

EIGHT PERISH IN FIRE IN HAMILTON ASYLUM

Insane Men Fight off Rescuers and Run Back Along Burning Corridors—All Women Inmates Removed to Place of Safety.

Hamilton, Ont., Aug. 1.—Eight men were lost and many were injured today in a fire which partly destroyed one of the main buildings of the insane asylum on the John T. Holland street southwest of this city. There were 800 patients in the building when the fire was discovered and it was only a well trained fire fighting corps and splendid coolness and bravery among the nurses and attendants under Dr. English that averted further loss of life.

There are four buildings within the asylum grounds. The main building, which the fire occurred, was a brick structure 200 feet in length and about 70 feet wide, with wings at either end. The 250 women patients occupied quarters in the west wing. The remainder of the building was taken with men's wards and contained some of the most desperate cases in the asylum.

The women were removed without serious difficulty to other quarters in an adjoining building.

The situation among the men was more serious. The fire broke out on the fourth floor, which is what is known as section D, in which the violently insane are kept.

Most of the men guarded by attendants, were moved down three flights of stairs out of the fire zone in order to be taken to the hospital.

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is given credit for the rescue of five men. His sixth broke from his grasp at a window, and fled back into the flames, where he perished.

Provincial Detective Rogers and staff, who arrived from Toronto this morning, have been detailed by the provincial secretary's department to make a searching investigation.

The fire is believed to have been caused by the short circuiting of an electric wire in the store room on the top floor.

Some of Injured May Die.

Hamilton, Ont., Aug. 1.—Fire early this morning which broke out on the top floor of the main building of the Hamilton Asylum for the Insane caused eight deaths and the injury of many others, some of whom are probably fatally hurt and hundreds of patients went into hysterics before the flames were controlled.

The fire started at 1:30 in the store room near hall D, on the top floor and spread rapidly. Night Watchman Fred Bassett, who discovered it, turned in an alarm for the asylum fire department and this was followed by a hurried call to the city brigade.

The asylum department was powerless to check the flames. Had it not been for Hamilton's new auto fire truck which climbed the steep hill twelve-mile clip, the disaster would probably have been greater. Three other city companies and a steamer were sent up. By the time they arrived the top of the building was a roaring mass of flames.

Hundreds of people from the city who were attracted by the red glare that lit up the sky witnessed a series of spectacular and heroic deeds. With life nets spread out city firemen caught patient after patient as they dropped or were thrown from the top floors. Some of the patients clung to the eaves and cried piteously for assistance.

In less than an hour after the fire started a big section of the roof collapsed and the number of alarming stories as to the grave rise to dead. Deputy Chief of Police Whatley and Fire Chief Teneyek with their men fought frantically to save the patients who were known to be trapped on the top floor. Time and again they burst through the wall of fire and smoke until they were driven back and forced to abandon hope.

It was not until 4 o'clock this morning that the last patient was rescued. It was the assistance of ladders, to grope their way through the dark to a small room, a veritable chamber of horrors, in which five charred corpses lay. Some of them were burned almost beyond recognition.

Attendees almost fainted as the gruesome procession started for the morgue. The bodies were covered with sheets, but the horror of what was beneath the cover suggested itself and women shrieked and stretched out all that was left of three bodies.

The morgue presented a ghastly sight. It was a pathetic scene in the presence of death and suffering to see scores of human beings who came near meeting the fate of the victims laughing and joking. They seemed almost entirely ignorant of the tragedy.

Arrangements were made to transfer some of the patients to Toronto by special train in case the fire spread to other buildings. Police reserves and women fire fighters and arrangements had also been made to call out the militia companies to care for the patients if necessary.

Winnipeg, Aug. 1.—Premier McBride passed through from Ottawa last night. He is enthusiastic over the political situation and the prospects of reciprocity in British Columbia. He says that province will return seven in favor of the pact. To the Times' correspondent Mr. McBride said:

"There is no doubt what British Columbia will do in the coming election. Seven for the Conservatives and a solid front will be the answer of the coast province to Sir Wilfrid Laurier's appeal to the country in September."

The feeling there, he stated, was very strong not only against reciprocity but against the entire policy administered by the Laurier government.

Mr. McBride was in the city for an hour on his way home from England, where he attended the coronation. He also expressed himself as being more than pleased with the outlook for a Conservative victory at the polls in September.

Brigadier General Gerardo Machado, secretary of war in an official statement to the Associated Press said that Acevedo was accompanied by only four men and was believed to be surrounded now by rurales twenty miles west of the capital. News of his capture is momentarily expected.

G. COWAN WILL NOT RUN.

Ottawa, Aug. 1.—It is declared here by friends of George Cowan, Conservative M. P. for Vancouver, that he has determined not to be again a candidate in that constituency. It is learned that an announcement to this effect may be expected from Mr. Cowan by his supporters within the next few days.

