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The Toronto World.

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EIGHTEENTH YEAR | EIGHT PAGES—FRIDAY MORNING FEBRUARY 12, 1897—EIGHT PAGES | ONE CENT

Senate Reading Room Hands SENATE P O

"The World" is the Only Exclusively Morning Paper Published in Toronto.

PEOPLE PAY THE LOSS

A Departmental Building at Ottawa on Fire.

FIERCE FLAMES RAGED AFTER MIDNIGHT.

When the Damage to Western Structure Was Estimated at $250,000.

Who Is Responsible for All This Criminal Carelessness?—The Origin of the Fire Is Supposed to Have Been the Work of a Careless Clerk Smoking—Then, When the Ottawa Fire Brigade Responded to the Call, the Hydrants in the Parliament Grounds Were Frozen Hard—The Hose in the Big Building was Rotten, and Burst Under the Water Pressure—Fire Engines Had to Be Brought Into Play—A Steamer Sent From Montreal to the Capital by Special Train at Midnight—Most of the Valuable Plans and Documents of the Public Works Department Destroyed—Mr. Tarte Rescued His Papers—Fire Still Burning and Thousands Watch Its Progress From Parliament Hill.

Ottawa, Feb. 11.—(Special.)—The worst fire which the Capital has had for many a long day is raging to-night, and as the result thereof the taxpayers of the Dominion will eventually have to meet a bill of a quarter of a million dollars.

At midnight to-night the entire roof of the Western Departmental building and offices on the fourth floor are in flames, the efforts of the Ottawa brigade being directed towards keeping the flames from descending to the lower stories of the buildings.

The only portion of the building which has escaped, with the exception of some water in the offices, is the Mackenzie wing from the big tower northerly.

In this portion of the building are the offices of the Departments of Railways and Canals and Inland Revenue. The rooms burnt out were those occupied by the engineers and architects' staff of the Public Works Department, including hundreds of valuable plans and records; certain offices occupied by some of the clerks of the Marine and Fisheries Department, and the entire offices of the Mounted Police Department.

All the offices below these, occupied by the Departments of Public Works, Marine and Fisheries, Militia, Trade and Commerce and Customs are deluged with water.

The Smoker Again!

The fire was first discovered on the fourth flat of the Public Works Department, and is supposed to have been caused by carelessness of one of the clerks, who had been smoking. For a long time the smell of smoke could be detected before its origin was discovered.

It unfortunately happened that the conflagration broke out in the most vulnerable point of the whole building, as the whole of the top storey was a veritable fire trap. The roof was of wood, the partitions were of wood and the floors were of wood. To add to the disaster this portion of the building is, with the exception of the tower of the Parliament building, situated on the highest level of the city.

At the outset only a private alarm was sent to the central fire station and a single reel responded.

What Carelessness!

The hydrants in different portions of the Parliament grounds were tried and all, with the exception of one some distance away, were found to be frozen hard. One located almost under the window from which the smoke was now being emitted in dense volumes, was in this unfortunate condition. Just who is responsible for this unlucky contretemps, the Public Works Department or the city, cannot at present be ascertained. There was nothing for it under the circumstances but to secure water from the hydrants on Wellington-street. The first stream showed very poor pressure, and before the extension ladder could be placed in position the flames were bursting from the roof.

The Entire Brigade Out.

Chief Young, who was promptly on the spot, realizing that it would be well to provide for any emergency, called out the entire brigade and had the big steamer "The Conqueror" brought up. The lumber firms also sent their steamer, the Union, and these two gave a good water service.

Inside the building the hydrants had been turned on, but the pressure was very poor and some of the Government hose had burst. On the flat below the officials of the Public Works Department were clearing out furniture and effects from the offices of the Minister and Deputy Minister.

Mr. Tarte Satisfied.

Mr. Tarte was on deck and got all his private papers out. When your correspondent entered the Minister's room with him at 5.15 p.m. water was coming through the ceiling in torrents.

