4 P. M. EDITION

London Advertiser

Read Small Ads. ON PAGE 3.

40TH YEAR. NO. 17139 THE ADVERTISER, LONDON, ONTARIO, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1904. PRICE TWO CENTS.

The City of Rochester in Peril of Fire; Flames Sweep Through Business Section

Many Big Buildings Completely Destroyed—Firemen Check Flames by Dynamiting Whole Blocks—Help Hurried From Buffalo and Syracuse—Residental Quarter of the City Threatened—Loss Will Approach Six Millions.

Rochester, N. Y., Feb. 26. — A great fire is raging here. Main street east in the heart of the business district is in flames. Buffalo and Syracuse have been appealed to for help. Dynamite is being used to check the spread of the flames. Among the buildings already gone are the Granite building, a high office structure; Sibley, Lindsay, Curr & Co., Beadle, Sherburn & Co., and many others.

The chief of the fire department at 8:45 said he believed the fire could be kept within the block extending from St. Paul to North streets unless the wind should change and set fire to the buildings on the south side of Main street. In this event a large part of the residential section would have to go. The fire is reported to have started in the basement of the Rochester Drygoods Company. A fuse connected with the electrical motor that runs the elevator blew out, and the next moment the flames were rushing up the elevator well. In a few moments thereafter the building was wrapped in flames.

LATER.

The great fire that started in the heart of the business district of this city this morning, is still raging fiercely. The weather is ideal for fighting fire, as there is scarcely any wind blowing. Had there been even a moderately high wind, the firemen say, nothing could have prevented a repetition of the Baltimore fire. As it is, the firemen are battling under extreme difficulties, as water mains are not working as they should. The extreme cold this winter has frozen up many of the mains, and for the past two weeks the firemen have been engaged in thawing out the pipes. On account of the lack of proper apparatus this work has been slow.

At 7 o'clock Chief Little and Commissioner of Public Safety Gilman telegraphed to Buffalo and Syracuse for assistance.

At 9 o'clock the fire was burning fiercely, although the fire department are sanguine that they can prevent it spreading.

The fire started before many people were on the street, but the news soon spread, and by 6 o'clock there were thousands crowding the scene of the disaster. The explosions of dynamite that the firemen used to check the spread of the flames could be heard in all sections of the city, and this noise was supplemented by the thunder of crashing walls. Life lines rope in the fire district, and the entire night squad of policemen is on duty.

Commissioner of Public Safety Gilman estimates the loss at this hour (9 o'clock) at between $5,000,000 and $6,000,000.

FIRE CHIEF INJURED.

The Granite building, at the corner of Main and St. Paul streets, will be a total loss. The building occupied by the Rochester Drygoods Company, just east of the Granite building, is totally destroyed, and the walls have fallen. The fire spread to the Walkover Shoe Company, just east of the Rochester Drygoods Company, and this building is entirely gutted.

At 9:15 Assistant Chief Jaques was severely injured by a fall. His head was cut open. He was removed to the hospital.

So far there has been no loss of life, although there have been several miraculous escapes from falling walls and flying debris.

SOME OF THE LOSSES.

The loss is estimated between four and five million dollars, most of which will fall on the Sibley, Lindsay & Curr Company, the Beadle & Sherburne Company, the Rochester Drygoods Company, and the Walkover Shoe Company. The loss to the business offices in the Granite building cannot be estimated at this writing. The plans and estimates for the mammoth new block that the Sibley, Lindsay & Curr Company contemplate building in the spring are destroyed. The plans and estimates were in the architect's office in the tenth floor. The original plans and specifications for the new high school were also in this office, and were destroyed. There are no duplicates of these plans and specifications. Almost the entire tenth floor of the Granite building is occupied by the Vacuum Oil Company, a branch of the Standard Oil Company. The Bradstreet mercantile agency also has offices in this building. Several engines from the Buffalo fire department arrived at 11 o'clock. At this hour the fire was burning fiercely, but Chief Little believes that the flames can be kept under control, as there is no wind blowing.

