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The Town of Cochrane Almost Wiped Off the Map by Fire

Only Five Buildings Left Standing—Porcupine Isolated—Whole Country Fire Swept—Report That Three Men Perished in Flames, While Four Were Drowned Fleeing From Conflagration.

COCHRANE CITIZENS ARE WITHOUT FOOD

A RECORD OF DISASTER

The Town of Cochrane has in yesterday's conflagration been twice fire swept since its incorporation on Jan. 1, 1910. In that year 11 buildings were destroyed. T. J. McManus is mayor of the town. Porcupine has been fire swept twice within a fortnight. Kelso Mines, at mile post 222, which is the point of departure for trains to Porcupine, was burned out a few days ago. Cobalt was swept by fire two years ago, sixty per cent of the town being destroyed.

NORTH BAY, July 11.—(Special).—A terrible disaster has overtaken Northern Ontario as a result of heat and lack of rain. The whole country is burning up with bush fires everywhere, which have been blazing for over a week and reached their climax to-day, locking up in their fiery path everything before them. Fanned by a terrible gale of wind, the flames swooped down on villages and mining camps of the north country, and the loss of property will run into immense figures, while the death roll must be great, as the Porcupine district, where the fire is at its worst, contains thousands of prospectors, whose camps are scattered over a wide area of country heavily timbered.

From North Bay northward for three hundred miles and covering a wide section east and west, the flames are busy in their work of destruction and death, and miners, prospectors and settlers are in desperate plight. If they escape with their lives, for supplies, buildings and equipment are being wiped out of existence by a roaring wall of fire which illuminates the sky for many miles.

Cochrane Wiped Out.
The Town of Cochrane, at the junction of the T. and N. O. Ry. and Transcontinental, which was nearly wiped out the other day by fire, was leveled to the ground to-day, and the inhabitants are in a bad way for food and shelter, and asking assistance from neighboring towns to the south.

South Porcupine, where the flames have been wiped off the map, while Golden City was visited by fire, but the best part of the town saved, thus far only a few buildings remain standing.

The south part of Thudale has been swept clean, and other townships have suffered severely. All the mining camps from Dome to Whitney Township have been burned. Hundreds of people, men, women and children, were forced to rush into lakes and streams to seek refuge from the intense and blistering heat of the conflagration, an inferno of terror with immense clouds of smoke darkening the sky, illuminated by sheets of flame, as the fire leaped from tree to tree with frightful rapidity and a terrible roar.

A report has come in that F. Flynn, Tull, and W. J. Fletcher, have been burned to death, while Billy Moore and three foreigners lost their lives by drowning, near South Porcupine town, while running from the flames.

Driven Into the Lake.
The flames swept down on South Porcupine town and Pottsville to-day and wiped out both towns so quickly that the inhabitants were driven into the lake, as no living thing could withstand the fierce, blinding fire, which burned the very ground.

Gasoline boats removed refugees from both towns to Golden City, across the lake, where they were cared for, while the outsiders being burned in flames, and a desperate fight was being waged to save the place. The provision supply is only sufficient for several days at Golden City, and relief is being asked for from outside points.

At the Town of Cochrane everything is burned except the Transcontinental Railway office, the T. and N. O. agent's house, Johnston's poolroom, the Imperial Bank, McKinnon's office, the T. and N. O. Railway's new passenger station and freight shed; all the rest being wiped out clean, including the Bank of Ottawa, a handsome brick block, J. McManus' store, the Rothschild's block, the Dempsey Hotel.

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Please Put Out the Sun

NIAGARA FALLS, Ont., July 11.—(Special).—When the mercury was nearly at the top of the glass to-day the firemen were called out by an alarm from Box 21. When they arrived on the scene, 5-year-old Harry Simms explained that he wanted them to put out the fire in the sun, so that his baby brother could sleep.

SLASHED TIMBER THE MENACE

All the new towns up north seemed destined to one if not more baptism of fire. Two years ago the Town of Cobalt had over 60 per cent of all the houses in that prosperous mining city destroyed in a single day by a tornado of fire. Subury and North Bay have had similar experiences, the not in the same degree as Cobalt, and within the past three weeks fire has threatened the whole north country, especially in the upper end.

