The St. John Standard

VOL. XIV., NO. 36. TWELVE PAGES SATURDAY MORNING, MAY 6, 1922 SHOWERS TWO CENTS

FRASER COMPANIES LTD. MILL AT BAKER BROOK AND TWELVE HOUSES DESTROYED BY FIRE

Ten Days' Cut of Lumber Goes Up in Smoke and Seventy-Five People Deprived of Homes—C. N. R. and Temiscouata Tied Up—Hartland and Woodstock Have Fire Losses—Forest Fires Raging Along Line of Fredericton and Grand Lake Railway.

Edmundston, N. B., May 5—As the result of a fire, which broke out this afternoon, the saw-mill of the Fraser Lumber Companies at Baker Brook, fourteen miles below here, on the St. John River, was completely wiped out, together with a ten days' cut of lumber, which was piled in the mill yard where the fire occurred. Seventy-five people are homeless tonight, extensive losses have been incurred in the village, and the lines of the C. N. R. and Temiscouata R. R. in that section, are temporarily tied up.

The loss to the Fraser Companies which could not be estimated tonight, will be very large, while other losses amount to about $30,000.

It is thought that sparks from the refuse burner at the mill started the fire, which quickly spread to the lumber in the yard, and thence to the mill, completely destroying both, and then spreading to the houses in the vicinity. Of these twelve were burned to the ground, but the people were able to make their escape without any serious results. Fire-fighting apparatus was sent from here and the united efforts of a large number of workers saved the western section of the village from destruction.

Started From Refuse Fire.

The fire broke out at one o'clock this afternoon, and is thought to have started in the mill yard from sparks from the refuse fire. The blaze quickly spread to the piles of newly sawn lumber—the mill having been in operation for the past ten days—and consumed every stick that was piled in the yard, as well as a carload which was standing on the siding. The mill itself was the next to take fire, and this was also razed to the ground, before anything could be done to cut off the flames, there being no fire-fighting apparatus or fire brigade in the village, which has a population of 1,200.

Calls For Assistance.

The town of Edmundston was called on for assistance as soon as it was seen that the fire was spreading, and a special train was made up on the Temiscouata R. R. This train was loaded largely with men from the Fraser Company's pulp mill here, and despatched to the scene of the disaster without any delay. An alarm was also sent to the C. N. R. for help, Baker Brook being situated on the line of both these railroads, and Superintendent Frank Griffin, of this division took charge.

Two special trains were made up and a fire-fighting water tank, containing 10,000 gallons of water, was on the road within a half hour from the time the alarm was received. The C. N. R. fire-fighting crew, was in charge of Chief Mechanic McKenzie, R. L. S. Landers and R. Bourdeois. The efforts of the C. N. R. men undoubtedly saved the western side of the village. Autos were pressed into service and great numbers of men went from here to the scene of the conflagration, and a determined effort was made to quell the fire.

Wire Connections Down.

A Standard representative was at the scene about eight o'clock tonight, and at that time the fire was well under control. The telegraph wires of the C. N. R. and Temiscouata R. R. and the telephone lines were out of commission, and within one hour after the fire started the Temiscouata R. R. bridge at Baker Brook was entirely destroyed. The trains on the Edmundston to Connors branch are tied up, and cannot proceed either way from the scene of the fire. A heavy wind was blowing from the west, and this aided greatly in saving that part of the village. As it was, the windows in the houses on the west side of the dam were broken by the intense heat.

Twelve houses and two barns, one containing live stock, were burned to the ground, and all the household goods were lost. Some of the families were able to escape with only the clothes they were wearing at the time.

Only Industry in Place

The mill employed upwards of sixty men, and the loss to the workmen will be doubly heavy, as this is practically the only industry in the place. The loss to the Temiscouata R. R. is upwards of $2,000, while the C. N. R. section house and all the equipment were destroyed at a loss of $1,000.

