HAMILTON EVENING TIMES, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2 1909.



Toronto, Sept. 2.—"West wing of the Parliament buildings on fire!" Such was the message telephoned into the central fire station from the Attor-ney-Gengral's Department shortly before o'clock yesterday afternoon It was twenty two minutes later when the fire brigade node its appearance in

Messrs. J. L. Counsell, Gordon Southam and Hope Gibson, Hamilton memam and Hope Gibson, Hamilton mem-bers of the Zingari cricket team, play-ing on the University grounds, assisted in getting out three lines of hose inside the building. It would be about 1.30 o'clock, with a It would be about 1.30 o'clock, with a roar, the whole centre of the wing crash-ed down, wiping out a considerable por-tion of the library, one of the largest and most important in Canada. The city fire department were now on the scene and taking charge, and his friends urg-ed the Premier to desist. Papers, books, documents and furni-ture were now clogging the smoke-beclouded and watery corridors, and were being carried out as rapidly as pos-sible. Burning debris seemed to be fall-ing everywhere, and men were engaged in removing the paintings and pictures from the main corridor. While the firmen were concentrat-ing their energies on the north end of the wing Hon W. For discussion While the firemen were concentrat-ing their energies on the north end of the wing, Hon. Mr. Foy discovered that flames were spreading over the roof of the Chamber, and there was danger of the Legislative halls going, Firemen and civil servants, headed by the Attorney-General himself, with axes, hurried to cut off the connection. \$25,000. LOSS OF PROVINCIAL LIBRARY. LOSS OF PROVINCIAL LIBRARY. Unfortunately, in the meantime the fire had eaten its way down to the Provincial Library, and while a hun-dred workmen were at work prepar-ing the foundation of the new fire-proof wing where the literary trea-sures of Ontario were to be housed, 200,000 volumes, to say nothing of a multitude of records which cannot be replaced, were going up in flames or multitude of records which cannot be replaced, were going up in flames or being water-soaked. The tremendous draft created drove half-burned pages afloat over the park, and the Provincial Treasury almost rubatically deep the aftoat over the park, and the Provincial Treasurer almost pathetically drew the attention of a newspaper man to a scorched page of a pamphlet dated 1851, which he had picked up. By half-past 1 the fire had spread to the north and enveloped the insur-ance department— it was almost

ironic in view of the fact that not a cent of insurance is carried on the contents of the building —and as it was impossible to approach the flames directly, efforts had to be concentrated on their restriction to the upper floors of the west wing. REVISED LAWS LOST.

of the west wing. REVISED LAWS LOST. Two years' work of the Statute Re-vision Committee may be lost. Al-though the Law Clerk's office was not gutted, yet a mass of debris fell through the ceiling, and the whole place was water-soaked, destroying, it is feared, the work of the committee of Judges which has been engaged in revising the law of Ontario. Similarly the records of births, deaths, and marriages in the Regis-trar's Department suffered, but it is hoped that a lärge majority of these valuable documents will still be de-cipherable. One of the chief sufferers by the fire is Mr. H. Sydere, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, who lost his en-tire Parliamentary library, consisting of some 1,500 volumes. The books included records of debates and com-pilations of Parliamentary statistics which cannot be replaced. So far as the Province itself is concerned, but few documents of value were lost in Mr. Sydre's department, the record of the last general election having been burnt in June last, according to the provisions of the statute. District Chief Smedley, of the Yonge Street Fire Hall, was in all probability the first member of the City Fire Bri-gude upon the scene. Headquarters, acting upon the sci statue and which was turned in. 'phoned the Yonge street hall, and Chief Smedley immedi-ated proceeded to the Parliament build-ings. On his arrival he appreciated the situation and turned in a general alarm.

