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SEMI-WEEKLY

VOLUME V.

\$5,000 GIVEN BY THE GOVERNMENT

Fire Sufferers in B. C. Given Prompt Relief by Alberta—The Mounted Police Doing Good Work.

Promptly upon the news of the terrible disaster in the Crow's Nest Pass district comes the announcement that the provincial government has contributed the sum of \$5,000 to assist the distressed population of the fire-wrecked district in the neighboring province.

Yesterday when the appalling news was being telegraphed through the province Hon. Dr. Rutherford, the premier, on his return from the Quebec territory, was met in Calgary by Hon. Mr. Cross. There, after a brief conference, communicating with the other members of the government by telegraph, it was decided that \$5,000 should be at once contributed to assist the fire sufferers.

As usual, the action of the government was admirably prompt. The first hours after a great disaster are the vital ones in the distribution of relief and the Alberta executive permitted no red tape or delays in calling a formal council meeting to interfere with the despatch that was essential to their relieving the best service to be rendered.

Mounted Police Sent to Aid. Furthermore, the commissioner of the Northwest Mounted Police has been instructed by the Alberta government to spare no expense in connection with the necessary relief work.

Inspector Primrose, R.N.W.M.P., of Macleod, was sent yesterday to the scene of the disaster at Fernie, with a force of ten members of the police, and will give every assistance possible. Here again the capable body of men who form the police force in that district have been winning laurels for the service and adding further credit to the honorable records of the police.

In reply to a wire from the attorney general the following message has been received from O. E. Whitford, manager of the International Coal company at Coleman: "No immediate danger in Alberta Northwest Mounted police have everything in good shape and are ready for any emergency."

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The Edmonton Bulletin

EDMONTON, ALBERTA, CANADA, FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, 1908

SEMI-WEEKLY

NUMBER 171

WAS AIMED AT TAFT?

Shot Struck Candidate's Seat on Steamer.

Cincinnati, Ohio, Aug. 3.—The steamer Island Queen was fired on during its trip up the Ohio river last night with Judge William H. Taft and the nomination committee and guests aboard. Mrs. C. B. Russell, of this city, standing on the hurricane deck, directly under the seat occupied by the presidential candidate, was struck in the face and breast by a number of small shot. The Island Queen steamed slowly around the bend at Dayton, and was near the middle of the river, when persons leaning on the starboard rail saw a man emerge from the cabin of the stately boat moored on the Ohio bank and fire a shotgun. Mrs. Russell gave a scream and declared she had been shot. She was hurried into the cabin, where it was found she was not seriously injured. One of the shots had penetrated the skin on her left eye, and another had struck her on the chest. The distance from the above was so great that the charge of shot had almost spent itself when it reached the boat. C. B. Russell said today: "I was standing at my wife's side, but none of the shot struck me. I saw the man plainly and that thought him rather an enthusiastic celebrator. I do not like to believe that the shot was fired with malicious intent, and it may have been only a chance that it may have struck Judge Taft was sitting."

INNISFREE HAILSTORM DAMAGES BUILDINGS

Alberta Hotel Suffers \$400 Loss By Hailstones Breaking Through Roof—Several People Injured By Storm—Area Damaged By Storm Not Extensive.

Innisfree, Aug. 2.—A severe storm swept over this town at 7 o'clock last evening. Windows in nearly every building in town were demolished by the hailstones, which were as large as small hen's eggs. The Alberta hotel suffered the most damage, at least four hundred dollars. The hail penetrated the roof, and water came down in floods, ruining carpets, bedding and furniture. The hotel was damaged to the extent of \$400. Several people were injured by the hail. The storm was accompanied by a heavy rain, and the water was very muddy. The hail was very large and fell very fast. The storm was very severe and did a great deal of damage. The hail was very large and fell very fast. The storm was very severe and did a great deal of damage.

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RAILWAYS READY TO MOVE THE CROP

Despite Fact That Freight Business Has Largely Increased, Many Cattle Await Grain Loads.

