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TWELVE PAGES—ONE CENT

A Royal Commission Now--Will Its Scope Be Narrowed? Suspicion Excited by Letters at Eleventh Hour

ELEVEN DIE IN A NEW YORK TENEMENT FIRE

Daring Rescues At An Early Morning Blaze

HUNDRED HORSES BURNED

Chicago Fire Drives Many Families to Street--Suffragettes in Great Yarmouth, Eng., Burn Down \$100,000 Theatre

New York, April 17--A fire that swept through the five-story apartment house at 741 Eighth Avenue early today, claimed eleven victims and resulted in the injury of five others.

Only four of the ten bodies taken from a theatrical boarding house that occupied half of the building, could be identified, the others being charred beyond recognition.

The fire started in a pile of waste in the basement of a five and a half store, which occupies the ground floor of the building.

It spread rapidly up stairways and shut off escape by them. There were no fire escapes in the front of the building, and the large number of dead and injured was due to the refusal of some of the panic-stricken people to remain in the front windows, where many were rescued by firemen.

All the dead and injured were taken from the rear rooms and halls of the building, where they were caught while attempting to reach the roof and fire escapes.

One man was killed in trying to escape over roof. The fire was under control in less than an hour, but in that time many thrilling rescues were made by the firemen working from ladders in front and from windows of a nearby tenement building.

A Daring Rescue Captain Smith, who was suspended by his feet from a window, prevented Louis Boylan from being dashed to death when a ladder he was using slipped away from the burning tenement.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles O. Wallace were stage people, as came here from Providence, R. I. Mrs. Wallace's maiden name was Nellie Dickinson. Mrs. Davis was known on the stage as "Pat" Mafer.

Hundred Horses Burned Chicago, April 17--More than 100 families were driven from their homes today by an early morning fire, which damaged the stables of the United States Express Company and flat buildings in the vicinity to the extent of more than \$200,000.

The usual suffrage literature was found strewn along the pier and on the beach and it was assumed that suffragettes had attended last night's performance in the theatre, and when they left placed under a seat a bomb with slow fuse attached.

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The Duties Of Catholic Laity

Bishop Fallon's Address At Banquet In Winnipeg

Points to Carson's Army on The Matter of Loyalty--Catholic Teaching and the Relative Position of Church and State

Winnipeg, April 17--Speaking last night at the all-western Catholic banquet, Bishop Fallon, of London, Ont., said in part:

"The Catholic laity as a body have duties outside their religious duty, important duties of citizenship; the Catholic citizen has obligations that can be fulfilled by him and by him alone."

"It is late in the day for us to be taught the lesson of loyalty by anybody. There is no possible escape from the position that in a Catholic country such concord cannot be other than official. The highest form that it could reach would be that in every question where spiritual interests are concerned, the state would defer."

"I am not preaching now, I am just talking common sense. The church and state must go together. Forcing men to be good is an interference with their liberty. There is at the present a grave decline of personal liberty in the mania to regulate everything by statute. Intemperance is a curse. They would therefore prohibit it by law. Making men good by legislation is an interference with their liberty and dangerous in its ultimate consequences."

"In the exercise of my own personal liberty in my own city, I gave expression to my sentiments. I said I hoped the day would come when this noble empire would be united and I was called an imperialist. A section of the Catholic church and another section of the Canadian people, some French-Canadians, read me into the Orange order."

"They did not understand. I hold that there is no nation on earth in which the Catholic church is so free as under the British flag. I am an imperialist mainly, solely and almost exclusively because I am a humble, devoted, loving son of Holy Mother Church."

"The Catholic Church expects of her laity, especially of her children placed in high offices, her Fitzpatricks, her Lauriers, her Murphys, her Dohertys, her Berniers, her Turgeons, no favors, but that in private life they reverence their consciences as their king and glory in redressing wrongs and in public carry unswayed the lily of a blameless life."

WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH SHOWS DECREASE London, April 17--For the eighth consecutive year the membership of the Wesleyan Methodist church has shown a decrease.

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Dugal Is Asked to Name Witnesses and Gives Some

Accuses Flemming and McLeod and Exonerates Some Others of Present Government

Belated Demands on Dugal Aimed to Narrow Scope of Inquiry and Keep The Lid on--Late Statement That Royal Commission Will Do The Work

Fredericton, N. B., April 17--The government is making one last desperate attempt to smother the Valley railway charges of so narrow the scope of the inquiry as to keep the lid on.

This was made clear today by a letter from Hon. George Clarke to Mr. Dugal, clearly intimating that the intention is to suppress all investigation if possible, notwithstanding the fact that Mr. Dugal openly charges that contractors had to pay members of the government before their contracts were delivered.

Terrified by the thought of coming revelations, the government which proclaimed that it would immediately welcome an investigation is now trying to shut out the public from the whole thing.

Mr. Clarke's letter to Mr. Dugal, printed below, became known late this morning. Up to that time there was no word as to the government's intention with respect to the Dugal charges which will be presented this afternoon.

At a quarter after one today Mr. Dugal received a second letter from Mr. Clarke asking for particulars in regard to the lumber charges demanding the names of the lumbermen who had paid money, to whom, and the amounts. This demand was made after one o'clock, although the House opened at three. Mr. Dugal is making a satisfactory reply.

Apparently the whole scheme is to narrow the field of the inquiry in both the lumber charges and the Valley Railway, but this will be resisted to the last.

At a late hour it is stated that there will be a royal commission--but Mr. Clarke's letters are very significant.

Think of a secret strong box in charge of a smiling, trembling subordinate. The box is full of the most precious things that money can buy. The box is the province to which the iron was white hot to prepare for an election years hence, to fill their empty pockets while the change was going, and at the same time to have their provincial secretaries stand up in the legislature when making his budget speech and rake up all the exploded scandals of years ago against Liberals and attack a man who was dangerously ill at the time, and falsely hold him up as one who had defrauded the province!

What a hypocritical crowd! The province has in its hands the financial Secretary Landry made his speech, and not an eyelid quivered. At the same time there was knowledge of how the sources of the greatest revenues of the province were being held up for over \$100,000 to enrich some people and to provide for the pockets of the electors.

There is great anxiety as to what the Valley railway charges will disclose. The amount of money involved is so large--more than half a million dollars--that once there was enough to go round. They stand shivering as to what will be in the province who would not subscribe and get the full value of his money.

This, while hinted at again and again, was proved this morning by the following letter from acting premier, George J. Clarke to Mr. Dugal: Frederickton, N. B., April 17. "Dear Sir--I have no doubt that you fully appreciate the fact that the charges contained in your notice given to you in the House of Assembly on April 8th, are of a general character and lacking in specific detail."

CITY PLANNING

Mr. Lecky of Commission on Conservation Is Here Today

Hopes to See St. John Represented at Big Conference in Toronto--Some of the Most Important Matters

W. S. Lecky, representing the Dominion government Commission of Conservation, is in St. John today in the interests of the International Conference on City Planning, which will be held in Convocation Hall of the University of Toronto on May 25, 26 and 27.

The conference is being held on the invitation of the Dominion government; and Field-Marshal, His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught has graciously consented to open the conference on the first day.

The National Conference on City Planning has been in existence in the United States for the last six years, during which time meetings have been held in New York, Rochester, Philadelphia, Boston and Chicago. In consequence of the excellent work accomplished by this conference, representatives have been made according to the Dominion government that it would be desirable to have the conference meet in Canada this year, and the arrangements have been made accordingly.

Invitations have been sent to every town in the Dominion of more than 4,000 population to send delegations to the conference, and it now rests with them to avail themselves of this opportunity and confer together on the subject of city and town planning, which has aroused so much interest in the Dominion in the last few years.