ADMIRAL ITO,
Japanese Minister of War.

THE WAR SITUATION.

By way of Tokio it is learned that Admiral Togo's attempt to block the entrance to Port Arthur was successful. A second attack is supposed to have been made on Port Arthur, and this too failed according to the Russians. Russian troops have commenced operations in Manchuria, and are reported within seventy miles of Vladivostock. There is no other definite information as to the movements of troops on either side. Russia will ignore Japan's protectorate of Korea and Japan will ignore Russia's protest against the protectorate. By way of Paris it is learned that Russia made desperate attempts to drag Great Britain and France into the conflict. That the attempt failed is due largely to the good feeling at present existent between the two countries. Intense hatred of Britain prevails throughout the empire and the press is clamoring for revenge on Albion, whom they blame for the war. Russians are again accused of prosecuting Japanese refugees, and are said to have murdered several civilians.

Tokio Hears the Japanese Succeeded in Blocking Entrance to Port Arthur

St. Petersburg Press Hits at United States for Unfriendliness and for Refusal of Vicksburg's Captain to Rescue Russians at Chemulpo—All Sections of Mikado's Subjects Contributing to War Fund—Details of the Night Fight at Port Arthur.

London, Feb. 26. — The Japanese legation today gave out the following official dispatch from Tokio, dated Feb. 26:

"Early in the morning of Feb. 24 four old vessels, escorted by some torpedo boats, were run into the entrance of Port Arthur for the purpose of blocking the mouth of the harbor. The object of sinking these vessels was attained and the officers and crews returned safely. Although there is no report regarding our fleet direct from Admiral Togo, no doubt can be entertained as to its safety."

TOGO'S DARING RUSE.

How the Russians Foiled Attack of the Mikado's Fleet.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 26. — The Russ this morning publishes the following from Port Arthur, under date of Feb. 25:

On the night of Feb. 24 the Japanese attempted to blockade the exit from Port Arthur bay in order to inclose our fleet concentrated within. Under convoy of torpedo boats and transports the enemy advanced four freighters, in ballast, at full speed, to the gateway, where it was intended to sink the latter vessels; but the maneuver was immediately observed on the battleship Retvizan, which was standing in the bay before the entrance. The Retvizan at once opened fire and, after it, the batteries on the peak and those on the promontory took part. As a result the ships with which it was designed to blockade the port were destroyed and their mission rendered unsuccessful. According to a wholly unsupported report, one Japanese torpedo boat was sunk. The cannonade began before 3 o'clock in the morning and continued until 7 o'clock. From 5 a.m., however, there were merely single discharges. The Japanese fleet, at long distance, answered our fire ineffectively. This evidently was done merely to cover the retreat of their torpedo flotilla.

The enemy's squadron consisted of ten large vessels and 17 torpedo boat destroyers, which appeared yesterday about 9 o'clock in the morning, maneuvered in sight of Port Arthur until noon, and then began to withdraw and disappeared from the horizon in the morning. The cruisers Novik, Askold and Bayan put to sea and after an inconsiderable cross fire return unharmed.

HITS AT UNCLE SAM.

St. Petersburg Press Sore Over Unfriendliness of United States.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 26.—The Novoe Vremya this morning publishes a long leading article regarding the relations existing between the United States and Russia. In considering the unfriendly manifestations against the latter in the United States, the Novoe Vremya argues, distinction must be made between the people and the Government, and it attributes the agitation in the press to a campaign engineered by the Jews, who, it has been said, even talk of building a battleship for the Mikado. The paper insists, however, that the traditional friendship for Russia occupies a firm position in the American mind and heart, and that the people cannot really prefer the Japanese to the Russians, who never have harmed them. The Novoe Vrmya, on the other hand, contends that without reason the Washington Government has been unfriendly to Russia, and compares the feat of the state department—the telegraphic ratification of the Chinese open port treaty—to telegraphic marriages, which, it says, sometimes are practiced in America.