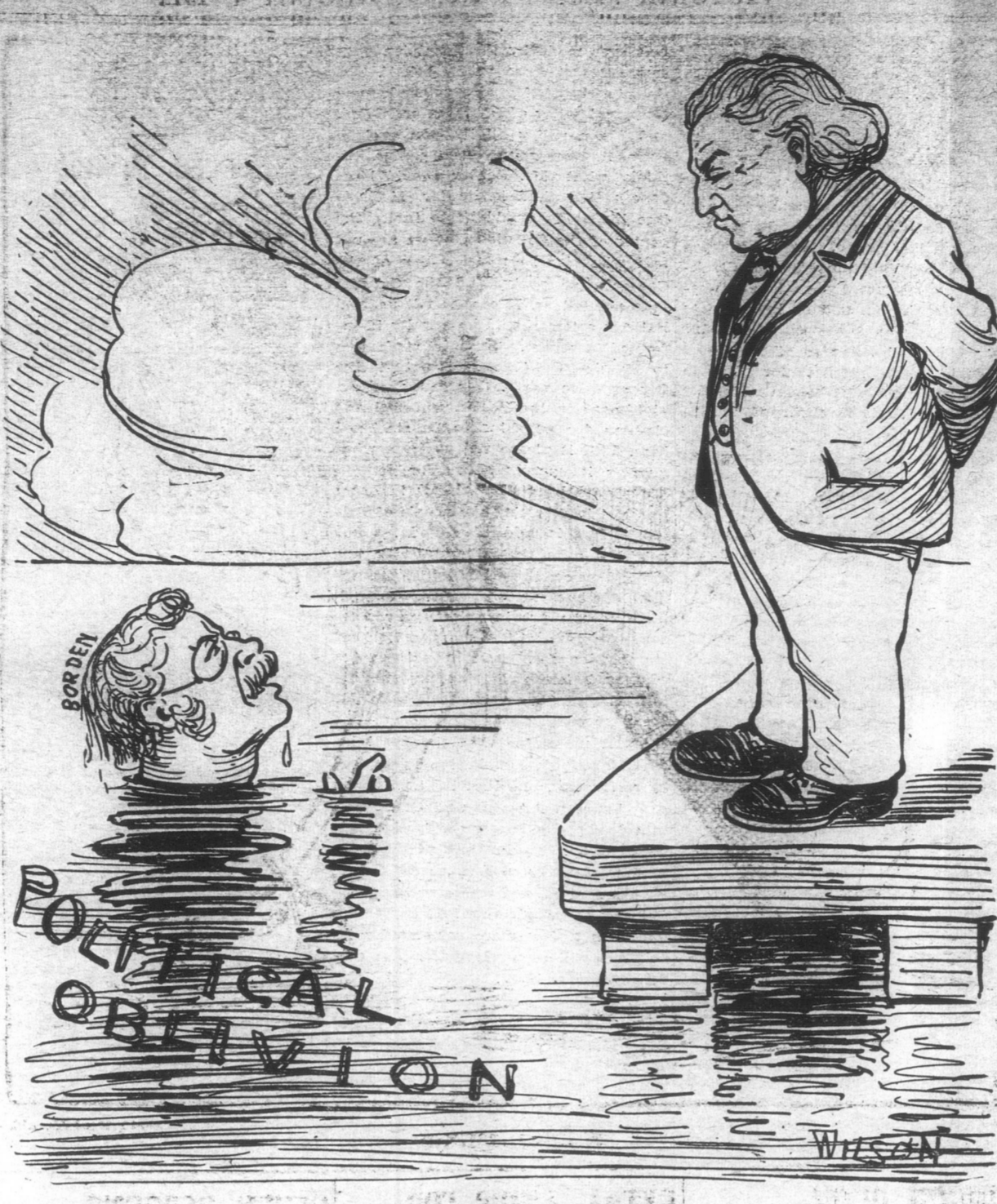
Vancouver, Aug. 1.—Prominent members of the Conservative party in Vancouver, who were to-day approached for information as to Mr. Cowan's intentions, declared they were unable to either affirm or deny the contents of the above report from Ottawa.

It was declared that Mr. Cowan was expected to reach Vancouver from the east before the end of the present week and an authoritative statement might then be expected from him.

LONG FRANCE BROKEN.

Vandalia, Ill., Aug. 1.—After sleeping almost continuously for 195 days, Miss Hazel Schmidt, 18 year old girl, whose strange case has puzzled physicians for weeks, was awake for five hours and ate three meals Sunday.

She said she felt no ill effects from her slumber. Attending physicians said the girl's trance is broken and that she will soon be herself again.