The names of the families, with their losses follow: Edward Collins, house and furniture, $3,000; Madame Adolph Cyr, $3,000; Richard Carpenter, $400; Stanislas Doucher, $3,000; Madame Jacques Blanc, $800; Hilaire Bouchard, $2,000; Alphonse Michaud, restaurant, $4,000, partially insured; Alfred Michaud, two houses, $2,000; William Cyr, $2,000; Bruce Baker, barn, implements and some live stock, $2,000; Denis Martin, barn, wood, $400, and some live stock; Xavier Cyr, damage to store from smoke and water, $2,000; Bernard Brossard, threshing machine; A house, occupied by a Mrs. Savage, and a house owned by the Fraser Companies, were also destroyed.

A director of the company was at the scene of the fire tonight, but was unable to estimate the amount of the loss sustained by the company, although he said that it would be quite large, as the mill was a modern one, and there was considerable seven lumber destroyed.

Farm Buildings Burned.

Woodstock, N. B., May 5—A fire broke out this afternoon in the residence of Dyson Walker, near the stand pipe, and completely destroyed the residence and a couple of barns in ashes, besides the contents, a cow was burned to death and a calf burned so badly that it had to be shot. The horses were saved. Loss, $3,000; insurance, $400.

The house of Cecil Norton caught and was burned to the ground, including the sheds and barns, partly covered by insurance. From the flying embers, the house of Arthur Watters caught and the roof was badly damaged before the fire was extinguished. In the neighborhood some imported liquors and a large amount of home-made booze was found, and as a result some of the spectators were quite hilarious before the fire was got under control.

Mill Property Destroyed.

Hartland, N. B., May 5—Early Friday afternoon a fire started at Stickney, which is supposed to have ignited from a spark from the mill, and fanned by a strong south wind and no apparatus to fight it, it ran wild and burned five houses, some barns, a church and hotel. During the excitement another fire started at Florenceville and destroyed several buildings, including Smith's warehouses. Across the river, over at Deerville, another fire is raging in the lumber piles of the Hatfield Lumber Company.

Forest Fires Raging.

Fredericton, N. B., May 5—The serious forest fire which broke out today shortly before noon on the Fredericton & Grand Lake Railway, is still out of control tonight and only heavy rain will remedy the situation. Rain is forecasted for tonight and the sky is heavily overcast.

Word from Maugerville tonight was that the fire since starting near the railway line at Scott's Siding or Glenie, had run some five miles. A southerly gale carried the fire and tonight the wind still was high. The fire is running across the Maugerville lots in a northwesterly direction. Although the country has been burned over before and has been lumbered closely, there still is timber of some value there. Tonight it was estimated the fire had reached the old Nashwaaksis road.

The fire started over after the train for Norton had passed. Conn. J. P. Harding is in charge of the fire-fighting crew, as under the new legislation the provincial councillors are fire wardens. No Crown lands are concerned in this fire.

This morning there was a fire at Wassis, Sunbury county, and this afternoon another near Oromocto, in the same county.

AMHERST MAN BECOMES SUICIDE

Lifeless Body Found Hanging in Room of Home by Young Son.

Special to The Standard

Amherst, N. S., May 6—John William Gould, age 56, who lives on the Highlands here, hanged himself this afternoon in the upstairs hallway of his house, by placing a shovel handle across a trap door, which leads to the attic, tying a heavy rope to the handle and one end around his neck, kicking away the chair from under his feet and allowing his body to hang. He was discovered by his ten year old boy who tried to get in the house. Finding the door locked he climbed up on the wood shed and looked in the window seeing his father's motionless body hanging. The child got some neighbors near by, and the door was forced open. It is thought he had committed suicide early in the afternoon as the body was cold when found about 7 p.m. The cause of his act is not known.

SEINE RIVER IS OVERFLOWING BANKS

Paris, May 5.—Much damage is being caused by the overflow of the Seine River, which continues to rise. Navigation stands still and many wharves are flooded. The famous Berey docks and cellars, containing thousands of casks of wines of all vintages, are under water.

SCHOONER SINKS

Yarmouth, N. S., May 5.—The fishing schooner Lizzy A., 33 tons, owned by Mayor Walker, Yarmouth, sunk, a total and some four miles west of Yarmouth Cape, today, coming from Metagwan. The crew reached the shore in boats.

WILL SUPPORT THE IRISH FACTION OF EAMON DE VALERA

American Association for the Recognition of the Irish Republic So Vote.