Despite all efforts of the brigade, it seemed impossible to check the progress of the flames. The inflammable nature of the upper structure made it a ready prey, and the fire gradually worked round to the southwest corner of the building. Then it swung round to the southern facade and licked its way along the roof eastward. Over the main south door there is a small tower, and it was thought at this point the fire would be confined, as there was supposed to be a fire wall shutting off the draughting room of the Public Works Department from the Marine and Fisheries. But even this gave way and the flames gradually crept along to the southeast corner and then ran northerly the entire length of the wing which fronts on Parliament-square, consuming in its progress all the offices of the Mounted Police Department.

Thousands View It.

Thousands of people assembled on Parliament Hill to see the magnificent sight. The Parliament Buildings and the Eastern Block were magnificently illuminated and the reflection could be seen for miles around.

As the Government carries no insurance on its buildings in Ottawa the entire loss will fall on the country. It is believed $100,000 might repair to-day's damage, but a wooden roof to the building will never be tolerated, and the general impression is the Government will have to put on a metal one similar to that of Langevin block, which is of iron and copper.

The Scene This Morning.

At 1 o'clock this morning the burning building presented a magnificent spectacle; the entire roof was still burning, but the fire does not appear to have reached the storey below, except at one point in the Public Works Department, and here it appears to have been checked in one room. When the fire reached the Mounted Police Department the assembled crowd were startled by repeated popping off of ammunition. To check the conflagration a portion of the roof on the south side of the building, equal to 60 square feet, was cut away, but nothing was gained by it.

Valuable Records Gone.

Two-thirds of the records of the Public Works Department have been destroyed, but the photographic negatives of different public buildings were saved.

The original records of the C. P. R. surveys, it is said, have fallen a prey to the flames.

With good judgment, the officers of the Militia, Marine and Fisheries, Trade and Commerce and Customs Departments got their books, records and papers either out of the buildings or into the vaults, so that, except for the temporary inconvenience of want of quarters, the work of these departments will go on without interruption.

The thermometer registers 5 degrees above zero at this hour. The firemen have been continuously on duty for eight hours and are pitiable sights, being covered with ice from head to foot.

It is thought Mr. Tarte will propose an additional storey to the building to give much-needed additional accommodation.

Help From Montreal.

Montreal, Feb. 12.—A detachment of the Montreal fire brigade, composed of 15 men, with the Selsby engine and two hose reels, left for Ottawa on a special at 11.30 last night in answer to an urgent summons from the Capital, where the West Block in Parliament Square is burning.

RECOUNT IN NORTH ONTARIO.

Duncan Graham Declared Elected by 39 Majority—Order for a Recount Afterwards Granted.

Beaverton, Feb. 11.—In the North Ontario election the returning officer gave the official count here to-day Duncan Graham, Reform-Patron, is declared elected by 39 majority, the total vote being: D. Graham 2403, Angus McLeod 2364. There were 26 spoilt ballots and 59 rejected ballots.

An order for a recount in North Ontario was obtained by Messrs. Reid, Owens, Wood & Arnold, solicitors for Angus McLeod, since the declaration made to-day, to take place before Judge Mahaffy at Bracebridge next Tuesday, the 16th inst.

Burglars Enter a Yonge-Street Store.

Bold burglars got into Ashdown's music store, 88½ Yonge-street, early this morning, but whether they stole anything or not is not known, as Mr. Ashdown, when sent for by the police, was unable to come down town on account of illness. The thieves made an entrance from the lane at the rear, where, by knocking out one of the squares in the prismatic glass they were able to undo the catch and raise the lower window. A policeman making his rounds discovered the window open and there is little doubt that marauders had been inside from the appearance of the place.

St. Andrew's Society.

The quarterly meeting of the St. Andrew's Society was held at the Queen's yesterday with Mayor Cosby, in the chair. The treasurer reported a balance of $83 from the St. Andrew's ball, and total receipts for the quarter to the amount of $324. The sum of $270 was spent in charity during the quarter.

The following new members were elected: A. D. Buchan, Henry Wright, Dr. Greig, John Ross Stark and R. D. Ruddiff.