A CALCULATING POLITICIAN. R. L. BORDEN (between gulps)—Come on in, Dick; the water's fine! HON. R. McBRIDE—Not for me, Robert. You know my motto. "The thing is to get in, and after you are in to stay in." Appears to me the thing for you is to get out. Not for me, Robert. I shall wait until the tide turns.

M'BRIDE WILL ASSIST BORDEN WILL TAKE PART IN FEDERAL CAMPAIGN

Member of Dominion Cabinet Says Reciprocity Will Benefit Whole Country

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CONCESSIONS TO THE FARMERS

U. S. SENATE AMENDS FREE LIST BILL

Alliance of Democrats and Republican Insurgents Carry Compromise Proposals

Washington, D. C., Aug. 1.—Combined in the same alliance that resulted in the passage of a compromise woolen tariff revision bill in the senate last week, the Democrats and Republican insurgents of that body today passed a compromise farmers' free list bill. The original house bill first was defeated and then re-offered in modified form by Senator Kern of Indiana as amended, and finally adopted.

The bill differed but little from the original.

The Kern compromise takes fresh meat products out of the free list bill, except such as come from countries that admit certain American farm products free of duty.

In effect it admits free only from countries having reciprocal agreements with the United States, and it is understood it will apply only to Canada.

The senate earlier had defeated Senator Bailey's amendment, taking all meats out of the free list bill.

The Kern amendment represented the attempt to reconcile the Democratic interest with the insurgent Republicans, who believed some of the concessions should be obtained for agricultural products.

The bill was first defeated by a tie vote of 39 to 39. According to programme the senate, immediately after voting down the bill, reconsidered the vote without roll call. Kern then offered a compromise amendment which was adopted by 49 to 29.

The free list bill as amended by Kern's compromise finally passed the senate 48 to 30.

TWO KILLED DURING STORM.

Ablene, Tex., Aug. 1.—Two persons are known to have been killed, a score injured and practically every business house in Ablene is more or less damaged as the result of a storm of wind and hail which swept over this vicinity last night. A number of residences were also wrecked.

Dr. Pollis, a well known physician, is one of the dead. He was struck by a falling timber.

REBELS NEAR CAPITAL.

Port Au Prince, Aug. 1.—The capital is in a panic. The army of revolutionists remain outside, but the firing of their cannon is plainly heard here.

President Simon to-day issued a public proclamation declaring that revolutionists would have to cross his body to wrest the sword of authority from the hand in which the nation had placed it.

SHIMADZU IN CROWN'S NEST PASS

CORBIN MINES ARE AGAIN IN OPERATION

It is Believed Vote Will Result in General Resumption of Work

Fernie, B. C., Aug. 1.—The unexpected action of the Corbin miners in voting to return to work upon a temporary arrangement with the company at that place Saturday, and the resumption of operations this morning has added much to the hopes of the people generally that a favorable vote will be recorded throughout the district next Friday, and all the mines follow the lead of Corbin.

The miners met Manager Gus Smith on Saturday at Corbin, and after listening to an address from Mr. Smith, which was translated in Slav by Father Meibach, the men voted to accept the terms offered temporarily, with the understanding that whatever scale of wages shall be agreed upon by the district and the operators' association will be favorable to the miners.

The new move adds much to the strength of feeling among the miners to accept the result of the conciliation board as reported by Chairman Gordon, and it is thought that the vote throughout the district on Friday will be favorable to an agreement along these lines.

A mass meeting is called here tomorrow at which some of the officials of the district will meet the men and discuss the situation with them previous to the voting on Friday.

The feeling among the public generally is one of approval of the anticipated action in favor of returning to work and it is hoped that work will be resumed within a very few days after the vote has been taken and announced.

Attitude of Fernie Miners.

Fernie, B. C., Aug. 1.—(Later.)—At a largely attended mass meeting to-day, which filled the Grand theatre to its capacity, the miners of this camp voted unanimously for a resolution repudiating the Gordon report on the conciliation. Some 800 men were present and no one spoke against the resolution.

Coming as it did upon the heels of the report from the Corbin camp, where the men voted to go to work, it is as much of a surprise as was yesterday's news.

This again changes the aspect of the case, and if the action is a fair indication of other camps, where similar conditions exist, it would seem that the vote on Friday will be adverse to the proposals of the Gordon report.

The resolution was very short and unequivocal, stating that the men of this camp are opposed to the conditions contained in the Gordon report.

There are 1,100 members in this local and the vote here will be a heavy factor in deciding the question of returning to work under an agreement framed upon the majority report of the conciliation board.

IMPRISONED MINER ALIVE.

