

CHIEF AITKEN AND TWO MEN INJURED IN YORK STREET FIRE WERE BURIED UNDER DEBRIS

Roof and Ceiling Fell In as They Were Fighting a
Blaze in Works of the Spring Bed and Mat-
tress Company at 11:30 This Morning.

THE SMOKE EATERS HAD CLOSE CALL

Captain Tom Aitken of No. 3 Company One of Those Hurt—
Injuries Will Not Prove Serious—Loss in Fire Is
\$20,000—Insurance Amounts to \$26,000.

The Fire in Brief

Injured—Fire Chief John Aitken, scalp wound, bruises;
Capt. Thomas Aitken, No. 3 station, ankle bones spread,
back wrenched and considerably bruised; Fireman Robert
Robertson, several scalp wounds, and leg wrenched.

In Crash, But Escaped—Firemen George Milligan and
Peterborough.

Location of Fire—Ontario Spring and Bed Mattress
Company's plant, 90 York street.
Loss—\$20,000 (estimated).
Insurance—\$26,000.

Out of Work—Twenty-five men and ten women.

Cause of Fire—Some foreign substance in picker
struck fire, and ignited wool and inflammable material.
The company will rebuild at once.

Chief Aitken and two firemen were
injured, and several had narrow es-
capes, at a fire that broke out at 10:30
this morning in the picking-room of
the Ontario Spring Bed and Mattress
Company's plant at 90 York street. The
men were buried under a falling ceil-
ing and roof, but fortunately escaped
with slight injuries. Their escape was
miraculous.

The loss was \$20,000, fully covered
by insurance.

One of the employees, Sam Wilson,
was working at a picker, when sud-
denly burst out in the wool, which
he was putting through the machine.

He ran to get a pail of water, but the
flames burst up, singeing his eyebrows
and hair. The alarm was quickly
turned in, and the fire doors through-
out the building were closed.

The department was quickly on the
scene, and soon had many lines of
hose playing on the flames.

The burning wool and mattress
packing made dense clouds of smoke,
however, and for a time the fire ap-
peared to be a dangerous one.

Chief Aitken and his men kept the
flames confined to the picking-room
and the workroom.

After playing on it for many min-
utes the flames seemed to be practi-
cally subdued, and confined largely to
the gutter or loft, where the mattress
packing was stored.

Fifteen or twenty firemen were sent
into the building, and by ladders
worked their way into the loft.

Roof Crashed In.

Chief Aitken, Capt. Thomas Aitken,
Fireman Robertson, and Fireman Pe-
terborough were under the northeast
section of the ceiling playing the hose
on a most advantageous position. The
other firemen were above, and narrow-
ly escaped going down in the crash.

Capt. Tom Aitken was in the win-
dow making an investigation when
the ceiling and roof, weighing down by
the water-soaked packing, crashed
down. He immediately jumped to the
ground, the wall above him bulged out
fully six inches, bricks and dust fall-
ing on the prostrate man, and the
crowd for a second thought he would
be crushed beneath it. The wall did
not fall, however, and Aitken was
quickly carried to safety.

Chief Was Buried.

In the meantime the Chief and

Robertson were buried under the de-
bris. Chief Aitken quickly pulled
himself out, and Lieut. Milligan and
several firemen rushed to their rescue.
Robertson was buried completely,
and he was lifted out by his comrades.
His face and head were bleeding, and
he looked as if he were seriously in-
jured.

He was carried down and rushed to
the hospital, where Dr. George Wilson
attended to his injuries.

Not Badly Hurt.

It was found upon investigation that
Robertson was not badly hurt. His
head was cut in half a dozen places,
and his face scratched. The smoke
and debris quite suffocated him. At
the hospital he quickly revived. He
explained of pains in his leg. It was
discovered to be a fractured leg, but
no bones were broken.

