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Toll of Death at Porcupine Will Run Into the Hundreds

Terrible Stories Told By Survivors Who Have Reached North Bay—One Man Counted 48 Dead and 8 Bodies of Horses on Two Miles of Road—50 Coffins Sent to Porcupine—Fifty May Have Perished in the Flames in the Woods Near Cochrane.

TOWN OF MATHESON SURROUNDED BY FLAMES AND MAY BE DESTROYED

NORTH BAY, Ont., July 12.—(Special.)—A thousand people lined the station platform to-night when the Cochrane train came in with refugees from that fire, besides several survivors from Porcupine. Most of the passengers were women and children, who had been rendered homeless by the fierce fire which swept down on the town of Cochrane yesterday from the forest, and leaping with incredible rapidity from building to building, completely wiped out this thriving town of 2500 inhabitants. North Bay ladies were on hand with refreshments for the travelers, while railway agents issued free transportation to all points where they wished to go, as many were without funds.

Three men from Porcupine, en route to Bracebridge, were on this train, each one bandaged from head to foot, having been burned in the fire which destroyed the plant of the United Porcupine Mines. The men presented a picturesque appearance, their clothes hanging in shreds and one wearing an old dressing gown and devoid of head-gear. They were J. L. Flynn, Joe H. Flynn and Gilbert Gibbs, all of Bracebridge, who passed thru a terrible experience, and, who severely burned on their arms and heads, feel grateful that they escaped with their lives.

A THRILLING STORY.
 J. L. Flynn's story of the fire was very thrilling. Fire was seen coming miles away, and travelling very fast, but the men at the mine thought it would pass the property. Instead, the wind veered and the flames leaped down on the mine buildings. In an instant sleep house, cookery, office, storehouse, and two blacksmith shops were a mass of flames. All attempts to fight the fire were unavailing, and the men were soon surrounded with a wall of flames. Six men who were on the property, and a Colorado mine operator named Dwyer, who sought refuge from the advancing flames, were cornered like rats in a trap. The men rushed from one place to another in the maddening heat, with their clothes burning, and finally decided to try to rush thru the flames to higher ground. Seven men started, but only three passed thru the fire, gaining the rocky eminence burned and blistered, but safe.

When the fire passed and the heat became less intense, the two Flynns and Gibbs rushed back and found the bodies of their companions, burned and blackened, lifeless on the ground. The dead men were the manager of the mine, Andrew Yuill of Wilton-avenue, Toronto; Joe Fletcher, Toronto; Frank Flynn, Bracebridge, and Dwyer, the American. Frank Flynn was the brother of the two Flynns who escaped, and Yuill was his brother-in-law.

The fire was swept in a tornado of wind, which nothing could withstand, and the flames rose 200 feet in the air, swirling and roaring like a million live devils. The fire travelled twelve miles in less than four hours, and despite the five acres of clearing of the United Porcupine property, jumped the gap and licked up the buildings.

Counted Forty-eight Bodies.
 Flynn met a man coming out, who said he had counted forty-eight dead bodies of men and eight dead horses in two miles of road, and that he believed that the dead would number hundreds, from their knowledge of the country and the prospect of population. Fifty coffins were sent to Porcupine but it is believed many more will be needed.

Scores will be suffering from burns and heat prostrations, and deaths. A. S. Wright, master mechanic on the Transcontinental at Cochrane, came out with his wife and child and a vivid story of the fire. The wind was blowing a gale and the fire swept down so quickly that there was no time to do anything but run for safety. Box cars were run into the town on a contractor's spur and women and children were hustled to safety. Wright returned for an old lady neighbor after getting his own family out, and had to carry her.

Passing a building an explosion wrecked it and threw him and his burden heavily to the ground. The heat was so intense that he had to dig a hole in the sand with his hands to get breath, keeping his face close to the ground. His face was burned severely, but he managed to get the old lady to safety.

A Sad Case.
 Mrs. Ashbee, who came out from Cochrane this morning, was taken from the train at Ennisville, where she gave birth to a child. The sad feature is that the husband was suffocated in a well during the fire. She was kept in ignorance of his death.

A large number of injured are coming out from Porcupine on special trains to-night, and will be cared for at various hospitals in the north country.

The Dome mine are running a special train of their own with wounded to Copper Cliff Hospital.

Fires are still burning, and passengers report they are surrounded by flames and will have a hard time escaping.

