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Sun Fire Office

"Oldest Fire Company in the World."

Before it is too late.

Frank R. Fairweather & Co.

12 Canterbury St. St. John, N. B.

RUSSIA TO PLACE CAR CONTRACT IN STATES.
Special to The Standard.
Petrograd, April 14.—The Russian

provisional government has decided to place a contract in the United States for 40,000 railway cars and 2,000 locomotives.

A PRINCE WILLIAM STREET BUSINESS BLOCK DAMAGED TO THE EXTENT OF \$75,000 BY FIRE EARLY ON SUNDAY MORNING

Sands Building Considerably Guttured—Comeau & Sheehan, Wholesale Wines and Liquors, Suffer Heavy Loss on Valuable Stock—Labatt's, Goodyear Tire Co., Knodell Typewriter Co. and P. Campbell & Co., the Other Losers—Fire Started in Labatt Premises, But Origin is Unknown—Estimated Loss and Insurance in Detail.

A fire which caused in the vicinity of \$75,000 damage occurred in the Sands building on Prince William street yesterday morning. The building is owned by Mrs. Susan Gillis, widow of John R. Gillis, and was occupied by Comeau & Sheehan, wholesale wines and liquors; John Labatt, Ltd., brewers and bottlers; Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company of Canada, Ltd.; Knodell Typewriter Company, and P. Campbell & Co., plumbing, heating, marine engineers and electric lighting. The stock of these firms and the building damage were well covered by insurance. The firm of Comeau & Sheehan are the heaviest losers as they not only occupy a large section of the Prince William street ground front, but also the upper floors of the building.

The Labatt Company office was totally destroyed, while their business section of the building, on the Water street ground floor, was deluged with water and the damage to the stock will be considerable. The Knodell Company's premises on Prince William street were entirely wiped out.

The greater part of the damage to the Goodyear Company and to the Campbell section of the building was caused by water and smoke. Their loss is slight compared to the others. Of Unknown Origin.

The origin of the fire was not ascertained yesterday, but it is almost certain that the blaze started in the office of the Labatt Company, at the rear of the Knodell Company, and with an entrance from Water street. This is the only section of the lower floor of the building that was burned. From all appearances the bulk of the fire was in the Labatt Company office, worked through the thin board partition separating it from the Knodell section, then up the stairs and into the Comeau & Sheehan warehouses, and continued up through the second, third and fourth floors and finally through the roof.

Police Discovered it. It was 3:35 o'clock yesterday morning when the police first discovered the fire, which at that time was showing through the Water street windows and an alarm was sent in from Box 9 on Water street, followed by two more alarms.

The fire must have been burning for some time before it was discovered, for it was while the first alarm was sounding that the flames had eaten their way through the floors was pouring through the Water street windows and had reached the roof, illuminating the sky.

Met By Explosion. Dense smoke was pouring out of the Knodell section into Prince William street when the first police car arrived. The driver of No. 3 hose and a policeman took a line of hose into the building and started up the stairs. They had just commenced to fight the fire when there was an explosion, thought to have been caused by a back draft. The fireman and policeman were knocked down stairs, and at the same time the plate glass window of the store was blown out. Both men were able to escape from the building without injury, although they were given a bad fright for the time being.

Three alarms having been sent in, one after the other, was the cause of all the extra apparatus arriving on the scene. Three lines of hose were stretched on Water street and streams directed up into the windows as well as to the roof. At the same time a like number of streams were being directed from Prince William street.

An attempt was made to raise the aerial ladder on Water street so that the deluge pipe could be directed from its top into the upper windows on a level, but owing to the mass of wires the firemen were unsuccessful, and it was later found necessary to direct from Water street up to Prince William street and put to work there, but not until considerable valuable time had been lost.

About that time the No. 2 wagon was given a place on Prince William street and a couple of good streams shot through the gun into the upper windows.