Winnipeg, Aug. 3.—During the last six weeks there has been a steady increase in the freight tonnage west-bound on the C.P.R., and the number of idle cars on the side tracks of the company has been decreased. There has also been a steady proportionate increase in the passenger business, especially on the branch lines of the complete return for export last season are not yet compiled, and it will be some weeks before those for the month of July are ready, but it is well known that there has been an increase all round in the business of the railway company, although the increase in the freight shipments has not been large. The volume of business is still much below that of last year, but the discrepancy is not now so marked month by month as it was earlier in the year.

C.N.R. Business Increases Also. The condition on the C.N.R. is practically the same. One of the satisfactory features of the business of the year has been the shipment of cattle. The Winnipeg receipts to date this year have been 63,000 head, as compared with 29,000 received in the corresponding period of last year. This year 26,000 were received for export, as compared with 3,000 received for export last season in the corresponding period. The shipments this year have also been much better distributed than in previous years. Last year the cattle were delivered to the railway companies in large bunches, chiefly in the month of October, by the natural results. This year the shipments have been in June and have been continuing since. The month of August will be large, and the deliveries will continue through the fall. Thousands of freight cars and many locomotives are held in readiness by the transportation companies for handling of the wheat crop and unless the crop should be a phenomenal one, it will be handled in the next few weeks.

Ten Thousand Idle Cars. Although the business of the companies has shown some improvement during the past few weeks, there are still thousands of freight cars, many of which are idle. Many new locomotives, which will be called into service as soon as the shipping season begins, are being held in readiness. The companies are holding a number of locomotives which have been in the country for several months, and which have never been used, the orders for these locomotives having been given before the decline in the volume of business last year. The officials of the railway companies do not expect, they say, to satisfy perfectly every shipper in the country, but they believe that with the facilities in their possession there will be no difficulty in getting a ratio of the crop of the western provinces and Port Arthur before the close of navigation.

There is on the average eleven hundred freight cars in the country, and it is estimated that in that time, it is estimated, sixty per cent of the freight cars are held in readiness. The effort will be made to give all stations equal service in this regard, but, as will always be the case, some districts in which the crop matures earliest will naturally stand the best chance of getting their wheat to Lake Superior first.

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CHARGED WITH MURDER.

B.C. Man is Alleged to Have Killed His Stepson.

Victoria, August 3.—Pat Croghan, a well known character in Northern British Columbia, has been arrested for the murder of his step-son, Ben Croghan, in the neighborhood of Fort Nelson on the Nees river. News has been received by Superintendent Hasey, of the provincial police, that the two, with several Indians, were engaged in a drunken brawl, in which the younger man met his death. The arrangements for the trial have been referred to the attorney general.

HAS HAULTAIN AN ALLIANCE WITH C.P.R.

Premier Scott Discusses the Opposition Leader's Policy in Connection With the Hudson Bay Railway—What is Haultain's Object.

Regina, Aug. 3.—Speaking at Herbert tonight Premier Scott made an important statement on Mr. Haultain's policy in regard to the construction of the Hudson Bay railway. Mr. Haultain, the premier said, wanted a road built by the three prairie provinces. What single reason could the opposition leader give for his opposition to the Dominion government building the road? Was it that some railway corporation like the C. P. R. which had always been identified with the Conservative party had influenced by the C. P. R. against the government's policy? That thought the matter over and imagine any other reason if they could for Mr. Haultain's opposition to the road.

Suppose Mr. Haultain were put in power to carry on his policy what would happen? Possibly the Dominion government would say if this western province did not want it, it could leave it alone and save the fifteen or twenty million it would cost. Mr. Haultain would be left to negotiate with Manitoba and Alberta. At the present time negotiations regarding the Hudson Bay road had closed and the surveys had commenced. How long would it take to complete negotiations with Manitoba and Alberta? Haultain to power on Aug. 14th, they might expect to have the Hudson Bay road delayed eight or nine years, if the people believed in the principle of immediate construction, he asked them to return him to pursue that policy.

TRAITOROUS JAPANESE.

Conspirators Tried to Sell Plans of Defences.

