

The Semi-Weekly Telegraph

VOL. XLII.

ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 1904.

NO. 67.

SHEDAC NOW IS FIRE-SCOURGED.

Boot and Shoe Factory is Gone.

Weldon House Also Badly Damaged by Blaze Tuesday Morning--Town Aroused--Aid in Men and Appliances from Moncton--Good Battle Made by the Townspeople.

Shediac, N. B., May 10--(Special)--The Weldon House and shoe factory on the corner of Weldon and Water streets, was destroyed by fire early this morning.

How it started is not known but about 9 o'clock the town was aroused to see sky lighted by the reflection from the fire which was fast consuming the factory.

Weldon House Catches. One of these is the Weldon House, the hotel. Every effort was made to prevent the fire securing a grip here but as they might, the fire was too strong.

Moncton men and engines were arrived on a special train which left Moncton at 2.15, and went quickly to shediac, where they found that very good work had already been done.

Mr. Blair and the Canada Eastern. Mr. Blair writes the Citizen this morning giving an enthusiastic contribution to the story that he had purchased the Canada Eastern for \$200,000.

French Steamship Officers on Strike. Havre, May 9--In accordance with the decision of a committee appointed by the officers of the merchant marine now on strike, the officers of the French line steamer St. Simon, returning to Canada, Aquitaine and Ferdinand De Lesseps, have left these vessels.

Hotel Davies, Charlottetown, Sold. Charlottetown, May 7--After considerable negotiations, Hotel Davies, which has been closed over six months, has been purchased by Charlottetown parties for \$25,000.

Archbishop of Canterbury to Visit Canada Soon. Montreal, May 9--(Special)--The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Randall Davidson, will shortly visit Canada, according to a London cable.

FOR INCREASED FIRE PROTECTION.

A Representative Fredericton Committee Recommends Improvements. CHEMICAL ENGINE To Be Bought and Change Made in Hydrants--George O'Neil Has Leg Amputated--River Has Fallen a Foot Since Saturday Night--Moore's Oromocto Drive Hung Up--Other News of the Capital.

Fredericton, May 9--(Special)--A representative committee of aldermen and citizens considered the proposals of the New Brunswick fire underwriters for increased protection against fire in this city this afternoon.

George O'Neil, of Risteen Co., Ltd., had his right leg amputated above the knee at the Victoria Hospital yesterday. Dr. Bridges performed the operation, assisted by Dr. Harry McNally.

Mr. Geo. A. Hammond fell through a trap door on his premises at Hammondville a few days ago. He received a bad shaking up and had two ribs broken. Mr. Hammond is eighty-seven years old.

The Victoria mills started up this morning for the season, with a crew of about seventy-five men. Everything went like clockwork. The Messrs. Scott expect to start a night gang next Monday, making day and night for the balance of the season.

Mr. Bruce Winslow, at present in South America, who has been away for the past seven years, will be here in a short time to visit his parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Winslow.

Mrs. Wessley Vawter and her children will arrive from St. Louis before the close of the present month.

The river here has fallen a foot since Saturday night, which means a three-foot drop at Amherst. A good rain storm is needed to keep the water up to its present pitch, until the upper St. John drives are safely out of the troughs.

For a time Sunday afternoon there was a big run of logs into the Mitchell boom, but there seems to have been a falling off since then.

Mr. E. B. Moore's drive on the Oromocto containing upwards of 1,000,000 feet, is reported to be hung up.

Passengers by the Canada Eastern railway this afternoon report that the big log jam on the Dangarun broke on Saturday, carrying away a portion of the dam. The logs are part of the drive of Hon. Allan Ritchie, of Newcastle. Word from Boistown received today stated that the drives are now all coming along well, but that a delay will be caused by about fifty feet of R. & J. Ritchie's dam carried away and it is feared that this will cause quite some delay on the Dangarun.

Rafting operations at the Mitchell boom will probably be begun about next week, when the men will come back from the drives and a crew can be got together. About 200 men are employed at the Mitchell boom in the rafting season.

Work on John A. Morrison's lower corporation drive commenced this morning, and it will be pushed along as fast as possible with a big crew of men.

VLADIVOSTOK FLEET CAUGHT OUTSIDE HARBOR AND CUT OFF BY JAPS' SHIPS.

Kuropatkin Orders General Retreat, With Kuroki in Hot Pursuit.

Japanese General May Force Russians to Give Battle--15,000 of Czar's Troops Leave Newchwang--It is Again Asserted That Japs Have Taken Dalny--Graphic Account Tells How Mikado's Troops Scaled Yalu's Heights and Drove the Enemy, With Terrible Loss.

