

FOREST FIRES RAGE NEAR FOR WILLIAM

Narrow Escape of Western Suburb—Wisconsin Towns Are Burned

Port Arthur, Ont., Sept. 21.—The dry air and winds caused forest fires in the neighborhood to break out again last night and today, but they have not yet reached damaging proportions. The steamer America, which came along the south shore yesterday afternoon, arriving here this morning reports that there was a full fire along the Grand Marais, and it is not thought any more damage will be done, though the situation is still of considerable danger.

Port William, Sept. 21.—Fanned by a strong breeze yesterday afternoon the forest fires again blazed around the outskirts of West Fort, and from 11 o'clock in the forenoon until evening the fire brigade had its work cut out to prevent damage to property. In a very short time a fierce fire was bearing down upon several houses located in West Fort, close to the western limit. Fortunately, after a fight lasting several hours, in which several firemen had to be carried away, the flames succeeded in checking the flames, and not a single building was burned.

Rhineland, Wis., Sept. 21.—The towns of Gagen and Woodboro were destroyed by forest fires yesterday and as a result nearly 4,000 persons are homeless.

Men, women and children found vainly for their homes, but without avail and at last were forced to flee for their lives, women carrying children in their arms and men and boys with packs on their backs ran towards Rhineland, many fleeing from the heat only to be helped on by the stronger refugees.

Nearly all of those burned out at Gagen reached Rhineland last night and are being cared for, but few of the Woodboro people are here, and it is not known what has become of them. The fire is a fresh one and a continuation of the fire which did so much damage last week.

IMMIGRATION FRAUDS

Chinese Posing as Merchants, With Certificates From Chinese Legation at Mexico City

Ottawa, Sept. 21.—According to the statement of J. C. O'Hara, commissioner of Chinese Immigration, the Dominion has been defrauded to the extent of \$150,000 by Chinese arriving at Halifax and Montreal from Mexico City in possession of certificates signed by the Chinese legation at Mexico City describing them as merchants who are entitled to enter. When the present season opened at Montreal Chinese with similar certificates commenced to arrive in that city. Investigation shows that the fraud has been quite extensive, and a number of arrests have been made. On Saturday the Elder Dempster liner Borneo arrived at Montreal, and among the twenty Chinese aboard some "Yapoo" type, whom claimed to be merchants, and their way to Hongkong via Vancouver. Commissioner O'Hara found that ten of these are Chinese laborers and ordered their deportation, while the remainder were allowed to land and will be sent to Vancouver in bond.

Counterfeit Half Dollars

Windsor, Ont., Sept. 21.—A man giving his name as Elias Johnson, is under arrest for passing counterfeit American half dollars. Scores of people have been victimized.

News to Sir Thomas

Montreal, Sept. 21.—Asked today regarding the report from St. Paul, Minn., that the G. R. W. had secured the Chicago Great Western Railway, Sir Thomas Shaughnessy said he had heard nothing about it.

HON. MR. TEMPLEMAN AGAIN NOMINATED

Liberal Convention in the Institute Hall—John Oliver Present

Hon. William Templeman, minister of inland revenue and of mines, and representing the constituency of Victoria in the federal parliament, was nominated as candidate for re-election by the Liberals of this city. The nominating convention was held in the Institute hall, and there was present a fairly good representation.

The chair was taken by R. E. McMichael, the president of the Liberal association, and there were present on the platform, a number of prominent members of the party, three of the ex-members of the Institute hall, Senator Riley and John Oliver, M.P. for Delta.

Hon. William Templeman's candidature was not opposed, and he delivered a speech of some little length. He dwelt at some little length with the government's proposals to railways and he criticized the platform of the opposition and deprecated the charges which the Conservative candidates and press of the country had made against the present administration.

FERNIE REBUILDING

People Busily Securing Shelter for Themselves and Making Improvements to Streets

Fernie, Sept. 21.—The coal company are building a large and handsome residence in the park, which has been developed there. The unmarried members of the staff of the company, their quarters on Victoria avenue having been destroyed in the fire.

The large quantities of earth that are being taken from the excavations for new buildings is being used for filling the roads into Fernie Amex and filling in the depression of the improvements made to the roads, that section of the city is growing rapidly and will soon become thickly populated.

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Dr. Willet G. Miller, president of the Canadian Mining Institute, and a member of the visiting mining engineers, in an interview at the Empire last night, gave the following impression of his visit to British Columbia: "After we entered this province we visited the Crow's Nest pass coal mines. We then came on to the St. Eugene silver-lead mine at Moyie, where we found a very large deposit of ore. We next visited the smelter at Trail, where we saw particularly interested in the electrolytic method of refining the lead."

Dr. Miller read a good deal about these mines I knew very well what the deposits of ore are like. The shafts have penetrated in this locality to a greater depth than 4,000 feet, and the showing in ore was very good indeed. We then visited the Motherload mine at Greenwood, where a great deal of ore has been taken, and in connection with a large deposit of ore. We then visited the Granby copper mines, from which about twenty million tons of ore have been taken, and some gold is mingled with this copper ore. From thence we passed on to the Granby smelter at Grand Forks, where they are treating about 5,000 tons of this copper ore daily, as against 3,500 tons a day at the present time. Mr. A. B. W. Hodges, president of the Granby Consolidated M. & C. Co., and chairman of the western branch of the C. M. I. of Grand Forks, who is now in the province, upon this mine, and its development.

"We next visited the Blue Bell, a lead and zinc mine, near Nelson, where we saw a large body of ore. And then we took the steamer from Nelson to Arrowhead, where we took the train for Revelstoke, some 30 miles distant. On Thursday morning we left for Nanaimo, where we will make a careful examination of the great coal deposits at that place. And then on Friday morning we will leave for the east, stopping at Banff, from whence we will visit one of the great ranches of Burns, the cattle king, and then we will go on to Toronto, and disperse to our respective homes."

Mr. B. B. Mackay, the surveyor-general, had the great pleasure of meeting two very old friends among the Canadian Mining Institute delegation at the Empire last evening: Mr. John A. Gerrard, an old schoolmate of the Institute hall, who is now in the service of the Dominion Coal company at Sydney, N. S.

Among the members of the reception committee were: Simon Leiser, president of the Board of Trade; A. Mara, D. Ker, L. A. Grange, vice-president of the Board of Trade; Chas. W. Rhodes, Wm. Watson, J. H. McCulloch, and others. The mining exchange, Vancouver, and E. Jacobs of the Mining Record and secretary of this city, J. S. Gibb, manager of the Imperial M. & C. Co., Vetch, manager of