

DISASTROUS FIRES SWEEP SECTIONS OF NOVA SCOTIA AND NEW BRUNSWICK

One Hundred Miles of Nova Scotia Country is Ablaze—Scores Fleeing for Lives—Small Villages Burned.

Halifax, N. S., Aug. 7.—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 Nova Scotia and New Brunswick on Saturday and Sunday. The worst conflagration was reported in King's and Queen's counties, New Brunswick, where nearly three score residences and numerous buildings were destroyed. Information from Cumberland county, Nova Scotia, was meagre to-night, but it was indicated that isolated farms and scattered settlements in that section had 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.

Spring Hill Mines, N.S., Aug. 7.—Numerous isolated dwellings, and possibly small settlements lying in the line of a forest fire of tremendous proportions which, under the impetus of a 40-mile wind, has been marching northeastward from River Hebert, Cumberland county, since yesterday morning, were presumed here to-night to have been wiped out.

Since last evening scores of people have been fleeing for their lives from the 40-mile storm of country lying between River Hebert, on the shores of Chignecto Bay, in the southwest, to Roslyn, beyond Oxford, in the northeast.

It is estimated that 100 square miles of country are ablaze.

Telephone communication with points in the fire area was interrupted 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. To-night it was reported that working crews on the Canadian National line east of Macan were smoked out and that women and children had to be taken from the town to prevent suffocation, although the flames did not immediately threaten the place.

The population of Fenwick, north of Macan, were ordered to leave their homes this morning, 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. To-day the inhabitants were forced to leave the district southwest of the Government railway track affected by the River Hebert section of the fire.

It was rumored that Hastings, lying between River Hebert and Amherst, had been destroyed. Amherst is feeling the effect of the conflagration. Last night the power line which supplies electricity to the town was somewhat damaged and this morning the power station at Chignecto Mines was said to be in danger.

Springhill is gradually being surrounded by an angle of fire sweeping toward Springhill Junction, on one side of the town, and Salt Spring on the other.

DECISIONS ON IMPERIAL AFFAIRS

Reached by Conference of Empire Premiers in London.

A despatch from London says:—A summary of the proceedings of the Imperial Conference was issued at the last meeting of that body.

The summary declares that the greater part of the proceedings of the Imperial Conference relating to foreign affairs and defence was of a confidential character, but that the discussions revealed a unanimous opinion as to the main lines to be followed by the British policy and a deep conviction that the whole weight of the empire should be concentrated behind a united understanding and common action in foreign affairs.

Frequent consultations were decided upon.

The matter of naval defence was left to the various Parliaments, as was the question of Imperial communication. It was decided to improve the wireless link, while the various Governments recommended the introduction of uniform legislation regarding bills of lading. Any assistance given by the Governments for reduction of rates for press messages, it was agreed, should be so directed as not to affect the quality of the news service or the freedom of the newspapers so served.

A resolution was passed, with South Africa dissenting, the summary says, that the rights of British Indians to citizenship should be recognized.

Representatives of India expressed their profound concern at the position of Indians in South Africa, and their hope that by negotiation between the Governments of India and South Africa some way might be found to make their position more satisfactory.

A meeting of a committee of representatives of the patent offices of the Dominions will be held in London, it was decided, to consider the practicability of instituting a system for granting patents which would be valid throughout the Empire.

FIFTY PERISH WHEN SHIP FOUNDERS

Struck a Reef Off California Coast With 131 Passengers.

San Francisco, Aug. 7.—The coast of Cape Mendocino was being combed to-night for possible survivors from the steamship Alaska, which struck Blunt Reef last night and foundered. She carried 131 passengers and a crew of 90. Latest reports indicated the loss of life would reach 50.

Capt. Snoddy, of the rescue ship Anyox, in a wireless despatch from the scene of the wreck of the Alaska, said that he had 50 passengers aboard and 70 members of the crew and was proceeding to Eureka, California. Thirty-six passengers and 12 members of the crew are missing, according to the message, and are believed to have perished.

The Alaska, owned by the San Francisco and Portland Steamship Company, cleared Astoria at 8 p.m. Friday and was due to dock at San Francisco at noon to-day.

While off Blunt Reef the Alaska encountered a heavy fog and went on the rocks. Her S.O.S. was picked up by the towboat Anyox at 9:18 last night. The Anyox was five miles away. Capt. H. H. Snoddy of the Anyox rushed to the Alaska's assistance. Blunt Reef is four miles off shore, west of Cape Mendocino, and is considered one of the most dangerous points on the Pacific coast. It is 197 miles north of San Francisco.

Most of the passengers were from points in Washington and Oregon. Many of the passengers were tourists, according to officials of the booking offices.