London, May 10--The Daily Telegraph's Seoul correspondent says: "It is believed here that a portion of the Russian Vladivostok fleet has been successfully shut out and is now in the Sea of Japan, trying to avoid the Japanese."

Kuropatkin Orders General Retreat. Paris, May 10--The correspondent at St. Petersburg of the Echo de Paris, telegraphs as follows: "General Kuropatkin has ordered a general retreat and no doubt intends to avoid a battle until he has sufficient forces. He retired certainly in pain or to Harbin. Retreat certainly is made, but it now is indispensable."

Japs Have Occupied Dalny. London, May 10--The Daily Telegraph's Tokyo correspondent, telegraphing under date of May 9, says: "The Japanese have requested the United States government to inquire into the fate of forty men who were missing after the flooding of Port Arthur. It is believed that several of them were captured. It is reiterated that the Japanese have occupied Dalny."

"I have from trustworthy sources that the Russians in the battle of the Yalu lost more than forty guns, enormous quantities of war material, horses, carts, ammunition and equipment."

15,000 Russians Retreating from Newchwang. London, May 10--The Tokyo correspondent of the Daily Chronicle says that 15,000 Russians are retreating from Newchwang to Liao Yang.

The correspondent also says that Chinese hand-to-hand were destroyed the road to Tashi Chia and to Hsi Cheng. (Tashi Chia is the junction of the main branch of the Port Arthur-Mukden and Liao Chia is further north on the main line.)

The Russians are making a new road. The correspondent adds that hand-to-hand fighting was going on at the railway and points out that the capture of Dalny will enable the Japanese to cut off Port Arthur's electric supply.

Kuroki May Force a Battle. London, May 10--In the absence of further stirring news from the seat of war, the London correspondent says that the optimistic incline to the belief that General Kuroki will succeed in overhauling the Russian army. Peng Wang Cheng and Liao Yang, and will compel them to fight at a disadvantage.

It is argued that it will be impossible for General Kuropatkin, depending upon a slender line of railway and with his army encumbered with baggage, to make his retirement speedily enough to enable him to choose his ground for battle. On the other hand, it is argued that, apart from Lieut-General Zassulitch's incidental error in giving battle on the Yalu against the orders of General Kuropatkin, the latter's plan remains unchanged and, once away from the mountainous country, he will have much in his favor.

The possibility of the Japanese finding a weak spot in the defense of Port Arthur is also much doubted, and it is believed in some quarters that they will repeat the tactics employed in the war with China and attempt an assault through the western defenses, which are known to be the weakest.

Another Delayed Account of Yalu Battle. Wiju, May 1, via Seoul, May 8--When the early mist drifted from the Yalu river disclosed a battle on the hills on the sandy island of Kintieto, which is in front of Wiju. The walls and towers of the city on the hill, rising abruptly from the south bank of the river and the nearest of the three channels, were crowded with Japanese and knowing spectators of the forthcoming attack. Kintieto inlet is scarcely anything more than the dry bed of the river. It is a low sandy plain, only a few feet above the level of the water and without shrubbery or cover except on its southern half. Infantry lay with

stacked arms across the island awaiting their work. The soldiers were spread out in their back lines three miles long from a point on the island opposite the village of Chin Lien Cheng on the west, to a point opposite the extremity of the Tiger's Head on the east. The division of the Imperial Guards occupied the centre of the line, another division was on the west and a third on the east of the line. The Tiger's Head forms a point jutting into the river along parallel to the south bank. The Japanese division which executed the flanking movement from up stream yesterday, was now on the sands entirely, as the enemy had withdrawn north.

Four field batteries were behind the infantry on its extreme flank, concealed by the shrubbery. How the Action Began. Two batteries began the action by throwing shells to the Manchurian side of the river for half an hour, while the sun was rising. They sprinkled with shells the embankments where the Russian guns had been firing the past week but no response to their fire was forthcoming and it looked as though the Russians had removed their batteries during the night. It seemed as if the enemy had withdrawn north, as no signs of life could be seen on their works.

Soon after 7 o'clock the Japanese began to advance. The batteries from the Korean to the Manchurian bank of the Yalu is about two miles. The Japanese troops spread out in extended formation as they went forward. When they were a few hundred yards from the hills on the Manchurian side they threw themselves prone on the ground and began volleys in the direction of the Japanese batteries searched the hills with sharpshooters. The Russians now could be seen at intervals where the road was exposed, hurrying in small groups through the hills. These exposed stretches of the road made fine targets for the Japanese gunners. A fierce fire was concentrated on one open space, half the area with wonderful precision. There was a perfect shower of puffs of white smoke at this place and the observers could see a bill coming from an occasional shell as it dug a great hole in the earth and scattered quantities of rock. Still the Russians remained silent. There was no answering fire from them until the first Japanese line was within a few hundred yards of the river bank. Then sharp volleys burst almost simultaneously from several batteries and the attacking Japanese thrust themselves under a heavy and continuous fire at easy range from covered positions high above them. They lay behind the hills, the hills replying bravely and hotly to the fire, while their own batteries pumped shells over their heads.

