

LAST SURVIVOR OF LIGHT BRIGADE DYING IN CITY

VETERAN OF "NOBLE 600" IN VICTORIA HOSPITAL

Thomas W. Shaw, Now on Death Bed, Carried the Orders That Sent Cardigan's Famous Regiment to Death and Glory at Balaklava.

DYING, HE FIGHTS AGAIN BATTLE OF OLD

With the spectre of death hovering over him and his breath coming in agonizing gasps, the last survivor of the charge of the Light Brigade lies dying in Victoria Hospital.

He is Thomas W. Shaw, aged 91, the only remaining member of the heroic six hundred, whose glorious onslaught has been immortalized in song and story.

The ancient hero lived here for 37 years. Some days ago, suffering from bronchitis, his attending physician, Dr. J. L. Duffy, ordered him to the hospital. There the ravages of extreme age, combined with a serious chest affliction, undermined a naturally robust constitution, and the end is momentarily expected.

No private room or services of a special nurse have been provided for the last survivor. His snowy cot is one of a long row of snowy cots in the men's public ward. But the old man is too far gone to care about the little luxuries that might have brightened his last conscious moments.

When an Advertiser representative was permitted to peep at the dying veteran last evening, he saw a hard, old man, his chiseled features as precise and white as any statue carved in alabaster.

Refracts Old Battles. With all the grim ferocity of reality, the old man, again battled the swarthy Russian of the Crimea.

Again the boom of guns sounded in his ears, and once more he saw the flash of sabres as a gallant little band of redcoats charged with glorious abandon into the relentless barrage of enemy artillery.

Through them, boys, through them," the old soldier muttered. "God, it's hot. At them boys—kill them, kill them, kill them!"

The dying hero's fevered brain is now no longer capable of expressing intelligible thought. Between asthmatic breaths he mutters a few words, striving pathetically to give utterance to the stream of imagery that clogs his mind.

"Is there any hope?" The Advertiser asked the hospital physician. "None, whatever," was the reply. "Last of Hero Band."

Since the death in the United States six months ago of the second last participant in the famous charge of the Light Brigade, Shaw has been the only living member of that famous band. He was slightly wounded later in the campaign, felt the caressing hand of Florence Nightingale, and took active part in the siege of Sebastopol.

Born in Ireland in 1832, young Shaw migrated at an early age with his parents to England. At 18, he joined a cavalry regiment, and at the outbreak of the war against Russia, in 1854, was summoned to the colors.

The charge of the Light Brigade, commemorated in the stirring patriotic poem of Alfred Tennyson, took place early in the campaign. Shaw was aide-de-camp to Colonel Powell, who led the celebrated assault, and it was he who carried the orders to Lord Cardigan that plunged six hundred heroes of the charge to death.

Of the six hundred heroic spirits who charged the soldiers of the czar, but 86 returned.

Was at Sebastopol. Following the battle of Balaklava, the young man took active part in the battle of Inkermann and capture of Sebastopol. His splendid devotion to duty earned him promotion, and at the commencement of the Indian Mutiny he joined the British forces in their conflict with rebellious Sepoys.

After seventeen years of military service he came to Canada. He was twice married, and his wife being Mrs. Augusta Watkins, who, at the age of 86, is still living in the city.

For five years Shaw's advanced age prevented him from doing other than small jobs. He worked at the Grand Trunk roundhouse during the latter part of the 19th century, and followed the trade of stationary engineer before that. Long years of martial service dissipated any chance he might have had to learn a highly remunerative trade, and the old hero, throughout his lengthy life, has seldom felt the velvet hand of opulence.

It is more than seven years since the dying man recounted the story of his exploits, but his son, Thomas V. Shaw, 58 Oak street, remembers well his account of them.

Aged Wife Weeps. Mrs. Augusta Shaw, aged wife of the veteran, interviewed at the Protestant Aged People's Home, in which institution she has been an inmate for many months, all but broke down when informed by The Advertiser that the condition of her valiant husband was unchanged.

She is a beautiful old lady. Escorting into the open to have her picture taken, without an overcoat to protect her from the cold wind, she remarked that but for the fact she would be as "lithesome as ever."

"I want my husband," she said, wistfully. "I'm not happy without him. It has always been my wish during years of adversity that the good Lord would let us spend our last days together."