ings. On his arrival he appreciated the situation and turned in a general alarm. ings THE DEPARTMENTS DESTROYED. The departments practically destroy-ed include the Provincial Library, the offices of the health department, the labor department, Hon. J. S. Hendric's offices, Hon. Adam Beck's offices, the Registrar-General's offices, the offices of Lieut-Col. Delamere. Assistant Clerk of the House, and Sergt.-at-Arms Glackmeyer's private offices. Those badly damaged include the law offices department; the _Ontario Railway Board's offices; the offices of Mr. A: H. Sydere, Clerk of the House; the King's Printer's department; the of-fices of the Archivist; the offices of Hon. A. G. MacKay, leader of the Op-position; the offices of the Provincial Geologist; the Parliamentary committee rooms, and the members' reading room. THE DEPARTMENTS DESTROYED. ooms, and the members' reading room The official Provincial statement of expinditure shows that the total cost o

expinditure shows that the total cost of the new Parliament and departmental buildings was \$1,282,679. Carried high by the wind, a cloud of burning einders up to 2 o'clock endangered the surrounding property, but fortunately more secured a hold. At a quarter to 2 a hose was rushed through the main entrance and the stream turned upwards against the heated mass, while holes were being hacked through the flooring to enable the water to flow back into the already half-flooded basement. The fire was completely under con-trol by 3 o'clock, but the brigade re-mained on duty for several hours thereafter, while an engine and sev-eral men remained till this morning. No chances were taken, as it was feared that some smouldering embers might have been carried to other parts of the building.

milding. Many were the enquiries regarding the fire and the Premier received a free fire and the Premier of reumber of messages' expressive of re-

ORIGIN OF THE FIRE. The fire broke out apparently just to the conjunction of the roofs of the rest wing and the main building. It riginated in what may be understood s the attic of the building, where a erfect maze of timbers cross and reoss one another, and interlaced wit which were numerous wires conn with. the electrical equipment of the

which were numerous wires connected with the electrical equipment of the building. At first it was thought that the con-flagration originated in a short-circuit-ing of one of the service wires, but it is only a few months ago that the whole system was overhauled, on the advice of the Fire Underwriters' As-sociation, and the most approved methods of wiring installed, at a cost of something like \$10,000. Inquiry would seem to point to an entirely dif-ferent cause for the origin of the fire. For some time past employees of the Matthews Roofing Company hare been engaged in repairing the roof of the west wing, and, in carrying out-their work, have been utilizing a small charcoal stove for the purpose of heating their tools. It is thought that a spark blown from the stove, while the workmen were at lunch, was the origin of the disaster. The matter was placed before the Cabinet yesterday afternoon, and there will be a thorough investingtion made by the officers of the

afternoon, and there will be a thor investigation made by the officers of the Attorney-General's Department.



Thomas C. Watkins

HENDRIE CASE. Police Incline to Think He Was Murdered. "It is too so Can Find No Instrument With Which sale He Could Have Suicided.

> Sarnia, Sept. 1 .- Search how they will rovincial Detective Sarvis and the pa of Sarnia cannot find the instrument that caused the death of William Hen trie in a lone room at Wees Beach Hote on Monday evening, where he was found with his jugular veing severed.

The deepest of mystery surrounds the complicated and sad aftair. Many are of the opinion that it will add one more case to Canada's chapter of mysteries. That the man's jugilar was cut, that it was done while many people were in the close vicinity, that he died from loss of blood as a result, are facts which no end denies. Who committed the deed is the onestion? The deepest of mystery surrounds th implicated and sad affair. Many ar

one denies. Who communicate the question? The suicide theory is not considered at all. That the man met with foul play is the belief of the police.

rests have been made and that non-rould be made until after the inquest o-morrow night, if any were to be made

In the meantime, before the inquest to

G. T. R. WILL BUILD ONE FROM DETROIT TO WALKERVILLE. An Option Already on Strip of Land

\$15.00

St. Thomas, Aug. 31.-An association of certain of the trades is being formed in the city and county on a mutual pro tective basis.