Capt. Thomas Aitken was found to
have the bones of his right ankle
sprung, the leg was placed in splints
by Dr. John D. Wilson, and he was
removed to his home. He will be laid
up for some time.

Chief Aitken had a scalp
wound but refused to have it attended
to until the fire was put out. It is a
painful but not dangerous injury.

After two hours fighting the flames
were put out, and the department sent
home.

The Loss.

The damage is chiefly in stock and
machinery. The building was gutted,
but the walls are not badly damaged.

The fire department made a fine fight,
every man doing great work.

The pressure was good, there being
plenty of water at all times. The fire,
at first, was expected, made a great
deal of smoke, and it was thought at
one time that a very serious conflag-
ration was in progress. In the im-
mediate neighborhood are many frame
buildings, and it was feared that the
flames would reach them.

The Insurance.

The plant was insured for \$26,000,
carried by D. Campbell & Sons, In-
surance Co., and was covered by sev-
eral companies.

"The fire originated in the picking-
room," said Mr. Sussex, one of the firm. "We
in this department, and they will
be out of work for some time. We
will rebuild as soon as possible I expect."

LONDON'S POPULATION 50,069 MAYOR HAS THE STATEMENT

Assessment Commissioner Compiles His Figures and Hands in
Result With the Vouchers—They Will Now Be Sent
to the Premier and Lieutenant-Governor With a
Request for a Vote on Sunday Cars.

The population figures gathered by
Assessment Commissioner Grant were
handed Mayor Stevely this afternoon,
and were made public. According to
the statement the city's population is
now 50,069, which is a trifle, at least,
over the required 50,000.

The Figures.

The figures are made up as follows:
Population as per census 49,907
Vouchers, Sacred Heart 23
Vouchers, Collegiate Institute 25
Vouchers, Business College 30
Births, over deaths, since Sept. 1 58
Vouchers, Normal School 10
Vouchers, Medical School 172
Vouchers, Western University 20
Vouchers, St. Mary's Church 18
Vouchers, Western Shortland 13
Academy 10
Vouchers, Conservatory of Music 13
St. Joseph's Hospital 14
House of Providence 74
Victoria Home 5
A. E. Jolly, omitted 7

Total 50,069

Mr. Grant makes no comment on the
figures, but merely submits them to
his worship.

Two Deputations.

The Sunday car advocates were given
the statistics today, and it is more

than likely they will go to Toronto
tomorrow and submit them to Sir
James Whitney.

The figures were given out to the
Sunday Day Alliance this morning, and
an investigation into them is being
conducted this afternoon. The claim
is made by them that the statement is
unreliable, and that they will be able
to show, if they are able to finish their
investigation in time, that the popu-
lation has gained but little since the
census was taken, and is certainly
short of 50,000.

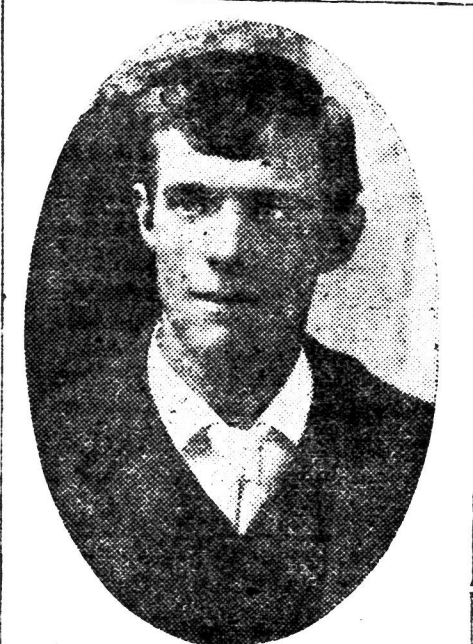
Off For Toronto.

They will probably go to Toronto
tomorrow. The personnel of the de-
putation is not known, but Rev. Mr.
Rollins, Rev. Mr. N. H. D. A. Mc-
Dermid, and some others will probably
make the trip.