The Advantages The advantages of proper city and town planning are of even greater economic importance than aesthetic. The lack of proper planning has involved enormous loss of life, and such things as typhoid epidemics and an enormous loss of money and life by fires.

City planning, when done by direct and easy means, if fostered by government by making it easier and cheaper to conduct all classes of business; it increases the value of property values in general, and it prevents the evils of haphazard building; it makes every citizen a more efficient and more effective worker, by saving time and money in transit, and it means that the city is the most desirable to be opened and supplied with fine streets and water and sewerage, at the expense of the people, for a rich community town, when possibly within half a mile of the city hall. There may be a district which is in great need of such accommodation, and which, for lack of it is of great expense to the community.

At the conference papers will be read on many subjects of which the most interesting to the citizens of St. John would be the following:

1. The relative importance of city planning as compared with all other functions of city government--Andrew Wright Crawford, of Philadelphia, editor city planning section of the "Public Ledger".

2. Provision for future rapid transit, elevated or open cut and their influence on the city plan--V. Davies, consulting engineer, Brooklyn Rapid Transit Company.

3. Toronto's Water Front Development--H. S. Gourlay, Toronto Harbor Board.

4. A statement of the progress of the Dominion government and exhibited in New York. It is very comprehensive and of the greatest interest.

YOUNG ASTOR TAKES TURN FOR THE WORSE

Gold Watch To Captain Burns

Presentation Made In The City Hall At Noon

Mayor Hands Company's Handsome Gift to Gallant Captain as Token of Appreciation of Part in Saving Those on Cobequid

In the presence of a large number of prominent citizens a handsome gold watch and chain were presented this morning to Captain Arthur Burns of the government steamer Lansdowne in recognition of his services in leaving port in the height of a storm and standing by the wrecked steamer Cobequid for a night and a day until he had rescued the captain and crew of the steamer.

The presentation took place in the mayor's office. Those present were Robert Thomson, Percy W. Thomson, H. C. Schofield, Captain Dalton, A. W. Adams, James Waterbury, Captain Flemming, Captain Gilles, W. Frank Hattaway, John McGoldrick, James Lewis, E. L. Rising, Sheriff Wilson, Commissioners Agar and Wigmore, H. E. Wardrop, H. C. Flood and others.

His Worship the Mayor made the presentation on behalf of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, the owners of the Cobequid. He spoke in terms of highest praise of the gallant conduct of the captain and the men under him.

The watch is a handsome gold timepiece with a semi-hunting case, and attached to it was a heavy gold chain which was in the appropriate form of a miniature ship's cable. Inside the case was the inscription: "Presented to Captain Arthur Burns of the steamer Lansdowne by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company in grateful remembrance of his gallant conduct and services on January 13 and 14, 1914."

Captain Burns in his reply said: "I am not aware that I did anything more than what was my duty to do, and what common humanity and the affinity that exists between one seaman and another, would naturally actuate me to do."

"I want to bear testimony to the assistance rendered by Captain Dalton, of the C. G. S. 'Aberdeen' who accompanied me, and the officers and crew under my own command, who did everything in their power to make the rescue of the remaining members of the 'Cobequid' crew a success, and if through our efforts that was accomplished, I am sure we may feel that we have not lived in vain."

CABLE BRINGS THANKS St. John's, Nfld., April 15, 1914.

Robert H. Tall, St. John, N. B. On behalf of government and people of St. John for first installment of subscription toward relief fund sealing disaster as well as for kind words of sympathy. We are glad to find that our people away from home remember us in the time of our distress. Regarding a charitable statement, I have already wired John K. Perrey, Sovereign Life Assurance Company, full particulars, and it would be well for you to see him from steamers Newfoundland and one hundred and seventy-three from Southern Cross lost their lives, leaving about one thousand widows and orphans. Committee of citizens appointed here to take up local subscriptions and to receive funds from abroad. Many cities on this side and in the United Kingdom have sent subscriptions. Committee will gladly welcome any assistance you may be able to render.

