

SUMMING UP OF FIRE'S WORK

President Lindsey Reviews the Situation in Elk River Valley

LOSS OF LIFE NOT KNOWN

Generous Aid is Sent From Many Points in East and West

Fernie, B. C., Aug. 5.—Asked for a statement of the fire today, President Lindsey of the C. N. P. C. Co. gave out the following official statement:

The fire area in the valley of the Elk River... in the vicinity of the town of Fernie, British Columbia, is approximately 10 miles long and 2 to 10 miles broad. In this area are situated the city of Fernie and the towns of Homer and Michel, all mining camps. There is a large mining plant at Coal Creek, near Fernie, from whence comes the largest output of coal in the district. It has been within two miles of Coal Creek, the town may be said to be safe, and although the fire is all around the Michel, there is no grave apprehension as to it. Homer has escaped with little loss on its mining site, but Fernie has been completely obliterated, only 23 dwellings and three business houses being left.

On both banks of the Elk river there is a large number of saw mill industries, all of which, with one exception, have been swept out of existence, and probably a large number of men have lost their lives in the woods.

The bodies recovered so far have been 16, and there is no more, but in the woods only.

The loss of the Crow's Nest Pass Coal company, owned by the C. N. P. C. Co., is estimated at \$2,000,000. The C. N. P. C. Co. will lose \$200,000. The G. N. R. will lose about \$150,000, and the lumber companies not less than a million. The loss of timber to the Crow's Nest Pass Coal company will not be less than a million. The loss in the city of Fernie will be not less than two million.

There is no doubt that the fire has done much damage to the valley, and its lower portion in swept clean. Relief in the form of money, supplies and medical aid is being sent from all quarters, and everyone is now under canvas in Fernie. There are about 1,300 women, and 1,500 men, Cranbrook, to the west of Fernie, and about 500 at Lethbridge, to the east, but they are being slowly brought back to Fernie. The generosity and kindness of the people of Cranbrook and the surrounding towns has been unsurpassed. The fire has been a great blessing to the situation at Fernie.

Exaggerated reports are being sent out in regard to fires. The department at Coal Creek this afternoon was called out, but only a few sparks were seen, and a fire which was coming up the hill. President Lindsey reports that the mines are in no danger. Mr. Sherman of the Mines' union says there is no danger, and all the members are being well provided for.

G. Stanley Eess arrived this afternoon with a carload of supplies from Calgary, just what was required in the way of clothing, bedding, etc. The people of Fernie are very grateful to Calgary, and when business is resumed Calgary wholesale houses will not lose anything on the deal.

Outside the Mountain Police, the best organized force in the Dominion is the B. C. provincial police in East Kootenay, under J. H. McMillan, chief constable for the district. Tonight at 10 o'clock everybody in the city was under shelter, and nobody hungry. Major Tuttle and his men, who are men who work, both picturesque figures, moving around, coats off with khaki shirts, leather belts and overalls.

Aid and Sympathy. Toronto, Aug. 5.—The directors of the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Co. have approved the action of the vice-president in sending \$5,000 for the relief of the fire sufferers.

Montreal, Aug. 5.—The Lake of the Woods Milling company today telegraphed its Winnipeg office to place at the disposal of the B. C. government a sum of \$25,000 for the relief of the fire sufferers, which is the equivalent of a thousand dollars in cash for the Fernie fire sufferers. The board of trade has wired the sum of \$25,000 to the fire sufferers, which amount was subscribed by the entire membership. A special meeting of the Montreal city council will be held tomorrow to consider relief measures for the Fernie fire sufferers. It is proposed to make a grant of \$5,000.

Washington, Aug. 5.—A voluntary contribution of \$100,000 has been made by the American National Red Cross society for the sufferers from the forest fires raging in British Columbia. The secretary of the Red Cross society today telegraphed the contribution to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the premier of Canada, extending at the same time the society's sympathies for the sufferers.

Ottawa, Aug. 5.—The board of control has voted \$200,000 for the B. C. fire sufferers. A number of Ottawa ladies, including Lady Grey, met at Rideau car of four hundred to make a plan for the collection of clothing. It is expected that several parcels will be sent in a few days, and more will be sent later.

The following cables were received by Earl Grey today from the Prince of Wales and Lord Minto: "Covers, Aug. 5.—So distressed to hear of terrible destruction of life and property by forest fires in B. C. (Signed) George."

"Smia, Aug. 5.—Grateful to you if you can express my heartfelt sympathy to sufferers in terrible fire in B. C. (Signed) Minto."

Insurance Losses. Toronto, Aug. 5.—Today's revision of insurance losses at Fernie gives a total of \$67,355. Insurance companies are interested to the extent of \$611,350 in the British Columbia fire.

Death of Bronson Howard. New York, Aug. 5.—A. Bronson Howard, the author and dramatist, died in Avon-by-the-Sea yesterday.