He Lived 111 Years.

Prescott, Mich., Feb. 11.—The oldest man who ever lived on the shore of Lake Huron died recently at Lancaster, Ont. Donald R. M. Macdonald was born there in 1786. He served in the War of 1812 and the Canadian Rebellion of 1837-38. In 1848 he removed to Canton, N.Y.; in 1854 to the Saginaw Valley, in 1864 to Harrisville, and subsequently to the Upper Peninsula. He made a living getting out square lumber for the Quebec market.

Court Israelite, I. O. F.

Court Israelite, a new court of the I.O.F., which already counts a membership of over 80, will hold an entertainment and ball to be given in St. George's Hall on March 18. The entertainment is under the patronage of Oronhyatekha. Rev. Mr. Solomon, cantor of the Holy Blossom Synagogue, is the Chief Ranger.

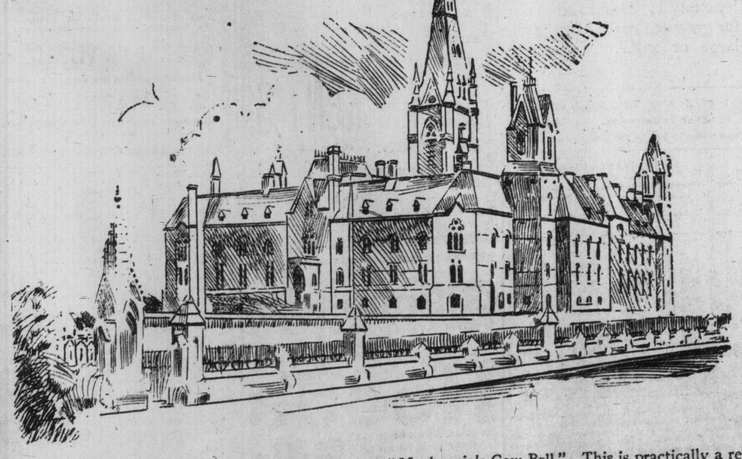
Mr. Reesor at Grace Hospital.

County Councillor Reesor of Markham was taken ill in the Council Chamber yesterday afternoon. He was taken to Grace Hospital in the ambulance, where he was getting on nicely last night.

Steamship Movements.

	At	From.
Feb. 11.		
Havel	New York	Bremen.
Germanic	New York	Liverpool.

THE WRECKED DEPARTMENTAL BUILDING.



The high tower on the opposite side is known as "Mackenzie's Cow Bell." This is practically a rear view, as the building faces west and abuts on Parliament Square. The upper story nearest on the south has been destroyed. This building is 211 feet long and 277 feet deep. It is constructed in the Italian Gothic style, of cream-colored sandstone.

A TRUE FRIEND.

MR. BULL: So the naughty Yankees 'ave been a-foolin' of you, 'ave they? Well, never mind, Dickey; come right 'ere to your hold pop.

SOME VERY HOT SHOT

Poured Into the Free Traders' Castle.

VIEWS OF THE MENNONITES

As Voiced in Vigorous Style by Mr. R. A. Culver.

Farmers' Institute Pleaders Denounced as Paid Agitators Striving to Hold Their Salaries—Duty on Wheat and Flour a Necessity—Pork Packers Also Demand Protection in Order That Their Business May Not be Ruined—Political and General News From Winnipeg.

Winnipeg, Feb. 11.—(Special.)—Hon. Messrs. Fielding and Paterson, the Dominion Tariff Commissioners, consented to sit for a couple of hours this morning before taking the train for Ottawa, to hear a few more agricultural witnesses who desired to put in testimony. Several more delegates, representing the Manitoba Farmers' Institute, were heard, declaring for free trade, demanding that the duties be abolished, and asserting that the duty on wheat and grain was of no benefit to them.

MENNONITES HEARD FROM.

Then came a witness, who had views totally different. He was R. A. Culver, who represented the Mennonite farmers, a very important element of the farming population. He pointed out that the Mennonites were staunch Liberals and had invariably returned their members. They were strongly opposed to the removal of the duty on wheat and grain, believing such removal would be disastrous to their interests.