Washington, May 5—Unqualified support of the Republican party in Ireland under the leadership of Eamon De Valera and unanimous decision to exclude participation of all those who do not subscribe to the policy of supporting the Irish Republic, marked the opening session here today of the National Convention of the American Association for the Recognition of the Irish Republic.

FLOODS FORCED MANY FAMILIES TO LEAVE HOMES

Area of Two Square Miles at Brandon, Man., Inundated by Swollen River.

Brandon, Man., May 5—About 185 houses, scattered over an area of two square miles, have been vacated by families forced to leave their homes and most of their effects owing to the flood which completely covers the flats from one end of the city to the other, north of the tracks, and spreads across the fields in many places to the foot of hills north of the city. No further rise in the Assiniboine River has been reported since noon, but a slight rise is probable Saturday morning. The tendency of the water throughout has been to move northeast along the flats and the flood is confined to the flats only.

Residents north of the city are practically cut off from the city, as far as travelling to and from it are concerned. Traffic on Eighteenth Street, north, is prohibited as the road is badly undermined and it is feared the grade will give away.

Relief Work.

Relief work among the families forced to leave their homes is being carried on by the city, and the winter fair arena has been placed at their disposal. However, some of the families have pitched tents on higher grounds and others are residing with friends and relatives outside the flood area.

Conditions on the whole are slightly improved, as with no further rise in the river, it is hoped that the torrential pouring down of the waters has practically ceased and a decrease is expected early next week. Should the water stay on the land for any length of time further relief will have to be given the flood sufferers.

CANADA AND PAN-AMERICA CONFERENCE

Asked to Participate in the Fifth Meeting at Santiago, Chile, Next March.

Washington, May 5—(Canadian Press)—Canada may be invited to participate in the fifth Pan-American Conference which meets in Santiago, Chile, next March, and the Dominion may possibly be asked to become a permanent member of the Pan-American Union.

It was learned here today that steps are being taken to ascertain the sentiment in various countries on this question. In this connection attention was called here today to the reported announcement of the Canadian Prime Minister that Canada was considering the appointment of a Minister to Washington, and to the participation by Canada in recent international gatherings, such as the League of Nations, the Washington Armament Conference, and the Genoa Conference. It is not believed that any of the Latin-American countries will object to Canada's entrance into the Pan-American meetings. The matter will be placed before the governing board of the Pan-American Union, and if approved, Chile will invite Canada to the Pan-American Conference at Santiago.

TUSCORORA INDIANS IN REBELLION

Hamilton, May 6—A state of incipient rebellion exists on the Tuscorora reserve, south of Brantford, was a culmination to a number of disputes between the council of the Six Nations and the Dominion Government.

The Indians are openly ignoring summonses to police court and defying the authorities. The Brantford authorities are awaiting mounted police reinforcements before attempting to enforce the law.

All disputes in reality arise from the contention which is not admitted by the Canadian Government, that the Six Nations are allies of Great Britain and not subject to the laws of Canada.

GENERAL WU IS NOW IN CONTROL OF SITUATION

Chang Tso Lin, Manchurian Leader, Completely Driven from Region of Pekin.

CHANG'S AUTHORITY AT CAPITAL ENDED

General Wu Recognized by Pekin Government as Having Assumed Control.

Pekin, May 5—The forces of General Chang Tso-Lin, the Manchurian leader, have been completely driven from the region of Pekin, and General Wu Pei-Fu is now in control of the situation.

Chang's authority in Pekin was eliminated today with the disarming of his guard inside the capital, and General Wu was recognized by the Pekin Government's having assumed control. It is understood Hsu-Shih Chang will remain in office until the end of his term, in October, 1923. General Wu says he does not intend to interfere with him. A reorganization of the Cabinet is expected. Premier Liang Shih-Yi, who is regarded as a supporter of General Chang, will be automatically eliminated. The Premier is at present in Tientsin. Acting Premier Chow Tsu Chih probably will resign. He conferred today with General Wu's plenipotentiaries with regard to the Government.

General Wu in Control.

General Wu has remained outside Pekin thus far and has given no indication of an intention to enter the city. He purposes to call a constitutional convention as soon as the military problems are solved. It is his intention to unite North and South China. The convention probably will be held in Central China.