The Sunday car advocates will go
tomorrow and present the figures to
Sir James Whitney.

No idea of the personnel of that
deputation could be obtained, but it
is probable that Mr. John Pringle, Dr.
J. B. Campbell, Arthur V. White, S.
P. Lawson, and others will go.

It will be known tomorrow, in any
event whether or not London will
have a vote on Sunday cars in Janu-
ary.



FIREMAN ROBERT ROBERTSON,
Who Was Buried Under Debris in the
Mattress Works Fire Today.

WEST MIDDLESEX REMAINS LIBERAL

Duncan C. Ross Has a Majority
of One Hundred and
Fifty-Five.

VICTOR MADE FINE GAINS

Caradoc and Strathroy Both Gave Him
Bumping Majorities.

Strathroy, Nov. 10.—After one of
the most strenuous although very
quiet campaigns, Mr. Duncan C. Ross,
Strathroy, the Liberal candidate, was
elected to succeed Mr. W. S. Calvert
as member of the House of Commons
by the by-election held here today,
the majority of 155. The majority at
the general election was but 12, but
today the Conservatives were com-
pletely routed in the riding.

The vote polled was a good one for
a by-election particularly, and the
Liberals showed to better advantage,
as they got out a large vote in every
sub-division.

Some Big Gains.

Gains were made all along the line,
Strathroy did especially for Duncan
Ross. Although the majority was not
so great as he received when he ran
as candidate in the north riding, 153,
nevertheless it is one of the largest
ever given a candidate in any election
in this town. People of all classes
and all shades of politics stood by the
Liberal candidate in the fight. The
townships of Caradoc and Ekfrid did
extremely well, and showed their re-
sultment to the class cry raised by
Mr. McLaughlin, by giving him decisive
votes. Moss and Metcalfe did not do
so well as anticipated for some reason
or other. Delaware varied little from
the ordinary vote, while the other di-
visions stood by the Liberal candidate.

Demonstration at Strathroy.

As would be expected the returns
were received enthusiastically in
Strathroy. Although Mr. Ross re-
quested that there be no demonstra-
tion, the enthusiasm of his supporters
could not be dampened. Bonfires were
lighted in many sections of the town,
two immense fires being started in
front of his residence.

Compelled to Speak.

Mr. Ross came down town early in
the evening, and was surrounded by a
crowd of his supporters, lifted shoul-
der-high, and compelled to make a
speech.

"This is but a continuation of the en-
thusiasm shown at the last election."

Death of Mrs. Barton.

Mrs. Mary Ann Barton, widow of
the late William Barton, died this
morning at the residence of her son,
William G. Barton, 147 Clarence street,
after an illness extending over about
a year. Mrs. Barton was 52 years old,
and is survived by two sons and one
daughter, William G. of this city;
Henry, of Petrolia, and Miss Sarah
Barton, of Orillia. The funeral ar-
rangements have not yet been com-
pleted, but the funeral will be held
to Woodland Cemetery.

UNIQUE CIGAR CASE IN COURT

Mr. McEvoy Propounds Two
Questions for Magistrate
Love to Answer.

SOLD GOODS ON SUNDAY

Attorney for the Defence Asks for a
Ruling, So That Cafe Men May
Know What To Do.

What promises to be an unusually
interesting case was heard in the
police court this morning, as a result
of a charge laid against an employee
of a local restaurant-keeper, that he,
on Sunday, Oct. 31, sold cigars.

Mr. J. M. McEvoy appeared for the
defendant, and at the outset Chief Wil-
liam Love, the magistrate, asked him
the right man was summoned, and if
he thought it might be advisable to sum-
mon the proprietor of the restaurant.

The Defence.

Mr. McEvoy, however, waived this
option, and stated that he was pre-
pared to admit the proprietor's liabil-
ity for anything done in that way by
his employee.

