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# The Toronto World

TWELVE PAGES—FRIDAY MORNING JULY 14 1914—TWELVE PAGES

X VOL. XXXI—No. 11,283

## ESTIMATE OF DEATHS IN NORTHERN HOLOCAUST PLACED AT FROM 150 TO 500

### CAR LOAD OF COFFINS RELIEF TRAIN'S GRUESOME FREIGHT

At Dome Mine, Out of 300 Employees, Only 20 Are Definitely Known to Be Saved—Townships of Langmuir, Eldorado, Shaw, Deloro, McArthur and Cripple Creek District Devastated.

#### MANAGER OF DOME MINE AND HIS MOTHER BLINDED BY THE FIRE

NORTH BAY, July 13.—(Special.)—With an entire carload of coffins on board, a relief train left North Bay this afternoon for Porcupine. The train also carried provisions, blankets, tents, etc.

The latest estimates of the dead vary from 150 to 500, while many think the death roll will reach larger figures. Dome mines with 300 employees, can account for only about 20 saved, while other mines in the vicinity with smaller payrolls, are in a similar position.

Refugees coming out to-day from South Porcupine tell a horrible story of being forced into the water of the lake by the fire and waiting hours for succor. A terrific gale was blowing and the waves dashed mountains high, so that very few boats could venture out, but the women and children were taken away, while the foreigners were kept back by a determined young man with a revolver, who threatened to shoot any man attempting to board a boat until the women were taken off.

Billy Moore, a well-known mining man, got in a canoe with Jack McMurrich, barrister Broogs of Montreal, and George Green, and without paddles tried to breast the waves with short sticks. The canoe was overturned and Moore was drowned, the others escaping.

Survivors from Porcupine tell sorry tales of lying in swamps, besides lakes, and escaping with scorched lungs and burned bodies. Many women and children stood chin deep in the water at South Porcupine for five hours and survived the terrible heat, while many sank beneath, to rise no more.

The Water Their Tomb.

The actual casualties will never be known, as many lakes and rivers are tombs of prospectors and miners.

Survivors coming out tell of terrible conditions, with a dense pall of smoke hiding the trails, and everybody taking chances. Swedes, Poles, and Italians, laborers at the mines, rushing thru the bush in all directions, many being overtaken by the flames and burned.

A gruesome sight at North Bay to-day was the loading of the car of coffins which went forward on the relief train, in charge of General Passenger Agent Parr.

Word has been received from the stricken Town of Coburne to stop all people going in there, as great difficulty is experienced providing for those who have remained since the fire.

Eight deaths are already reported in the Redstone district. Campbell was the only man to escape from the West Dome, thirty human beings having sought refuge in the shaft from the fire. The Vipond mines were swept clean, Manager W. H. Davidson and 22 men, fighting desperately for their lives, escaped.

Cap. Dunbar, a well-known mining man, had a trying experience, but escaped. Two young men, Strain lost their lives at South Porcupine. Cap. Yost had a hard fight at Goose Lake, and lost seven men.

Special trains on the government railway are rushing supplies to Porcupine and Coburne, and tents and provisions will be here in plenty after a few days.

Fire swept clean the Townships of Langmuir, Eldorado, Shaw, Deloro, Ogdon, McArthur and the Cripple Creek district, and how many of the thousands of prospectors escaped cannot be estimated, as only a small percentage could have saved their lives. The Hudson Bay Co. are forwarding supplies to the stricken, and everybody will be cared for.

A party of Queen's University students, who have been touring the mineral belt, escaped with their lives by a narrow margin. They include Wilmer Campbell, Charles Spearman, William Battersbee, Sherry Huff and Oulette. They had to run for miles with the fire all around them.

Manager Meek of the Dome mine went thru this morning with his mother to Copper Cliff, both suffering tortures in the shaft. Both are blind, temporarily at least, while the mother may die.

C. T. Young, ex-Mayor of Halesbury, is chairman of the emergency committee at South Porcupine, and doing wonderful work in caring for the sufferers. Jack Munroe, pugilist, is also chairman of a committee and doing good work.

Every man coming out reports seeing many dead bodies on the trails and roads, indicating that the death roll will be very heavy.

The scene at South Porcupine beggars description, hundreds of men, women and children standing in water, while the flames raged above and behind them, and the waves dashed over their heads.