According to the stories of the survivors, three lifeboats were launched. The last one was but a few feet from the wreck when the Alaska, which had listed to starboard, suddenly righted and then plunged, bow first. The lifeboat was overturned.

Turks Evacuate Capital City.

Paris, Aug. 7.—The Turkish Nationalists have decided to evacuate Ankara, their capital, and retire on Caesarea, according to a despatch from Constantinople.



"Rainmaker" Hatfield
Charles M. Hatfield, known as "The Rainmaker," has made good on his contract with the United Agricultural Association of Medicine Hat, to secure an increased precipitation of rain over a certain area.

Rainmaker Hatfield Re-engaged for 1922

A despatch from Medicine Hat, Alta., says:—The farmers in this district still have faith in the power of Charles M. Hatfield, the rainmaker, and decided at a meeting of the United Agricultural Association on Friday to engage Hatfield's services for next year. Under the new contract three inches of rain are allowed for natural precipitation during May, June and July, 1922, and Hatfield will receive \$4,000 an inch for every inch over three inches and up to six inches, the maximum amount to be paid being \$12,000.

By changing his locality Hatfield is confident he can produce more precipitation next year than called for in his new contract.

University Extension.

At the Conference of British Universities held in July at Oxford a good deal of time and thought was given to the various problems involved in the extension of University education to those people who, from force of circumstances, are unable to attend a university in the regular way. Dr. H. Darnley Naylor of the University of Adelaide, Australia, spoke of the Workers' Educational Association; Dr. M. E. Sadler of Leeds University outlined the work being done there in the promotion of tutorial classes; Dr. R. St. J. Parry, in the course of an address on university extension, said: "The old conception that a university is concerned only with the promotion of education and research within its own walls has yielded to the reiterated appeal from numbers of would-be students whose circumstances make it impossible that they could enter the walls of the university."

The University of Toronto has gone farther than most universities in answering this demand for adult education. Without lowering its standards in the least, it has so far removed the extraneous obstacles that any citizen in any part of the province can obtain an education of university grade without giving up his daily employment. This new plan is at present rather hampered for lack of funds, but should the Report of the Royal Commission on University Finances be adopted at the next session of the Ontario Legislature, the Provincial university will be in a position to develop its extension work so as to reach all parts of the province with its tutorial classes, its extension lectures, and its university evening classes. The desirability of this democratic development is universally admitted.

Millions of Dead Grasshoppers in St. Lawrence

A despatch from Quebec says:—Millions of dead grasshoppers, covering the whole St. Lawrence valley, are being down the river. They were noticed this morning early at Three Rivers and are coming towards Quebec.

Reports received by the Department of Agriculture are to the effect that grasshoppers are causing great harm to the crop all over the province. They are reported as having invaded the country on the southern boundary line. The officials of the department are taking means to protect the farmers' interest, and are describing means of getting rid of the pests will be issued.

SOUTH IRELAND PARLIAMENT TO MEET ON AUGUST SIXTEENTH

Greenwood Has Authority to Release All Members of Sinn Fein Assembly Who Are Now in Jail on Receipt of Summons to Attend Meeting.

A despatch from Dublin says:—It has been officially announced that the Dail Eireann has been summoned to meet in Dublin, August 16, for the purpose of reviewing Lloyd George's offer and deciding upon a reply.

The attitude of Ulster also will be considered.

The summons will be sent to all Dail members, including those in jail, and it is taken for granted in Dublin that they will be immediately released, although no formal request for their freedom will be made.

A despatch from London says:—The British Cabinet has already given power to Sir Hamar Greenwood, Chief Secretary for Ireland, to release Dail Eireann members should it seem advisable, and it is understood he will take the receipt in jail of summons to attend the Dail Eireann as a request for the release of the prisoners.

Many are in English jails and cannot reach Ireland before Sunday or Monday at the earliest.

Sensational stories were published in some English papers on Thursday, stating that Ulster had definitely and finally refused to have anything to do with the peace proposals, and insisted upon retaining their present status.

These stories have been officially denied. Ulster has made no decision yet, for the reason that no formal conversations have taken place between representatives of the North and the South, but the informal talks are still going on, and it is believed are progressing favorably.

Sir James Craig returned to Belfast from London Thursday morning and attended the meeting of the Ulster Cabinet, at which all members were present. No statement was given, but it is understood it was occupied with routine matters, such as appointments and plans for the session of Parliament, etc.

It is expected in Belfast that formal proposals soon will be received from Dublin, and it is likely the framing of these will form part of the work of the coming meeting of the Dail Eireann.