He asked the court to suppose two
cases, first that a person went into a
restaurant on Sunday, and merely pur-
chased a cigar, and second, that a per-
son went into a restaurant and had a
lunch, and asked the waiter to bring
him a cigar.

What he wanted was a decision in
both cases, in order that both his client
and others may know just what the
law is in regard to the matter.

No Precedent.

As the law now is there is no prece-
dent to go by. In the case in question
the men who purchased the cigars did
not purchase anything to eat, and Mr.
C. Ernest Taylor testified that he had
seen them at the cigar stand, and when
they paid their money they gave him
the store and asked them to give him
the cigars. The men did so and the
cigars were produced in court.

Magistrate's Opinion.

"They did not have to give up the
cigars," said the court, "and I think
you might have allowed them the lux-
ury of a smoke, when they gave up
their names and caused you no trou-
ble. However, I am not in any way
blaming you, as no doubt you did what
you thought necessary to secure all
the evidence in case it was needed."

Ran in Luck.

The proprietor, when he saw what
happened, gave the young men his
money, and this morning they
were so presented with the cigars,
although the defendant testified that
cigars were not their property.

"I would hold from the evidence be-
fore me," said the court, "that the pro-
prietor is guilty of breaking the law. I
will, however, submit the questions to
the court of appeal, and will give my
decision finally when I hear from
them."

TOMORROW—SHOW E. Y.

FORECAST.

Strong breezes and moderate local
sleet, southerly to southwesterly
and mild today, showers during the
night and on Friday.

TEMPERATURES.

Station	8 a.m.	Min.	Weather
Victoria	46	36	Cloudy
Calgary	46	36	Cloudy
Winnipeg	46	36	Cloudy
Port Arthur	46	36	Cloudy
Parry Sound	46	36	Cloudy
Fort St. John	46	36	Cloudy
Ottawa	46	36	Fair
Montreal	46	36	Cloudy
Quebec	46	36	Cloudy
Halifax	46	36	Cloudy

YESTERDAY'S WEATHER.

Toronto, Nov. 10.—An important
depression is centred tonight in Mani-
toba, and will move eastward to-
morrow, bringing with it a heavy
snowfall in the Yukon and North-
west Territories, and a light snow-
fall in the Maritime Provinces. Elsewhere
the weather has been for the most part
fair.

MAXIMUM TEMPERATURES.

Station	Max.
London	44
Edmonton	26
Battle- ford	26
Winnipeg	26
Parry Sound	26
Fort St. John	26
Ottawa	26
Montreal	26
Quebec	26
Halifax	26

WEATHER NOTES.

The pressure is low over the upper lake
region and in the Missouri Valley, and
highest in Northern British Columbia.
The weather is cold in the Western
Provinces, attended by light snowfalls,
and stormy and showery in the upper
lake region.

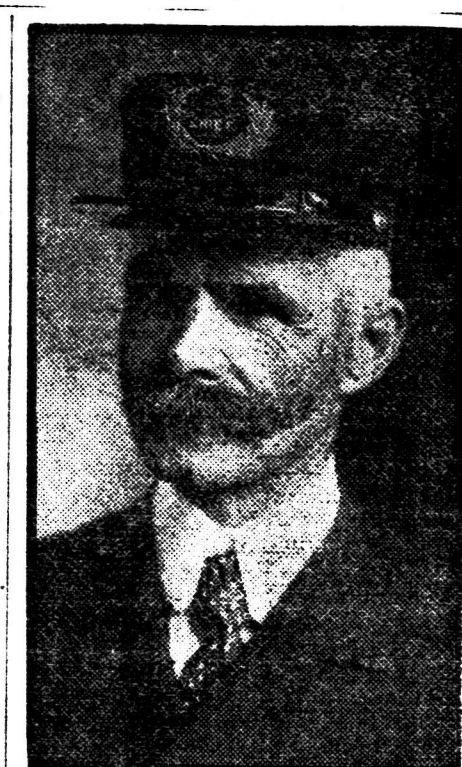


Photo by George Henry.
CHIEF JOHN AITKEN,
Who Was Slightly Injured in the Fire
on York Street.