The purpose of the organization is 'to save themselves and their interest against the machinations of private d. tectives, spotters' and informers," and where the offence is on the side of the complainants, as in the case of perjury that the association be the instrument of

the subsequent prosecution of the ofdenders. The members, too, will need denders. The members, too, will need their aggressors on the same ground and do a little spying on their own account, and they promise to wage a similar war to that which other associations and their lieutenants have been making lieutenants have been making

rectly Interested in the Scheme. Detroit, Sept. 2 .- That the Grand frunk Railroad Company will construct four-track tunnel from the foot of Deuindre street, Detroit, beneath the De-

Thomas C. Watkins

troit River to Walkerville, is now said to be practically assured. It is given out from authoritative

-Wabash is Declared to be Di-

er three for 50c. Ask to see them

7

It is given out from authoritative sources that the Canadian trunk line has seeured an option on a strip of land ex-terding three noises back from the river at Warkerville. This option, it is said, is for three years. The Grand Trunk Railroad has made no attempt to effect a physical conneo-tion with the Michigan Central near Windsor, it was stated. Moreover, the Grand Trunk will not attempt to do so. The railroad is now planning to con-struct a tunnel twice the size of that be-ing built by the Michigan Central. It will have a four-track tube. instead of To aid, financially and otherwise, those to the society who will be in need, of their assistance in judieral proceedings, brought about through the espionage four-track tube, instead of two-track tunnel, such as the Michigan entral has. According to an engineer familiar with we work of the Michigan Central tunnel, to cost of a tube such as is planned by the Grand Trunk will be from \$1,800,000 the Grand Trunk will be from \$1,800,090 to \$2,500,000. It is said that the Grand Trunk will soon decide whether to build a tunnel of four circular tubes, each con-taining one track, or to construct one of two elliptical tubes, each containing two tracks two tracks T is is all that the Wabash Railroad is directly interested, also, in the proposi-tion to build another tunnel. The Mich-igan Central and the Wabash are strong rivals for freight business in the East. Another interesting consideration is that the Grand Trunk transport boats will have some difficulty buffeting the ice in the coldest part of the winter with-out the aid of the Michigan Central fer-ries. The Michigan Central fer-nice, the Michigan Central fer-river. This boat has been called on many times to keep a passage open be-tween Windsor and Detroit for the transfer of passengers and freight. It is said that the Wabash Railroad is

In by falling debris, was in the thick of the fire-fighting. Hon. Mr. Hanna, equipped in an old coat and cap and heavy gloves, was assisting the men who were removing property. Hon. Mr. Foy and Mr. Chas. Chase worked near Sir James, the latter with his coat off and the perspiration dripping from his face. Ministers, Deputy Ministers and clerks commingled as volunteer fire-fighters. Messrs. J. L. Counsell, Gordon South-

FIRE INSURANCE.

was on fire. Provincial Detective In-spector Rogers and Mr. Charles Ritchie, K. C. on leaving the Attorney-General's Department had seen the glass roof of the upper corridor fall with a crash, fol-lewed by an outpouring of flame and smoke, as already related. Detective Rogers informed the Ministers, and the Cabinet resolved itself into an amateur brigade of fire-fighters. "It is too soon brigade of fire-fighters. "It is to for me to make any statement, Sir James, "as to the cause of the fir the manner in which it was deal with. I believe some cricketers notice the fire break through the roof and rai over from the university grounds to raise the alarm. In the meantime i had been noticed by several others in

the buildings. "We understand, Sir James, that there was considerable delay in the arrival of the city fire brigade after the first alarm was telephoned into headquar-ters?"

"I can say nothing about that at pres-ent. Everybody is excited now and it is impossible to say anything." "No time will be lost in taking what-

ever steps may be decided upon to make good the loss, and it may be that the good the loss, and it may be that the question of the entire roofing of the building will have to be considered." Some time ago the Hon. Col. Hendrie suggested to the Government that, in view of the danger from fire, the entire roof of, the building should be recon-structed, and in view of the need of further office accommodation, another

rd som

Th

FOUR-TRACK TUNNEL HOTEL MEN Will Form Association to Protect Themselves Against "Spotters."

Meanine the flames had burst through the roof, swept along the sup-porting timbers and enveloped the upper **corridors**. Volumes of smoke clogged the building and the top storey had fallen.

coal store

OUTBREAK WAS SUDDEN.