There was a catch in her voice, and she turned her face toward the morning sun that poured through the window.

"I want my son to take me to see him in a taxi cab," she added. "I want to see his dear face. If he should die without me smoking his pipe, I don't know what I'd do. I guess I'd go to Detroit to live with my youngest daughter."

"Tom was an entertaining man. Most soldiers are selfish, but Tom did his best to keep me happy."

"Wasn't he married before?" she was asked.

"He might have been, but he never told me about it. We've been married 60 years. He met me in Birmingham, England, and we moved to Canada 40 years ago. Once I asked him to tell me the truth about his soldier life, and he described all the battles he had been in. He was the man who carried the orders to Lord Cardigan to make the charge on the Russians. I've often heard him talk of Miss Nightingale. In the Indian mutiny he was wounded in the leg, but it wasn't serious. He remained in the army for about seven years, and just missed receiving a pension. Poverty has done its best to make his life miserable, but Tom was the kind that never worried."

When taken outside for his picture, the dear old lady laughed and said: "I feel like a 16-year-old girl," she confided. "This is a great day for me. The sun is shining, and it will be terrible if Tom dies," she added.

Praised by Landlady. Until four days ago the last survivor lived in a rooming-house at 122 Maple street. Mrs. Elisen Labelle and Mrs. Mary Wilbreham, landladies were loud in their praise of him.

"He was the cleanest old man we ever knew," said Mrs. Wilbreham. "Some years ago he applied to the city to take care of him. He was without a cent in the world, except for the contributions made by his sons and daughters. The city agreed to pay his board, and he has lived here since last April."

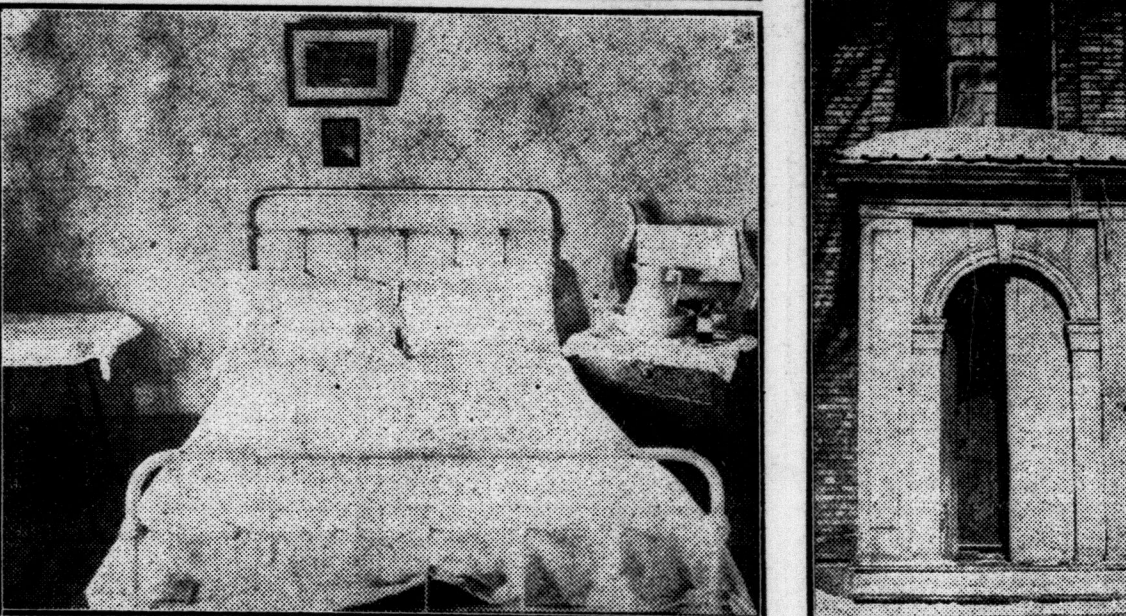
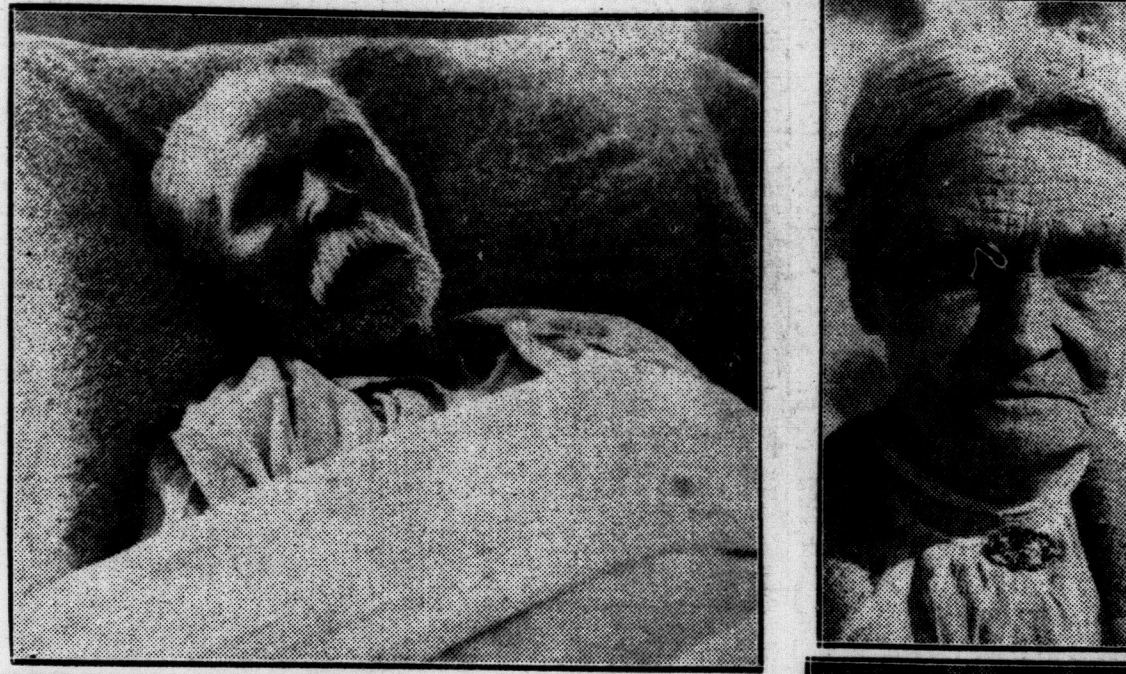
"He often used to entertain us by doing the jig on the upper hall floor. Mr. Shaw was some dancer, and he taught our little girl the latest steps. Three nights ago he was delicious, and Mrs. Shaw was called in from the Old People's Home. She talked to him, but he did not know her and she felt terrible about it; then Dr. Duffy phoned Dr. Downham, the medical health officer, who had him removed to the hospital. Both Mrs. Labelle and myself wish they had allowed him to stay here. We loved the old man dearly, and would have given him the best of care."