Great pressure is being brought on the Belfast leaders both by the Government in London and Belfast business men for a settlement—by the Government, because it is anxious for an Irish peace in view of the general international situation, and by the business men because they have been hard hit by the Southern boycott of Belfast traders and industry.

FIVE MILLIONS MORE PAID BY GERMANY

Placed to Credit of Bank of England by New York Bank.

A despatch from New York says:—Germany has paid another sum out of her balance in New York, on her debt to the allies for reparations. The sum paid amounted to approximately \$5,000,000 and it was paid over by the four institutions which hold balances here for the account of the Reichsbank, to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York to the credit of the Bank of England.

It was established, however, that each of the four banks received orders to make payments of various sizes for

the account of Germany and that the total amounted to \$5,000,000.

One of the factors in the payment made on Thursday was that it did not disrupt foreign exchange.

Must Enter U.S. by Pacific Ports

A despatch from Washington says:—Secretary Davis plans to discontinue the practice of allowing Chinese, who are admitted under provisions of the Exclusion Act, to enter the United States at Boston after crossing the continent on Canadian railroads. The Labor Secretary intends, he said, to throw the business to roads in this country by having them enter through Seattle and other Pacific coast cities in the United States.

Weekly Market Report

Toronto.

Manitoba wheat—No. 1 Northern, \$1.81; No. 2 Northern, \$1.77; No. 3 Northern, \$1.72; No. 4 wheat, \$1.52; Manitoba oats—No. 2 CW, 49¢; No. 3 CW, 48¢; extra No. 1, 48¢; No. 1 feed, 47¢; No. 2 feed, 46¢; Manitoba barley—No. 2 CW, 77¢; No. 4 CW, 72¢; rejected, 69¢; feed, 67¢.

All above in store, Fort William. Ontario wheat—No. 1 shipping, according to freights outside. No. 2 winter, \$1.20 to \$1.25; No. 3 winter, \$1.17 to \$1.22; No. 1 commercial, \$1.12 to \$1.17; No. 2 spring, \$1.15 to \$1.20; No. 3 spring, \$1.12 to \$1.17; No. 2 goose wheat, nominal. American corn—Prompt shipment, No. 2 yellow, c.i.f. bay ports, 73¢, nominal.

52¢, according to freights outside. Ontario oats—No. 2 white, 50¢ to 52¢; Malting, 69¢ to 72¢, according to freights outside.

Ontario flour—\$6.90 to \$7, in bags, Montreal and Toronto. Peas—No. 2, nominal. Manitoba flour—Track, Toronto: First pat, \$10.50; second pat, \$10. Buckwheat—Nominal.

Rye—No. 2, \$1.25. Millfeed—Carlots, delivered Toronto, \$27; shorts, per ton, \$29; feed flour, \$1.70 to \$1.85. Cheese—New, large, 24¢ to 25¢; twins, 25¢ to 26¢; triplets, 26¢ to 26¢; old, large, 33¢ to 34¢; do, twins, 34¢ to 35¢; triplets, 34¢ to 35¢; new Still-ton, 27¢ to 28¢.

Butter—Fresh dairy, choice, 33¢ to 34¢; creamery, prints, fresh, No. 1, 41¢ to 42¢; cooking, 20¢ to 25¢. Dressed poultry—Spring chickens, 40¢; roosters, 20¢; fowl, 30¢; ducklings, 40¢; turkeys, 60¢.

Live poultry—Spring chickens, 30¢; roosters, 15¢; fowl, 22¢; ducklings, 30¢; turkeys, 60¢. Mergarine—20¢ to 21¢. Eggs—No. 1, 41¢ to 42¢; selects, 47¢; cartons, 50¢.

Beans—Can, hand-picked, bushel, \$2.85 to \$3; primes, \$2.40 to \$2.50. Maple products—Syrup, per imp. gal., \$2.50; per 5 imp. gals., \$2.35. Honey—60-80 lb. tins, 14¢ to 15¢ per lb.; 5-2½ lb. tins, 16¢ to 17¢ per lb.

Ontario comb honey, per doz, \$3.75 to \$4.50. Smoked meats—Rolls, 27¢ to 28¢; hams, med., 40¢ to 42¢; heavy, 29¢ to 30¢; cooked hams, 40¢ to 65¢; boneless, 42¢ to 48¢; breakfast bacon, 33¢ to 38¢; special, 45¢ to 48¢; cottage rolls, 20¢ to 21¢.

Green meats—Out of pickle, 1¢ less than smoked. Cured meats—Bean pork, \$29; short cut or family back, boneless, \$40; pickled rolls, \$41 to \$46; mess pork, \$33. Dry salted meats—Long clears, in tons, 17½¢ to 19½¢; in cases, 18¢; clear bellies, 19½¢; backs, 14¢.