The conflagration seemed to break out in a moment. The Cabinet had gone into session in the council chamber at the eastern end. Many of the employ the eastern end. Many of the employees were enjoying the luncheon hour. Par-ties of tourists were "strolling leisurely salong the corridors. With a startlingly sudden intonation the glas-covered ceil-ing at the western end of the main building gave way and crashed with a beam of burning dimker to the ground floor, three storeys below.

MR ROGERS' WRIST BROKEN

MR. ROGERS WRIST BROKEN. Through the aperture the roof glowed livid in fire, he blaze burst out in wild flames, and the building was instantly in an uproar. With commendable promptness Inspector Joseph E. Rogers three the interior hydrant open, break-ing his right, wrist in so doing, and Messrs, C. Jennings and J. H. Bradshaw had the hose playing almost immedi-ately.

Meantime the Cabinet had hastil risen and the Ministers hurried to the scene, Directions were given and mes sengers flew hither and thither, carry valuable provincial papers to place safety

THE PREMIER TAKES CHARGE.

THE PREMIER TAKES CHARGE. Under the personal command of. Sir James Whitney, who stood at the head of the stairs, the parliamentary fire department commenced, operations, throwing four streams of water. The Premier had energetic lieutenants in Mr. A. W. Campbell. Deputy Minister of Public Works, and Architect Heakes, While his ministerial chief was directng the fire-fighting, Hon. W. J. Hanna, the Provincial Secretary, organized the staff Provincial Secretary, organized the staff into a salvage corps to save papers and documents in various departments. The Minister assigned to the officers of each

The insurance on the building is ap-portioned among the following compan-ies: The Aetna, Alliance, Anglo-Ameri-can, Atlas, British American, Caledonia, Commercial Union, Connecticut, Equity, German-American, Gore District Mutual Wre. Guardian, Hartford, Home, Law

German-American, Gore District Mutual Fire, Guardian, Hartford, Home, Law Union & Crown, Liverpool, London & Globe, London Assurance Corporation, London & Lancashire, London Mutual, Manitoba, McIntyre, Merchants, Mont-real, Canada Fire, New York Underwrit-ers, North America, North British & Mercantile, Northern, Norwich Union, Ottawa, Phoenix Assurance, Phoenix of Brooklyn, Quéen City, Queen Fire, Rich-mond & Drummond, Rochester, German, Royal, Scottish Union, Sovereign, Stan-dard Mutual, Sun, Unión, Waterloo Mu-tual, Western, York Mutual and York-shire.

Hon. A. J. Matheson, the Provincial Treasurer, told a reporter that the total insurance amounted to \$750,000, it being apportioned among the companies nam-ed in amounts ranging from \$4,000 to

\$25,000. It may seem curious that the contents of the building were not covered by in-surance. The facts of the case are that the Government drew up their own schedule of insurance and form of policy based upon a premium of one per cent. for a period of three years, or one-third of one per cent. per year, for the build-ing and fixtures only.

CABINET MEETS.

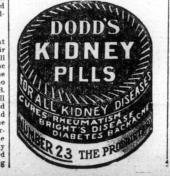
CABINET MEETS. Immediately after it was assured that the conflagration was under control Sir James Whitney issued a hurry-up call for a meeting of the Cabinet. All the ministers were in attendance, with the exception of Hon. Frank Cochrane, who was in Hamilton, and the Hon. I. B. Lucas, and many of them arrived still bearing signs in the shape of smoke and grime of the personal part they had played in the efforts to subdue the flames. At the conclusion of the gather-ing Sir James in a statement to the press said that the Cabinet was actually in session when the alarm was raised that the opposite wing of the building

further office accommodation, anothe storey added. The estimated expendi was then placed at \$200,000, and the Government hesitated upon em-barking on it. Subsequently it was decided that the erection of an entirely

new wing would be the better course to follow. The young, ladies in charge of the mer young, non-sent charge of the parliamentary telephone switchboard. Misses Gott and Walmsley, stayed pluckily at their posts throughout all the uproar and excitement, answering calls and making connections with un

calls and making connections with un-broken promptness. Thousands of people visited Queen's Park yesterday afternoon and evening to view the ruined buildings, and in order to avoid accidents from falling debris, the whole west wing was roped off and guarded by a squad of six city constables all night. Four streams of water were poured constantly on the smouldering remains of the library, while the interior of the building was romarded by Provincial Detectives Greer

guarded by Provincial Detectives Gree and Miller, with a staff of a dozen watchmen