His Many Descendants. "I was awfully cut up when he failed to recognize me," said Mrs. Shaw this morning. "If he gets better I'm going to let on I'm mad and see what excuse he has to offer."

The old lady has five children living, about two dozen grand-children, and her great-grandchildren come so fast that she hasn't been able to keep tab on them. They're scattered all over the world. She owned several houses in London, one each on Hill, William and Clarence streets, but depleted financial resources forced her to sell them all in turn, and she was finally compelled to seek shelter in the Old People's Home.

Hospital officials announced early this afternoon that the old hero's condition remained unchanged.

"Charging an Army, While All the World Wonder'd"



VETERAN ON HIS DEATHBED.

Upper large picture shows Thomas W. Shaw, last survivor of the famous Light Brigade, in bed in Victoria Hospital, where he is breathing his last. Below is the room at 122 Maple street, where the aged veteran has lived for months. On the table to the right may be seen several medals and bottles, many of which were found in the room. The smaller pictures show Mrs. Augusta Shaw, wife of the veteran, and the exterior of the boarding house.

The Charge of the Light Brigade

Half a league, half a league,
All in the valley of Death
Rode the six hundred.
"Forward the Light Brigade!"
Charge for the guns," he said.
Into the valley of Death
Rode the six hundred.

"Forward the Light Brigade!"
Was there a man dismayed?
Not though the soldier knew,
Some one had blundered.
Theirs not to reason why,
Theirs but to do and die,
Into the valley of Death
Rode the six hundred.

Cannon to right of them,
Cannon to left of them,
Cannon behind them,
Volley'd and thunder'd;
Storm'd at with shot and shell,
While horse and hero fell,
They that had fought so well,
Came thro' the jaws of Death,
Back from the mouth of Hell,
All that was left of them,
Left of six hundred.