The defeat of General Chang is attributed to lack of the support he expected from the Southern Provinces, the neutrality of Shantung and the failure of Dr Sun Yat Sen, head of the Southern Government in Canton, to send an expedition northward to operate against General Wu.

MEMBERS DIDN'T UNDERSTAND PAIRING

Government Majority on Drayton Amendment Reduced by Two Votes, by Correction.

Ottawa, May 5.—The Government majority on the resolution providing for the appointment of a special committee to deal with railway freight rates, which came to a vote last night, should have been fifteen instead of seventeen. In the House of Commons this afternoon, it developed that a number of votes had been cast by Liberal members who were "paired," with members of the opposition, and who were unaware of this fact. A. R. McMaster, Liberal, Brome, speaking on the orders of the day explained that last night he had voted by mistake on the Drayton amendment to the main motion.

Chief Government Whip Kyte explained that there had been a number of errors owing to members not understanding about their pairs.

STRIKERS ACCEPT THE REDUCED WAGE

Montreal, May 6—Differences between the Shipping Federation and the syndicated longshoremen will be ended tomorrow by the signing of an agreement under which the union accepts the reduced scale of wages offered by the companies while the latter agree that their dock labor shall be supplied by the union. The settlement was reached after a meeting between the union heads and members of the Shipping Federation in the latter's office here this afternoon, held at the special request of Mayor Martin.

The settlement brings to an end a situation which had existed since April 16 and which on April 25 and May 2 resulted in lawless outbreaks involving the shooting of two constables while repelling rioters.

The men go back on a wage reduction of ten cents an hour, as compared with last year's rates. They will receive fifty cents an hour, with extra pay for overtime and night work.

CROKER BURIED IN HIS NATIVE SOIL

Former Tammany Chieftain Placed in Last Resting Place Friday.

Dublin, May 6—Richard Croker, formerly Tammany Hall chieftain, who died last Saturday, was buried this morning in the mausoleum on the grounds of Glencairn Castle, the beautiful estate on his native soil of Ireland, where he had spent his declining years. Although it had been announced the funeral would be private, there was, nevertheless, a considerable assemblage present, including many friends made by the late Tammany leader in his long association with the city.

CANADA'S NAVAL ESTABLISHMENT TO BE REDUCED TO MERE SKELETON

Naval Colleges at Halifax and Esquimault to be Closed; Few Ships on the Seas to be Recalled and Tied Up to the Docks.

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, May 5—Canada's naval establishment is to be reduced to a mere skeleton. The fight which the enemies of defence within the Liberal party have been successfully waging against the militia, has now been directed against the navy, and, judging by the admissions of authoritative Liberals here today, the ministry is yielding before it. Already it is reported it has been decided to practically close the naval colleges at Halifax and Esquimault, to recall what few ships we have from the seas and tie them up to the docks, and to cut the vote for the department to the smallest possible minimum. In the words of one Liberal, all that will be left of the Department of Naval Affairs will be the deputy minister.

DAIL EXTENDS IRISH TRUCE TO WEDNESDAY

Public Meetings Scheduled by Rival Republican Factions Have Been Suspended.

Dublin, May 5—The Dail Eireann held only a brief session today adjourning to Wednesday in order that those of its members who are on the peace committee might have opportunity to continue in attendance upon the conferences, aimed at bringing about unity between the rival factions. Meanwhile, the truce, which was to expire Monday, has been extended to Wednesday.

The sitting was not begun until 3.45 this afternoon, the delay being due to the prolonged session of the peace committee at the Mansion House. A letter was received from the peace committee which said it might be able to report by eleven o'clock Saturday morning. By general agreement, however, adjournment to Wednesday was voted.

Lord Mayor O'Callaghan, of Cork, suggested that no public meetings be held meanwhile. Meanwhile Collins, head of the Provisional Government, who was about to visit Kilkenny, raised no objection to this.

MAJOR TRUE FOUND GUILTY OF MURDER

Was Formerly in British Aviation Service—Counsel for Defendant Claimed Insanity

London, May 5—Ronald True, former major in the British aviation service, on trial for the killing of Gertrude Cates, otherwise Olive Young, was found guilty this evening of wilful murder and sentenced to death.