WOMAN STRUCK BY M. C. R. TRAIN

Mary Ralph Severely Injured
on Line of L. and P. S. R.
South of Thames
Bridge.

WALKING ON THE TRACKS

Is Very Deaf and Apparently Did Not
Notice Approach of 6:40 Train
Yesterday.

Miss Mary Ralph, who keeps house
for her father, and resides on the west
side of the Port Stanley tracks, almost
opposite the Wilcox Hardware Manu-
facturing Company, of Chelsea Green,
was struck by the Michigan Central
express, which leaves London at 5:40
in the evening, for St. Thomas, and is
at present in Victoria Hospital suffer-
ing from a broken leg and a very
severe shaking-up.

On Way Home.

As far as can be learned, Miss Ralph,
who is deaf, was on her way home, and
walked in front of the express. She
was struck from the frontman's side of
the engine, and as she was trying up
the time, he did not see the accident,
and the train went right through to
St. Thomas. Miss Ralph was found
lying in the ditch at the side of the
tracks by Richard Fletcher, an em-
ployee at McElroy's south end shop.
She was covered with blood at the time
and in a dazed condition.

No One at Home.

The house being but a short distance
away, Mr. Fletcher hurried there to try
and get someone to help him lift the
woman out of the ditch. There was no
one at home, and he hurried back. In
the meantime the girl's father, who
also works at McElroy's, was on his
way home, and had found his daughter.

May Save the Limb.

The leg was so badly broken that
it was feared for a time that it would
be necessary to amputate it, but finally
it was wired together, and an effort
was made to save it. Miss Ralph
also had cuts about the head, and was
terribly shaken up. It is stated that on
account of her being deaf she had been
warned not to cross the tracks. She
is doing as well as can be expected at
Victoria Hospital.

NIAGARA FALLS BANDIT IS IN HAMILTON

Police Say They Expect to Catch
Assaulter of Express Mes-
senger Dobson.

Hamilton, Ont., Nov. 10.—According
to a statement made by a member of the
local police force this morning, a man
living in this city is under suspicion of
being one of the two men who assaulted
William Dobson, the Canadian Express
agent at Niagara Falls last week and stole
\$14,000 from him. The police state that
they may make the arrest this week if
their plans materialize.

Police Commissioners.

Police Magistrate Jelfs, chairman of the
police commissioners, announced this
morning that in future he would vote to
have all policemen, who appear on the
paid trial privately, Mayor McLaughlin,
who is also one of the commissioners,
takes the same views. The magistrate
says the papers print too much about
the "constables' transgressions."

For the Half Year Ending on Nov. 5.

License Inspector Sturdy collected \$26,294.16
for licenses. Of that amount the city gets
\$14,200. For the half year ending on May
5, the city's share of the receipts was
\$3,962.50.

IT MAY BE THE LAST

Dr. Ross Refers to Treatment of Kin-
dergartens by School Board.

Rev. Dr. Ross, of St. Andrew's
Church, in introducing Howard Griggs
last night said that it might be the
last course of lectures under the aus-
pices of the Froebel Society, in view
of the attitude of the school board to-
ward the kindergarten. The atmos-
phere was rather wintry for the kin-
dergartners, but the actions of the
board have certainly been summary
(summary). (Laughter.) Dr. Ross
said the public had been greatly im-
debited to the Froebel Society, and he
paid a high compliment to Miss Laid-
law.

The hearty applause showed that
the sympathy of the audience was with
the kindergartners.

OPENING OF DOMINION HOUSE MADE A GORGEOUS SPECTACLE

Brilliant Scenes at the Capital Today as Earl Grey Inaugurates
the Session and Delivers Speech From Throne.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Ottawa, Ont., Nov. 11.—The Do-
minion Parliament was opened today
with the usual ceremonies.

