

PREJUS AFTERMATH.

In a desolation of mud and rubble that, only a few days before was a pleasant little town of Prejus, the dismal work of cleaning up is going on as quickly as possible. Bodies were still being found when these pictures were taken. 323 men, women and children are known to have perished. More than 100 are still missing. Many coffins were kept open till relatives had identified the victims. Prejus is today a town plunged in sorrow.

Earthquakes apart, few calamities in times of peace can ever have engulfed a town so quickly. Why the Malpasset dam gave way is not yet known. Members of the Investigation Committee are making their first examinations. Engineers called it the "Thin Dam". Perhaps the weight of water under full winter-load was underestimated and the defences not strong enough.

Vaccination against typhoid has been ordered for all people in the valley and all through the hours of light, rescue gangs toil on behalf of those who are suffering almost unbearably.