

Kew Beach To Let. Cottages. Ready by 15th June. R.S. Williams & Sons Co. Ltd. 143 Yonge St.

EIGHTEENTH YEAR

WORLD EXTRA.

JOHN EATON'S RUINS.

Fire Wipes Out a Departmental Store.

HOTTEST BLAZE ON RECORD.

Whole Building Was in Flames in Almost an Instant.

Several Alarms Rung Simultaneously at Half-past Three o'clock This Morning, and in Less Than Seven Minutes the Roof Fell In—In Ten Minutes the Walls Fell—Night Watchman Rogers Escaped With His Life by Breaking a Window With a Chair—Other Properties Damaged.

The John Eaton Company's departmental store at the corner of Yonge and Richmond streets is in ruins.

The fire, which started at The World was going to press this morning, was one of the hottest in the history of Toronto's great conflagrations.

Loss estimated at \$250,000, which will be covered by insurance.

It was marvellous.

Before the fire had ceased sounding the alarm from box 31 at Yonge and Adelaide-streets, the flames had burst through the roof of the front portion of the building and then a wild glare lit up the surrounding streets for thousands of yards.

In the hearing houses along Temperance-street, there was a general panic, the people all having been aroused by the instantaneous appearance of the bright light. When the fire-warden came around the corner the front part of the building was a mass of flames and people living in adjacent places were hurrying for safety with what little of their personal effects they could get out.

One in the Night-Closet.

In the hearing house of Mrs. McClelland, 15 Temperance-street, right next to Eaton's, it is reported that the fire started in her night-closet, some of them who were more collected got on their feet and, seeing that there was no immediate danger, they went to bed.

Although the flames were coming from the west the flames seemed to burn quickly towards the east of the building.

Fighting the Flames.

The firemen were stationed on Yonge and Adelaide-streets, and with Temperance and Adelaide-streets, and with the roof of the Saturday Night building, one stream of hose was directed at the burning mass, while from the top of the Methodist Book-store building on Temperance-street another stream was playing. On Yonge-street there were several streams going, but they looked altogether useless against the roaring flames that seemed to burn with a force that defied the efforts of the firemen.

The water tower was on Temperance-street, but it was a miserable failure, all attempts to get it to work being futile for some time after its arrival at the fire.

It was about five minutes after the fire was discovered that the front wall of the Eaton place fell in, and in less than three minutes afterwards the front wall on Yonge-street collapsed.

Some thirty firemen were working in very dangerous proximity to it when a warning cry went up from the crowd, and they all rushed toward the building, just in time to avoid being crushed to pieces. The wall tumbled first inward and then outward, and then with a awful crash fell forward.

The Wires Went Too.

As it struck the vast network of wires in front of the scene, though terrible, was immensely grand. For a brief moment Yonge-street in front of the Arcade seemed a mass of incandescent sparks, but it lasted for but a short time, and the tangled mass of wires was sputtering underneath the ruins.

When the fire appeared there was hardly a soul on the street excepting a few fire engines going home from their work and the police. In five minutes five hundred people were on hand, and by the time the wall crashed in the crowd had increased to thousands.

The Police Needed.

The police from the surrounding beats in Nos. 1 and 2 divisions were summoned, and with great difficulty kept the people back and out of danger.

F. C. Wallace's Story.

The rapidly with which the fire spread after its discovery can be imagined from the story of Policeman William Wallace (76), who pulled the box at Yonge and Adelaide-streets. He was with Patrol Sergeant Dilworth, who had just visited him. He noticed a thin curl of smoke issuing from the roof, and then rushed down to ring the alarm. Before he returned the glass was one surging sea of flame.

OTHER PROPERTIES DAMAGED.

The intense heat caused a great smashing of glass—Those Who Have Loses.

The intense heat played havoc with the plate glass and inflexible material on the buildings on the opposite side of Yonge-street, and on the north side of Temperance-street. The sufferers from broken glass and soot were on Yonge-street: C. W. Hunt & Co., tailors; J. Orszak (fancy work); Pemberton's goods store; the Art Metropole, the Toronto Tire Company, and the Boston Lunch. The damage to these establishments will range from \$100 to \$1000 each.

COMMONERS HAD FUN.

Billy Bennett Got After the Patrons.

MR. ROGERS' LEATHER TRUNK

A Most Amusing Roast by the Member for East Simcoe.

All the Merriment Came Up in Committee of Supply when the Item in the Estimates for Bidsen Hall Was Under Consideration—Mr. McMillen Was Mocked as a House Under a Largely Increased Expenditure for Bidsen Hall—Parliament House Walks Are To Be Improved—Altogether It Was a Stirring Day in the House, With Not Much Accomplished.

Ottawa, May 19.—(Special).—This has been a stirring day in the Commons. The vote for Government House was under discussion, and several hours were taken up debating a motion of Mr. McInerney's to reduce the vote.

The evening session was noteworthy for the manner in which Mr. Bennett ruffled the feelings and the tempers of the Patron members, Mr. Rogers of Frontenac especially. Mr. Bennett showed conclusively how the Patron members had repudiated their platform promises regarding Government House, and were responding to the crack of the Liberal whip.

After the opening Mr. Blair told Col. McLennan that the services of Superintendent Ross of the Cornwall Canal had been dispensed with from March 31 of the current year, the office being abolished.

Col. Prior asked if the resolution passed by the British Columbia Legislature, protesting against any changes in the Behring Sea regulations, had been received by the Government. The feeling in British Columbia was strongly against any change in the regulations.