The new mining towns at the head of Porcupine Lake, known as Coltsville and Golden City, were fire-swept, and the buildings on the mines of Dome and others in the Pearl Lake group of mines were all burned over and badly damaged. On Sunday fire again broke out at Porcupine, and houses that escaped the first conflagration were taken in the second one. The little Village of Kelso Mines, at Mileage 222, was destroyed on Sunday, nearly every store and house being consumed, and now yesterday Cochrane had its second visitation, and the worst of all.

These conflagrations are started largely in the bush by prospectors. What makes the fires dangerous is the fact that so much timber is slashed and left to rot on the ground in the broiling sun. The moment it has become dry and the weather warm the slightest spark will start the flame going, and the wind will carry it in a kind of hurricane for miles, and no building can be saved.

It is so the slashed timber that makes these pioneer towns the victims of the many fires. The only thing that has saved the Timiskaming forest reserves from fires caused by railway engines and by tourists and prospectors has been the fact that a right of way has been secured for a quarter of a mile on either side of the railway. Some regulation will have to be made in regard to slashed timber if the mushroom towns that are bound to spring up in Northern Ontario are to have a chance of existence.

SIR WILFRID HAS DOUBTS OF RESULT OF ELECTION

Says Blame For Opposition to Reciprocity Rests on "British and Canadian Jingoos."

MONTREAL, July 11.—(Special).—Sir Wilfrid Laurier began his campaign this evening by letting drop an expressed doubt as to the result of the coming election. Speaking of the so-called hybrid alliance between the Conservatives and the Nationalists, the premier said: "Whether they win or whether they lose, they will start in after the elections are over to devour each other." Sir Wilfrid also absolved the Canadian manufacturers from the crime of opposing the reciprocity arrangement, saying, "They are too intelligent, and the blame rests alone at the door of the English and Canadian jingoos." The premier made no allusion to dissolution and said he would reserve further discussion for another time.

Referring to his work abroad, he said that he had thought of anything which would tend to displace the autonomy of Canada, or to take away one jot or tittle of power from the Canadian people, and their representatives in parliament. He believed that he had succeeded in this and that time would show that his work had been in the best interests of both Canada and the empire.

Both banks of the river were ablaze with light as the government steamer Druid, bearing Sir Wilfrid and his party, passed up the channel. Sir Wilfrid's admirers did not wait until the vessel docked at the wharf here before commencing the reception, but pressed every available tug and vessel into service and met the Druid miles below the city with a flotilla of boats gaily decked and illuminated. From dozens of points fireworks added brilliance to the scene. The dock at Victoria Pier was the climax in the display of illumination. A towering arch outlined in incandescents had been erected, and everywhere were banners and lighting. Huge streamers bearing mottoes were stretched on high, the inscriptions being: "Welcome, Sir Wilfrid," "Nestor de la Conference," "Long live the Premier," etc.

STRUCK BY LIGHTNING
Edward Ward, Bathing Instructor, Dazed by Shock.
Edward Ward, 22 years of age, who has charge of the free bathing station on the island, was struck by lightning at 1.30 yesterday afternoon. For a time he was dazed by the terrific shock, the full force of which he evidently did not receive.

He was picked up by some Italians who live near the spot and laid on a couch. Later he was brought to the city in a small boat and removed in the police ambulance to St. Michael's Hospital. He was teaching a number of boys to swim when he was struck, and it is thought that the force of the bolt was diffused upon the water. At the hospital he felt severe cramps in his stomach and abdomen. He will recover. He lives at Ward's Island, where he was later removed.

BORDEN BACK IN OTTAWA

OTTAWA, July 11.—R. L. Borden arrived home from his western tour to-day, evidently well satisfied with its results and firmly in the position to support the reciprocity pact. Mr. Borden was at his office early discussing the trip. He said that while the tour was strenuous it was satisfactory. "I am satisfied," he said, "that the more thorough the western farmer understands the true import of the reciprocity compact, the less he will approve of it. We made our trip accordingly plain, not only at our public meetings, but at the interviews with delegates of the organized farmers at many points. It is needless to add that I shall maintain that position to the end." Mr. Borden leaves this evening for two weeks' rest.

