

SEVERAL KILLED, MANY MISSING AND HURT AND VAST DAMAGE TO PROPERTY RESULT OF AMMUNITION EXPLOSION ON BLACK TOM ISLAND.



GENERAL VIEW OF THE DEMOLITION, WRECKED PIERS AND COLLAPSED BUILDINGS EVERYWHERE.

COLLAPSED BUILDINGS AND RUINS.

of the air no German sausage balloons, as the French call them, are now able to be seen in the sky. They are to be burned by a new device three weeks ago.

Nothing Gained, Says Berlin.

BERLIN, July 31, via London, 5 p.m.—Anglo-French troops in their attack on Sunday against the German position in the region of the River Somme did not gain a foot of ground, according to the German army headquarters staff in its statement issued today.

British and French Press Fight on the River Somme, Despite the Terrible Heat.

WITH THE BRITISH ARMY IN THE FIELD, July 30, via London, July 31.—French and British soldiers made today's attack in sweltering midsummer heat. The first real hot wave of the season struck northern France last night, and this morning British and French infantry co-operated in an action north of the Somme in front of Guillemont and Maurepas.

Excited Populace Thought Hostile Fleets Were Attacking, R. D. Heintz Says.

Every day the Germans have been increasing the number of guns and men in the Guillemont sector, which is among the last portions of high ground they hold. By prisoners taken ten German battalions, or 10,000 men, have been identified on a front of 2,000 yards, where the Germans still are in their old second-line fortifications and trenches and deep dugouts, built long ago and strengthened since the offensive began.

Germans File Up Guns.

Part of the British attack struck from the bloody Trones wood, and the other part on the Guillemont sector, which was tried to man machine guns, as usual, after a British bombardment. The Germans resisted the British bitterly, and under the broiling sun as if every inch of ground were precious.

Fight at Close Quarters.

It was one of those hand-to-hand and hide-and-seek conflicts in the village ruins of indescribable ferocity. The British had to retire from the edge of Guillemont, but made good a considerable advance southward on the flank of the town, where, fighting through the hot night, they continued to maintain their gain.

Cool Wave Brings Relief to Chicago.

CHICAGO, July 31.—The end of one of the longest periods of hot weather Chicago ever experienced came today as an exhilarating breeze from the north. A drop of 21 degrees in temperature from 102, the highest recorded yesterday, was recorded at 9 o'clock today, when the government thermometer registered 81. The wind sprang up at 4 o'clock and gradually increased in velocity. The weather bureau predicted it would shift to the northeast, whence comes the usual cooling "lake breeze."

Relief West of City.

Relief from the torrid temperature was felt today west of Chicago, as far as the Rocky mountains and north of a line drawn through northern Iowa. The cool wave gradually moved south today and is expected to reach central Illinois this afternoon or tomorrow.

Babies Lead Number of Victims.

The record-breaking death rate of the last week has seriously treated the facilities of the coroner's office, while the prostrations have taxed the accommodations of local hospitals and burdened the city's physicians to the limit.

FEARED NEW YORK WAS BOMBARDED

Excited Populace Thought Hostile Fleets Were Attacking, R. D. Heintz Says.

GIVES GRAPHIC RECITAL OF EXPLOSION RESULTS

Praises Work of Police and Firemen in Courting Death by Going to Rescue.

Every one in New York thought there was a bombardment of the greatest city in the world by hostile fleets. That is the impression of New York's catastrophe of Sunday morning given by Robert D. Heintz, associate editor of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, who went right to the front even though he didn't know whether the world was burning up, dynamiting at work or an alliance of all the other world powers battering away at Uncle Sam's front door.

Feared a Hostile Fleet.

"If a fleet of Zeppelins had begun a bombardment in the dead of night there could hardly have been more amazement or consternation than when the first of the eighty-five cars and seven or eight barges and boats loaded with munitions began exploding in the lower harbor of New York city. Those out of range of sound of the small arms ammunition cracking and the detonations of the shells and shrapnel thought, when they saw the front of a large store blown out in their neighborhood, that the blackhanders or the anarchists had been at work. They did not for the instant connect it with the explosion which lighted the skies to the south. On the other hand, the population of lower Brooklyn, which had been attacked by the city.

Not a Policeman in Sight.

"Copperthwaite's, a large furniture store, looked as if a cyclone had hit it. However, a mystifying thing about the occurrence was that though a small fortune in valuable furniture was completely exposed, not a policeman was in sight. I hadn't much time to ponder over this, however, for just then over my shoulder I saw the first glare of the great conflagration—far to the south. I immediately forgot Mr. Copperthwaite's troubles and cast my eyes about for a speedy vehicle of transportation.

Will Insist on Probe of Cummings' Record.

