

\$20,000,000 CONFLAGRATION

IN HULL AND OTTAWA 15,000 ARE HOMELESS

Four Persons Known to Have Perished In The Flames.

NEARLY 4,000 BUILDINGS DESTROYED.

Vast Portions of Both Cities Laid in Ruins—Brigades From All Neighboring Cities Called to the Aid of the Capital—Parliament Compelled to Adjourn for Several Days—The Ottawa Volunteers Called to the Aid of the Firemen—The Fire Crosses the River and Sweeps Through the Whole Southwest of Ottawa—Infinite Distress and Suffering Caused by the Calamity.

OTTAWA BUILDINGS DESTROYED	2,000
HULL BUILDINGS DESTROYED	1,800
TOTAL LOSS BOTH CITIES, ESTIMATED	\$20,000,000
TOTAL INSURANCE BOTH CITIES, ESTIMATED	\$12,000,000
LIVES LOST, SO FAR KNOWN	FOUR

British Sympathy and Help.
London, April 27.—Commenting on the fire at Ottawa, the Times declares that the news will be received by Englishmen throughout the world with the deepest grief and sympathy. The paper dwells upon the widespread and unparalelled misery inflicted on innocent sufferers, and says: "We cannot allow Canada to bear this burden unaided at a time when she has come to our aid, not merely with her purse, but with the best of her blood. It must be our privilege to do what in us lies for the relief of her suffering children. The war and the Indian famine are heavy claims on the generosity of the British public, but the claim of Canada is not less binding. It is a claim that we should meet freely at any time, but which we shall now meet with joy that we can show ourselves sensible of the service that Canada has done us."

HULL'S DREAFFUL HOLOCAUST.
Fifteen thousand homeless and \$20,000,000 property destroyed.
Ottawa, Ont., April 27.—Fifteen thousand people are homeless here tonight, 4,000 dwellings have gone up in smoke, \$20,000,000 worth of property has been destroyed. Ottawa and Hull tonight are suffering from the effects of the worst calamity in their corporate history. A fire began shortly before noon Thursday, and raged fiercely until 1 o'clock this morning, when it was put under control. At present the damage cannot be estimated with any great accuracy, but it will undoubtedly amount to several million dollars. Conservative estimates make it in the neighborhood of \$20,000,000. Many large manufacturing establishments and lumber almost beyond computation have been destroyed. A distressing feature of the situation is the position of a large portion of the laboring people, whose dwellings and sources of employment have disappeared together.

At least four dead.
Four persons are now known to have lost their lives:
Mrs. Essie Cook, Wellington street, cremated in shell.
Unknown man, found on Broad street, remains charred beyond recognition.
Unknown man, found in C. P. R. station yard, lower extremities badly burned.
Domest. guard, street, watchman for Eddy's dead.
In addition, John Matthews, 15 Division street, is reported dead.
John Brantford, Somerset street, Ottawa, Freeman Dunn, and Engineer Peter Hamilton are reported missing.
Fire brigades from every point within reach have hastened here to lend their assistance, but they have all been practically powerless. The destruction of the electric power-house has left the city in darkness except for the red glare of the flames.
The fire has swept clean an area a mile wide in the city of Ottawa, together with three-fifths of the city of Hull, which lies directly across the Ottawa River, in the Province of Quebec.

houses were set ablaze by burning embers.
It was thought at first that Main street, the business portion of the town, might be saved, but the fire came down there, destroying all the stores, the Bank of Ottawa building, the English Church, the court-house, jail, post-office, residence and office of Mr. Champagne, M. P., and everything else on the street.
The original area of the fire extended over four blocks from the south side of Philomena street to Wright street and between Chaudiere and Bridge streets. A fact that rendered the fire more destructive was that most of the buildings which were burned at first were of wood. People who lived on these streets, on becoming aware of the flying cinders, started to pour water on their houses in the hope of saving the buildings. Many more people commenced to move out of their homes. In spite of all these precautions, however, the flames would get at the houses, and in a few minutes they were a mass of flames.