The Warren Lumber Co. at Sellwood burned out to-day, with heavy loss, much lumber being destroyed. Insurance of \$30,000 came into effect only yesterday.

T. and N. O. Railway Brakeman

Entire Village Wiped Out

BIDDEFORD, Me., July 12.—Fire practically wiped out the Village of South Waterboro late to-day. The hotel, railroad station, all of the stores in the village, and more than two-score dwelling houses are in ruins, and the fire, which has spread to the woods, is still raging. Goodwin's Mills, a village a few miles from South Waterboro, was in the direct path of the flames late to-night, and residents were preparing to leave their homes and flee to places of safety. Several farm buildings along the highway leading to Goodwin's Mills have been destroyed. The principal industry of the town, the saw mill of C. W. Smith & Sons, employing seventy-five men, was destroyed.

A hurried estimate of the loss on the buildings destroyed in South Waterboro, with their contents, places the figure at upwards of \$100,000, while the timber loss already sustained is many thousands more.

Thirty families, nearly one-half the population of the village, were driven from their homes, and are being cared for by more fortunate neighbors.

MINING EXCHANGES CLOSE

The Toronto mining exchanges will be closed until Monday next, 17th July. This was decided upon last night by the principal officials of the three Toronto exchanges.

This morning the proposition will be put before the various members, and no one anticipates that an objection will be raised. A suspension of dealing in mining shares for a few days is one means of expressing the heartfelt sympathy of the Toronto financial men in the terrible catastrophe to the Porcupine gold camp.

Further details of the appalling loss of life were learned by telephone and private wire last evening, and, as one broker put it: "How inhuman it would be to trade over the dead bodies of some of the finest mining pioneers that Canada has ever known."

Before the exchanges are opened again, the full details of the loss to Ontario's gold camp will be known. Aside from the loss of timber and a few plants, which can be replaced at a comparatively small cost, the mineral district will retain its original valuation. The one regret is the loss of life, and the World joins with everyone in expressing the utmost sympathy with the friends of those whose lives have been sacrificed in opening up one portion of the wealth of New Ontario.

MAKE US TENERE DEFEATED FREE CRIMINAL LIST AND DON'T OFFENCE

Senator Heyburn Declares That Republicans Will Rally to Banner of Protection.

Strongly - Worded Resolution by W. D. McPherson, M.L.A., Calls on Government to Repeal Decree — Bilingual Schools and Home Rule for Ireland Also Condemned.

WASHINGTON, July 12.—Senator Bailey's free list amendment to the Canadian reciprocity bill was defeated in the senate today by a large majority. So evident was the margin against it that Senator Bailey did not ask for a roll call.

The amendment's policy of forcing the opponents of reciprocity to proceed without delay, Senator Penrose urged Senator Bailey to introduce his wool tariff amendment at once. The latter did so, and the senate adjourned with the amendment pending. It is a modification of the wool tariff which has recently passed by the house, and places all duties on raw and manufactured wool at a general average of 20 per cent.

The consideration of the reciprocity bill is expected to move with rapidity from now on. The wool amendment will probably be disposed of to-morrow, and Senators LaFollette and Brimstone are ready with their amendments and their speeches against the bill.

Sumner Democrats.—The Democrats, and like terms were applied to the Republican senators supporting the bill.

Senator Heyburn declared that he would support the bill as well as the bill itself, because "every amendment is a splinter off the Republican flag."

"That can't be," interjected Senator Clapp. "The flag has been broken and the splinter has been broken."

"It has not," said Heyburn. He added that he believed the Republicans would support the bill as well as the bill itself.

Asked by Senator Bailey as to how he would classify the insurgents, Heyburn said they were "Mavericks" waiting to be branded.

"If they can be rounded up in the White House lot, I know how they will be branded," said Bailey.

"This is no description of the Republican party," said Senator Heyburn, referring to the split in the Republican ranks. "But it will be the death of many of the men who are supporting this reciprocity bill when the people realize that it means the pulling down of the protective system."

Senator Dixon of Montana declared that if the reciprocity bill passed, he was willing to stay until December and go thru the whole tariff list.

LaFollette's Amendments.
 Senator LaFollette's long promised wool and cotton tariff revision amendment to the reciprocity bill proposing duty reductions which he calculated would save the consumer \$106,000,000 annually on cottons, and \$12,000,000 on wool, will be introduced to-morrow.