Lard—Tires, 18¢ to 18½¢; tubs, 18½¢ to 19½¢; prints, 20¢ to 22¢; shortening, tierces, 14¢ to 14½¢; tubs, 14½¢ to 15¢; prints, 15¢ to 15½¢; prints, 17½¢ to 18¢.

Choice heavy steers, \$7.25 to \$7.75; butcher steers, choice, \$7 to \$7.75; do, good, \$6.50 to \$7; do, med., \$5 to \$6; do, com., \$4 to \$5; butcher heifers, choice, \$7 to \$7.50; do, med., \$5 to \$6.50; butcher cows, choice, \$4.50 to \$5.50; do, med., \$3 to \$4.50; canners and cutters, \$1 to \$2.50; butcher bus. good, \$4.50 to \$5.50; do, com., \$3 to \$4; feeders, good, 900 lbs., \$5.50 to \$6; do, fair, \$4 to \$5.50; milkers and springers, \$40 to \$60; calves, choice, \$9 to \$10; do, med., \$8 to \$7; do, com., \$3 to \$5; lambs, yearlings, \$7 to \$8; do, spring, \$9 to \$9.50; sheep, choice, \$4.50 to \$5.50; do, good, \$3 to \$4; do, heavy and bucks, \$3 to \$4; hogs, fed and watered, \$13 to \$13.50; do, off cars, \$13.25; do, fresh, \$12.75; do, country points, \$12.25 to \$12.50.

Montreal. Oats—Can, West, No. 2, 69¢; do, No. 3, 58¢. Flour—Med. spring wheat, 10¢ to 10.50. Rolled oats—Bag, 90 lbs., \$3.25 to \$3.35. Bran—\$2.75. Shorts—\$2.25 to \$2.25. Hay—No. 2, per ton, car lots, \$30 to \$32.

Cheese, 20¢. Butter, choicest creamery, 39¢ to 40¢. Eggs, selected, 41¢ to 42¢. Potatoes, per bag, car lots, 45¢. Good lambs, \$7 per cwt.; com., \$5 to \$6; milk-fed calves, \$7 per cwt.; hogs, selects, \$14 per cwt.

40 CENTS NEW WAGE AT CHIPPAWA

Night Shift Paid Off—Power Turned On End of November.

A despatch from Toronto says:—Labor on the Chippawa Hydro-electric development is to receive 40¢ an hour, a 10¢ reduction from August 8, according to announcement made on Thursday by the Provincial Hydro Commission to Organizer John A. Flett and representatives of the men.

Thirty-five cents an hour was the figure originally contemplated by the commission, but upon Sir Adam Beck's suggestion, it is said, it was finally decided to grant another 5¢ an hour. Labor on the same class of work on the United States side is receiving 35¢ an hour.

The general schedule of wages that was decided upon was that agreed to subsequent to the strike of last year, less 10¢ per hour.

This schedule, it is said, still leaves the Chippawa Hydro men a more generous scale than that in force on similar classes of work elsewhere. With decreased living costs, the commission feels that the new scale will make ample provision for the workers. The commission was unanimous on the scale adopted.

While the new schedule decided upon by the commission has not been formally accepted by the representatives of the men, 4,000 of whom are affected, they are to report back to the men at Chippawa and once more return to the commission, this time with a decision of the men as to its acceptance. Hydro officials anticipate no difficulties, although the men's representatives have presented numerous arguments in opposition to a reduction.

The mass of the workers on the Chippawa are said to appreciate the fact that the commission's 50¢-an-hour wage was considerably higher than wages in other projects, and acceptance on their part is expected.

With the night shift all gone, the latest prognostication of the date upon which power will be turned on at Chippawa is the end of November. The race is now with the ice formations, which appear sometimes in mid-December.

HOOVER IN CHARGE OF RUSSIAN RELIEF

Large Number of Motor Trucks Required for Remote Districts.

A despatch from Paris says:—The entire organization for Russian relief is in the hands of Herbert Hoover.

When Walter L. Brown, European director of the American relief administration, arrives at Riga from London for the purpose of distributing relief in the famine districts of Russia he will find scores of all classes of Russians and people of other nationalities, anxious on one pretext or another to accompany the relief administration's forces into Russia, according to a despatch from Riga. United States relief headquarters there are being besieged by applicants volunteering to make the trip, some out of mere curiosity, some anxious really to be of assistance and others frankly saying that they are trying to get into Russia to see what has happened to relatives, friends or their property.