J. R. BENNETT, Acting Prime Minister.

TWO ST. STEPHEN BOYS APPOINTED The Times a few days ago announced the appointment of Harold Haley of St. Stephen to the Forest Products Laboratory at McGill University, Montreal. It is of interest to note that another St. Stephen boy also has been appointed to the laboratory. He is Frank W. Fraser and is a Mr. Allison A. Mr. Fraser has been attached to the British Columbia lands department in Victoria. He is now on his way to Montreal after visiting the Washington University and the college in Wisconsin in the interests of the work of his new position. Two from New Brunswick. That reads well.

DETENTION UNNECESSARY At the I. C. R. depot yesterday afternoon a telegram was received from Chatham asking that a watch be kept for a woman from that place who was said to have left home hurriedly, and asking that she be detained. Today it was said by the police that she had been met here by her husband and that there was no need of any detention. They drove to a local hotel.

The Young Millionaire's Condition Is Grave

SUDDEN CHANGE TODAY

Doctors Say He Passed "A Most Uncomfortable Night" -- Still Conscious But Case is Serious and Demands Constant Attention

Staatsburg, N. Y., April 17--Vincent Astor's condition took a sudden turn for the worse today, after it was thought he was out of all danger due to abscess on the lung. The physician who remained at the bedside of the young multimillionaire, all night, announced this morning that Astor had passed "a most uncomfortable night."

When asked if Astor was unconscious, Dr. J. F. Doodell, one of the attending physicians, said: "He is not unconscious, but in a very grave condition."

The physicians refused to say whether Astor's condition was regarded by them as critical, but they admitted that it was serious enough to demand constant attention.

New York, April 17--No arrangements for a postponement of the wedding of Vincent Astor and Miss Helen Dunmore Huntington, set for April 20, have been made, notwithstanding Mr. Astor's illness. This announcement was made at the Huntington's country home today.

CALABRIA AND ORIOLE BOTH ARE IN TROUBLE A telegram to J. Spence & Company brought the news that the schooners Calabria and Oriole, both owned by G. Spence, were full of water just below Bar Harbor, Me. The telegram gave no particulars. The Calabria sailed from here for Philadelphia on April 15 with 1,800,000 lbs. shipped by Stetson, Cutler & Company. The Oriole was on her way from Weymouth to Boston, lumber laden.

COST OF LIVING INQUIRERS ARE IN CITY TODAY The Dominion Board of Inquiry in the cost of living is in session in St. John today. The members arrived this morning from Halifax, where they have completed an inquiry, and will remain here until Saturday evening, when they will leave for Ottawa.

While here the board will hear the evidence from many classes of men, including consumers, producers and middle men. Their inquiry here will be directed chiefly into the cost of lumber, fish, meats, farm products and rents.

TRUE BILL FOUND In the Circuit Court this morning, the grand jury returned a true bill on all four counts in the case of the King vs. Annie Carleton and David Carleton, charged with aggravated assault on Mary L. Truskett. The trial will take place on the 27th instant. Bail was renewed on application of G. Earle Logan.

A Woman's Dollar is Bigger The average woman gets more for her money than the average man does--her dollar has a greater purchasing power.

Women are the best readers of advertising we have. Is there not a direct connection of cause and effect between these two facts? Woman has proved for herself that it pays to know what is being offered before she buys. She knows what her dollar is worth and she means to get the most for it. She finds the advertising one of the most interesting and helpful features of her daily newspaper.

WEATHER BULLETIN Issued by authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stupart, director of meteorological service. Synopsis--The coast disturbance of yesterday morning, passing away to the Atlantic, and another now developing west of the Missouri is likely to move slowly towards the Great Lakes. The weather remains cold in the maritime provinces, but has turned warmer in Ontario and Quebec, and continues warm in the western provinces.