When can their glory fade?
O! the wild charge they made,
O! the wild charge they made,
Honour the charge they made,
Honour the Light Brigade,
Noble six hundred.

THREE U. S. LION CUBS SAIL TO JOIN HAMBURG SCHOOL

New York, Feb. 23.—Three young American-born lions sailed on the steamship Hamn Thursday for Hamburg, where they will enter an animal "finishing school." When they have acquired sufficient culture, they will be returned to this country for exhibition.

FALSE TEETH FROZEN, HE CANNOT GO TO WORK

Winston, Conn., Feb. 23.—King Roberts, when he got to work late, explained that his false teeth had frozen. Pressed for details, he said he'd put them in a cup of water overnight and they had frozen in solid.

Keep Hubby's Death Secret To Save Widow from Worry

Mrs. Milton Brown, on Globe Tour, Will Reach New York a Widow, But She Doesn't Know It.

Associated Press Despatch. Ashtabula, Ohio, Feb. 23.—Because of an agreement entered into last October between Dr. H. Milton Brown and his wife, when the latter started on a tour around the world—to write each other only cheerful letters—Mrs. Brown is unaware that her husband is dead and buried. News of the agreement was disclosed by friends today.

Dr. Brown was sick for ten days, but he never broke his promise. "I cannot write, because it would ruin her trip," he said. Several days ago a letter was received addressed to him, in which Mrs. Brown implored him to "forget that foolish promise."

CLOTHING CATCHES FIRE, AGED WOMAN PERISHES

Washington, Feb. 23.—Mrs. Elizabeth Enright, aged 68, was burned to death yesterday afternoon. Her clothing caught fire while she was putting coal in a stove.

FAIL TO SECURE GIRLS AS DOMESTIC SERVANTS

Special to The Advertiser. Kingston, Feb. 23.—Although an appeal has been made to points all over Ontario and also in England, the local labor bureau has been unable to secure girls needed in this city for domestic service.

AGED LONDON WOMAN LOSES HER MEMORY

Found Wandering Around the Streets of Montreal by a Policeman.

Canadian Press Despatch. Montreal, Feb. 23.—With a total lapse of memory as to where she could have been from 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon until she was brought back to Windsor station by a city policeman last night at 9 o'clock, and unable to understand that she is in Montreal and not London, Ont., an old lady is waiting at the St. Andrew's Home here until her boat sails for Scotland on March 1.

She arrived here yesterday afternoon bound for Edinburgh, and was informed that she must be back by 7 p.m. to catch her train for the east. Besides her passport and steamship passage, she had about fourteen English crowns in her possession. She did not appear at 7 o'clock, but two hours later she was brought back in charge of a policeman, who said he had found her wandering on the C. P. R. tracks "waiting to catch her train to Montreal." Her money and passport were untouched, but the old lady's memory was gone.

According to the authorities, her health is quite normal. They declined to make known the old lady's identity.

There were twenty stores and over a hundred offices and apartments. The fire was largely confined to the Lister building, but there was both fire and water damage to the stores adjoining which were owned by R. H. McKay.

Started in Basement. The fire started in the basement of the Hudson Fashion Shop, but the cause is a mystery. The flames made great headway before they were discovered. The top story was occupied by apartments, and many of the tenants had to be helped out. Some in their night clothes had to grope their way through the smoke-filled building and climb down the fire escapes and ladders.

Constantine Gould was the hero of the fire. He found a man hanging onto a stairway on the third floor and carried him to the street. He was so Turn to Page 4, Column 3.

People of U. S. and France Escape Lightly by Companion.

Associated Press Despatch. London, Feb. 23.—A comparison of the per capita taxation in Great Britain, France and the United States, given by Stanley Baldwin, chancellor of the exchequer, in reply to a question in the House of Commons yesterday, as follows:

Great Britain—Direct taxes, 216 shillings; indirect, 122 shillings. France—Direct, 242 francs; indirect, 193 francs. United States—(Federal taxes), direct, \$13.60; indirect, \$12.70.

Baltimore, Md., Feb. 23.—Charles F. McCandless, 62, of Hurst, Texas, who confessed, according to the police, he killed four men in Texas and New Mexico, between 1900 and 1910, and who claims there is a \$10,000 reward for his arrest, surrendered to the police here yesterday.