Jap Officers Unconcerned Under Fire. The Japanese officers sat on their horses or walked along unhurt. A few stretcher-bearers coming back to the aid hospital indicated that men were being wounded. The Russian smokeless powder was excellent. Its use made it impossible for the Japanese to discover the exact position of the enemy or to estimate their numbers. Soon after 8 o'clock the Russian fire was largely silenced by the combined artillery and infantry attack of the Japanese and the enemy's troops could be seen hurrying upward over the mountainous country in retreat. Two regiments of Japanese troops, one directly opposite Wiju and another near a village on the west, ran to the river, stopping to fire now and then as they progressed and firing shrill cheers as they hurried forward, which echoed clear over the plain. Their formation was closer than that kept by British or American troops and it looked as though their losses must be great. They waded the river, ran across the sands and climbed up the steep rocky hill sides like a swarm of ants, their red and yellow cap bands gleaming in the sun. One Japanese soldier in one of the regiments carried something white with him. This he waved and caused a shout to go up that the Russians had surrendered. But upon reaching the top of the first Russian trench, the Japanese found a dozen bodies lying on the hillside and a Japanese flag waved it to and fro. A storming party on the west side of the advance moved up the hill, clearing away a dozen bodies that had been hurled down the hill. Just as the men were bunched thickly on the crest of this hill, two Japanese shells burst among them. They had fired a short burst and the smoke had cleared away a dozen bodies that had been hurled down the hill. Just as the men were bunched thickly on the crest of this hill, two Japanese shells burst among them. They had fired a short burst and the smoke had cleared away a dozen bodies that had been hurled down the hill. Just as the men were bunched thickly on the crest of this hill, two Japanese shells burst among them. They had fired a short burst and the smoke had cleared away a dozen bodies that had been hurled down the hill.

TO BUILD FORTS ON THE BORDER.

TWENTY-SIX BUILDINGS BURNED AT RICHMOND CORNER

Fire Broke Out Early Yesterday Morning. Very Little Insurance on the Destroyed Property--Many Will Not Rebuild--Blaze Started in a Barn and is Thought to Be Work of Tramps.

Woodstock, May 10--(Special)--The village of Richmond Corner, about half way between Woodstock and Houlton, received a severe scorching by fire early this morning.

About 1.30 o'clock fire was discovered in two barns owned by F. W. Hall and H. Montgomery. They were practically adjoining and the flames had gained such headway before discovered that it was impossible to extinguish the blaze.

The church bell was rung and the residents of the village and surrounding farms hurried to the scene and did their best to fight the fire, but owing to the strong wind and lack of apparatus it was almost impossible to do anything except remove to a place of safety whatever furniture and other light articles could be easily transported.

Twenty-four buildings were consumed, as follows: Mansfield London, house and office; Frank W. Hall, house and barn; occupied store and barn; house and barn; office old public hall; barn owned by Hugh Montgomery; house and barn owned by John Kerr and occupied by Charles Fraser; two barns, house, blacksmith shop, carriage house and outbuildings owned by John Hamilton; house and barn owned and occupied by George Parker; store and barn occupied by E. J. McEllan and owned by Hugh Montgomery; house and barn owned by William Harris, Jr., and occupied by Samuel Eddy.

There was some insurance carried, but in most cases a total loss resulted. Not more than \$200 worth of goods and furniture was saved in the whole conflagration.

Heroic efforts prevented the fire from spreading to the church, school house and other residences in the place. It is thought the fire must be of incendiary origin, as tramps have been numerous in the vicinity.

Many of the buildings will not be rebuilt. The sympathy of the public will go out to the losers.

Mr. McEllan had been in business only a month, having bought the business of Clifford Campbell. John Hamilton is a heavy loser, but he will probably rebuild.

Not much insurance on the burned buildings in Richmond is held in St. John. The Western has \$1,000 on Mansfield London's dwelling, furniture and barns; \$1,000 on Frank W. Hall's dwelling, furniture and barns; \$500 on Geo. H. Parks' dwelling, wagon, pump, etc. E. L. Philips went to Richmond yesterday in the Western's interests, and Edgar Fairweather went to adjust the Quebec's loss.