But it is idle, the article goes on, to talk now of sending United States consuls to Manchuria. Unsatisfied with his success, Secretary of State Hay undertook to secure the neutralization, the inviolability of the administration, and the entity of China. Diplomatists, lexicographers and publicists being in doubt as to what all this meant, Secretary Hay kindly announced that he did not care to have his proposal defined in detail. The article concludes: "The American Government has taken a position which ill accords with the former good relations with Russia, and we are convinced that the conduct of the United States gunboat Vicksburg, in refusing to protect and receive drowning Russians will not meet with wide sympathy in America."

WILL FIGHT TO A FINISH.

Japan Will Spend Her Last Man and Last Dollar to Win.

Seattle, Wash., Feb. 26. — Baron Suyematsu, of Japan, has arrived here on the Iyo Maru, being en route to London on an important diplomatic mission. In his discussing the war he said:

"It is for us a gigantic struggle, and one which we tried to avoid. But Japan will spend her last man and will spend her last dollar in order to win.

"We have no aspirations for aggrandizement, but, at the same time, we must look to maintain our existence as a nation.

"We have large political and commercial interests as well as a sacred historical connection with the Korean Peninsula. If Korea falls into the hands of any other nation it will be a death blow to the existence of our empire. We respect the integrity and sovereignty of Korea; we fought China ten years ago solely for the independence of the Korean Kingdom. Now we are fighting Russia for the same principle, and more, for the integrity of China as well. If Manchuria falls to Russia the question of the existence or Korea would be one of but a few days. Russia would take Korea and that would be a constant menace to our empire."

JAPAN HAS THE MONEY.

All Classes Contributing Millions Towards National Fund.

New York, Feb. 26. — Japan, according to a cable to the World from Tokio, is already taking precautions to insure the strength of her war chest in the event of war being prolonged.

Her far-sighted financial policy is to be seen in the announcement that negotiations are to be opened simultaneously in London and New York for loans.

The Japanese people are ready to sacrifice their blood and treasure with an eagerness which finds but few parallels in history. To the national war fund nearly every one contributes to the amount great or small.

Feudal families are unearthing ancestral hoards of gold and jewelry which they have been accumulating through centuries and which were sacredly guarded by their owners for use in times of national stress and strife. It is impossible to tell the worth of these dedicated treasures, probably their value exceeds $500,000,000.

Every woman is sacrificing her jewelry and other costly adornments to swell the national fund, which is growing beyond all anticipation. Measures are being discussed by which it is hoped that the fund will be raised to $5,000,000,000 without borrowing.

FRANCE AND KOREA.

Paris Feb. 26. — The French foreign office categorically denies the report published in a London paper that Korea, having become the ally of Japan, under the new Japanese-Korean treaty, France is thereby required to become the active ally of Russia. The officials says the situation does not warrant such a conclusion and add that the new treaty does not make the slightest change in the position of France.

JAP SHIPS UNDER REPAIRS.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 26. — The Birshewja Viedomosti says a telegram has been received from Baron Guesburg, who has a contract for supplying coal to the Russian navy (but whose present address is not stated) asserting that twelve armored Japanese ships are now in dock undergoing repairs for the injuries inflicted upon them in their battles with the Russians.

WAR NOTES.

A Russian torpedo boat destroyer stopped and boarded the British India Company's steamer Mombassa in the Red Sea on Feb. 22. The destroyer fired a gun, which the Mombassa disregarded, but a second shot caused the liner to stop. A Russian officer boarded the Mombassa and examined her papers, after which she was allowed to proceed.

A strong contingent of French colonial troops is being organized for service in Indo-China.

TERRIBLE WORK OF JAP SHELLS

How Mikado's Guns Hammered the Variag and Korietz.

FORMER COMPLETELY RIDDLED

Within Four Minutes Ten Missiles Had Hit Her—Ghastly Slaughter of the Crew.

