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VILLAGES SWEPT AWAY Serious Forest Fires Visit Maritime Provinces.

WATFORD FRIDAY, AUGUST 12, 1921

Flames Have Devastated Wide Area In Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, Forcing the Citizens to Flee

From Their Homes-Only Heavy Rains Can Stop the Flames and Save the Country From Further Damage.

HALIFAX, N.S., Aug. 9.--Forest fires of unprecedented proportions, covering in the aggregate many scores of square miles and doing damage as yet impossible of estimation, swept through sections of Noval Scotia and New Brunswick on Satur-day and Sunday. The worst confla-gration was reported in King's and Queen's counties, -New Brunswick, where meanly three score residences and numerous buildings were deand numerous buildings were de-stroyed. Information from Cumber-land county, Nôva Scotta, is still meagre, but it is indicated that iso-lated farms and scattered settlements in that section have been wiped out. The worst forest fires in years were reported from Cape Breton Island. So far there has been no loss of life and the people of the provinces are praying for rain.

Driven by Gale.

SPRING HILL MINES, N.S., Aug. 9. — Numerous isolated dwellings, and possibly small settlements lying in the line of a forest fire of tremen-dous proportions which, under the impetus of a 40-mile wind, has been marching northeastward from River Hebert, Cumberland county, since

Saturday morning, were presumed here to have been wiped out. Since Saturday evening scores of people have been fleeing "for their lives from the 40-mile stretch of country lying between River Hebert, on the shores of Chignetto Bay, in the southwest to Realyn beyond Oxthe southwest, to Roslyn, beyond Ox-ford, in the northeast. It is estimated that 100 square miles of country are ablaze. Telephone communication with points in the fire area was interrupt-ed and what the real stitution under

ed and what the real situation under the thick clouds of black smoke that overhang the whole of the Chignecto Bay district is can only be surmised. Sunday it was reported that work-ing crews on the Canadian National lines east of Maccan were smoked out and that women and children had to be taken from the town to prevent sufficiention although the prevent suffocation, although the flames did not immediately threaten the place.

The population of Fenwick, north of Maccan, were ordered to leave and little hope was held out of saving the village, according to latest information. Fenwick is said to be the centre of a roaring circle of flame.

It was rumored that Hastings, lying between River Hebert and Am-

G. H. Frince, Chief forester, wear to hpper Gagetown and Westfield C. H. Thitle, Junct for the set of the se

are fires at Salmon River. Charlotte county presents the most serious situation from purely forest fires. A fire at Pleasant Ridge is burning fiercely, and unless the wind drops will continue to burn. Between Dumbarton and Honeydale another bad fire has broken out. The fire near the mouth of McDougall Lake and south of Oromocto Lake is stil burning. A fire at Bonney Riv-er, Charlotte county, is serious, and hundreds of men are fighting the flames in the woods there to save the village.

Hundreds Fight Flames.

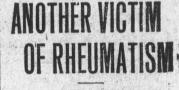
ST. JOHN, N.B., Aug. 9. - Bush fires have been burning in the district for a week or more. Hundreds of men, including gangs from the C.P.R., have been combatting the flames in the woods and underbrush for several days, but about four o'clock on Saturday afternoon a southwesterly gale sprang up, attain-ing a velocity as high as fifty-five miles an hour, and sweeping clouds of sparks and burning brands on to the summer villages. It was an impossibility to overcome the shower of ruin, and for hours dwellings, barns and other buildings in Ononette, Hillandale and Lingley continued to

catch fire and burn. In many instances the occupants requisitioned automobiles and motor trucks to transport their belongings from the fire belt. These three summer resorts were practically obliterated from the map. Among the burned buildings were numerous costly residences, some of them owned and occupied by leading St. John residents, including the home of Hon. Harrison A. McKeown, Chief Justice of New Brunswick

All of the homeless found shelter, nany coming to St. John, where city houses were reopened. Others went to hotels. A great pall of smoke hung over the district and along the St. John river for many miles. The smoke clouds were visible in this city and far away to the eastward.

Betokens Near Frost.

ST. CATHARINES, Aug. 9 .bok for an early autumn," remarked an old weather sharp to-day. "The other night I heard the call of the katydid, and that always means a near frost. There will be frost in-side of 30 days, mark my word. The summer is about gone Early sum



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Mannix to Take Carn. MELBOURNE, Australia, Aug. -Archbishop Mannix, active advo cate of Irish freedom, has expressed his willingness to take the oath o allegiance to the King, it is reported. "I hope the negotiations between England and Ireland will result in a settlement which will be honorabl to Ireland," said the crchbisho "Irishmen are big-hearted onough t forget and forgive the past if per is concluded."

Boy Commits Suicide. DETROIT, Aug. 9. — Afraid h employers would "fire" him, becan he had smashed up an auto belong ing to the firm, Hugh Dewitt. a 1 year-old stock boy for the Economical Drug Co., returned to the stor Saturday, went into the cellar an