There was great fear that the fire would eat its way along the upper floors occupied as warehouses for the Comeau & Sheehan concern. The firemen had been working from Water street for quite a time before it was seen that their work would prove more advantageous if streams were directed from the top of the building across Water from the building that was on fire. One by one the three streams were taken to the roof of the McIntyre building and then the firemen had a good chance to direct the streams into the upper windows on a level, as well as on the roof. The men had not been working long in this position until it was seen that they were showing results and were quickly beating the fire.

Fire Hard To Fight. It was proving a hard fight from the very first but the firemen worked with their usual vim and kept the blaze from extending very far along the floors from the section of the building in which it started.

The third and fourth floors collapsed about three-quarters of an hour after the fire was discovered and about the same time a section of the roof fell in. When the opportunity afforded by the falling of the roof was taken through the windows and up the stairs so, with well directed streams through windows and on the roof and firemen working inside, the company was well beaten. This did not mean that the fight was through for the firemen were kept busy well until after eight o'clock before they were able to leave the scene.

What the Chief Says. Chief Blake when asked by The Standard if he had resigned from the fire department, or if it was his intention to tender his resignation today, said as far as he was concerned he had no notion whatever of resigning.

"Did you not say at the fire yesterday morning that you were through?" queried the reporter.

"No, I did not," said the chief.

"Did you not say at anytime after the fire make the statement that you were chief until tomorrow (Monday)" asked the reporter.

"No, I did not say any such thing," was the chief's reply.

"As far as I know I think the public are satisfied with my work and I have no intention whatever of resigning. I may have intimated that I wanted my orders obeyed while I am chief, and some person may have misconstrued what I said. Outside of that I have nothing for publication," concluded the chief.

Another Incident. There was another story going the rounds on Saturday to the effect that the members of No. 2 Hose Company had a complaint against Chief Blake after the fire in C. D. Jones' house on Pitt street.

It was stated that while the No. 2 Station on Sydney street has been made over into a section for the housing of the motor ambulance and the chief's automobile, the station is still used by No. 2 Company as their headquarters, and is also used by them to

It was then found necessary to leave a line of hose in the building for the use of the Salvage Corps guards to use in case small fires broke out among the burned timbers. The guards located three small fires during the morning and quenched them.

Damage Is Heavy. As to the damage caused, it was rather hard to get an accurate estimate on the different losses.

Mr. Sheehan of the liquor firm said he believed that his loss would amount to \$30,000 or \$40,000. The Knodell Company loss is total. The Labatt office is total, and it is thought \$50,000 damage was done the stock. The loss to P. Campbell & Company will not exceed \$1,000. The Goodyear Company will have a loss of a few thousand dollars, and a rough estimate of the damage done the building is put at about \$30,000. The bonded warehouse was wrecked, and the sections of the building not damaged by fire received a liberal dose of water, and the ceilings were destroyed.

\$20,000 Damage To Building. John Gillis, who looks after the building for his mother, last night stated there was between \$25,000 and \$30,000 insurance on the building, and the loss would be covered by the insurance. He gave a rough estimate of the damage done to the building at about \$20,000.

Mr. Gillis further said that had it not been for the fire walls through the entire building the loss would have been greater and would have probably reached \$100,000.

The Insurance.

The following is a list of insurance held by the different concerns as far as could be learned yesterday: Comeau & Sheehan—Mercantile Fire Ins. Co., \$4,500; Globe and Rutgers Fire Ins. Co., \$5,000; Hugh H. McLeellan, Atlas Fire Ins. Co., \$4,200; White & Calkin Royal Fire Ins. Co., \$5,000; J. M. and C. W. Hope Grant, Northern Fire Ins. Co., \$5,000; Peter Clinch, Western Fire Ins. Co., \$3,500; London Assurance Co., \$1,500; R. W. W. Frink, Guardian Fire Ins. Co., \$4,500; Hugh H. McLeellan, Acadia Fire Ins. Co., \$2,500; J. M. Queen, Nova Scotia Fire Ins. Co., \$2,000; A. C. Ritchie, Total, \$37,700.