Joplin, Mo., Aug. 1.—After trying for over 48 hours to reach Joseph Clark, imprisoned in a mine near here by a cave-in Sunday, the fourth attempt of rescuers to reach the imprisoned man by means of a drill shaft was successful this afternoon. From the depths of the drift 85 feet below the surface floated a feeble "hello" in answer to the signals of the rescuers.

For a drink in a small can was passed down and received by the prisoner, whose voice betokened his faint condition. After the lapse of a few minutes Clark cried out up the tube: "Water about three feet deep in some places in drift. I am on a high place and it may not reach me if you hurry. The air was getting bad. I feel much better now."

COMES TO AID OF PEOPLE OF WEST

GOVERNMENT WILL SUSPEND COAL DUTIES

Action Follows Representations Regarding Probable Fuel Famine

Ottawa, Aug. 1.—Hon. Mackenzie King last night made the following announcement:

"With a view to relieving the situation as it has developed in the Canadian west in consequence of the prolonged cessation of operations at the coal mines in southern British Columbia and Alberta, an order-in-council was passed by the government yesterday, providing that on and after August 7 next the duties on coal will be removed on the southern frontier west of Sault Ste. Marie for consumption in British Columbia (east of 122nd meridian of longitude), and in the provinces of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba."

The action taken by the government is based on representations which have been made by the premiers of Saskatchewan and Alberta, by boards of coal and public authorities of many localities in the provinces concerned, to the effect that a serious shortage of coal in eastern British Columbia and in the provinces of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba is likely to result from the prolonged cessation of work in the various coal mines and that such shortage will be liable to be the occasion of widespread privation and possible disaster among the inhabitants of the provinces referred to. In these circumstances, and having in mind the situation as it developed in the Canadian west at the time of the threatened fuel famine four years ago, it has seemed to the government expedient and conducive to the public good that exceptional steps should be taken to assist in bringing about an avoidance of the dangers which might arise from a fuel famine.

It is stated in the order-in-council that the proposed remission of duties shall take effect on and after August 7 next and shall continue so long as in the opinion of the governor-general-in-council the coal mines may, through lack of operation, fail to produce sufficient coal to meet public requirements and for a period of two weeks after the passing of an order revoking the order which authorizes the remission of duties.

From this it will be apparent that if the parties between now and the close of the present week effect a settlement and work should be resumed on Monday next, no remission of duties will take place. On the other hand, if work should not be resumed on Monday next, then practically all coal beneath the surface of the west of Sault Ste. Marie, British Columbia will come in free of duty for such time as work may not have been resumed at the mines and a period of two weeks thereafter.

POLICE CHIEF RETIRES.

Winnipeg, Aug. 1.—Chief John McRae, for thirty years head of the Winnipeg police force, retired from service yesterday. His successor has not yet been appointed. A gold mounted cabinet of silver was presented him on behalf of the force on Saturday. Deputy Chief Kerwin is rumored as the new chief, but the appointment remains to be made by the commission.

INTER-EMPIRE SPORTS.

London, Aug. 1.—At Crystal Palace last night Lord Desborough presented a silver cup to J. G. Merrick in recognition of the Canadian victories at the inter-empire sports.

CUSTOMS RETURNS SHOW AN ADVANCE

July This Year \$133,717.55 Ahead of Same Month for Previous Year.

The customs department reports July the present year to have been \$133,717.55 ahead in customs receipts over July, 1910. In all three departments of the customs revenue given there has been an advance. The official figures for the two months are as follows:

	1910.	1911.
Duty	\$121,733.13	\$142,972.28
Chinese	\$105,577	\$268,047
Other	675	21.15
Totals	\$227,316.83	\$411,034.43

TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP.

Lake Forest, Ill., Aug. 1.—Two games were played this afternoon, the preliminaries of the national double tennis championships. Gustave Touchard and Raymond D. Little, representing the east, played Maurice F. McLaughlin, San Francisco and Thomas C. Bundy of Los Angeles, in the first match, while H. E. Doyle and Conrad E. Doyle, representatives of the south, played Murray C. Martin and C. M. Bull of New York, the representatives of the west in the other contest.

Martin and Bull had won the final round of the western doubles and then contested as the western team.

HARVESTERS FOR WEST.

Toronto, Aug. 1.—It is expected that fully 3,500 farm laborers will leave Toronto for the west on the first C. P. R. harvester excursion, which leaves for Winnipeg on Thursday.

IN ATCHEWAN

RAIL IN AUGUST 20

Fully Headed on of Oats

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announcement fortnightly report

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main line, August 24.

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Needed. The Free Press is a crop report

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IN STEAMER

With Six Reported

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Mass. Aug. 2.—men on board been in a cal-the three-masted

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Neck, on the a's Vineyard, to-