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WHOLE STREETS WRECKED - - Worst explosion in London area for many years renders hundreds homeless, at Mitcham.

-London-

Picture.:-

In a split second, a flourishing chemical factory was transformed--

--into a twisted, tortured mass of girders and debris.

The explosion destroyed or damaged streets of houses in the factory's vicinity.

Had the disaster occurred an hour later--

--in the morning, the factory would have been filled with workers and the--

--death roll would have numbered hundreds. As it was one boy was hurled--

--from his bed into a garden, and killed, while over a score of people--

--were seriously injured. The explosion was caused by--

--a 200-gallon tank of methelated spirits blowing up. In the neighbouring--

--streets there's not a pane of glass, or a roof left unshattered.

Shelter has been arranged for those whose homes have been destroyed. And this happened at Mitcham, Surrey, England.