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TWENTY-FIFTH YEAR

TEN PAGES—WEDNESDAY MORNING OCTOBER 12 1904—TEN PAGES

ONE CENT

THE TORONTO WORLD

WILFRED'S MILLION DOLLAR FIRE

WHOLE DISTRICT WAS IN DANGER

Broke Out in Big Bullman Block, Which Was Totally Destroyed, Together With Ashdown's, Mammoth Hardware House—Water Pressure Was Very Weak—Explosions in Oils and Chemicals Endangered the Firemen.

Winnipeg, Oct. 12.—(Special).—Last night the greatest fire in the history of modern Winnipeg has done damage to the extent of over a million dollars, and is still raging; the efforts of the fire department concentrated on the block immediately north of Ashdown's hardware store appears to be succeeding in restricting the area of the conflagration, which otherwise threatens to destroy the new Union Bank skyscraper, the Leland Hotel and the city hall.

Commencing in the new Bullman Bros' lithographing block, filled with acids, it swept, aided by strong southeast winds, across Albert-street, igniting Ashdown's hardware place and destroying every building in its path, including Steele's photographic supplies, the chemicals of which added to the general spectacular effect. Bullman's was totally destroyed, entailing a loss of hundreds of thousands of dollars, as was also Ashdown's, which carries the largest hardware stock in the west.

No One Injured.

Immense crowds assembled in the streets, but the police had perfect control, and so far no loss of life or injury is reported. Tremendous explosions of acids and stored ammunition in Ashdown's added to the effect of the impressive scene, flames shooting 50 feet into the air over doomed buildings.

Newspaper row was for a time threatened, but the wind moderating a little the newspaper offices were saved, the power is cut off and morning papers will be hand-set in broad sheets.

Now Under Control.

Later—the fire now appears to be under control, saving the bulk of the block between Albert and William-streets, fronting on Main-street.

It is impossible to estimate the total damage, but it will probably pass the million dollar mark.

The fire department worked heroically in the face of the great difficulties, in view of the miserable water pressure.

The water pressure has proved utterly inadequate to the needs of a big city, and the matter will be taken up by the city council at once.

Bullman's had especial bad luck, as they had borrowed \$65,000 from a bank to complete the new building, and had installed machinery equal to any in Canada.

Amongst the other heavy losers will be Kyle, Cheesebrough & Co., drygoods, Montreal; W. B. Dixon, cigars; George B. Ellis, manufacturing jeweler; Dunn's photographic supplies; Steele Co., Limited, and Albert-street restaurant.

TOLD BY BULLETIN

Winnipeg, Oct. 11.—(Special).—At 9.30 o'clock to-night Bullman's Block, lithographers which has just been raised three stories at large cost, situated in the heart of the business section, is in flames, with high wind blowing from the south. Chemicals in the building have ignited and it is impossible to save the block.

A fierce south wind promises to destroy the block to the north, including Ashdown's hardware store, the largest business of its kind in the city.

The entire fire department is concentrated in an endeavor to check the conflagration, but so far its efforts are meeting with little success.

Ashdown's contains thousands of tons of inflammable oil. The whole of the warehouse district is threatened. The drive of the fire is towards the Leland Hotel, and the big new steel skyscraper of the Union Bank.

A shift of the wind to the east would endanger all the newspaper offices. Power and light is off, and the morning issues will be hand set.

10 p.m.—Ashdown's is well alight and appears doomed. The fire is spreading rapidly by King, McDermott, Main and Albert-streets. Explosions are now occurring.

10.20 p.m.—Duffin Block Steel Co., manufacturers of photographic supplies, and crammed with chemicals; the Woodbine Hotel, one of the finest hotels in the city, have also caught.

10.35 p.m.—The Bullman Block walls have fallen. Terrible explosions are occurring and wires falling.

Fire is in a Bad District

Enormous Stocks Carried

"Main-street, in Winnipeg, is a splendidly wide thoroughfare like Spadina-avenue, running north and south, and the district reported at 10.30 as in the fire area lies to the west of this central artery," said a local business man who was recently in Winnipeg.

"The great mercantile houses which it contains are interspersed with small houses, many of them frame structures, and these would add to the inflammability of the buildings generally."

"The larger buildings are of fine appearance, but all are furnished with wooden sashes and doors."

"The jobbing merchants carry enormous stocks, the warehouses being packed from cellar to roof, and the loss will therefore be very heavy."

"The insurance carried usually covers the risk."

George R. Hargrave of the Commercial Union Company, and president pro tem of the Toronto board of fire underwriters, expressed his concern when called up by The World at the early hour this morning and apprised of the Winnipeg conflagration. "I am very sorry to hear it," said Mr. Hargrave.