Mr. Culver then proceeded to pour hot shot into the ranks of the Farmers' Institute delegates. He declared the delegates were agitators or professional politicians who represented but a small percentage of the farmers. These delegates had decried the country and declared it to be poverty-stricken. This, the speaker declared, was false, and would do the country more harm than Hon. Mr. Sifton could offset by immigration efforts in three years.

After listening to the agitations from the Farmers' Institute, the speaker said he had come to the conclusion that what this country was poverty-stricken in was intellect. The speaker declared that the farmer of Manitoba had not only this year, but for the past five years in his experience, received more for his wheat than the farmer of Dakota and other States across the line. He hoped the commissioners would not accept the views of the Farmers' Institute delegates as representative of the farmers of Manitoba. Several of the Farmers' Institute delegates were salaried agitators, who were forced to keep up the agitation to retain their salaries. Manitoba farmers had grievances and hardships which were incidental to new countries, but they were fairly prosperous, and represented as happy a people as any in the world.

Mr. Culver's speech naturally created quite a stir, and half a dozen delegates attempted to interrupt him and ask questions. Pretty soon there was a good deal of confusion, and the commissioners had to point out to the delegates that they were wasting valuable time.

THE OTHER SIDE.

Mr. Postlethwaite, representing the Farmers' Institute, made a speech in favor of free trade, and condemning protectionist principles. He also argued that the American farmer received more for his wheat than the Canadian farmer. He took up the millers' statement and disputed its contentions. True, the millers in this country had this season paid more than an export value for wheat, but that was purely a business matter, and protection had nothing to do with the higher prices.

THE PORK PACKERS.

After the farmers had got through the pork packers from Winnipeg and Calgary urged that to remove the duty from hogs and hog products would be disastrous, both to the farmers and to the packing industry in the west.

Vitality and warmth is imparted to the system by good digestion. To maintain these use Adams' Tutti Frutti. See that the trade mark name Tutti Frutti is on each 5 cent package.

Metropolitan Street Railway.

On and after Saturday, Feb. 13th, inst., the cars will leave the C.P.R. crossing, Yonge-street, for Richmond Hill and intermediate points on the Metropolitan Street Railway extension as follows:

C.P.R. Crossing, Yonge-street, 7.20 a.m., 9.40 a.m., 2.40 p.m., 5.40 p.m.

Returning, leave Richmond Hill for C.P.R. crossing, Yonge-street, 8.30 a.m., 11 a.m., 4 p.m., 7 p.m.

The service from York Mills to C.P.R. crossing, Yonge-street, at 10.05 a.m., 3.05 p.m. and 6.05 p.m., will be cancelled on and after Saturday, Feb. 13th, inst.

C. D. WARREN, President.
J. W. MOYES,
Manager Metropolitan Street Railway.

Letter files supplied for all cabinets The Office Specialty Manfg. Co., Ltd., 122 Bay-street, Toronto.

Vin d'Ete Champagne.

Vin d'Ete Champagne, a medium, dry wine. Pronounced by connoisseurs to be the best cup wine on this market. $14.50 per case, quarts; $16, pints. Mara's, 79 and 81 Yonge-street. Phone 1708.

Cook's Turkish Baths, 204 King W., day, 75c.

For Skaters

Skaters' excursion, Thornhill Rink, every Saturday evening. Special car leaves C.P.R. crossing 7 p.m. Return tickets, with admission to rink, 30c. Musical carnival by the Royal Grenadiers' Band, Wed. evening, the 17th.

Gibbons' Toothache Gum has afforded relief to thousands in the past ten years.

Beaver and Allan Lines to Liverpool.

Parties intending to visit Europe can save money by giving us a call. Send for special tour book. S. J. Sharp, 78 Yonge-street.

Cook's Turkish Baths, 204 King W evenings, 50c.

Grand & Toy's Snaps.