Mr. Davies said he had not heard of the resolution of the Legislature until Col. Prior had called attention to it. He admitted that dissatisfaction existed among the Canadian seafarers, as among American seafarers, with regard to the regulations. The Imperial Government had courteously referred an American despatch to the Dominion Government and a reply had been transmitted to the home authorities, stating that the Dominion Government was not prepared to consider the question at the present moment for advising any alteration in the existing regulations before the expiration of the five years for which they were originally made, which could be renewed.

Mr. Quinn called attention to further demerits on the Lachine Canal, and he and Mr. Monk proceeded to give instances of harsh treatment, where officers of 20 years' service had been told as late as 9 o'clock not to resume work the next morning. Some had been ordered to retrace their houses at one night's notice.

Mr. Blair made no reply to these statements.

Public Works Estimates.

The House went into committee on the Public Works estimates.

Mr. Tarte stated that his department was short of dredges everywhere, and he would like to see the estimates increased to purchase more.

Mr. Bergeron called attention to the disgraceful state of the walls on the Parliament grounds.

Mr. Tarte replied that tenders would be asked for tomorrow for asphaltizing the walls.

Mr. Tarte informed Sir Charles Tupper that he had decided not to add another story to the western block, but he would rebuild according to the original design.

The flooring would be procured in the United States.

Sir Adolphe Caron suggested that the flooring should be of timber rendered perfectly fireproof through chemical process. He had seen it in New York. He thought it would be admitted that all the public buildings in Ottawa should be made as fireproof as possible.

Mr. Tarte thanked the hon. gentleman for his suggestions.

Bidsen Hall Item.

On the item of \$18,000 for Bidsen Hall, grounds, improvements, furniture, etc., an amount of \$4000, Mr. Bennett twitted Mr. McMillen with having gone back on his word against the expense of Bidsen Hall. He was severe on the Patrons, who also were silent on the subject, and an ardent lot of humbugs they are, said Mr. Bennett. They went around the country on a leather trunk policy, he continued, yet last session trotted off with their leather trunks just the same. He believed their favouring upon the Government in spite of their professions was disgusting. Liberals as well as Conservatives, continuing, he quoted from Mr. Mulock's speech in criticism of Lord Stanley, wherein he expressed disgust at the disposition of Canadians to hedge about the vice-royalty at Ottawa with a sort of sanctity. Would the Postmaster-General say that about the present Governor? For himself, Mr. Bennett would not pretend to the same intimate knowledge of the number of napkins at Bidsen Hall as Mr. McMillen, neither, like the latter, had he ever taken an inventory of the furniture, but he might be spirited away and cheaper stuff put in its place. He would, therefore, make way for Mr. McMillen to go ahead with his criticism of this \$18,000 appropriation.

Mr. Tarte said the average of the past ten years was \$24,500 annually.

Mr. Taylor figured up the expenditure which the present Government proposed to make on Bidsen Hall at \$23,000, against the \$24,500 expended by the Conservatives. It was, therefore, pointed out that the item for salaries would amount for 1200 servants at \$20 per month. "I make this observation," he said, "in the hope that it will shock the Patrons."

Mr. McMillen's Great Down.

Mr. McMillen, who had been loudly called for by the Opposition, had only a few words to say. He complimented the hon. members opposite on developing an ability for criticizing the expenditure. He had confidence, he added, in the hope that it will shock the Patrons.

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A KNOCKOUT.

Of Burning His Own Property at Melancthon

THE JURY OUT TWO HOURS

Judge Ferguson Did Not Deliver Sentence on the Firebug.

Although Stated at the Outset that the firebug would be sentenced to a term in the penitentiary, Judge Ferguson, after deliberating for two hours, announced that he had agreed upon a verdict.

The prisoner was then brought back to the court house from the jail and the foreman of the jury was asked what verdict the jury had arrived at.

"Guilty," came the clear response from Samuel Suggs, foreman of the jury, while not a muscle in the dark face of James Ballard moved. He was then removed to the jail, where, by himself, he wept like a child.

Sentence has not yet been passed on him.

The Other Prisoners Arraigned.

Following the conclusion of James Ballard's trial, Dave Ballard, William Reid and James E. Corbett were arraigned, charged with setting fire to the barn owned by David Ballard.

The first witness examined was Hamilton Tisdale, who swore as follows:

"I remember the fire at Dave Ballard's barn. Dave Ballard told me the place was insured and he was going to burn it up. I was working in the barn on the night of the fire. William Reid, James E. Corbett, Dave Ballard, J. J. Tisdale and I went to Jackson's farm on the night of the fire. William Reid, James E. Corbett, Dave Ballard, J. J. Tisdale and I carried the mower on a wagon and brought it to Dave Ballard's barn. The mower was set on fire and began spreading straw around the floor. Ballard and Reid and Corbett carried lighted sticks around and lighting the straw in different places. Dave said he had better hurry or we won't be in. The fire was raging. I saw the light. I ran to the house."

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Cross-examined by Mr. Myers: I had two fires myself, which I knew to be set. I collected the insurance on both of these and committed perjury twice, but have since experienced repentance. On the witness stand I will be prosecuted or not.

This concluded Tisdale's evidence and after some evidence by the insurance agent the court adjourned until 9 o'clock tomorrow morning.

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PREFERENTIAL CLAUSE.

Will the Home Government Accept It?

DIFFERENCE OF OPINION.

Mr. Laurier's Government Thought To Be Playing a Waiting Game.

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