In his charge to the jury, Justice McCardie said he would leave them to decide whether the murder, if committed by the prisoner, was committed during an epileptic seizure or under the influence of epilepsy, as claimed by the defense.

The counsel for the defense, in his final address to the jury, said it had been proved that True's appetite for drugs was enormous and that during five months, while he was being cured of the habit, he consumed 4,000 half-grain tablets. "In February," he declared, "a weak brained man became an insane person with homicidal tendencies."

AVIATORS DROWNED IN POTOMAC RIVER

Washington, May 5.—Lieutenant Harold F. Seiden, of this city, and Ensign Miller, of the Bureau of Aeronautics, were drowned in the Potomac river late today when their naval seaplane was in collision with one piloted by Lieutenant Commander C. T. Johnson, in command of the Anacosta naval station and his mechanician, C. W. Jacobs. The last two escaped uninjured.

Lieut. Seiden was said to have been trying out a new propeller and was about 500 feet up when the collision occurred. His seaplane fell into the river, just below the naval air station, while that of Commander Johnson flew on, but made a forced landing in the river and was wrecked. Both Johnson and Jacobs were picked up by rescue boats.

PREMIER KING DENIES REPORT FROM GENOA

Ottawa, May 5.—The question of whether or not Canada had subscribed £1,000,000 to a consortium for assisting in the economic reconstruction of Europe, was brought up in the House of Commons this afternoon by Hon. T. A. Crerar, leader of the Progressives. He stated that a news despatch from Genoa reported that the Canadian Government had subscribed this amount. He wished to know if there was any truth in the despatch.

The Prime Minister replied that the report was not accurate. The Government had taken no action on this matter. He was informed that some documents in regard to it were being mailed, but they had not yet been received.

IRREGULARS USING EXPLOSIVE BULLETS

Reinforcements Being Rushed to Aid of Regulars Ambushed—Several Killed.

Belfast, May 5—Staff Captain O'Doherty said today that after the bank raid yesterday at Buncrana, County Donegal, a message was sent to I. R. A. headquarters at Drumboe Castle for reinforcements. Several carloads of troops started, and while passing through Newton, Cunningham, they ran into an ambush extending 100 yards along the road, irregulars lying behind the walls opened heavy fire. The regulars, unable to find cover, ran straight through, with the result that three were killed and four wounded. One of the irregulars was killed and three were wounded.

The irregulars, Captain O'Doherty charged, used explosives bullets, some of which he declared were now in Buncrana.

O'Doherty denied reports that British troops were to be sent to Buncrana, although he said the British Government would be entitled to do so under the terms of the treaty. He added that the ambush occurred after the truce was to have taken effect, but that the combatants were not aware of its having been signed.

LOOK OUT FOR FIRE, BUSINESS IS DULL

Testimony Brought Out in Arson Case Before Liverpool, N. S. Enquete Court.

Liverpool, N. S., May 5.—That the head barber told him to expect a fire in the barber shop shortly as business was dull and the outlook bad, was the testimony given by Chinese laundryman Charlie Wong, at the enquete held here today in the case of J. W. Comeau, barber, and his assistant A. R. LeBlanc, who are charged with arson in connection with the fire in the Brooks building here last week. William Brooks, owner of the building, whose family living above the barber shop had a narrow escape from the flames, stated that the Chinaman had told him what Comeau is alleged to have said, and that his family had lost much sleep through fear of the threatened fire.

Comeau and LeBlanc were released on bail pending further enquiry.

LARGE FUND AT POLICE DISPOSAL

$50,000 to Draw on in Defraying Expenses in Investigating Small's Disappearance.

Toronto, May 5—When Chief S. J. Dickson stated that the Ambrose J. Small estate had placed a sum of money in the hands of the police for the purpose of defraying the expenses in connection with the investigation of Small's disappearance, he did not state the amount which had thus been placed at their disposal.

It is learned this morning that the amount to which he referred was $50,000. This is open to the police to draw from without application or interference from anybody at all.