The Rock Bottom letter file holds papers, holds itself and threatens to hold the public. Nothing like it under the earth, 25c each. If it is a good thing we have it. Grand & Toy, stationers and printers, Wellington and Jordan-streets, Toronto.

Seasickness and all uneasiness at the stomach is remedied by the use of Adams' Tutti Frutti. Allow no imitations to be palmed off on you.

BIG BLAZE ON THE ESPLANADE.

Several Boat Houses Burned to the Water's Edge Last Night—Damage in the Neighborhood of $5000.

The Esplanade was the scene of another fire last night, this time at the foot of Princess-street, and, as in the case of the Electric Light fire, the railroad trains were delayed for over three hours. At 8.40 fire was discovered in the boathouse of A. K. Evans. This building was also used by Mr. Evans and his family as a dwelling-house. The flames spread rapidly as a high wind was blowing at the time. The boat-houses of Robert Doherty, the Tuminany Club, and the Willie Winkie Club adjoining Evans' were also burned to the water's edge. It was thought at one time that some of the schooners and the Goodenham yacht Cleopatra might be destroyed. Although badly handicapped, the firemen did good work.

The loss will be in the neighborhood of $3700, divided amongst a number of individuals. There were about 100 rowboats destroyed, half of them the property of private parties, who kept them in the burned buildings. Among the losers are the Tammany Club, 16 boats; Willie Winkie Club, 30 boats; A. K. Evans, Sergt. Seymour, Joseph A. Belmore, Sergt. Cross, P. C. Patterson, P. C. Wilson, Sam Staneland, James J. Green and Fred Apted. There is some insurance on the buildings and boats.

The cause of the fire is not known. The Evans family lost household furniture and all their clothing.

Fetherstonhaugh & Co., patent solicitors and experts, Bank Commerce Building, Toronto.

Varsity Conversat.

To-day we offer a special snap in full dress requisites: White kid gloves, small size, 2 pairs 35c; dress bows, 3 for 25c; full dress shirt protectors, $1, regular $2; our $1 full dress shirt, open front and back, is the greatest value in Canada. Don't forget, any tie in our store, 25c. Sword, 55 King-street east. Phone 282.

Talk to George H. Roberts about life insurance—Equitable Life Office, cor. King and Yonge-streets. ed & 7

Try Watson's Cough Drops.

Mary and John.

John has at last confessed to Mary that he has made a great mistake in believing what interested competitors had to say about the People's Coal Company.

"They no longer quarrel at their own fireside."

Travel the city over—it will be impossible anywhere to find equal quality for the money you pay for dress shirts at Treble's, 53 King west.

Cook's Turkish Baths, 204 King W. Ladies 75c.

Special.

Rubber-tipped Pencils, 15c doz. Headquarters for Eureka Ribbons and Carbons. Blight Bros., cash stationers, 65 Yonge-street.

"Salada" Ceylon Tea is delightful.

California Tokay.

California Tokay. All who have used this wine pronounce it the purest and most palatable wine ever introduced into this market. Sold at $2.50 per gallon, or 50 cents per bottle. Mara's, 79 and 81 Yonge-street. Phone 1708.

Turkish baths open day and night, 129 Yonge.

DEATHS.

MACKAY—On Tuesday, Feb. 9, 1897, Isabel Anson, beloved wife of the Rev. R. D. Mackay, aged 57.

Funeral from her late residence, 39 Metcalfe-street, Friday afternoon, at 5 o'clock, to the Necropolis.

BEGINS TO LOOK UGLY.

The Cretan Trouble Is Causing Anxiety.

GREECE HAS BEEN HASTY

And Is Determined to Prevent Landing of Turkish Troops.

London Stock Market Affected by the News of Threatened Fighting—Turkish Minister at Athens Made a Strong Protest Against the Despatch of the Greek Flotilla, but Without Result—The Porte Calls on the Powers for Aid—Other Cable News.