His motive for surrendering, he is alleged to have told the authorities, was that he is tired of living under assumed names, and that he wants to visit his 84-year-old mother in Hurst, Texas, who wants him to atone for his misdeeds before she dies.

REJECTED BY 50 GIRLS, TAKES 50 POISON PILLS

Hammond, Ind., Feb. 23.—William Flaherty took 50 poison pills when his fifteenth proposal of marriage was refused. He was turned down by 50 different girls. Flaherty may recover.

EXPECT INCREASE AGAIN IN PARIS BREAD PRICES

Associated Press Despatch. Paris, Feb. 23.—Another increase in the price of bread is expected soon, inasmuch as the Master Bakers' Association has pointed out to the authorities that the cost of flour is steadily mounting.

The bread price has been raised twice in the last two months.

ONE MILLION LOSS IN BUILDING RAZED BY HAMILTON FIRE

The Lister Block Has Housed Scores of Offices and Living Apartments.

COMPLETELY GUTTED

Officers Heroically Risk Lives in Successful Attempts at Rescue.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Hamilton, Feb. 23.—Fire early this morning completely destroyed the Lister building, opposite the city hall.

Nothing remains but the two walls, fronting on James and King William streets. The loss will be over a million.

The Lister building was one of the oldest in the city. It housed scores of stores and offices and living apartments. Only a shell was left on James street from King William street to the store of L. R. Tobey, and on King William street from James to Young's restaurant.

Among some of the most important tenants were:

Ernest G. Tucker, tailor; Stein & Co., jewellers; Gerrie, druggist; Begg & Co., clothing; City shoe store. Model Clock Company, and Tait optical works. The names of the offices and other tenants in the building occupy a page in the city directory. Some outside concerns that have agencies in the building are: Mark Fisher & Sons, Ontario Pipe and Fire Company, George H. Hess & Son Company, Copeland Chatterton Company, Canadian Press, Limited, Ladies' Wear, Limited, Ames, McCready & Co., and Brophy Umbrella Company.

The building was so completely gutted that great sections of the walls fell. The building was four stories, with a basement, and was of stone construction.

The loss will be considerably over a million dollars.

No Fatalities. There were no fatalities, but there were several narrow escapes.

Ex-Fire Chief Ten Eyck, who retired from the department at the end of the year, had a close call. He was assisting in directing the fight against the flames and was in the basement of the hotel store when the walls fell in. The firemen had to chop their way to his rescue, but he was taken out unharmed.

Fireman Rowan, one of his knees crushed by a falling wall. The cold weather hampered the firemen, who conducted the fight encased in ice.

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Indian Widow Dies On Pyre With Husband's Head In Lap

Revival of Ancient Hindu Custom Brings Promoters Under the Displeasure of British Law.

Associated Press Despatch.

Calcutta, Feb. 23.—A case of sati, reported from a village called Italy, in Etawah district, indicates that the ancient Hindu custom of widow suicide has not entirely disappeared.

Sati is the name given to a Hindu widow, who, to avoid the social stigma of widowhood, throws herself upon the funeral pyre of her husband and dies by the fire, which consumes his remains.

A British law, making the abettor of a sati liable to conviction for abetment of suicide or murder, has tended to cause the rite to die out, but it is still practiced occasionally in some parts of India. In this case, reported from Etawah, one, Gangi Din Ahir, aged 28, died after a brief illness. His wife, Musam Mai Rukia, three years younger, immediately after his death, announced her intention to become a sati. Members of the family attempted to dissuade her from this intention, but she did not yield.

On the following morning, when the body of Gangi Din was taken for cremation, the widow, dressed as a bride, followed, carrying several lighted candles. When the body was arranged for burning, she walked around the pyre, as a token of respect, then mounted it and sat with her husband's head in her lap while fire was applied to the wood.

As a result of the woman's death a criminal case was started against six men of the village. Three were acquitted, and the other three sentenced to four years imprisonment.

MOTHER-IN-LAW DEAD, WIFE DYING, HUSBAND SOUGHT

Horrible Murder Perpetrated in Little Northern Town, Seguin Falls.

OFFICER SENT OUT

Expect the Husband Will Be Brought to Parry Sound Tonight.

Special to The Advertiser.