CANADA A POOR FIELD FOR BRITISH LIFE INSURANCE COMPANIES

Several Concerns Quit Taking New Business--In Fire Risks English Companies Take Seven Per Cent. of the Business.

Montreal, May 9--(Special)--A special London cable says: "It is commonly said, says the Pall Mall Gazette, that British life offices have the best thing to sell in the world, but are the worst sellers of it. This may be partially true, due to the sound reason at the base of British dislike for the pushing methods of American and some colonial offices. In 1903 British offices took \$3,132,904 new assurances and Canadian offices \$85,170,504. "Out of the 159 British companies registered in the dominion, eight have ceased to take any new assurances and only two of the remainder transact a considerable amount on time. "The high rate of interest obtainable upon investments in Canada is counteracted by the high expenditure but now there is a great fall in the yield from interest and the expenditure is increasing. Few companies find any benefit in the continuance of their Canadian business. "In fire insurances, British companies take seven per cent of the whole premium income derivable from Canada. In 1903 their premium income was \$8,610,000 and in 1902, \$7,618,298."

Lewiston Woman Terribly Burned. Lewiston, Me., May 9--Mrs. Noel Cron, of River street, was probably fatally burned this evening. A can of varnish which she had placed on the stove to warm ignited and Mrs. Cron's clothes were set on fire. Before she was rescued all her hair had been burned from her head and her face, arms and body terribly burned. She is now in the Sisters' hospital in a hopeless condition.

British Engineer to Plan Them.

Premiers Tweedie and Peters and Attorney General Pugsley Arranging for Argument in Halifax Fishery Award Case--A. B. Aylesworth to Appear for P. E. Island--Other News of Ottawa.

Ottawa, May 9--(Special)--The minister of finance promised that the resolution of the Montreal Chamber de Commerce praying for the removal of all obstacles to the introduction of the best Canadian securities in the French market would be duly transmitted to the French government.

Premier Arthur Peters, of Prince Edward Island, arrived in Ottawa this morning. The premier's visit is to confer with the minister of justice and endeavor to arrange the settlement of the date on which the case of the Halifax fisheries award will be heard in the supreme court of Canada.

A. B. Aylesworth, of Toronto, will represent Prince Edward Island before the supreme court here, when the fishery award is being discussed.

Premier Tweedie and Dr. Pugsley will also confer with the department of justice on the same subject. The minister of justice is today in London (Ont.), but will be here tomorrow.

New Fortifications for Canada. Capt. T. E. Nash, of the British Royal Engineers, is in Ottawa to assist the Canadian militia department in the preparation of plans for new fortifications in this country.

Capt. Nash has been employed by the Canadian government for six months, and during that term he will act under Lieut. Col. Paul Westburne, chief engineer of the militia department in the preparation of plans for new fortifications in this country.

In reply to a question by Mr. Wilnot the minister of agriculture stated that a census official made enquiries in Lincoln parish, Sanbury county, in Kars parish, Kings county, and in the city of St. John (N. B.), to ascertain whether the British in these districts had been properly classified. The result showed that the census return was in accordance with the information supplied by the people themselves.

Mr. Sinclair, of Guysboro, called the government's attention to the desirability of appointing a Canadian commercial agent in Newfoundland. The minister of finance returned a sympathetic reply and said the subject was engaging the government's attention.

The Mexican delegates spent the greater part of the day with Sir Charles Wright discussing the proposed steamship service between Mexico and Canada. The greater part of the proceedings in the house today was occupied with consideration of Northwest affairs.

It arose on a motion by Mr. (Regina) reading a despatch from Hanley settlement in the west complaining that on account of failure of Quappelle, Long Lake and Saskatchewan railway to carry provisions and seed grain to the place the outlook for settlers was bad. This is the road which Mr. Osler, M. P. of Toronto, floated in 1893. The railway has been awarded the contract for the wharf at Point Roebur, Gloucester county, for \$32,900.

PROMINENT MEN TAKE LAST LOOK AT SENATOR DEVER

Ottawa, May 9--(Special)--The house did not meet until 3.40 today to permit the members accompanying the body of the late Senator Dever from the senate to the central depot. Nearly all the members of the government and senators were in town and all the members of parliament were present. The parliament buildings at 3.30 for the railway station. The body was taken by the 4 p. m. train for St. John on the C. P. R. Besides the government and parliament representatives there were many of Ottawa's citizens in attendance. Premier Tweedie and Attorney-General Pugsley, of New Brunswick, were among those present.

FOUR COMMISSIONERS FOR G. T. P. EASTERN SECTION

Ottawa, May 9--(Special)--Sir Wilfrid Laurier has given notice of a resolution providing for four commissioners for the eastern section of the national transcontinental railway, instead of three, as in the present bill.