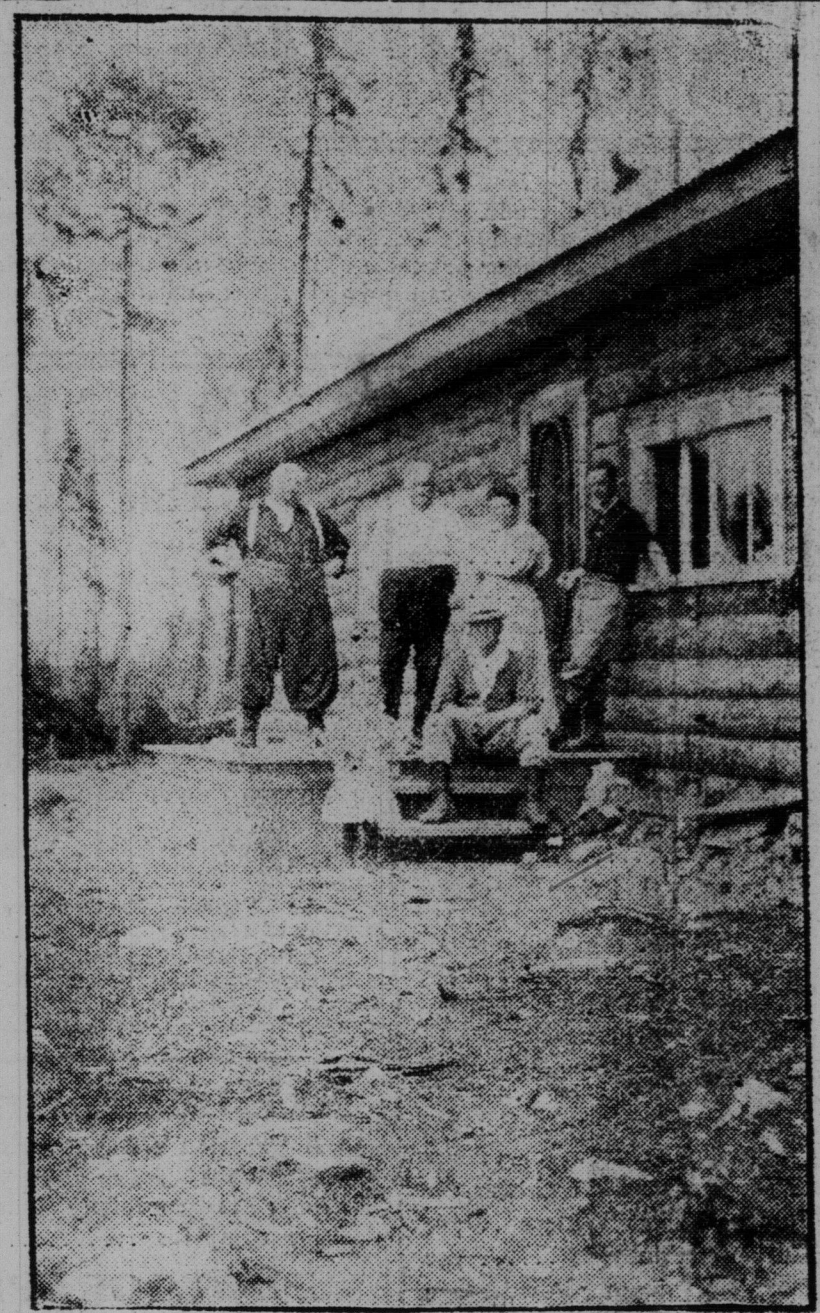
### STREET RAILWAY WORST COMING OUTS REAL ENGLEHART FEARS MELON

Dividend Raised to 8 Per Cent., and \$2,000,000 in Stock Will Be Issued at Par, While \$1,000,000 is Straight Stock Bonus—Forget Was "the Man Behind."

The long-expected and much-heralded "melon" for Toronto Street Railway holders has been off at last. The directors of the company met yesterday afternoon and decided to increase the capital from \$8,000,000 to \$12,000,000, the "melon" coming in the shape of the \$4,000,000 increase.

Chairman of T. N. O. Leaves for North to Superintend Relief Work — Supplies Going Forward Are Plentiful — Cash Contributions From Various Sources.

Chairman J. L. Englehart of the T. and N. O. Commission quietly left the city last night and undoubtedly has some negotiations to get an actual knowledge of the extent of the calamity which has befallen the people of the country that is so near to his heart.



(By courtesy of Chas. A. Stoneham & Co.) Mine Manager Robert A. Weiss, his wife and three-year-old daughter; Mr. Carlos Warfield, an associate of Heinze, the copper king; Mr. Tracey and another gentleman on the steps of Mr. Weiss' bungalow at the West Dome Mine. Mr. Weiss and his family were suffocated in the shaft of the mine. Mr. Tracey saved his life by crawling out of the ill-fated shaft when the poisonous gases flooded in. Mr. Warfield, who stands on Mr. Weiss' left, was not in Porcupine at the time of the fire.