The change for the wool schedule as a whole, said Mr. LaFollette, "would represent a reduction from an average ad valorem of 67.74 per cent, under the present law, to 25.24 per cent, or a reduction of 22 1/2 per cent, and over 38 per cent, below the present rate. The average rate on cotton goods, including artificial silk, is to be reduced, a reduction of over 25 per cent, ad valorem and over 47 per cent, below the present rate."

Sabbath School at Geneva Park.
 The arrangements are now complete for the new Sabbath school at Geneva Beach, Lake Couchiching, which will open on August 21.

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RUSHING RELIEF TO STRICKEN PORCUPINE

T. N. O. Commission Entrusted With Authority to Handle Situation for Ontario Government — Board of Trade and Civic Authorities Co-operate.

The shadow of the disastrous fire in Porcupine hung over Toronto yesterday. Early reports indicated a wide area to be fire-wiped, but it was not until late in the afternoon that the extent of the calamity was brought home, with reports, only too well authenticated, of heavy loss of life.

Last night, with later reports only tending to present the situation in darker colors, a feeling of dismay spread. Many mining brokers and others received wires and phone messages which, while varying widely in estimates of the loss of lives, all indicated that the toll was a heavy one.

Many Torontoians have prospected friends in Porcupine and anxious inquiries were heard on every side. With a common impulse, the Ontario Government, board of control and board of trade moved in the direction of affording relief to the stricken area. The Ontario cabinet was hastily summoned together and authorized arrangements made in Cochrane to organize a committee to administer for the general good what the board of trade and board of control had to do to-day.

Businesslike Session.
 The board, prompt to remember the kindness of the recent reception in Northern Ontario, convened in special council. President Gourlay read a message from F. L. Bradley, Cochrane, asking for help in securing tents and blankets. Cochrane destroyed by fire.

Quickly \$100 was authorized, and R. Home Smith was appointed to confer with J. L. Ennis, chairman of the T. & N. O. Railway commission, and the civic authorities with regard to the most effective method of providing relief. Subsequently, after an interview with Acting-Mayor Spence, the board of control authorized an advance of \$5000 to the city.

Call for Subscriptions.
 At the conclusion of the meeting of the board of trade council, the following letter was sent to all the members of the board:

"A special meeting of the council would like to consider what steps should be taken to afford some measure of relief for the Northern Ontario fire sufferers.

It was resolved that the board of trade, thru a committee, to be called the Northern Ontario fire relief committee, should take the necessary steps to call the sympathy and support of members of the board of trade and citizens generally in providing a liberal measure of relief for the residents in the stricken districts. Also that the sum of \$1000 be donated from the funds of the board of trade, and further that the co-operation of the city authorities be solicited.

A committee composed of the following members was then duly appointed: Messrs. Geary, R. S. Geary, J. F. Egan, Alex. Laird, R. Home Smith, W. G. MacKendrick.

"At a subsequent meeting, Mr. Alex. Laird was elected treasurer and subscriptions to the fund may be sent to that gentleman, care of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, Toronto, or thru the board of trade.

"We have the pleasure to report that the city, thru the board of control, have cheerfully endorsed the movement and contributed \$5000."

Cochrane's Appeal.
 President Gourlay also sent the following request to C. H. Lloyd, Cochrane:

"What clothing, provisions or other assistance should be forwarded at once by Toronto relief committee?"

Later Secretary Morley had a telephone conversation with Superintendent Black of the T. & N. O. at North Bay.

"What are your urgent requirements for the present?" he asked.

"Ordinary food, blankets and tents."

Continued on Page 7, Column 5.

200 ARE REPORTED DROWNED SEEKING SAFETY IN LAKE

Women and Children Forced Into Deep Water by Pressure from Others in Rear, Says Private Wire from Porcupine—Dismaying Rumors Come Thick and Fast.

Two hundred men, women and children drowned in Porcupine Lake, forty bodies strewn along the corduroy road to the Dome mines, twenty men burned or suffocated at the West Dome mine, and eight more at the Dome mines, is the terrible toll of fire slaughter, according to a telephone message received last night by Weldon Young, of Cobalt, at present staying at the King Edward, from his partner Carl. In order to reach the phone, Carlton had to crawl from Porcupine Lake, where over 600 people had gone for protection from the flames, and some perished in the flames, and others perished in the water's edge, and others perished in the water.