The circumstances under which the r

is the belief of the police. True, some of the relatives of the de-ceased are slightly inclined to think that he did commit suicide. But they are ready and hopeful that the police will be able to convince them otherwise. The family of the dead man state em-phatically that they are sure that he did not take his own life, yet his many friends that he made in SatThie during his some 25 years' residence there, are pent Port Stanley charges were laid on plans laid to suggest hotelkeepers violat the law have moved the licensed victua lers and others to organize for self-pre-tection the law have

Established Sixty-

six Years Ago

OFT WEDDED. his some 25 years' residence there, ar inclined to the suicide theory.

against them

informe

"I don't believe, in fact, I am sure that Rev. John Taggart, of Wilkesbarre, "I don't beneve, in two, I am sare sum Hendrie did not commit suicide," said a friend of the dead man. "He was not of that disposition. He was a man that Pa., Wanted in Many Cities.

friend of the dead man. "He was not of that disposition. He was a man that whether was taken with a slight pain of any kind he would call a couple of doe." Every inch of the basement of the ho-tel has been covered with a fine tooth comb by the police and Detective Sarvis in an effort to try and find the weapon which was the means of Hendric's death. While this was going on these was a Wilkesbarre, Pa., Sept. 1.-Rev. John Taggart, of Bloomsburg, who disappear ed 21 years ago, and returned a short time ago to the aid of his wife, who thinking he was dead, had married a second time, and who then disappeared While this was going on there was umor in Sarnia, which for a time crea d somewhat of a sensation. It was t a second time from Bloomsburg, is evi the effect that a man had been arrester charged with the murder. Chief of Police Crawford said that me

a second time from Bloomsburg, is evi-dently much wanted by women in vari-ous parts of the country, according to enqurites received by the police, and made known to-day. It is known from these letters that he has a wife at Fredonia, N. Y., and chil-dren there, too; that another wife and children live near Pittsburg; that there is still another at Buffalo or Fort Eric, Ont., and that a fourth one died a short time ago at Asheville, N. C., while there is a rejort that he has deserted wives in

in the meantime, before the inquest to-morrow afternoon, the funeral of the de-ceased will be held. The cortege bearing the remains of the deceased will leave the Wees Beach Hotel at 2.30 for the Lakeview cemetery, where interment will be made. time ago at Ashevine, N. C., while there is a report that he has described wives in Philadelphia and Washington, D. C. The letters give descriptions of him, which are easily followed, as he has but one eye. When the fact of his return to his fiver wife once available but the he more that the case is investigated the police the more is investigated one eye. When the fact of his return to his first wife was published a short time ago, he declared he could not stand the

police, the more complicated it They are working on the muris the They are working lectheory. Charles Kingsley, who found that notoriety, and suddenly disappeared. He has not been heard from since.

Work has just been started on the largest switch-board in the world, which is to be installed in the New York ter-minal of the Pennsylvania railroad. All the switches of the terminal are to be

er theory. Charles Kingsley, who found un-counded man, is regarded by the polics s a man who can throw some light on he matter, if anyone can. "Does an automobile help you to for-get your troubles?" "Yes," answered Mr. Chuggins, thoughtfully; "my other troubles."-Washington Star. electrically controlled from this It will cost \$500,000. MONUMENT TO LAURIER.

Proposal to Erect a Statue in Parish of St. Lin.

of St. Lin. Montreal, Sept. 1.—A movement is on foot here to erect a monument to Sir Wilfrid Laurier at St. Lin, his na-tive parish. It is proposed to erect this -monument during the Premier's lifetime. On the pedestal the pro-moters design to have engiaved in stone the famous slogan adopted throughout the Dominion during the last Federal cleetion: "Let Laurier finish his work." It is proposed that every Province shall contribute to this national work. A committee has been formed here for the propose.

the purpose. He can never be a power with men who can feel no pity for men.—Chicage board.