Senator Jones to Demand Investigation of Charges Against Excise Board Nominee.

Senator Jones gave notice in the Senate today that he would insist upon an investigation of certain charges against Andrew J. Cummings, appointed by the President as excise commissioner, which had been taken to him before action was taken by the Senate on the nomination of Mr. Cummings. "I don't know anything about Mr. Cummings personally," said Senator Jones. "I hope the charges are not true, but if they are, the Senate should know it before acting on his nomination. I know that the senator from Maryland has polled the District committee and obtained a majority in favor of reporting the nomination favorably to the Senate. "I know he has received a letter from the superintendent of the Anti-Saloon League in Baltimore highly commending Mr. Cummings. But, nevertheless, I must insist that the matters to which I have referred be investigated."

Continuously Rapid Shell Fire Lasts for Hours in New York.

Officials Yet Unable to Determine Cause of Fire Which Started Explosions of Ammunition Intended for Entente Allies.

Removal of Loaded Cars.

Police Rush to Prevent Looting.

Attack by Villa Band Last March.

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SCENE OF GREAT EXPLOSION.

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INTERLOPING BARGE BLAMED FOR BLAST AT AMMUNITION PIERS

Damage to Storage Property.

Child Dies From the Shock.

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ONCE AGAIN SEEKS PROHIBITION IN D. C.

(Continued from First Page.)

ert G. Smith and Henry S. Baker have done all these things. "What will the board do now? If Henry S. Baker is confirmed the Senate should apologize to Gen. Smith and ask the President to reappoint Mr. Cummings' name and again appoint Gen. Smith, in order that the inexcusable and reckless conduct of the committee and the Senate itself, may be continued.

"There is no interest so corrupt in its influence as the liquor traffic. Its invidious agents delve the deepest and rise the highest to secure its ends and accomplish its purposes. No one has a good word for it, and yet its power is almost without limit. It prevents saloons from nullifying it when enacted. It controls public officials directly or indirectly and defies public sentiment openly and brazenly.

Powerful in High Places.

"Its power and influence were never so plainly manifested and never reached higher sources than here in the capital of the nation. The time has come for a plain statement of the facts in order that the people of the country may know what has been done here in the highest places of trust, honor and responsibility.

"The conditions in the District of Columbia were such a few years ago as to arouse a public sentiment for a more stringent regulation of the liquor traffic here. Five or six hundred saloons were doing business. They were massed about the public squares and on public institutions were in close proximity to houses of religious worship, and were scattered all through the residential section of the capital of the nation.

"To remedy these and many other deplorable conditions the excise law of 1913 was enacted. It was a landmark in the history of the liquor traffic and extreme methods followed and used by the liquor elements to prevent the enforcement of the law.

"The act placed the enforcement of the law in the hands of an excise board of five members to be appointed by the President. He was not restricted to any section of the country or in a partisan way in the selection of the members of the board. It was thought that the President in the selection of men to administer a law of this nature should be guided by the morals in the capital of this great nation would be beyond the reach of the powerful influence of the liquor interests.

Expectations Not Fulfilled.

"It was believed that the President of the United States would consider carefully the character of the law to be enforced, the purpose to be accomplished and the moral sentiment of the community to be regarded. It was thought that the President would seek to appoint to the excise board men who would administer the law in the interest of temperance, morality and the welfare of the community. The board members were to be selected by the President and were to be public policy. The law was not intended to be a prohibition measure. Those interested in its passage did not desire any form of prohibition. The provisions. They simply asked for a fair, reasonable and sincere administration of the law.

"Three men were named without any consultation with the friends of the law. Upon the presentation to the President of certain facts with reference to the board members, it was believed that the President would have called to his attention if any inquiry had been made, their names and the character of the law. The third appointee was from New Jersey. He was not considered very desirable. He was without a record and he was considered without consultation with friends of the law. Their attitude was not known. There was no special reason for their selection and objection and they were confirmed.

Nullification of the Law.

"One of these two was an attorney. Largely through his influence, rules were adopted which in some instances nullified the plain provisions of the law, and in every case the saloon interest was favored and all doubts resolved for its benefit.

"Afterward this attorney resigned and the board of members of the law, which he had had special influence with the board in securing licenses and transfers which should have been acted upon by the board without the intervention of any attorney.

"It was shown in court that he had entered into a contract with a saloon owner for which he and another party were to be paid \$5,500. This contract was held by the court to be against public policy. This attorney continued to appear before the board, and from general rumor, has been able to secure licenses and transfers from the board when others have failed.

"Senator Jones said that the maladministration of the law had been a disgrace to the board and that he had had special influence with the board in securing licenses and transfers which should have been acted upon by the board without the intervention of any attorney.

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