London, Friday, Feb. 26.—A Chemulpo dispatch to the Daily Telegraph gives a long description of the action of Feb. 8, according to which the Russian gunboat Korietz fired the first shot, but it was accidental, having been fired while she was clearing for action. The correspondent says that he has been unable to learn why the captain of the American warship Vicksburg did not attend the meeting at which the captains of the warships Talbot, Elba and Pascal drew a strong protest to Admiral Uriu for attacking in a neutral port. Subsequently, when the Talbot, Elba and Pascal sent boats to embark the Russian crews, the Vicksburg also sent a boat, but the Russians refused to use it, as the captain refused to receive Russians aboard the Vicksburg. The correspondent describes the terrible bombardment of the Variag after she sailed out towards certain destruction with her band playing the Russian National Anthem, and, amid the cheers of the British, French, and Italian sailors. The Variag reached Round Island, some 3,000 meters from the Japanese ships, when the battleship Mikasa fired the first shot at her. The projectile struck the Variag amidships. Within four minutes ten similar missiles hit her, doing terrible damage. The Variag circled in a small radius, using all her guns, and endeavoring to effect an opening in the ring of Japanese fire through which to use her great speed to escape. The Korietz performed the same movements, but she was too old, and did no damage, so the Japanese left her alone. The terrible cannonade continued for twenty-five minutes. After thirty minutes the Variag was on fire fore and aft, and many of her guns were disabled. Nevertheless she fought gallantly on. Finally she turned and steamed slowly back to her moorings, followed by the Korietz, which was not touched. Before the Variag was scuttled the correspondent visited her. He says that the damage done by the Japanese shells was terrible. The bridge was shot away, and the vessel's sides were riddled. Everywhere were ghastly indications of the slaughter. The dead were left on board to receive a sailor's grave.

A SNAP DIVISION

Narrow Escape of the British Government From Defeat.

London, Feb. 26. — Referring to the small Government majority of 14 on a snap division in the House of Commons yesterday, the Standard describes the dangerous condition to the setting in of a process of demoralization and apathy to parliamentary duties and beginning the sittings too soon after dinner.

THE NEW SPEAKER?

Mr. N. A. Belcourt Likely to Succeed Mr. Brodeur.

Ottawa, Feb. 26.—The Prime Minister has not yet indicated who is to be the Government choice for Speaker, but there is little doubt that the honor is in store for Mr. N. A. Belcourt. The Liberal member for Ottawa will make a worthy successor to Mr. Brodeur, who was undoubtedly one of the best Speakers Canada has had since confederation. Mr. Belcourt has now been several years in Parliament, and is thoroughly familiar with the rules of procedure and the work of the House. He has a charming personality, and speaks French and English fluently. Mrs. Belcourt will give her husband excellent support in the social duties attached to the office.

A CRYSTAL ELEPHANT

How a Scoress Pacified a Parisian Mother-in-Law.

Paris, Feb. 25. — There is a hint for the New Yorker in difficulties at home in the experience of Senor de Tal, a Spanish nobleman resident in Paris. He got into his mother-in-law's bad graces. In despair he went to Mme. de Thebes, a celebrated seeress.

She gave him a charm to be worn as a watch ornament. It was a small elephant in crystal with an amethyst set in his back.

"The crystal denotes a clearing-up of things," she said. "The elephant, as all know, is noted for his wisdom and prudence. The amethyst is a sign of moderation in all things. That is the occult reason why bishops wear them.

"If your mother-in-law wears this charm her mind will take on the large tolerance of the elephant toward your peccadilloes. She will have the clearness of vision to see that it will turn out badly if she tries to estrange your wife from out, and she will indulge in nagging only in moderation. That is the habit of mothers-in-law."

Senor de Tal gave his wife's mamma the pretty trinket.

She was pleased with it as a propitiatory gift. The family life of the de Tals now is "one grand sweet song."

So Mme. de Thebes herself relates in one of the women's journals, which devotes a column to the occult.

THIRSTING FOR BRITAIN'S BLOOD

Intense Hatred of Britishers Prevalent in Russia.

NATION CLAMORS FOR REVENGE

How the Attempt of Russia to Bring Britain and France Into the Conflict Failed.