In this firm's case \$17,000 insurance had been dropped since March 1st. Knodell Typewriter Co.—Globe and Rutgers Fire Ins. Co., \$1,000; Hugh H. McLeellan, Imperial Underwriters, \$1,000; C. B. Nixon.

John Labatt, Ltd.—Mercantile Fire Ins. Co., \$3,500; Hugh H. McLeellan, P. Campbell & Co.—Queen Ins. Co., \$4,500; C. E. L. Jarvis, Western Fire Ins. Co., \$2,000; R. W. W. Frink.

Goodyear Tire Co.—Representatives of the company were well beaten, they could not give exact figures, but are covered by insurance.

The building—\$25,000 to \$30,000 insurance in different companies.

Still Another Incident. An evening paper on Saturday stated that the resident of Hawthorne Avenue had been insulted by Commissioner McLeellan, that when he called the commissioner on the 'phone for the purpose of getting more apparatus to a fire on the avenue early Saturday morning, the commissioner told him to 'Go to — and get a fire department.'

In reply to this statement the commissioner said he had been awakened early in the morning by some man and the man said he had been trying to get No. 4 Station for twenty minutes to the fire, and when asked if he was the man who said 'Go to —', the commissioner replied that he was. That was the end of the matter as far as he was concerned.

CHARLES JONES' HOUSE. Shortly before three o'clock Saturday afternoon, fire was discovered in the residence of Charles D. Jones, 119 Pitt street. The fire had started from a defective chimney and had gained considerable headway before being discovered. The upper section of the house was badly damaged, as was the roof. The building adjoining, occu-

FIRE

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PROVINCIAL AGENTS

74 PRINCE WILLIAM STREET

FIRE! FIRE!! FIRE!!!

INSURE WITH

Lockhart & Ritchie

114 Prince William Street

BEFORE, Not After, the FIRE

CHILD GETS SICK
CROSS, FEVERISH,
IF CONSTIPATED

"California Syrup of Figs"
can't harm tender stomach
or bowels.

A laxative today saves a sick child tomorrow. Children simply will not take the time from play to empty their bowels, which become clogged up with waste, liver gets sluggish; stomach sour.

Look at the tongue, mother! If coated, or your child is listless, cross, feverish, breath bad, restless, doesn't eat heartily, full of cold or has sore throat or any other children's ailment, give a teaspoonful of "California Syrup of Figs," then don't worry, because it is perfectly harmless, and in a few hours all this constipation, poison, sour bile and fermenting waste will gently move out of the bowels, and you have a well, playful child again. A thorough "inside cleansing" is oftentimes all that is necessary. It should be the first treatment given in any sickness.

Beware of counterfeit fig syrups. Ask your druggist for a 50-cent bottle of "California Syrup of Figs," which has full directions for babies, children of all ages and for grown-ups plainly printed on the bottle. Look carefully and see that it is made by the "California Fig-Syrup Company."

THE "OCEAN LIMITED" DAILY SERVICE BETWEEN HALIFAX AND MONTREAL RESTORED.

Commencing next Sunday, April 15th, the Ocean Limited will leave Halifax at 7:30 a. m. and will run daily thereafter to Montreal. Commencing Saturday, April 14th, the Ocean Limited will leave Montreal at 7:15 p. m. and will run daily thereafter to Halifax. The Maritime Express will run on present schedule daily except Sunday. Further particulars can be obtained from ticket agents.

SUMMARY.

(McDOUGALL & COWAN.) Directors of Peoples' Gas Co. declared dividend of one per cent, payable May 25 to stock record of May 1. This is a reduction of 1.13 per cent. War finance bill expected to pass the house this afternoon without a dissenting vote.

Official reports received in Washington from Bern, Switzerland, state former Austro-Hungarian ambassador to Great Britain is attempting to open negotiations looking to separate peace between London and Vienna, reported from The Hague that Emperor William is going to within ten miles of Holland's border. No reason for the journey is given.

German minister to Bolivia gets his passports.

Commercial failures in the United States this week 251, against 241 last week, and 361 last year.