A SUPREME ISSUE

Sir Wilfrid Laurier has returned to Canada determined to force a great issue up to Canadians. We believe the country will be in the throes of a general election in a few weeks at most.

The issue that Sir Wilfrid Laurier has raised is that of Commercial Union with the United States!

He raised it once before, over twenty years ago, and it was beaten. Since then Canada has enjoyed a prosperity greater than has ever come to any country on the face of the globe.

It must be beaten again, and the Laurier government that has chosen to raise it must be driven from office!

We believe Canadians will rise to the occasion and assert their absolute independence of the people and government of the United States. A people or government that allows a powerful and unscrupulous neighbor to have a say in its tariff policy, in its fiscal policy, is not fit to live and be a nation. Degeneration is already upon it!

We had a long struggle to win independence of the mother country in our tariff policy. Now that we have achieved it and prospered marvelously under it, Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his government propose to allow the United States to have a say in it! We say, No, and we believe Canadians will say, No. They said it in 1891.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier, after all kinds of repudiations of his error of former years, has seen fit to revert to it. It is the sore spot of his memory. The people have not raised it. His own party did not raise it. He sprung it on us all in a night. And he has gilded it with an appeal to the pockets of the farmers of this country—the most prosperous lot of farmers in the world—that reciprocity (we call it commercial union) will give them the American markets for their farm products. We believe rather that it will give the Canadian market to American products! But that is the way he has gilded the pill, and the grain growers of the Canadian West are the ones who have been most caught by it.

But the issue is greater than an increased price for wheat. The issue is Canadian Nationhood and British Connection, as against American Interference with our Tariff Independence. Not that we believe that the Americans can break down our nationality. But they've got to be given once more to understand that it can't be done. Sir Wilfrid has raised hopes in all their eyes that it can be done. That is how President Taft takes it. He says Canada is at the parting of the ways: Let us make him and his people understand that she is not. Thousands and thousands of Americans are now thinking that the Canadian plum, Canada, with all her magnificent resources and prospects, is to fall into their hands for exploitation! We can't afford to let that view spread or that issue go unchallenged. As Sir John Macdonald challenged it in 1891, it must be challenged in 1911. And, we hope, for the last time. Let the answer be decisive. It is not Sir Wilfrid Laurier that is at issue—it is the nationality and future of Canada, the supreme issue that can be raised. We can well afford to let Sir Wilfrid Laurier go out of office, rather than Americans come to think that Canada is to be theirs. They think so ever since Mr. Paterson and Mr. Fielding secretly signed that wretched agreement of theirs with President Taft.

Grant even that it made us richer, it would be a dear price to pay for making Americans to think that Canada was within their reach. Sir Wilfrid Laurier engendered that belief in a single night! What has Canada to gain from mixing up her affairs with the United States? Our system of government is better than theirs. The British Empire is our anchor, and the British system of government is away ahead of the American system. The hope of humanity to-day is in the British system, and we as Canadians are helping to make the British system better. The American system is on trial as it never was on trial before.

It is the duty of Canadians to go out and fight this battle, and to fight it to the last ditch, and to win the fight now and once for all and forever.

We are making no appeal to party, but to patriotism. We are appealing to Canadians. Every assault that has been made on our nationality in a hundred years and more has been put down by our people. This is the most insidious attack of all. Let it be defeated in a clean-cut verdict.

The money appeal to the west will not win. Manitoba and British Columbia are a unit against it. The two provinces of the wheat plains will at least divide on it. The majority of the west will, we believe, be against it.

But the great fighting ground will be in Ontario. We must beat it here to a finish. Ontario is Canadian from the crown of her head to the sole of her foot. Let Ontario, whether Conservative or Liberal, assert their faith in Canadian nationality. Let them give Americans to understand that their hopes of continentalism, of incorporation of Canada by steady, but insidious policy, will never be encouraged by them.