London, Friday, Feb. 26. — The English correspondents in Russia call attention to the intense and growing feeling against the British, which, they say, is already so serious as to threaten a momentous effect in the future. They attribute this feeling to the compaign of misrepresentation carried on by Berlin and other agencies, as well as the local press, in which accusation against the British for helping the Japanese appear daily, notwithstanding the official denials. Indeed, these denials are completely ignored, and the original accusations are iterated and reiterated as facts not admitting of doubt. The following brief extracts from the Grashdanin, a high-class journal, indicates the state of feeling. This paper says:

"There is not one Russian of any age or condition who does not grasp the fact that we have not to do with the Japanese, who are unworthy of Russian blood or Russian hatred, but we have to deal with England. All the hatred, all the force of the Russian spirit thirsting for blood, is directed against England. Clamoring for revenge, the people are crying, 'We are giving millions for war against the Japanese, but we will give milliards for war against England if the Czar will only say the word.'"

The Paris correspondent of the Daily Mail claims to have the highest authority for stating that a serious international crisis was narrowly averted at the end of last week. Russia, he says, formally notified the powers that in view of the happenings in Korea she would no longer regard the latter country as neutral. This might have been interpreted as meaning that Russia was warring with two nations, thereby causing to become active the Franco-Russo alliance. The French Government was anxious that this should not affect the understanding with Great Britain regarding the far east, and it sent a special messenger to London, whence a prompt and cordial reply was returned. The correspondent adds that Japan replied to the Russian notification by issuing a declaration that was tantamount to establishing a protectorate over Korea.

CRUSHED TO DEATH.

Niagara Falls, Ont., Feb. 26. — At the Jenckes machine works this morning, while several men were working on a derrick, swinging a large piece of steel sheeting in position in the Ontario Power Company's conduit, something went wrong with the boom, causing it to give way. Falling with its load to the ground the boom caught one of the men, Wm. Flynn, from St. Phillipe, Que., crushing his head and killing him instantly.

DEATH OF MRS. W. R. WOOLLATT

Walkerville, Ont., Feb. 26. — Mrs. W. R. Woollatt, one of the most esteemed young society ladies of Walkerville, died at the residence of her father-in-law, Wm. Woollatt, superintendent of the Lake Erie and Detroit River division of the Pere Marquette Railway, last night of tuberculosis.

Mrs. Woollatt was formerly Miss Pyton, of Brantford. She had been married two and a half years. The remains will be taken to Brantford for burial.

PIONEER PREACHER DEAD.

Detroit, Mich., Feb. 26. — Rev. Mr. Sanderson is dead at Coral, Mich., of apoplexy, at the age of 73 years. He was one of the pioneer preachers of Canada, having for 40 years occupied pulpits in the vicinity of Kingston. Ten years ago he was placed on the superannuated list. Since which time his home had been with a son on a farm near Coral.

LIEUT.-GEN. TERAUCHI,
Chief of Staff of the Japanese Navy.

DEATHS AT BURLINGTON.

Burlington, Ont., Feb. 26. — Peter Kurtz, of the east end, is dead of la gripps. He was aged 86 and had resided in this village for over fifty years.

John Christopher Richardson, M. D., only surviving son of Wm. Richardson, M. D., of Burlington, died at his father's residence last night in his 39th year. He leaves a widow and four small children.

WEATHER BULLETIN

TOMORROW—MILDER, WITH SNOW

London, Friday, Feb. 26.

Sun rises..7:00 a.m. Moon rises..1:00 p.m.
Sun sets...6:00 p.m. Moon sets...3:10 a.m.

Toronto, Feb. 25—8 p.m.

Cold weather has been general in Canada today, and light snowfalls have occurred in the Maritime Provinces, while in other districts it has been fair. High winds have been very general from Ontario to the Maritime Provinces.

