop it on the side next to the offices of J. P. Morgan & Co. and to desert it there after setting it to explode. They believe the person or persons in charge found themselves unable to carry out this plan, feared dis-

Phone Carries Noise of Blast to Washington

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16.—The noise of the explosion in Wall Street was heard in Washington by an official of the Treasury, who was talking on the telephone to an office in the Equitable Building in New York at the time. The conversation was interrupted, he said, by "what sounded like the closing of a large book."

Connection was interrupted and later he was called back, he said, to be told he had not been cut off, but that there had been an explosion nearby.

offices in the Custom House also was rushed to the scene by Capt. John Tucker, following receipt of a telephone message from Carter Glass, Secretary of the Treasury, who directed him to John I. DeLoach, automobile and a wagon were near the spot where the charge went off. One machine was a small limousine. It was damaged, but not demolished. The other automobile was a touring car. It was turned over and badly battered, but appears to have received the impact "causing the damage from the outside and not from the inside. One would be led to believe, therefore, that the material which exploded was not contained inside that car at the time it exploded.

"Virtually nothing is left of the wagon. There are several spokes, part of a hub of a wheel, an axle and one or two fragments. Otherwise the demolition of that vehicle was complete. The pieces found, though, give the idea that this wagon was a light one horse truck or dray, much after the sort a corner grocery store might use for the delivery of groceries. The spokes came out of the hub cleanly without leaving any splinters in their sockets, which probably means that it was an old vehicle whose spokes had worked loose.

"Whether the wagon had a cover we do not know certainly. We have found one man who said that he noticed a horse open dray standing there just before the explosion. Whether his casual observation can be taken as a definite is a question, but certainly we have nothing to the contrary.

"The horse was literally blown to bits. If there was a driver on the wagon he has not been found or has not been identified as such.

"It is possible, of course, that the horse drawn truck contained the explosive. It is possible, also, that it did not. There you are."

WALL STREET JOB NOT IN ITS LINE, SAYS I. W. W.

Has Other Things to Do, Says Secretary Here.

Officials of the I. W. W. said last night that they were "too busy to mix with such stuff" as the Wall Street explosion. J. H. Byers, secretary of the New York defence committee of the organization, who said he was under \$10,000 bond in connection with the Chicago alleged I. W. W. plot, regretted the explosion.

"Blowing up innocent people with dynamite is not on the schedule or programme of the I. W. W.," he said. "Our aim is to educate people and not to teach them to dynamite.

"The police are liable to frame up all kinds of things in an effort to connect some labor organization with a case of this kind, but the I. W. W. has other things to do than to be concerned in such stuff as was pulled off in Wall Street today."

No Deliveries of Dynamite.

There are only four building operations going on in the financial district at present where dynamite has been used. None of these expected dynamite deliveries and the last shipment received any of them was on September 14. The laws governing the handling and shipment of dynamite are exceedingly stringent, Mr. Dixon said, and it is not easy to get a permit, with the district being so near to any of the contractors.

The laws state that every person intending to do blasting work within the limits of the city must obtain a permit from the Fire Department, and the permit must be checked up by the number of sticks he has and by when they were purchased. Agents of the Bureau of Combustibles visit points where blasting is done on a daily basis, and check up the explosive in the contractor's magazine.

The ordinance governing the movement of explosives through the city streets specifies that all drivers of motor vehicles carrying such explosives must be painted a vivid vermilion, and shall have emblazoned on its sides in twelve inch letters the word, "Explosives." Henceforth, in smaller letters, must appear the name of the owner and the number of the permit under which the wagon is operating. The ordinance stipulates further that all drivers of explosives must be licensed, and that there must be two experienced men to each vehicle. Each wagon must carry a red flag, which shall be visible from all directions, with the word "DANGER" lettered upon it in black. No wagon is permitted to carry more than 1,000 pounds of explosives.

As was the case following the bomb outrages of last year, all branches of the Federal service were warned last night to especially visit further bomb depredations be attempted, and the police and watchmen of all public buildings were advised to be on the alert for suspicious conveyances which might be brought to a standstill in their vicinities.

Chief Flynn arrived in this city last night on the Congressional Limited. After arriving he conferred at an uptown hotel with several members of the "Red squad" which is attached to the local office of the Bureau of Investigation of the Department of Justice and sent over the various details of the tragedy with them. Prior to the arrival of Chief Flynn, George F. Lamb, division superintendent of the Department of Justice in charge of the New York office, and about thirty more members of the staff on duty here, were on the scene of the explosion within ten minutes after it had occurred and they made the cover-up in the afternoon in evidence and questioning persons, who told more or less conflicting stories. The entire force from the secret service

Window Weights in Bomb. The fragments of metal, it seems to me, are significant," he said. "Each fragment is about two inches long and appears to be a section of the old fashioned cast iron window weights, used for counterbalancing the weight of a window sash. A striking fact is that the fragments are virtually uniform in size, as if they had been broken or chopped off in some methodical manner. The broken ends did not look new and fresh, as if recently broken, but dirty and corroded, like the outside of the metal, indicating that the weights were broken into sections at a considerable period prior to the explosion.