Message From Earl Grey. Ottawa, Aug. 5.—Earl Grey has wired to Lord Grey expressions of sympathy in the Fernie disaster.

No Prison Goods. Ottawa, Aug. 5.—A cable from New Zealand says prison-made goods are absolutely prohibited from entering that country.

Earl's Engagement. London, Aug. 5.—The engagement of the Earl of Clancarty to Mary Ellis, daughter of a Yorkshire barrister, was publicly announced.

Admiralty Judgments. Quebec, Aug. 5.—Commander Spain this morning adjudged the steamer Troid to blame for the collision with the Dominion liner Ottawa which was taken over by the London and Lancashire court in Liverpool over a month ago. Regarding the stranding of H. M. S. Portmouth, the admiralty court has suspended the certificate of First Mate Martin for twelve months.

Insurance Merger. Toronto, Aug. 5.—The Ontario Accident Insurance company has been taken over by the London and Lancashire Guarantee and Accident company, incorporated at the last session of the Dominion Parliament.

GENERAL STRIKE IN C. P. R. SHOPS

Over Six Thousand Mechanics Throughout Canada Leave Their Work

NO SIGN OF TURBULENCE

Company and Strikers Give Their Views of the Wage Differences

Winnipeg, Aug. 5.—The climax of the dispute between the C. P. R. mechanics and the company culminated today at 10 o'clock in a walkout of 6,019 men, covering practically every point on the system from ocean to ocean, except Halifax, St. John and Saskatoon, and at these three points it is claimed that the head-quarters of the men in Winnipeg that the men have either gone out or will go out before night. The heaviest movement is, of course, in Winnipeg and Montreal.

The unanimity with which the mechanics throughout the system responded to the secret instructions of the strike managers has elated the local contingent. One of the most significant features of the great movement is the orderly manner in which the strikers are reported to have left their various shops. There was no boisterousness, and at every point the workmen dispersed rapidly to gather later at central points in each place for a mass meeting.

In Winnipeg the men assembled at Trades hall at 2 o'clock, and are now in session discussing the important question of picketing the works and other questions relating to preserving the unbroken ranks of the strikers. The mass meeting is being held in secret, and all press representatives have been excluded.

General Manager Bury, of the western lines, who is in control of the situation in the absence of Mr. Whyte, would give out no statement, but he would, Mr. McVetty, on the contrary, gave out a lengthy statement in which he placed the blame for the strike on the shoulders of the strikers.

An aspect of the situation which is of considerable interest is the centering in Winnipeg of the machinery of the various departments which will conduct the strike for the mechanics. Apparently the whole administration of the C. P. R. will be conducted from this city, which has now resigned that charge and notified the congregation that he will not enter upon the duties of his position until the strike is over on September 1. It is understood that Mr. Silcox discovered the congregation was not a unit in his favor.

At Vancouver. Vancouver, Aug. 5.—Four hundred machinists quit work in the C. P. R. shops this morning at 10 o'clock, joining in the strike of all the other points between this city and the east. Immediately after a meeting was held in the Labor hall, but this was private, and nothing has been reported for publication. The men state that they were unanimous in their decision to quit work, and are prepared to remain out to the end.

Nelson, B. C., Aug. 5.—At 10 o'clock this morning all the mechanical employees on the C. P. R. on the Kootenay division, 100 here, 25 at Simley Junction and Trail, and 5 at Ehol in the Boundary country, quit work in accordance with orders. It is said, issued by the union headquarters at Vancouver. There have been no local developments today beyond the men quitting work. Neither the company officials nor the men have anything to say to-night more than the general statement as to the cause of the strike.

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Hot Wave Followed by Severe Storms. Many Deaths in New York and Chicago—Storms Bring Relief.

New York, Aug. 5.—With a series of several electrical storms, accompanied by heavy rain, and in some instances damaging showers of hail, the heat wave that has been bothering the city throughout New York and in the New England states was broken today.

The storm brought great relief to the city, for during the day ten deaths and more than a score of prostrations were caused by the heat.

From all sections of New England reports of damage done by the storm. Lightning struck in many places, and at Green Island, near Troy, Mr. Thomas McCabe was killed. Lightning struck a barn at Ossining, killing three horses and stunning a hostler.

Totness, Aug. 5.—Much damage to farm property is reported from Elora and Bradford by a heavy rain storm last night.

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ONTARIO STORM

Tottenham and Vicinity Suffer From Visitation of Fierce Wind and Heavy Hail

Tottenham, Ont., Aug. 4.—A fierce wind, hail and rain storm struck Tottenham at 10 o'clock today, lasting half an hour. It was three miles wide and passed about three miles east. The storm was as large as plums, and the water carried them down the street and piled them about a foot high. Hundreds of windows were smashed. Light buildings were moved on their foundations and trees blown down. A barn east of here was blown from its foundation. Grain under will be a complete loss, and many fields are out as if with a reaper.

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Ugly Incident Shows Growth of Sentiment Against Foreigners

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