Victoria, Aug. 3.—Charged with attempting to sell detailed plans of the defences of the British Columbia coast to the Japanese, five men were arrested yesterday in connection with the case. The conspirators were charged with selling to the Japanese a "certain foreign embassy" by some papers stated to be the United States. S. Ishimi, a lawyer of Hakodate, and a surveyor of the military general staff of Tokyo, were arrested by the Canadian police on July 17, according to advices received by the premier today, which reached port today from Yokohama. S. Ishimi, interpreter of the foreign embassy, was used as the medium for the proposed sale and was given the plans prepared by the government of the military staff under arrangement that he was to secure \$250,000 for them. Sudden arrests were made at the hotel in Tokyo where he was staying, and arrested the lawyer and surveyor on a charge of treason. News was brought by the steamer Nippon which reached at about 10 o'clock, that Japanese ships, particularly those engaged in the porcelain trade, were being ordered to abandon shipments by the three steamers to the United States, if rates are increased in consequence of the ruling of the interstate commerce commission to be enforced November 1. The Japan Mail says, strenuous exertions have been made by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and others to induce the American railway companies to reconsider the proposed charges, and assurances have been telegraphed from Chicago by the railway central bureau that every effort will be made to arrange a satisfactory freight schedule. It is pointed out that any increase in the rates of the Suez route would have to be chosen instead of the trans-Pacific steamer.

RECALLED FIRE OF 1871.

Fire in Chicago Leaped River as in Great Conflagration.

Chicago, August 3.—Chicago's great fire of 1871 was brought vividly to mind today when the \$2,000,000 blaze in the grain warehouses and freight sheds in the neighborhood of Sixteenth and Canal streets jumped the river. So when the fire, having destroyed two grain elevators, leaped up the river and burned a large house and many smaller buildings, leaped the river and began on the west bank, it recalled the fire of 1871. Other striking features about the fire was the miraculous escape of firemen and spectators. The area burned over was not less than 100 acres. Men were hemmed in, seemingly by the flames in every direction, and the warehouse walls 100 feet tall, fell. Adventurers were as common as they were spectacular. When the fire was over, Chief Hornum counted his men and each one responded to his name.

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FIRE OVERWHELMS CROW'S NEST PASS

Great Calamity Belders District on Alberta-B. C. Border—Appalling Loss of Life.

An appalling calamity, greater in many respects than the San Francisco fire, has befallen the Crow's Nest Pass district, a disastrous forest fire resulting in a known loss of life, totalling 62 souls, which will inevitably be increased, probably to seventy or eighty, a property loss exceeding five million dollars, and leaving homeless seven thousand people.

The towns of Fernie and Michel, with populations of 5,000 and 800 respectively, have been wiped out, and Coal Creek, a village five miles east of Fernie, has also been destroyed. The area swept by the flames embraces hundreds of square miles. From Michel to Fernie, both of which towns were destroyed, the distance is twenty-four miles.

The news of the disaster has been wired to every corner of Canada, and with characteristic sympathy relief has been sent by the various governments and municipalities. In this every municipality in Alberta will share.

Michel, B.C., Aug. 2.—Forest fires which broke out on Saturday in the Crow's Nest Pass and spread up the Elk River Valley have entirely wiped out hundreds of square miles of country, including towns, villages, mining and lumber camps, mills, railway stations and yards, and other property between here and Fernie and through to Cranbrook.

The known loss of life is already 62, and it is feared the loss may exceed that in any conflagration since the San Francisco fire, while the property loss will easily run over five million dollars.

The loss at Fernie alone, where only one building is left standing, is estimated at two to three millions. In Cranbrook the loss is very heavy and other towns on the line are being swept away. The loss of life is estimated at 62, and it is feared the loss may exceed that in any conflagration since the San Francisco fire, while the property loss will easily run over five million dollars.

Failed To Save Mills. Pete Campbell came in with three men who were severely burned trying to save the Spawwood Lumber Co.'s mills between here and Fernie. Two will die. Campbell said he left the mill with his wife and three children and thirty men, fighting the flames, and for the time the worst was feared, but word came in a few minutes that the mill was saved, and with fire leaping everywhere the loss of life is likely to be very heavy.