London, Feb. 11.—The Pall Mall Gazette, commenting upon the Cretan situation, says there is abundant foundation for the belief that the sending of the Greek flotilla to Crete is looked upon by the British Government as a matter so serious as to threaten consequences of the greatest import, in view of the fact that the action of Greece was entirely independent and taken without conveying the slightest notion of her intentions to the powers. The Gazette says Lord Salisbury may be relied upon to take prompt and decisive measures to neutralize its effect.

The stock market was weak and flat to-day on reports of threatened fighting between Greece and Turkey, and closed depressed.

The correspondent at Athens of The Daily News telegraphs that the Grecian circular to the powers declares that it is incumbent upon Greece to prevent at all costs the landing of Turkish reinforcements upon the island of Crete.

ASSIM BEY PROTESTS.

Athens, Feb. 11.—Assim Bey, the Turkish Minister, to-day visited the Foreign Office, and acting under instructions from his Government, made a protest against the despatch of the Greek torpedo flotilla to Crete. Assim Bey was treated with the utmost courtesy, and was informed, so far as diplomacy allowed, of the attitude of Greece on the Cretan question. His protest, however, was, so far as known, productive of no result. The Greek Government will not recall the flotilla, and furthermore a second flotilla will shortly start for Crete.

The troubles in the island have caused many of the residents to flee to Greece for safety. Since the outbreak began fully eight thousand Cretans have arrived at the Piraeus. As in the case of the previous exodus from Crete, many of the refugees are unable to care for themselves, and the Government will be compelled to extend aid to them.

The Porte Calls for Help.

Constantinople, Feb. 11.—The Porte has communicated by telegraph with the powers, asking their support in the efforts of Turkey to restore order in Crete, and the ambassadors are conferring upon the question of exerting concerted pressure upon Greece to compel the recall of the Greek fleet from Cretan waters.

All the Bourses Affected.

Paris, Feb. 11.—A very panicky feeling prevailed at the Bourse at the opening this morning, but later there was an improvemen on the report that the powers intended to prevent Greece from intervening in the Cretan trouble. The Berlin and Vienna Bourses were depressed and weak.

Greece Must be Suppressed.

London, Feb. 11.—The Times, commenting on the Cretan embroglio, will to-morrow say that Greece must not be permitted to force the hands of the powers, and that there should be immediate intervention to restore order.

More Butchery.

Canea, Crete, Feb. 11.—It is stated on good authority that the Governor of Crete, George Pasha Berovitch, is desirous of resigning his office, but that the Porte has expressed the wish that he should remain there.

The entire Moslem population about the City of Heraklion have entered that place, where they attacked the Christians and pillaged their shops. The Prefect of Sitia reports that 300 Moslems have been killed in that district by Christians.

It is reported that the Moslems of Retimo have blown up with dynamite a number of houses owned or occupied by Christians. No mention is made of the loss of life being caused by the explosion. It is reported that Christians are massacreing Moslems in the villages around Sitia, and that 13 of the villages are burning.

The Moslems continue to prevent the departure from the island not only of native Christians but also of foreigners. It is probable that the foreign warships here will intervene and demand that those who wish to leave the island shall be allowed to do so without hindrance.

Confirmation has been received of the reports of atrocities committed on women and children in Kissamo and Kastell.

"Salada" Tea is not nerve disturbing.

Travel the city over it will be impossible anywhere to find equal quality for the money you pay for dress shirts at Treble's, 53 King west.

Try Watson's Cough Drops.

At Treble's—Dresden-front shirts—all nice new patterns and colors—a pair of extra cuffs—one-fifty value—for $1.15.

The English Mails.

Letters for Europe mailed before 1 o'clock this afternoon will catch the supplementary mail for the Cunard steamship Aurania, sailing to-morrow from New York.

Snow and Sleet.

Minimum and maximum temperatures: Esquimalt, 20—44; Calgary, 14—30; Edmonton, 22—32; QuAppelle, 10 below—20; Winnipeg, 20 below—22; Port Arthur, 4—24; Toronto, 12—21; Ottawa 4 below—12; Montreal, 2 below—6; Quebec, 6 below—10; Halifax, 3—22.

PROBS—Fresh to strong winds; cloudy and milder, with light snow, turning to sleet.