Minimum and maximum temperatures: Dawson, 34 below—10 below; Victoria, 38—48; Kamloops, 22—32; Calgary, 8 below—4; Qu'Appelle, 16 below—6; Winnipeg, 26 below—2; Port Arthur, 14 below—12; Parry Sound, 8 below—8; Toronto, zero—12; Ottawa, 2 below—14; Montreal, 2—16; Quebec, 8—20; Halifax, 12—20.

FORECASTS.

Friday, Feb. 26—8 a.m.

Today—Easterly winds; a light snowfall, with rising temperatures.

Saturday—Easterly winds; cloudy and milder, with occasional snow or sleet.

TEMPERATURES.

Stations.	8 a.m.	Min.	Weather.
Calgary	—6	—10	Fair
Winnipeg	—8	—8	Clear
Parry Sound	—14	—16	Cloudy
Toronto	2	—2	Cloudy
Ottawa	—4	—6	Fair
Montreal	2	0	Clear
Quebec	—2	—2	Fair
Father Point	0	—2	Clear

The sign — indicates "below zero."

WEATHER NOTES.

The weather continues extremely cold in all parts of the Dominion, with no indication of any decided change. A small disturbance now over the Southwest States is likely to move to the great lakes, bringing a temporary rise of temperature and sleet.

The highest and lowest readings of the thermometer at the local observatory for the 24 hours ended at 8 p.m. Thursday were: Highest, 11.5° above; lowest, 3° below.

SCAFFOLD FELL; 15 MEN KILLED

Terrible Accident at the New Postoffice Building in Chicago.

Chicago, Feb. 26. — A triple four scaffold dome in the new postoffice building suddenly collapsed today carrying fifteen men into the first floor of the building, killing them all. Scores of policemen and firemen were quickly summoned and cleared away the debris, permitting the recovery of the bodies.

A TRAIN IN PRISON

A G. T. R. Express Plunges Through Jail Gates at Toronto.

Toronto, Feb. 26. — A peculiar accident happened at the Central Prison this morning. A switch runs into the yards from the G. T. R. tracks leading through heavy wooden gates. These were closed, but by some mistake the switch was open, and the G. T. R. train from North Bay was coming in it turned into the switch ran through the gates and brought up in the Central Prison. No one was injured, but the prison authorities would now allow the withdrawal of the train till it had been searched for prisoners.

CORPSE STOOD UPRIGHT

Wish of Minister Followed—Hysterics in Congregation.

Evansville, Ind. Feb. 25.—With the coffin and corpse upright before the congregation, and the face of the body uncovered, funeral services for Rev. James Hart, pastor of the General Baptist Church at Folsomville, were held in his church, where he had been minister for 55 years. He had requested just before his death that the coffin be stood on end, so that he could look out on the congregation he had served so long. Three ministers occupied the platform with the corpse.

During the services many in the congregation became hysterical, shouting frantically to the dead minister to return to life. Rev. Mr. Hart was 76 years old, and a veteran of the civil war.

GERMAN PRINCE DEAD

Youngest Son of Prince Henry of Prussia Passes Away.

Kiel, Germany, Feb. 26. — Prince Henry, the youngest son of Prince Henry of Prussia, died today. He was 4 years of age, and had been ill for some time. He had been injured in a fall while playing.

A LOAN MATURING

Dominion Five Per Cent Loan Falls Due in a Month.

Ottawa, Feb. 26. — The deputy minister of finance, Mr. J. M. Courtney, is on his way to England to arrange for meeting Dominion 4 per cent loans that are falling due on April 1 and May 1. The aggregate amount of these loans is in round numbers, $20,000,000. Against this there are sinking funds to the amount of $6,000,000, leaving $15,000,000 as the amount to be provided for. A sum of $1,400,000 is payable on April 1. This is the amount raised in 1874 with an imperial guarantee on interest, for the purchase of the Northwest Territories, or Rupert's Land, as it was then known. This loan will be liquidated out of sinking funds. It is quite possible that the sum of $15,000,000 may be covered by a temporary loan. This would perhaps be the best course to take, in view of the present state of the money market. It would be better to effect a temporary loan at 4 per cent than a loan for a lengthened period at such a rate of interest.