Between Hosmer and Fernie the country has been swept entirely bare. W. Garwood, assistant superintendent of the Great Northern, has arrived here after making the journey on foot and by handcar from Fernie through the burned region. He left Fernie at 10:30 on Saturday when he said, the only building left standing was the fire-proof warehouse of Western Canada Wholesale Coal Co. Eighteen hundred people were taken out in Great Northern cars to a bare spot three miles distant.

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THE TIDE FLOWS LIBERALWARDS

Premier Scott is Confident of Victory in Saskatchewan—Second Week of Campaign.

Regina, August 3.—With the opening of the second week of the campaign in Saskatchewan, the Liberals have 25 candidates in the field with eight nominating conventions to be held tomorrow, three on Tuesday and four on Wednesday. In every case regularly called and representative conventions are placing the Liberal candidates in nomination. The Conservatives name 38 candidates as being in the field. T. A. Anderson, from Last Mountain, being chosen on Friday. It is undoubtedly a fact that many of these candidates were either selected by the Haultain organizers here or chosen by small committees in the constituencies. Evidence of this lies in the fact that the newspapers have received no reports of Conservative conventions in several constituencies, but the men are in the field all the same. In two constituencies, Duck Lake and Humbolt, the Conservatives virtually admit defeat, and hence they declare that with 38 men nominated their list of candidates is practically complete.

Reports from all parts of the province show that a keen fight is being waged by the Liberals in every constituency, and the local organizations are hard at work whether the candidates have been definitely named or not. Hon. Walter Scott and Mr. Haultain spent today in the city, the Premier coming in from Hanley, while the Opposition leader arrived from Chaparral. Each addressed numerous meetings last week and formed his impressions of the present campaign. Stories have been put in circulation to the effect that the Premier is in delicate health, but his appearance gives the lie to such reports, and he declares that he is perfectly well.

FROM EDMONTON TO WINNIPEG BY CANOE

Miss Agnes C. Laut, Canadian Novelist, Leaves Tomorrow on Lake Trip—She Will Observe Conditions and Secure Information to be Applied to Her Work in New York.

Miss Agnes C. Laut, who is not only a leading Canadian novelist, but the authority in the New York editorial world upon matters pertaining to the Canadian west, leaves Edmonton tomorrow for her trip down the Saskatchewan to Lake Winnipeg. The trip will be made in a large canoe, paddled by two guides.

Miss Laut is accompanied by Miss Simpson, of Winnipeg, a grandniece of Sir George Simpson, a noted governor of the Hudson Bay company. The trip will be made in easy stages. Miss Laut cleverly combining a tour of observation with one of rest and pleasure.

"I hope to have a play-day of six weeks along the Saskatchewan," Miss Laut said of this trip yesterday, but she said that she would not be able to do more than anything else to build up her own work. The fact that it could under no circumstances be an outing of dolce far niente exactly. "I mean come directly in contact with conditions as they are in this wonderful Saskatchewan valley. So much of the work that comes under my hands deals with this west that I must see and understand it afresh for myself. I have not been out in the Canadian west for the past six years. I never visited your Edmonton, your city of great promise, before."

"I want to meet the new settlers at work on their farms, to meet the mothers of this great new country at home in their cabins, filling in their years of commonplace but very real heroism. The lives of these men and women have a very strong appeal for me. There is the true empire building, a fact which we are too apt to overlook for showier deeds. To meet these people of quietly heroic achievement is sufficient motive for this trip we are taking, but I also want the pleasant outdoor life. I should like to remain longer at each of the points of interest, for everywhere there is a strong attraction for me, but my duties will not permit me to do that this year."

This exceedingly interesting trip, planned by Miss Laut, although one which would startle most women, means only a delightful holiday to its search of health in the Rockies. On her return to New York Miss Laut will shortly afterwards leave for the numerous grounds of insinuations made by the Conservatives in a vague form. The Premier says to Mr. Laird:

"At the first counterstroke you whipped me. You ask something more than a platform statement. I therefore repeat herewith, over my signature, the charge. I say I have evidence that when in municipal office in Regina you granted. You understand, and the public understands, the meaning of the term. If you are not guilty, as I declare I believe you to be guilty, it is open to you to cause me to set back and strike directly with a definite charge. Had naming several of the personal charges made by the Conservatives in a vague form. The Premier says to Mr. Laird:

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