We believe Ontario is three to one against Reciprocity. Let us say so. If we do, Commercial Union is killed forever. Sir Wilfrid Laurier will disappear, but so will continentalism.

This appeal must be made in Ontario before all other issues. It is now the only issue. Let Sir Wilfrid bring it to a head as soon as he likes. He will say his government is being blocked. Reciprocity is being blocked. It deserves to be.

Ontario has saved Canadian nationality before to-day, and we believe it will save it again. We have been challenged to say whether we are Canadians and British. Sir Wilfrid has raised the issue; now President Taft has raised it with him.

Canada must give the answer that she is Canadian and that she is British and mistress in her own house in all matters of tariff policy.

PARALYZED WHILE AT WORK

While at work upon his mortar box at a job in Westmount-avenue, at 2.50 yesterday afternoon, William Colton, 50 years, a bricklayer's helper, living at 158 Hampton-avenue, was stricken with paralysis. His left side is paralyzed. Dr. M. D. McKinnon, 686 Broadview-avenue, was called and sent the man in the police ambulance to the General Hospital. It is feared that he may be paralyzed for a long time.

\$15,000 BLAZE

ST. CATHARINES, July 11.—(Special).—\$15,000 damage was done to the furnace building at the Contain's Reduction Company's silver smelter at Thorold to-night.

EXPRESS LEAPED OVER 20 FOOT EMBANKMENT

Twelve Are Dead and Forty-four Injured Crowd Hospitals—Worst Wreck in History of New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad—Train Was Going Sixty Miles an Hour.

Disregarded Signals.
NEW HAVEN, Conn., July 11.—A statement issued by Vice-President Horn of the New York, New Haven and Hartford R. R. Co. this afternoon, the assertion is made that Engineer Curtis disregarded both the distance and the home signals and confirmation is given of the earlier official statement to the effect that the federal express was running at the crossover at a rate of about sixty miles an hour when the running card called for only fifteen.

Mr. Horn says that the engineer had once previously run the federal express and was a man who was familiar with the operation of the line between New York and Bridgeport, from general experience. Mr. Horn adds that there is no way of accounting for the "error made by the engineer."

UP GOES PRICE OF MILK DRY SEASON IS CAUSE
Consumer to Pay Difference to Producer—Larger Dairies May Not Fall in Line.
The Retail Milk Dealers' Association of Toronto declared yesterday afternoon to raise the price of milk to the consumer to 12 quart tickets for the dollar in bottle and 14 tickets in bulk. The rise will come into force on Aug. 1.

A meeting of the association was held at the head offices at 21 West Richmond-street, at 3.30 p.m. yesterday, and representatives of the farmers were present in consultation. The meeting lasted for nearly two hours and ended when the farmers had secured what they considered an adequate advance in price, and the Retail Milk Dealers' Association had declared to raise the price of milk to the extent of one ticket in the dollar.

The vice-president of the association, Mr. James Kerr, presided at the meeting. Informed that the world that it was absolutely necessary to grant the producers an increased price if the supply was to be kept up.

The dry season and short crops had combined to make it necessary for the farmers to feed their cattle now to the full extent of the winter season. This would be impossible at the former prices, so the retailers have had to concede a higher payment. It appears, however, that the larger dairies do not contemplate increasing prices to the consumer. Charles E. Potter, manager of the City Dairy, said to The World last night that none of the producers who supplied them asked for increased rates above what the dairy had offered, namely 10 cents per 100 pounds. The City Dairy didn't expect to raise the charge to the consumer.

G.N.W. ARBITRATION OVER
Number of C. P. R. Telegraph Officials Give Testimony.
The arbitration to determine what wages should be paid to G. N. W. operators was concluded last night and the award of the arbitrators, Judge Teetzel (chairman), D. Campbell, representing the men and Mr. Markey, representing the company, is awaited with interest.