"Where those fragments came from is a mystery. So far as we were able to find, none of the buildings in the vicinity uses such window weights, nor was there anything to show that window casings had been broken in such fashion as would allow their weights to fall or be blown off.

"The manner in which the walls of buildings near the explosion were chipped and lacerated by flying missiles indicates strongly that the indications must have been caused by impact from the metal fragments we found in the streets. Pieces that appear to be of the same sort of metal have been picked from the walls of the Assay Building.

"Two automobiles and a wagon were near the spot where the charge went off. One machine was a small limousine. It was damaged, but not demolished. The other automobile was a touring car. It was turned over and badly battered, but appears to have received the impact "causing the damage from the outside and not from the inside. One would be led to believe, therefore, that the material which exploded was not contained inside that car at the time it exploded.

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RED CROSS ACTED IN WARTIME SPEED

Nurses and Field Directors on Scene in Less Than Half an Hour.

Seventy-five nurses and nearly half as many field directors of the American Red Cross were mobilized for emergency service within twenty minutes after word of the Wall street disaster was received at the Atlantic Division headquarters, 44 East Twenty-third street. The Emergency Canteen Service, the Motor Corps and the truck division, as well as every other department of the organization, fell to with a quickness and will that characterized war time activities.

The arrival of the first group of Red Cross nurses, gathered from Bellevue, Presbyterian, St. Luke's Central Nurses' Club and other nurses' registries, was a complete surprise to Dr. George Vaughn, chief surgeon of the Volunteer Hospital. But he assigned them to the care of the ambulance loads of injured, which had even then begun to fill the corridors and reception rooms, causing him to wonder how he could take care of such an unexpected number of patients.

Squads of Red Cross nurses were dispatched to Broad Street Hospital, Gouverneur Hospital and other hospitals to which the injured were taken. Following the advent of the nurses, under the direction of the New York County Chapter, there arrived at the four hospitals caring for the stricken two truckloads of relief supplies, sent by the Disaster Relief Committee from general headquarters at 118 West Fourth street. Soon other trucks were on their way laden with first aid materials, surgical dressings, hospital garments and hospital supplies. Half a dozen ambulances, one containing stretchers, were put into immediate service by those in charge of relief work.

Red Cross young women drove the trucks and ambulances and members of the Motor Corps, in uniform, were on the scene almost before the news of the explosion had penetrated the hospital districts. Lieut. Frances Fairchild was one of the first to arrive in Wall street. She drove an ambulance.

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EXPLOSIONS!

\$50,000 paid for loss of life, limbs or sight from explosions and all other accidents.

\$100,000 if the loss occurs when traveling on railroads or public conveyances.

\$500 to \$1,000 monthly while disabled For \$125 Annually.

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115 Broadway Telephone Rector 4427 New York

EXPLOSION

Yesterday in the heart of the financial district an explosion caused loss of life and heavy damage to property. It recalls the similar catastrophes of recent years at

COMMUNIPAW, N. J. HALIFAX, N. S.
BLACK TOM, N. J. MORGAN, N. J.

with resulting DAMAGE TO PROPERTY.

Sound business judgment demands constant protection of your property against damage by explosion as well as by fire.

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These three strong American Companies are at your service.

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Fidelity-Phenix Fire Insurance Company OF NEW YORK

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INSURANCE

It Happened
—And We Couldn't Handle All of the Injured

It Can Happen Again
—Help Us So We Can Help You!

Yesterday a catastrophe struck home—you know the story—the dead and the wounded lying helpless on the street waiting, begging for help that had to be summoned from all over the city—some even dying on their way in cabs, trucks and ambulances to distant hospitals.

All because WE couldn't even crowd them all under our roof. All because, through want of funds, through want of thought by business men, this most populous and congested "Wall Street" district has not had adequate hospital protection.

What has happened, can happen again. We are appealing NOW to the business and financial interests of the "Wall Street" district to help us make our equipment adequate to protect THEM and THEIR employees and to succor them in moment of need.

Give and give liberally. It is for your own protection, for your own benefit.

Whether your limit is \$1,000 or \$10,000, open your purse, and send contributions to

THE BROAD STREET HOSPITAL

\$20,000 for \$25

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