A Hopeless Task.
Women and children were to be seen crying in all places. The fire also appeared panic-stricken. At 1:30 o'clock it was quite apparent to any one in Hull that the firemen had a hopeless task before them. Even the augmentation of the brigades from the mills and some from Ottawa seemed to be of no avail. There were a dozen streams at work, and the pressure was good, but seemingly nothing could withstand the rush of flames and wind. The firemen fought hard, but with apparently little system, and sought to stay the tide of flames by throwing buckets of water on the surrounding property. As building by building was taken by the flames the fierce heat forced the fire-fighters to a larger circle. The fire, which had been held back by the firemen, but were driven back foot by foot, till finally the fire area was measured by streets and blocks instead of buildings.
At half past 1 the far western end of Main street from Helmer's corner east to the bend in the street, was in flames on both sides.

City of Hull is Gone.
Tonight the flames in Hull are working eastward, the city of Hull is gone, the beautiful Roman Catholic cathedral is still standing, but is by no means out of danger. In places the fire suddenly assumed such fierceness that the firemen were compelled to retreat for their lives. In the flames of Hull, the firemen were fighting a losing battle. The fire crossed the river, and the fire swept through the whole southwest of Ottawa, infinite distress and suffering caused by the calamity.

Every effort is being made to relieve the distress of the homeless and unemployed thousands who are wandering in the streets. The Dominion Government authorities have taken energetic hold of the problem, and the drill-shed and the public buildings have been thrown open as temporary shelters. Time has not yet permitted the organization of any further relief measures.
The Senate sat for a few minutes, prayers being read by Hon. Mr. Allan, as Chaplain Lawler was away at the fire.
Fanned by almost a gale from the northwest, the flames swept everything before them in Hull, crossed large sections of territory into the population, which fact serves to render the disaster all the greater.
Parliament adjourned for a few minutes in the afternoon, and decided to adjourn until next Tuesday. This course was necessitated by the want of light for the evening sessions, and by the fact that many members of Parliament who have been financially affected by the disaster want time to look after their affairs. This civil service, too, has been pretty much disorganized through many public employees having their homes destroyed, and their families temporarily scattered. Among the losers are many Americans who have large business interests in this district. The vast lumber piles and mills of J. R. Booth, the lumber king of Canada, and President of the Canadian Atlantic Railway, are gone completely. So, also, are the millions upon millions of lumber belonging to the Hull Export Co. and the Export Lumber Co., both of which are heavy losers, as are likewise the Dominion Western Co., which had still mill lumber on hand. The Gilmore & Hughes lumber piles and mill are gone, together with many churches, schools, public buildings and stores without number.
As the conflagration occurred during the last of the day, being comparatively small, but many people have been more or less severely injured. Mrs. Cook, of Wellington street, seems to have become insane from the excitement and the destruction of her home. She broke away from her friends and ran and crept into piles among the mills and into the Ottawa river, where, to-night it is fiercely raging. The entire brigade of the city has been at work, and at 1:30 p. m. such a large area in Ottawa was threatened that Montreal was asked for assistance, and subsequently Toronto, Hamilton, Brockville, and other points. The fierce wind was sweeping sparks and flaming shingles in many directions, and frequently caught in sections a considerable distance remote.

Origin of the Fire.
The blaze is said to have originated in the house of A. Krouse, on Chaudiere street. A burning chimney is said to have been the cause. This house was in the thick of a lot of wooden buildings, and in a very short while more than thirty houses on Philomena, Bridge, Chaudiere, and Albert streets were in flames. The Hull fire brigade summoned assistance, and the E. B. Eddy firemen, the Union brigade of the Chaudiere, and a part of the Ottawa fire department were doing what they could to keep down the flames. The wind proved too strong and fierce, however, and, despite the many streams of water playing on the blaze, the fire spread rapidly. At crossable distance, the

to help herself. The driver called to a number of men, who huddled her into the wagon.
Primary School Destroyed.
The teachers in the Primary school on Wellington street fought the flames desperately until 4 o'clock. Then, when others arrived to fight the flames, the tired pedagogues departed, feeling sure that the building was safe. However, about 4:30 o'clock the fire gained a strong hold, and in a few minutes the school was enveloped in flames.
In many cases where horses could not be obtained a number of men would get an empty dray, pile furniture into it, and run it away to a safe place.
The high wind did damage in many ways. One was the blowing down of bureaus that were fitted with mirrors. The wind caught not a few of these that were standing by the roadside, and toppled them over, smashing the expensive glass. Pictures and other articles were destroyed in a similar manner.
The bridge on Somerset street was completely destroyed, and the Export Company's lumber yards underneath were swept out of existence. The new factory that had been built in Hintonburg by Oliver & Son had just been fitted with machinery and had never been operated. The factory had been damaged by the village, and consequently the corporation loses its bonus and the firm its factory.