TROLLEY GETS ANOTHER BOY VICTIM

KILLED WHILE PLAYING ON YONGE ST.

Little George Clark, aged 7 years, was almost instantly killed last evening at 6.45 at the corner of Elm and Yonge-streets, his life being crushed under the truck of a streetcar.

The accident was witnessed by James McLaughlin, constable at Shea's Theatre. He recognized the boy and went over to the house, where he broke the news to the dead boy's mother, who was prostrated by the shock. The father was escorted to Millard's, and on seeing the body and recognizing it, collapsed.

The little fellow had gotten his supper early and was enjoying himself running about the streets. At the time of the accident a young man was crossing the street within a few feet of the boy. It is said he also had a narrow escape from another car coming in the opposite direction. He immediately disappeared and the coroner would like to have an interview with value, regarding circumstances leading to the lad's death.

Winnipeg is lacking in fire protection

Growth of City Outstripped Measures of Safeguarding Against Conflagration.

A recent issue of The Manitoba Free Press, in an article on "Necessary Fire Protection for Winnipeg," has a comparison with other cities unfavorable to Winnipeg in this respect. Manitoba last year paid \$1,000,000 in insurance, and a large proportion of this was from the City of Winnipeg. The advance in rates during the present year would largely increase the amount paid. The average expenditure per capita in Winnipeg for fire purposes was \$1.02 between 1900 and 1903, and in view of the character of the city buildings, this was considered too low. The sudden increase of the population to 75,000 was pleaded as an excuse for lack of better protection.

The Liability to Fire.

"Up to the present, our buildings have been constructed of very inflammable material. From the rough-and-ready pioneer town we have become a metropolitan city. The transformation is far from complete. Interspersed with modern buildings are shacks and fire-traps, which are sources of danger."

The expenditure for the current year for the fire department was figured approximately at \$250,000. New stations, a new engine and water-tower and other appliances were being procured.

Water Supply Weak.

The principal weakness in the fire system was the water supply. There could be no doubt of the plenteousness of water, but the adequacy of the mains to supply a sufficient volume to attack a considerable conflagration was doubted. Special fire mains, with an ability to resist a pressure of 200 pounds, would enable the brigade to throw abundant water to any part of the highest buildings without the aid of fire engines.

Size of the Fire Department.

The fire department consists of 60 men, with four engines and four chemicals, in three stations, with 22 horses. The present force was 70 and eight horse apparatus, two hook and ladder trucks and one aerial ladder were also part of the equipment. The hydrants numbered 564, and there were 12,235 feet of two and a half inch hose, with 106 fire alarm boxes provided signals.

ASSAULTED THE DETECTIVES.

Chicago, Oct. 11.—When released on bail to-day after being arrested charged with being implicated in a shooting affray, James G. Keppeler, secretary of the International Sheet Metal Workers of America, and two companions, Joe Alvin and James Papineau, assaulted the detectives and one of the officers was severely injured.

A heated discussion over labor matters brought about the shooting.

BLOODY BATTLE RAGING.

Mukden, Oct. 11.—(11 p.m.)—A bloody battle is now raging about six miles north of Yentai railroad station. The Japanese, on Sunday, fell back along the whole front, and the Russian advance guards crossed the Schill River (about half way between Mukden and Liaoyang) and came within three miles of Yentai, but yesterday the Japanese received strong reinforcement of infantry and artillery and not only held their positions, but even assumed the offensive.

The fighting lasted the entire day and night. The Japanese directed their artillery fire with great skill, and searched the Russian positions so fiercely that the Russians fell back north of Schill River, which crosses the railroad seven miles from Yentai.

The Russian advance once crossed the Schill River and engaged the Japanese two miles south of Yentai. A terrific artillery engagement is proceeding along the entire front. The result of the battle is still undecided.

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Best Hard Coal.

If any person tells you our coal is the best they ever burned, don't believe them. Come and try it yourself and have the pleasure of burning the best hard coal sold in this city. See store and get \$2.50 per ton. The Connell Anthracite Mining Company, Limited.

Broderick's Business Suits, \$23.00 118 King Street West.

If your Filing Cabinet is not adequate, "Ask Adams," he's got a better one.

Smoke Alive Pollard's cool mixture.

The Canada Life.

Canada Life policies are indisputable after being in force one full year and are having been admitted. This is important.

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Broderick's Business Suits—\$23.00 118 King Street West.

Tommy Urquhart takes his gruel.



