

SAAR DISASTER - - Terrible gasometer explosion wrecks Neunkirchen, the great industrial centre of the Saar Valley.

-Germany-

Picture:- Ruin, devastation, disaster ! A few days ago, this was the peaceful village of Neunkirchen. Now it--

--resembles nothing so closely as the shell-pounded villages of Flanders during the--

--late war. The catastrophe came as swiftly as a thunder bolt.

Children were playing the streets before bed-time came. Workers were--

--surging from factory and store. In a split second, a flash, a thunderous roar, and a raging vibrating wind which swept buildings and people--

--a mile away flat to the ground. For hours afterwards these oil reservoirs threatened--

--a further fire which would have wiped out the whole district.

As it was, one hundred people near the explosion--

--lost their lives almost instantaneously, and hundreds suffered injuries.

The townspeople were panic stricken, and no wonder ! Neunkirchen--

--has been called the nightmare town. The search for--

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--bodies continues, while others save bedding, blankets etc from the smashed wreckage. A relief fund has been started--

--y President Hindenburg. An awful tragedy !
The toll of progress !