NEW DEFEATED FOR U. S. SENATE

Former Senator Beveridge Trims Harding's Friend in Indiana Primaries.

Washington, May 5—(Canadian Press)—The result of the Indiana primaries, in which former Senator Beveridge defeated Senator New, a close friend of President Harding, for the Republican Senatorial nomination, promises to affect the tariff situation in the Senate. It has already encouraged opponents of the pending bill to make a harder fight on the high rates of the finance committee.

FIRE LOSSES IN CANADA.

Toronto, May 5—Fire losses in Canada during the week ended May 3, are estimated by the Monetary Times at $1,373,000, compared with $110,500 the previous week.

MAY PROPOSE ADJOURNMENT OF CONFERENCE

Little Entente to Make Move, Being Dissatisfied Over Complications Existing.

JOFFE OFF TO CONSULT MOSCOW

Russia's Reply to Memorandum of Powers Not Expected for Two or Three Days.

Genoa, May 5.—It was asserted here tonight that the Little Entente, in view of the complications that have arisen over the memorandum presented by the Allies to the Russians, contemplated proposing adjournment of the Economic Conference until the problems which now are unsettled can be taken up with some probability of successfully ironing them out. This plan is especially supported by Dr. Eduard Benes, the Czecho-Slovak Foreign Minister.

Adolphe Joffe, of the Russian delegation, started for Moscow tonight to confer with the all-Russian central executive committee which is now in session in the Soviet capital. While the Russian delegation has full powers to act at Genoa, it is desired that M. Joffe explain the progress of the conference to the executive committee which has authority to ratify agreements entered into.

The Russian reply to the Allied memorandum is not expected to be presented for two or three days, but, according to members of the Russian delegation, it will not necessarily be delayed until M. Joffe reaches Moscow.

Belgium Obdurate

Further complications over the Russian memorandum may arise tomorrow on the return to Genoa of M. Barthou, of the French delegation, who has been on a visit to Paris and discussed the situation with Premier Poincare and the members of the ministry. Belgium still is obdurate in her insistence on a new clause in the memorandum to the Russians relating to the treatment of private property. It is reported that M. Barthou will submit such a clause as a substitute for that at present contained in the memorandum.

Even if the entire commission on Russian affairs agrees to approve a new clause, it will be difficult to induce the Russians to accept it, as they now are complaining bitterly of the present clause and the French and Belgians are insisting upon new provisions which will be much more drastic. They are demanding that they must be guaranteed that the Russians will not eventually turn over the property of foreigners to new owners.

Lloyd George May Quit

London, May 6.—It is generally believed, says a Reuter despatch from Genoa, timed midnight, that M. Jaspar, the Belgian Foreign Minister, will not maintain his opposition to the memorandum presented to Russia, while it is expected France and Belgium will accept it as now framed. If the memorandum is not accepted, Premier Lloyd George probably will return to London immediately.

WILD HEMLOCK CAUSED THE DEATHS

Eaten by Lacroix Family, Mistaking the Herb for Parsnips.

L'Orignal, Ont., May 5—Within twenty-four hours after having eaten poisonous vegetables, the seven members of the Lacroix family who died in agony, following a hearty meal, were tenderly lowered into six graves at the Roman Catholic cemetery here today. The condition of the bodies, due to the virulent nature of the poison, made it imperative that burial take place as soon as possible. The herb which was the cause of the seven deaths in the Lacroix family was wild hemlock, which is described as a large biennial herb of the parsley family, according to the investigations made by G. G. Smith. This morning he said that the foliage of the herb resembled celery, while the root is not unlike parsnips.

MAIN TRUNK ROADS OPEN FOR TRAFFIC

Minister of Public Works Veniot Advises Autoists to Exercise Care.

Special to The Standard.

Fredericton, N. B., May 5—Hon. P. J. Veniot, Minister of Public Works, who returned today from Ottawa, announces that the main trunk roads of the Province will be open for auto traffic tomorrow, May 6. This is an earlier date than last year, the change being made on account of the dry weather.

All other roads will be open for auto traffic on the 15th instant. The Minister is hopeful that, until the roads get thoroughly dried out, motorists will, as far as possible, make use of them only for pleasure purposes.