Battle newspapers are printing a number of rumors regarding events in Russia. One is to the effect that Leon Trotsky, the Bolshevik minister of War, has been named food dictator, and that heavy reinforcements of troops have been rushed into the famine district to quell the starving masses, who are pictured as beating down the guards, invading cities and eating everything they find. All such rumors are without any sort of confirmation.

In Moscow, according to recent arrivals in Riga, there was no indication of famine. Small numbers of refugees had managed to reach that city, but it was said the Government was attempting to direct the masses into the fruitful regions of Siberia and the Ukraine, instead of permitting them to go to the cities.

First Italian Line to Canada

Sailings Diverted from Present New York Service.

A despatch from New York says:—Shipping circles here have been informed that the Navigazione Generale Italiana Line has directed part of its ships into a new Italian-Canadian service.

This is said to be the first Italian line that has been established between Italy and Canada. The reason attributed for the move is that Italian navigation lines between the United States and Italy are having great difficulty in finding business for their liners at the present time, due to the enactment of the present United States immigration law.

According to information here, other steamship companies are also occupied on the problem of finding other fields for the surplus Italian population and it is expected that one or two more Italian companies will commence sailing to Canada, diverting their present New York service to that effect.

TWO RELIEF TRAINS TO STARVING VOLGA

Aid Goes Forward to 6,500,000 Perishing Children.

A despatch from New York says:—From two sources Friday night came word of preparations being made to relieve Russian starving millions.

An telegram from the Russian Telegraph Agency received here by the publication Soviet Russia, stated that the All-Russian famine relief committee had sent out two relief trains from Moscow on August 1 to aid 6,500,000 starving children in the Volga drought district. At the same time the American relief administration announced that its child-feeding operations in Czechoslovakia would end in sixty days, releasing an experienced staff for Russia.

The Russian Telegraph Agency cablegram said that all state theatres would devote the month to benefit performances for the famine sufferers, with stock companies touring prosperous regions.

"The following poster displayed by one of these companies," the cablegram said, "is typical of the methods employed by the theatrical companies to raise relief supplies."

"Brother peasants, pause and read: The artists give you spiritual enjoyment, you pay for it with bread for your hungry brothers. Alleviate prices: first row, three pounds of grain, or four pounds of peas, or fifteen pounds of potatoes; second row, etc., with the various prices fixed in terms of foodstuffs."

The funeral of Enrico Caruso, the famous tenor singer, was held in the Royal Church at Naples and attended by a special representative of King Victor Emmanuel.

Crops Damaged by Saskatchewan Hailstorm

A despatch from Regina, Sask., says:—Damage estimated at over a million dollars was caused by a heavy hail and wind storm which swept an area of from 75 to 100 miles east and south-east of Regina early Friday morning. Heavy loss is reported from Yellow Grass, Teyan, Mile, Greffell, Cedoux, Rainton and Broadview. Only meagre details are available owing to wires being down to many of the points damaged. In the Rainton and Cedoux area a strip of grain thirty miles long and five miles wide has been beaten down and totally destroyed.

Body of Prof. Stone Recovered

Calgary, Aug. 7.—The body of the late Dr. W. E. Stone, President of the University of Laval, Quebec, who lost his life in an effort to scale Mount Eon on July 16 last, has been recovered by searchers and is being brought to Banff. No further details have yet been given of the recovery of the body.

British Navy Scraps 530 Obsolete Ships

London, Aug. 7.—It is announced that since the armistice the British Admiralty has scrapped over 530 obsolete ships, including 38 battleships, two battle cruisers, 87 cruisers, 300 destroyers and 106 submarines.

Owing to the fact that many villages where starvation prevails are far from the railroads, one of the principal needs in the relief work will be a large number of motor trucks.

GENERAL SMUTS END ORSES TERMS OFFERED TO IRELAND

London, Aug. 7.—General Smuts, before sailing for South Africa on Friday, is stated to have written a letter to Eamon de Valera to the effect that in his opinion the terms offered by Premier Lloyd George represent to the Sinn Fein the highest possible degree of independence.

"They are far more than those given to the Boer majority," he says. "There is behind them a spirit of progressive compromise that promises success to the experiment. Ulster cannot abandon her present position, but with her guaranteed status under

Dominion Home Rule, with strategic safeguards, she has the promise of an economic future which will compensate her for any loss of prestige."

It is Smuts' opinion that the whole difficulty in Ireland would be of easy solution if the Sinn Fein could produce a statesmanlike mind like that of General Botha. De Valera is sincere, honest and trusted, but somehow there is a feeling that he is not quite capable of breeding that confidence in himself which enables a first-class statesman to convert unruly class-