Parry Sound, Feb. 23.—News of the murder of two women in Seguin Falls came here last night when the train crew of the G. T. R. train brought to the hospital here Mrs. John Stevenson from Seguin Falls, who is in a dying condition from gunshot wounds.

Inflicted, it is charged, by her husband, John Stevenson. From meagre reports obtainable, it is stated Stevenson shot his mother-in-law, Mrs. McKinnon, killing her about 10 o'clock last night, and then shot his wife, who was rescued and brought here for treatment, but the doctors report she is in a dying condition.

Provincial Constable Mahin left here this morning to secure, if possible, the man's arrest, and not much can be learned till the arrival of the evening train, when, if successful, he will bring Stevenson here, and if not, assistance will be sent to secure him. Nothing can be learned of the cause of the fearful crime until later, and the condition of the wounded woman absolutely prevents interviewing her, and even if she could be seen her condition is such that she could not tell the story.

Seguin Falls is a little hamlet on the G. T. R. Ottawa-Parry Sound division, about 25 miles from here, and there is only one passenger train daily each way. The hamlet is a peaceful country village, and its citizens generally law-abiding, hard-working people.

The only other murder which took place there was by a tramp Swete, who killed a traveling companion who had been sleeping with him in a hay-loft.

The Swede was tried and sentenced to be hanged, but he was afterwards adjudged to be insane, and he was sent to the insane department of the provincial penitentiary, where he died. The tragedy has caused a great shock to this peaceful hamlet, where Stevenson's family is well known. John Stevenson is a returned soldier.

WORK OF FR. VAUGHAN WILL LIVE AFTER HIM

Central School, in London's Slum District, To Be His Memorial.

Associated Press Despatch.

London, Feb. 23.—Father Bernard Vaughan, the popular Jesuit, who died last night, is to have as a memorial, a central school for eleven poor Roman Catholic parishes in London's east end. In this way the work to which he gave his life and thought—brightening the lives of London's slum dwellers—will be carried on.

Cardinal Bourne, Lord Fitzalan and Governor-General Healy of the Free State are patrons of the memorial plan. It was not generally known that Father Vaughan rented a tiny lodging house in the east end, where he often cooked his own food and devoted himself to the very poor. His modest efforts at Mayfair helped humble homes in Whitechapel.

DROPS DEAD CHEERING ATHLETE SON'S VICTORY

Associated Press Despatch.

New York, Feb. 23.—Pasquale Meola, wealthy father of a champion boxer, died last night while cheering his son, Morris, to victory in the fourth round of a six-round boxing match.

THE WEATHER

FORECASTS.

Today—Northwest winds; fair and decidedly cold.

Saturday—Fine, with a little higher temperature.

The area of high pressure which was over the Western Provinces yesterday is now moving eastward across the Great Lakes.

The weather continues decidedly cold in all the provinces, except Alberta and British Columbia, where it is mild.

Temperatures.

The highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were:

Stations.	High.	Low.	Weather.
Victoria	43	35	Clear
Calgary	28	26	Clear
Winnipeg	9	0	Clear
Port Arthur	6	-14	Clear
Sault Ste. Marie	14	-14	Clear
Toronto	29	1	Fair
Kingston	28	2	Fair
Ottawa	28	0	Fair
Montreal	29	6	Cloudy
Quebec	26	4	Cloudy
Falmer Point	18	4	Cloudy
St. John	22	6	Cloudy
Halifax	30	6	Cloudy

Minus (-) means below zero.

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.

The highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night were: Highest, 36; lowest, 15.

The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 18; lowest, 9.

Barometric Readings.

Thursday—5 p.m., 29.45.

Today—8 a.m., 29.57.

NINE BLOWN INTO AIR BY DUST EXPLOSION

Firemen, Combating Montreal Blaze in Sawdust Pile, Are Seriously Injured.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Montreal, Feb. 23.—Nine firemen were blown twenty feet in the air by an explosion of dust in several tons of sawdust, following a fire in the heating plant at the Grothe Cigar Factory here this morning.

The fire lighters were combating the blaze which had broken out in the sawdust pile, and were above it when a deafening explosion under the heap threw it and the men into the air.

Three of the men sustained burns and other injuries, two of them, Pierre Plouffe and M. Paquette, being rushed to the Royal Victoria Hospital, where they are in a serious condition.