Twenty-one Miners Victims.
 He also says that the West Dome mine plant was completely burned out, and the 21 miners with it. Bob Weiss, the manager with his wife and family and his assistant, King, also perished in the flames. At the Dome plant, everything was destroyed except the big cyanide mill which escaped the flames in a miraculous way. There were eight lives lost here. The boss of the mine, named Meeks, was saved with his family.

The Preston East Dome, the Imperial property and the Foley-O'Brien properties were all burned out, but no lives were lost at any of these places. Casey Moran, editor of the Porcupine News, is responsible for the gruesome story of the bodies lying thick along the branch of the corduroy road running from South Porcupine to the Dome. He estimates that there must be at least forty bodies there.

Three Thousand Men in Fire Zone.
 Mr. Weiss, who is reported dead, was a famous football player in years past, but lately weighed about 400 lbs. He was cool-headed and far-seeing. As a result of this incident, the possibility now presents itself as to what may have become of the 3000 men scattered throughout the woods doing assessment work in the region of the fire. The flames have devastated the forests, how have these men escaped? The flames have devastated the forests, how have these men escaped? The flames have devastated the forests, how have these men escaped?

Fainted on Hearing News.
 All sorts of rumors and hearsays were floating around the city last night about Toronto people being among the fire victims at Cochrane. Somebody told Mr. Gleedhill that he resided at the Matland Apartments, Matland-street, that her husband, Eddie Gleedhill, was dead, and she fainted several times. Mr. Gleedhill is at one of the mines in Porcupine at present.

Later on a wire was received in Toronto from Mr. Gleedhill stating that he was all right.

Two deaths are reported from Cochrane, H. W. Ashbee, a painter of North Bay, and a man named Draper, both of whom took refuge in a well and were suffocated.

Looking After the Dead.
 No time is being lost by the mining interests in Dome in affording relief and providing interment for the bodies of the unfortunate ones who lost their lives in the fire. A. P. Proctor, Montreal, was in Edmond during the night last, and stated to The World that C. L. Baugh, one of the largest stockholders in West Dome, and promoter of the Hudson Bay and Porcupine Gold Mining Co., left for that district last night with full power to act on behalf of the company, and with instructions to spare neither money nor trouble in aiding those who have suffered by the fire.

EXPLODING DYNAMITE CUT OFF THEIR RETREAT

Story of the Disaster as Told by the World's Man on the Spot—Names of the Dead at the Various Mines at Porcupine.

ENGLISHMAN, July 12.—(Special.)—Deep gloom pervades the entire camp, as one of the blackest fire calamities in the history of Ontario is gradually unfolded in official correctness with reports gathered from every quarter where messengers can travel. A total of 38 deaths by fire and suffocation and eight by drowning, so far as now known, with nearly 50 still missing and unaccounted for is the harvest of one of the most disastrous forest fires yet experienced in Porcupine. Men and women crazed with fear and driven to desperation by heat, flung themselves into the raging swells on the lake to be carried under and lost on water as well as on land.

The situation was horribly intensified by the exploding of dynamite, blinding sheets of flame cut off their retreat, and death stalked in whatever path they chose to take.

The death list so far as reported from all the prominent mines shows as follows: Burned or suffocated: Porcupine United Mines, Manager Andy Yuill, British Columbia; Frank Flynn, Bracebridge; Joe Fletcher, Bracebridge; Consulting Engineer M. Martin, Thornley, Los Angeles, badly burned; and other employe burned about the ankle and lost the foot. Philadelphia-Porcupine; C. E. Adams, suffocated, with three others missing. West Dome; Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Carpenter and wife, 18 workmen all going down into a shaft. Mr. Tracey of New York crawled out of the shaft when suffocation started and is badly burned. Dome Mines: H. L. Sillan, son of President Sillan of the British Metallurgical Society, Mr. King, watchman; Johnson, workman, colored man; Machinist John Whatough, Toronto, student of Toronto University; one identified workman, Fritz. The list of injured is large. Capt. Meek, Engineer Myles and Dr. McLean, suffering from smoke and burns in the eyes. South Porcupine, bodies recovered: Capt. Dunbar, employed at Kennedy's store; Mack Smith, bartender, and Tom Gillies, foreman.

Continued on Page 2, Column 3.

You had better order a copy of this week's Sunday World, as you are sure to be interested in some one of the five sections composing it. The Art Section alone will be worth the entire price, viz., Five Cents. From all newsdealers and newsboys.