PA'PA LAURIER: Lap it up, Thomas, Mr. Cox can't wait

DECISIVE BATTLE OF YEAR'S WAR

MAY FOLLOW PRESENT FIGHTING

Terrible Artillery Duel Has Succeeded 3 Days Brisk Conflict Between Liaoyang and Mukden and St. Petersburg is Sanguine.

For three days there has been sharp fighting a little north of the railway town of Yentai, between Liaoyang and Mukden. The Russian advance was checked and the attacking force was compelled to retire to the north side of the Schill River, but subsequently re-crossed to the south side of that stream, where, at latest accounts, a terrible artillery fight was in progress.

In military circles at St. Petersburg, the fighting noted is not considered as being of the magnitude of a general engagement, such as is expected to come, possibly within a few days, somewhere within a triangle indicated by lines connecting Liaoyang, Yentai and Syktyankin.

This battle, when it is fought, is expected to be decisive of this year's campaign. Wounded Russian soldiers have been taken back to Mukden shop by their cheerfulness the improvement that has been produced on the spirit of his troops by Gen. Kuropatkin's course in assuming the offensive.

Nodzu Saved Liaoyang.

"It is now well known amongst the better classes of Japanese," Mr. Burleigh adds, "that it was Nodzu who saved the situation at the battle of Liaoyang. Oyama and the headquarters had actually ordered retreat when Nodzu vigorously protested against such a step and begged them to make another effort, he more directly co-operating with Oku's right. To Nodzu, therefore, is due the sole credit of averting a disastrous retreat, which he warded off by sending in and almost sacrificing the entire 20th Regiment of the 10th division."

According to Mr. Burleigh the Japanese still have no intention of proceeding much farther north than Mukden, and they will only under exceptional circumstances attack The Pass this season. Mr. Burleigh concludes: "Gen. Nodzu, commander of the Japanese second division, will become governor of Manchuria."

Commenting editorially on the statements in Mr. Burleigh's correspondence The Daily Telegraph says:

"The recall of Oyama is almost inconceivable. It is Oyama's war, planned and carried out by him, and his recall would be a sign that Japan, her emperor and ministers were suffering from an acute attack of nerves and had begun to doubt themselves."

YENTAI TRIANGLE WILL SEE MIGHTY STRUGGLE OF ARMIES

Japs Must Hold it at all Costs. But Kuropatkin Seems Confident of Ousting Them.

St. Petersburg, Oct. 12.—(2.10 a.m.)—Severe fighting north of Yentai, resulting in a temporary check of Gen. Kuropatkin's advance guard, of which the Associated Press correspondent in Russia telegraphed the first news, is not regarded at the war office as indicating a general engagement. The latest official despatches, indicating the disposition of the various corps, show that the whole army is not yet in line of battle. The present engagement may, therefore, be regarded as the result of a counter attack, which an enterprising foe like the Japanese might be expected to make, but without any calculation to prevent the Russian advance.

Gen. Kuropatkin's present superiority in numbers, it is held here, is bound sooner or later to compel the Japanese to fall back upon their strong positions within the triangle formed by Yentai, Liaoyang and Syktyankin.

The Decisive Struggle.

Everything points to that district as being the prospective scene of the decisive struggle of this year's campaign. Strategic reasons of the most weighty character render it imperative for the Russians as well as for the Japanese, to bestow their chief attention upon the country east of the railway.

The Russians are compelled to this course because the railroad runs north-eastward and hence lines of communication are more vulnerable from the east. The Japanese are influenced by a similar consideration, but the railroad in this case plays a foremost part in their plans.

In view of the approaching close of navigation at Yinkow and of the fact that the life from Pitsewo is long and cumbersome and liable to interruption, they must consider Pengwangcheng and Takushan as the source of supplies during the winter, and with this view, the eastern communications of Liaoyang are of the utmost importance. The Yentai triangle is admirably situated to protect them.

At All Costs.

Field Marshal Oyama must therefore hold this triangle at all costs. The problem confronting Gen. Kuropatkin

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THE GUTTA PERCHA & RUBBER MFG. CO. OF TORONTO, LIMITED.

BORDEN CORRECTS PREMIER

LATTER'S POOR MEMORY

Forgot the Changes Made in the G.T.P. Contract Between 1903 and 1904.

Brockville, Oct. 11.—(Special).—The visit to Brockville to-day of R. L. Borden, the Conservative leader, proved another triumph in his Ontario tour now drawing to a close. Accompanied by Mrs. Borden he reached here this afternoon and was given a cordial reception.

In the evening an enthusiastic rally was held in the Grand Opera House, which was packed to the doors with an audience numbering 2,000. People came from all parts of the district, and as many more were turned away unable to gain admission.