Just within the building Earl Grey
was received by the Prime Minister
and Sir Richard Cartwright, and
escorted to the Speaker's quarters.
There he was met by the Speaker, and
escorted to the throne in the Senate
chamber, which was a picture of im-
pressive character. The imposing
chamber was thronged with men in
uniform and women in magnificent tol-
els. The privy councillors of Canada,
with Sir Wilfrid and Sir Richard at
their head, were present in their offi-
cial uniforms. There were the repre-
sentatives of foreign countries in uni-
form; the judges of the supreme court
were seated on the woodwork, clad in
their scarlet and ermine robes, and the
gorgiously uniformed aide-de-camps,
who composed the staff of the Govern-
ment-General, completed a picture of
gold and color which would be hard to
surpass. The only thing lacking was
the presence of the Commons, and the
Gentleman of the Black Rod was dis-
patched to summon them to the bar of
the Upper House. In the Commons the
members were in their places, and the
hum of conversation was interrupted by
and stilled by three thunderous strokes
of a mace against the door of the
chamber, announcing that his excel-
lency's messenger had arrived with his
summons. It was delivered with three
obsequious to the Speaker's chair, and
the Commons followed the mace, borne
by the sergeant-at-arms, in full uni-
form, and the Speaker, in robes and
cocked hat, to the Senate chamber,
where his excellency delivered the
speech from the throne, in the follow-
ing terms:

Speech From the Throne.

Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate,
Gentlemen of the House of Commons:
In again meeting you at a season most
convenient for the dispatch of busi-
ness, it is with great pleasure that I
congratulate you on the prosperous
condition of the country.

The present year, which is now
rapidly drawing to a close, has been a
period of steady and progressive
growth. Immigration has poured into
the new settlements of the north and
of the west in a copious and well-
ordered stream, drawn from the best
elements of the British Isles, the United
States and continental Europe. Trade
and commerce have made rapid ad-
vances in all directions. The revenue
has almost completely regained what
it had lost in the recent period of de-
pression.

Most remarkable has been the rapid
recovery from the financial embarrass-
ment which for a short time was the
cause of anxiety among businessmen.
In nearly every branch of business
there has been a revival of activity,
which gives assurance of continued
progress and prosperity.

Continued on Page Nine.

SERIOUS CHARGE AGAINST A WESTMINSTER WOMAN

Arrested on a Serious Charge of
Placing Salt Around Trees
To Kill Them.

Mrs. William Shore, of Westminster
Township, appeared before Squire
Chittick this morning, charged with
wilful damage, by Mr. John E. Jones,
of the same township. Some time ago
Mr. Jones found that a number of his
trees and grape vines were dying, and
searching for a cause to explain the
occurrence he found that salt had been
carefully placed around their roots
with the purpose of destroying them.
An investigation by the county con-
stables resulted, and a warrant was
issued for Mrs. Shore's apprehension.
The case came up for hearing this
morning. Mr. Jones was the first wit-
ness called. He told of the circum-
stances of finding the salt and of the
injury done to his premises. The case
was adjourned till 2 o'clock, and at
the time of going to press was still
under consideration, with several wit-
nesses yet to be heard.

MR. CHAPMAN SAYS HASN'T BEEN APPROACHED

Doesn't Know Anything About
Being Candidate for Mayor
Next Year.

Although rumors are persistent about
the city hall that Mr. John H. Chapman
will be a candidate for the mayoralty on
the E. O. P. A. and Board of Trade
platform, Mr. Chapman states that he
has heard nothing of the sort.

"I have heard nothing of the sort,"
said Mr. Chapman, "and I have received no intimation of this
whenever I have been in the city."

"You have nothing to say regarding
the layman's movement inaugurated in
the Ashby Street Church," was asked.
"I was not present at the meeting, and
know little or nothing of it," said Mr.
Chapman.