Ten million dollars pledged to Governor Whitman to be loaned to farmers in developing food resources of New York State.

Government cotton consumption report at ten a. m.

Official announcement in Berlin that there will be no interment of Americans in Germany.

Outbreak of war seems to have caused little disturbance in business throughout the United States according to commercial agencies reports.

Twenty Industrials 98.18 up .05. Twenty Ralls up .25.

CANADIANS THAN

Huns Forced to Vimy Ridge by Terrific Bo

(By Stewart Lyon, Special Agent of the Canadian Canadian Headquarters via London, April 14.—L

ing of the ice in the St. spring the German def western front about Le way. The Canadian patri feeding their way forward plain to the east of the The enemy's retreats hastened by the steady on him all night, not only guns on the western side but also by guns whi exertion have been hault ruined area pitted with

As we advance further try find that the goi At the moment of the Arfex is burning. In the tween Farbus and Arleu has been forced to aban tillary. Heavy guns ha in great condition by the cause they were ringe fire. They have been turn fleeing foe and most of guns are in action ahead will be utilized as soon a can be sent up.

Perhaps the best illustra the enemy has hastily much of his best guns is in batteries in a cert These guns were so abso by a concentration by our that they were left unh the Germans find.

The total number of su the Canadians during t over fifty, many of them which are now in our st total will be greatly inc

ST. STEPHEN

St. Stephen, April 12.— Circle of the Methodist C give an entertainment in diet vestry on Tuesday ev 17th which will be well w ing. "Paying the Game," comedy will be given, wi ele Divorce. Miss Gwend Mrs. Hal E. Beck, Miss nett, Miss Helena Ne Mabel Christie and Mrs. in the as. There will als musical programme in Georgie Nesbitt, Miss My Miss Maida Baskin and D Dimore will take part.

Miss Lissie Parker of was the guest, during the Mrs. Wm J. Harper of Calais.

St. Stephen friends of Mrs. Hibbard of St. Geo interested to learn that a unentered for overseas se Red Cross nurse, has passed the medical exami expects to sail at an early Gunner Alton Dumas on leave after being in in Woodstock. His many glad to know of his rap from his illness. He exprax to Woodstock on Mo to resume his duties.

Miss Kathleen Hill was a charade party at her ho St. on Thursday evening week

The Va Va Va Club will week with Miss Mabel Ha Mr. and Mrs. Murray Al 1916. Grant are receiv ing on the birth of a d Saturday last.

Mrs. A. Cameron accom her young son, Douglas, L urday night for Boston a field.

The Literary Club will Miss Gladys Blair at her Union St., on Friday even week.

Mrs. Hedy V. Cooper of the guest of Mrs. W. G. hor daughter, Miss Louise E. Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert V arrived on Saturday eveni

delightful tour in Florid City and other cities. Mr greatly improved in health the delight of his many fr

It was learned with much Thursday of last week th Murray of the Machine C has been on the firing line two years and until now, h injury. Many friends wish speedy recovery from this accident.

Miss Winnifred Smith, Manual Training at Woodst her latest vacation with the Mrs. Asa Adde and Ar mer.

Miss Alice Devolte, of the staff at Falmouth, N. B. Easter recess with her me Charles Devolte.

Mr. Arthur Goucher of the staff at Bathurst, spent i town, the guest of his par Dr. and Mrs. Goucher.

Mr. and Mrs. G. Aubre are visiting in St. John.

Mrs. D. H. Bates has retu Houlton, where she has been of Dr. and Mrs. C. E. Bates.

The Ys opened on the splendid work at Easter and hundred of the sick, and our town were gladdene by message of fruit or flow

Miss Gwendolyn Hallet is day winning last for M spend Easter with her pare Mr. C. L. B., principal of School open the Easter vi his family.

Miss Mary Henderson, boos, spending the winter w ter, Mrs. Alcorn of Andove turned home.

Rev. Frank Fraser has arr from England. Fr. Fraser in hospital in England for over recovering from very sever and has been invalided hom town friends wish for him recovery.