Mr. Borden was escorted to the building by the 41st Regimental Band. His appearance on the platform was the signal for an outburst of applause, which was renewed again and again on his formal introductions by the chairman, E. A. Stewart. He was then presented with an address of welcome, proclaiming him the representative of all tilled is best in Canadian citizenship and public morality.

His utterances in regard to the transcontinental railway and the policy to be pursued by him were heartily endorsed, and his attitude on the policy enunciated by Rt. Hon. Joseph Chamberlain was commended. The address closed with a strong endorsement of Mr. Borden's support of the principle of adequate protection for Canadian industries.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier Corrected.

Mr. Borden was in fine fettle, and discussed the political issues of the day at great length and in masterly style, dealing principally with the government's transcontinental railway. He corrected a statement made by Sir Wilfrid Laurier in his Hamilton speech and showed that the premier did not himself understand the terms of the contract with the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway. He made this criticism deliberately taking for granted The Globe's report to be correct.

Sir Wilfrid says: "We have stipulated," referring to the \$25,000,000 of common stock, which is given to the G.T.P. in the contract, "that the G.T.P. not the G.T.P., but the old company, are to possess and retain it during the whole term of the lease."

And so they did in the contract of 1903, but they had absolutely changed it in the contract of 1904, which apparently Sir Wilfrid Laurier had forgotten.

It is Important.

Mr. Borden went into detail because he maintained it was important that the people of this country should understand the position. There was a provision in the contract of 1903 that the G.T.P. should be at liberty to issue \$45,000,000 in common stock, although so far as one can see no arrangement was made by means of bonds and guarantees were enough to build the whole road, and parliament was told that \$25,000,000 of this common stock is going to be handed over to the G.T.P. corporation and probably for merely nominal consideration.

The candidate, Mr. Culbert, made a pleasing address, and was warmly received. After Andrew Broder, ex-M.P., Morrisburg; Dr. Reid, ex-M.P., Prescott, and A. E. Donohue, who spoke briefly, the meeting closed with the usual cheers, Mr. Borden being escorted back to the hotel by demonstrative crowds.

R. R. GAMEY MALIGNED.

Audience Hisses Author of a Vindictive Insultation.

Brampton, Oct. 11.—(Special).—R. R. Gamey was cheered to the echo by a large meeting to-night, as he unveiled the details of his case against the Ontario Government. V. A. Williamson, a brother of the private secretary to the minister of crown lands, was given time to speak. In opening his remarks, he referred to Gamey's trip to Buffalo, coming with it the statement that perhaps it was because of trouble at home, or because there was a woman in the case.

This cowardly insinuation produced general sympathy for Gamey, and as he spoke in most forcible language, the defender of Stratton attempted to apologize, but was hissed by the audience. Gamey's address was of the most convincing character, and met with general approval. Mayor Justin presided. Speeches were also delivered by Richard Blain and E. Charters.

SEVEN YEARS FOR ARSON.

Brockville, Oct. 11.—(Special).—John Hickey, a tramp and physical wreck, charged with burning the haystacks of a Millard farmer one week ago, a revenge for not being given something to eat, was sentenced to seven years in the reformatory for having pleaded guilty, and was forthwith sentenced to trial before Judge Borden.

Ladies' Fall Hats.

Many new designs in Ladies' Fall Hats have been recently introduced in New York and these have been rushed to the "Edison Company" by express, and are now on sale in the big showrooms. These are all simple hats—no two alike—and are perfect examples of workmanship and taste by Parisian milliners. You should take an early opportunity to call.

COOL AND SHOWERY.

Meteorological Office, Toronto, Oct. 11.—(6 p.m.)—Rain has fallen to-day in the Maritime Provinces, and also locally this evening in the lake region. Elsewhere in Canada east of the Rockies the weather has been fair. In the Northwest Territories temperatures have been fairly high.

Minimum and maximum temperatures: Dawson, 38—54; Victoria, 50—60; Calgary, 32—49; Medicine Hat, 46—57; Qu'Appell, 36—44; Winnipeg, 38—52; Parry Sound, 46—52; Toronto, 50—57; Ottawa, 46—52; Montreal, 42—54; Quebec, 38—52; St. John, 44—56; Halifax, 42—58.

Probabilities.

Lower Lakes and Georgian Bay—Moderate winds, cool and mostly cloudy, a few showers.

Ottawa Valley and Upper St. Lawrence—Moderate winds, cool and mostly cloudy. Lower St. Lawrence and Gulf—Moderate to fresh northerly and northwesterly winds, cool and fair.

Northern—Moderate northerly winds; cloudy and cool, with a few scattered showers.

Lake Superior—Fair and cool.

Manitoba—Fair and somewhat warmer.

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