DESTRUCTION IN OTTAWA.
Streets That Were Fire-Swept and the Buildings Burned.
The area destroyed in Ottawa ranges over the following streets, the number of dwellings, stores, etc., burned on these streets being given: Wellington street—Weston Methodist Church, French Presbyterian Church, Public school, residence of Hon. G. E. Foster, residence of Mr. J. R. Booth; residence of A. W. Fleck, Secretary-Treasurer, C. A. R.; Victoria brewery, Martin and Warner's mill, Salvation Army Rescue Home, House of Mercy Hospital and 80 other stores, dwellings, etc.
Lyon street—60 buildings, chiefly hotels, boarding houses, factories and stores.
Head-Lumber piles, Electric Rail-



The accompanying plan shows the burned district of Hull and Ottawa. Hull lies to the northwest of Ottawa across the river, which to the east of the Chaudiere Falls contracts into a narrow channel through which the waters of the Ottawa rush with great velocity. On both sides of this narrow channel, and taking advantage of the power developed by the falls and rapids, were some of the greatest saw mills of Canada, and of the world. The track of the flames in Ottawa can be seen by reference to the plan. The fire swept the district around the C. P. R. station, climbed the hill and attacked the Church of St. Jean Baptiste, while the main conflagration went straight south. Hull is practically wiped out, latest accounts describing it as a smoking mass of ruins.
The fire like Trojans, and stopped exhausted only when driven before the relentless destroyer to seek their own safety.
An effort was made to save the electric railway power house, but it was soon enveloped in a sheet of flames, so rapidly that four of its employees were imprisoned, and only escaped death by a decidedly narrow shave. There were scores of windows smashed, and those severely scorched were too numerous to particularize. It was painful to hear the cries of children who had become separated from their parents, and women who shrieked in despair over the homes which were being licked up by the angry, roaring element. Valuable furniture, such as pianos and the like were frequently carried from the houses with great labor, only to be destroyed when the flames reached the spot to which it had been carried. The ambulances were kept on the rush removing sick people from the threatened district.
For a long time after the fire had commenced in Rochester the assistance of the firemen was not available, as they were busily engaged in saving the pump-house and the buildings in the vicinity. About 5 o'clock the pump-house was known to be safe, and the fire ladders hurried to Rochester. The advance of the flames from the south to north sides of the street had been caused by the intense heat, which had caused the buildings on the northern side to ignite in spite of the stiff wind that was blowing in the opposite direction. On account of the inadequate water protection these houses could be saved in but few instances. With the advent of the fire brigade with a good supply of hose this advance was checked in a comparatively easy manner.

Bucket Brigades.
In the meantime, however, while the contents of the houses had been trying to save their furniture, hundreds of untrained men from other parts of the city, and from the fire brigades, which in several instances were successful in saving Division street. The plan was a desperate one, but it was successful in saving the houses on the north side of the street.
Troops Called Out.
Early in the afternoon Chief of Police Powell conferred with Col. Aylmer, and asked for 50 men from the Guards and Forty-third Battalions, to act as bucket brigades, which were soon called out, and were successful in saving the houses on the north side of the street.

The water supply gave out, as the hydrants could not be shut off in time.
Mr. E. B. Eddy, who has toiled for years to build up a great business, and succeeded, is practically left without a stick or stone. The only branch of his business remaining is the sulphite factory. The destruction of the paper mill will inconvenience many Canadian newspapers.
Mr. J. R. Booth personally directed the operations of the Union Fire Company. As soon as the lumber on Victoria Island caught fire the pumping plant in connection with the big saw mill was set to work. The mill was drenched inside and out, several lines of hose playing on it. Mr. Frost, Booth superintendent of the operations, and urged the men to save the mill, not to mind the lumber.
The estimated timber destroyed ranges from 60 to 70 million feet. A reasonable figure for good lumber today is \$20 per thousand. Sixty million feet means a loss of \$12,000,000.
Lord Minto, Ass't. Atty. Gen.
The steamer Conqueror, belonging to the Ottawa corporation, was totally destroyed by fire on Boyd street. Engineer Tom Long lost his head and nearly lost his life. His Excellency the Governor-General assisted to get Long out of the predicament.
Sir Charles Tupper heads the Citizen Relief Fund with an appropriation of \$100. Messrs. Charles Magee, John Coates and the Citizen Company each contributed a like sum.
The Exhibition buildings, the Craven of Good Shepherd, and other buildings in Ottawa were placed at the service of the homeless.
By the great fire in St. John's, N. S., in 1877 nearly 20,000 people were rendered homeless, and property to the value of \$22,000,000 was destroyed.
The value of \$22,000,000 was destroyed.