Witnesses yesterday included a number of representatives of the C.P.R. telegraph service, as the G.N.W. men's contention is that the C.P.R. operators are better paid. The witnesses were James Kent, C.P.R. manager; Toronto; J. F. Richardson, C.P.R. superintendent, Montreal; W. Marshall, C.P.R. superintendent, Toronto; W. J. Camp, C.P.R. electrical engineer, Montreal; S. Hurmes, G.N.W. manager, Montreal; Geo. Salloway, chief G.N.W. operator, Montreal; A. E. Stainton, night chief operator, Montreal; C. E. Davis, manager, G.N.W., Ottawa; and G. F. Robertson, chairman of the C.P.R. Order of Telegraphers.

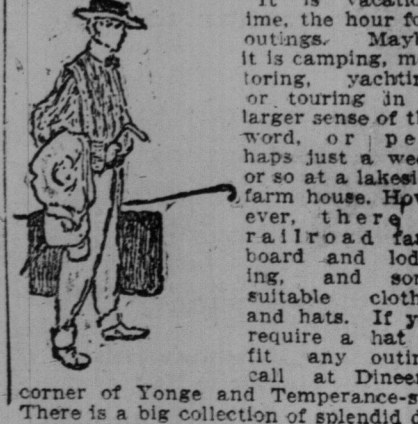
HOME-GROWN FRUIT.
Yesterday's showers did little to revive the parched land. A heavy shower passed along the south shore of the lake over the Grimsby district. It laid the dust, but did not help the berries and small fruits; and damaged the cherries, which had matured to a fine quality. Along the north shore the heat and humidity still prevails, and the fruit is withering for want of moisture. Raspberries will be a poor crop; currants and gooseberries are burned on the bushes.

By the by, speaking of cherries, something must be wrong with local market conditions, when California table cherries bring fifty cents for a small box in the stores, while the beautiful black cherry—native grown and superior both in quality and size—goes begging at the fruit-growers' hands at a dollar for a six quart basket. And this price is unduly enhanced when the basket reaches the consumer thru the retailer. It is not reciprocity and it is not lack of good fruit that induces Toronto consumers to buy a foreign product. It is sheer ignorance of the quality and value of the home grown variety. Some people wouldn't give much for home industries, but when Ontario can give quality and value such as is revealed this season, something is wrong when Canadian dollars go south of the line.

ONE MAN DRIVEN MAD BY TERRIBLE SHOCK

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., July 11.—Twelve battered corpses in the morgue, forty-four suffered in the hospitals, and a mountain of junk at the foot of a twenty-foot embankment at the western end of the city, tell the tale tonight of the worst wreck in fifty-eight years' history of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad. Although it occurred just before dawn, the coroner's office has had one man all day long doing nothing but answering telephone and telegraph queries from all parts of the country. Four of the dead, two men and two women, remain unidentified. The others are: C. W. Christie, Philadelphia; Geo. E. Saunders, Norwich, Conn.; Mrs. Gwendolyn F. Rogers, wife of Sergeant Geo. B. Rogers, Coast Artillery, U.S.A.; May Louise Rogers, 7 months old, daughter of Mrs. Rogers; Mrs. Helena B. Walcott, Washington, D.C., wife of Chas. D. Walcott; Hartman, 7 years old, son of Mrs. Louis Hartman, Newfield, N.J., who is in a serious condition at the hospital; A. Curtis, New York, engineer of the train; W. A. Ryan, New York, fireman.

Smashed Into Matchwood.
When the Federal Express from Washington to Boston leaped from the embankment this morning, a May coach next to the baggage car was caught at the bottom of the heap and smashed into matchwood, and not a person inside escaped death or serious injury. The heavier Pullmans, five of them, that crashed down after it, held together, and the sleeping passengers inside, although badly shaken, for the most part suffered no worse than broken bones and bruises.



It is vacation time, the hour for outings. Maybe it is camping, motor-ing, yachting or touring in a larger sense of the word, or perhaps it is a day or so at a lakeside farm house. However, there is a rail-road board and lodging, and some suitable clothes and hats. If you require a hat to fit any outing, call at Dineen's, corner of Yonge and Temperance-sts. There is a big collection of splendid designs by all makers.