WAR CLOUD LOOMS OVER BALKANS

Austria Preparing to Intervene to Preserve the Peace—Will Work With Russia.

New York, Feb. 26.—According to a cable to the Herald from its Berlin correspondent, Austria expects to have to intervene in the Balkans in co-operation with Russia.

Orders have been issued to prepare for the mobilization of the army. Commanders of the army corps have been told to grant no leave to officers, and horses liable to requisition have been called in and military, railway and transport officers have already been appointed. Telegrams received in Berlin today from Belgrade announce that there is no truth in the Constantinople dispatches announcing that the Albanian revolt has been crushed. On the contrary it is spreading daily. The Albanians are threatening to attack the Servian monastery of the Holy Patriarch and the town of Ipek.

The news that the Turkish Government is again concentrating large masses of troops on the Servian frontier has caused great excitement in Belgrade.

Well Known Buffalo Man Kills Friend and Suicides

Buffalo, Feb. 26.—Henry L. Schwartz, of the law firm of Baker & Schwartz, was shot and probably killed in his office on the third floor of the Marine Bank building, about 1:30 o'clock today by H. A. Knowles, a well-known business man of Buffalo, who, ten miutes later, shot himself dead in the presence of Chief of Detectives Taylor and Detective Sergeant O'Connor.

The shooting is said to have been the culmination of business troubles. Mr. Schwartz was the attorney for the firm of Knowles & Gardner, of which the dead man was a member.

A few minutes before Mr. Schwartz and his partner, Mr. Baker, and Attorney Roland Crangle were in conference in Mr. Schwartz's private office.

As Mr. Crangle and Mr. Baker stepped from the room into the main office, Knowles entered.

Almost instantly several shots rang out. Those in the outer office turned in time to see Mr. Schwartz fall.

Knowles started from the private office, with the revolver still smoking in his hand.

Mr. Crangle, Mr. Baker, a stenographer and a clerk left the office and notified the police.

Chief of Detectives Taylor and Detective O'Connor were the first to arrive. They opened the door to the office and faced Knowles, with the revolver in his hand.

"Drop your gun," said Captain Taylor, who also had a weapon in his hand. Knowles backed away into Mr. Baker's private office, still pointing the revolver at the officers.

As he reached the door and stepped inside, quick as a flash he turned the weapon to his own head and fired. He dropped and died almost immediately.

Sam Thompson Tells How He Plugged the Ballots

Toronto, Feb. 26. — Sam Thompson, D. R. O., at whose poll 25 bogus votes were plugged after hours, was the chief witness at the civic investigation today. He said he was 26 years old, was first appointed a D. R. O. six or seven years ago by City Clerk Blevins through Ald. Crane.

He said he first committed election frauds last year, prompted by an insane desire to return kindness. Witness said that in November Frank Drake, barrister, asked him to work for Richardson this year. Drake acted for Richard Lane the other day in bringing the action to get an injunction restraining further proceedings in this election. Thompson said he did not know W. H. Moore, of the street railway.

He agreed to work for Richardson without any sum being mentioned. When he went to Richardson's office to make arrangements several others were there. Richardson agreed to pay him $2 50 a day. Thompson said he was not paid by Stephen Burns, nor had S. Alfred Jones promised him anything. Witness said he did not tell Richardson he was a D. R. O.

Thompson explained how he stuffed the ballot-box last year. He wrote a list of names and had it ready. During the day he occasionally slipped a bogus ballot in with a good one. At the end of the day he told his brother, who had been his poll clerk, that these people had voted while he (the poll clerk) was out, and his brother wrote the names in the book.

Finding he had not given his brother enough, he himself added five names to the list. He had received nothing for last year's crooked work, but had marked ballots for C. C. Robinson for mayor, for Ald. S. W. Burns and Hubbard. Coming again to this year's operations, witness talked about the "crazy notion" to plug ballots which came into his head. He plugged the 25 votes this year all through the day, beginning with one about 10:30. He denied having told Durance this had to be done every year.