SOME OF THE HEAVIER LOSERS.
Booth Lumber Co. - \$3,000,000
Eddy Co. - 3,000,000
McKay Milling Co. - 600,000
Hull Lumber Co. - 700,000
Electric Light Co. - 250,000
Dominion Harbide Works 150,000
Ottawa, April 27.—The following cablegrams have been received from Mr. Joseph Chamberlain by Lord Minto:
"Her Majesty has heard with deep regret of the great fire at Ottawa and has commanded me to desire you to convey to the immediately successful and to her people in Canada an expression of heartfelt sympathy in the calamity which has fallen upon them. She trusts that the loss has been no loss of life, and would be glad to have any further particulars you can furnish. (Signed) Chamberlain."
The fire received with the deepest concern your message reporting the disastrous fire at Ottawa. I am sure the people of the mother country will be glad to have an opportunity of contributing to the relief of the sufferers and destitution caused by this calamity, and I propose to ask the Lord Mayor to open a fund for this purpose. (Signed) Chamberlain.

In Aid of the Sufferers.
Dominion Government \$100,000
City of Ottawa 100,000
Ontario Government 25,000
City of Toronto (proposed) 25,000
Bank of Montreal 10,000
Bank of Ottawa 5,000
Toronto Board of Trade (donations) 3,675
Globe (subscription list) 2,000
City of Hamilton 2,000
Alliance Fire Insurance Co. 1,250
Masse-Harris Co. 1,000
Senator Cox 1,000
North American Life Assurance Company 1,000
Lord Minto 1,000
Hon. Geo. A. Drummond, Montreal 1,000
City of London, Ont. 1,000
Ottawa Citizen (subscription list) 1,500
Ottawa Journal (subscription list) 1,000
Wm. Davies Co., Toronto 700
City of Brantford 500
Eugene P. Kesse 500
City of Quebec 400
The above are some of the principal amounts forwarded yesterday to the Central Relief Fund at Ottawa. There were many other contributions in cash and kind. The Toronto Company forwarded a magnificent contribution of provisions and household articles besides a cash subscription of \$1,000 included in the Board of Trade list mentioned above.

Seven Persons Perished.
Ottawa, April 27.—A thousand acres of smoking ruins in Ottawa and six hundred acres in Hull are all that remain to show where the fire raged yesterday and early this morning. Seven persons are known to have perished. They are: Mrs. Cook; William Dunn, Freeman at Eddy's Paper Mill; Thomas Plumper, William Richard; an unknown man, unrecognizable; William Navan, mill hand, and an unknown girl of about twelve years of age.
Three Persons Missing.
The police say that the list of seven fatalities given above is complete, but there are three persons who are known to be missing. They are: Adelard Laframboise, Peter Vanattor and Joseph L. Roy. They are all millhands and young householders, who would certainly have turned up by this time had they been alive. Madame Laframboise is half-crazed, and had to be forcibly restrained this afternoon from leaving her sister-in-law's house in Hull to search for her husband where their home stood.
Fire Notes.
Only a month ago the E. B. Eddy withdrew \$587,000 of insurance from the tariff companies. Most of the American companies, but a considerable portion to Canadian tariff companies.
There was considerable consternation amongst shipping men to-day when it was estimated that an extensive flaring 100 million feet of lumber had been destroyed by the fire.
Mr. Eddy's residence and contents were valued at \$100,000.
All the machinery in E. B. Eddy's saw factory was the property of the Diamond Match Company, which absorbs the output of the Eddy mills. The Canadian Pacific, G. T. R. and various express companies are trying free all shipments of foodstuffs and supplies, clothing, etc., for the relief of the destitute.
Mr. Henry O'Brien, Q. C., received the following telegram last evening: "Grateful thanks, Bedding and clothing preferred, this money to buy food, here. Anything acceptable."