## THE DEAD

- Golden City, Ont., July 13, 7.45 p.m.
- The following is a list of the deaths by fire and drowning resulting from the forest fire which raged here on Tuesday last, as far as is definitely known:
- Julius Metzger, Paris, France, drowned.
  - André Le Roux, Montreal, drowned.
  - Arvilla Mondoux, Cobalt, drowned.
  - Chas. F. Adams, Phoenixville, Pa., drowned.
  - Taylor, address unknown, drowned.
  - Snack Smith, New Lakehead, burned.
  - H. A. Dwyer, Idaho, burned.
  - Frank Flynn, address unknown, burned.
  - Andy Vull, Toronto, burned.
  - Joe Fischer, Cochemouth, England, burned.
  - Pat Dwyer, address unknown, burned.
  - William Moore, Ottawa, drowned.
  - Mevio Strain, Porcupine, drowned.
  - Nathan Haas, Spokane, Wash., drowned.
  - Stanley Nicholson, Guelph, drowned.
  - William Ghore, Porcupine, burned.
  - T. R. Godes, address unknown, burned.
  - Harry Hardy, Bath, England, burned.
  - Fritz Wasse, address unknown, burned.
  - John Whelan, Toronto, burned.
  - Thomas John King, Copper Cliff, burned.
  - Henry Jackson, address unknown, burned.
  - Archer Johnston, Sudbury, Ont., burned.
  - Lee H. Sullivan, London, Eng., burned.
  - Stanley Fitzmaurice, Mulholland, burned.
  - Robert Weiss, Butte, Mont., burned.
  - Mrs. Robert Weiss, Butte, Mont., burned.
  - Wesley Child, Butte, Mont., burned.
  - James Reault, 211 Farley-avenue, Toronto, burned.
  - James Welch, Jamaica Bay, Ont., burned.
  - John McLaughlin, address unknown, burned.
  - William King, Boise, Idaho, burned.
  - Angus McDonald, Turner-street, Ottawa, burned.
  - Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Burt, Cobalt, Ont., burned.
  - Jack Taylor, address unknown, burned.
  - John Lester, address unknown, burned.
  - Mr. and Mrs. D. M. MacQueen, address unknown, burned.
  - Harry Broadbent, address unknown, burned.
  - John Sausch, address unknown, burned.
  - Hugh McLeod, Glencoe Mills, burned.
  - Lester Henninger, Cape Breton, burned.
  - J. W. Granahan, Inverness, N.S., burned.
  - Wm. Melan, address unknown, burned.
  - J. Pauls, address unknown, burned.
  - J. Orr, address unknown, burned.
  - W. Beslin, address unknown, burned.
  - A. J. Ryan, Lewis, Mass., burned.
  - Capt. Thomas Lushar of Kenney & Dunbar, address unknown, burned.
  - E. Sherrett, address unknown, burned.
- Relief parties have been sent to scatter through the camp. Many persons are reported burned on the trails, but very little definite information can be obtained until relief parties return. Some few more are undoubtedly drowned, but we have been unable to recover the bodies as yet. Many men who were in the bush are reported missing, and are being searched for. Definite news will be published as quickly as possible, and the committee notifying relatives wherever possible. The injured are all well cared for, and everyone in Golden City is provided for. Conservative estimate gives loss of life at one hundred. Please advise all papers.
- (Signed) PORCUPINE RELIEF COMMITTEE.

### WALL OF FIRE 25 MILES WIDE

Vivid Story of Disaster Told by George Green of Toronto — Acts of Heroism Were Common, and Foreigners Were the Only Ones Who Showed Cowardice.

"When it is understood that the fire approaching us was 25 miles wide, that seven townships 35 miles square were burning, and that the wind was blowing at the rate of 60 miles an hour, some appreciation can be formed of the devilry of the elements we were up against," was the statement made to The World by George Green of this city, a young clean-cut man, who has been prospecting and dealing in properties in the Cobalt and Porcupine districts for half-a-dozen years.

"No body," he added, "can understand the horror of the situation who has not been in it. It was awful, but the grand marvel was the wonder of the whole thing, was the bravery with which the situation was met. The women were as courageous as the men. Of course, there was some hysterics, but as a whole, the fortitude exhibited by the women and even the children was beyond description, grand."

### Blow to Pulp Industry

OTTAWA, July 13.—The fires now raging in northern Ontario have dealt a severe blow to the pulp and paper industry in Canada, in the opinion of George Gordon, M.P. for Nipissing, one of Canada's best known lumbermen, whose mills are at Cache Bay, Ont.

### Prospectors Streaming Into Toronto Declare That Reports of Extent of Disaster Only Hint at Real Truth—Miners Lived and Died Brave Men.

Survivors of the fire horror in the north came into Toronto on every train from North Bay yesterday. Men from the Dome, mines, prospectors, townsmen and mine owners, all came to their homes here, while others who had no homes to go to, stayed at the various hotels.

### Loss to Mines Will Be Small

Published Estimates Described as "Rubbish" by Men Who Know—Silver Lining to the Cloud.

### WALL OF FIRE REFUGEES FROM PORCUPINE TELL OF BATTLE FOR LIVES

OTTAWA, July 13.—The fires now raging in northern Ontario have dealt a severe blow to the pulp and paper industry in Canada, in the opinion of George Gordon, M.P. for Nipissing, one of Canada's best known lumbermen, whose mills are at Cache Bay, Ont.

"The timber destroyed has been nearly all spruce and jack pine. There were some splendid opportunities to establish pulp and paper mills in the district which has been swept," said Mr. Gordon, who is a guest at the Russell Hotel to-day.

### Loss to Mines Will Be Small

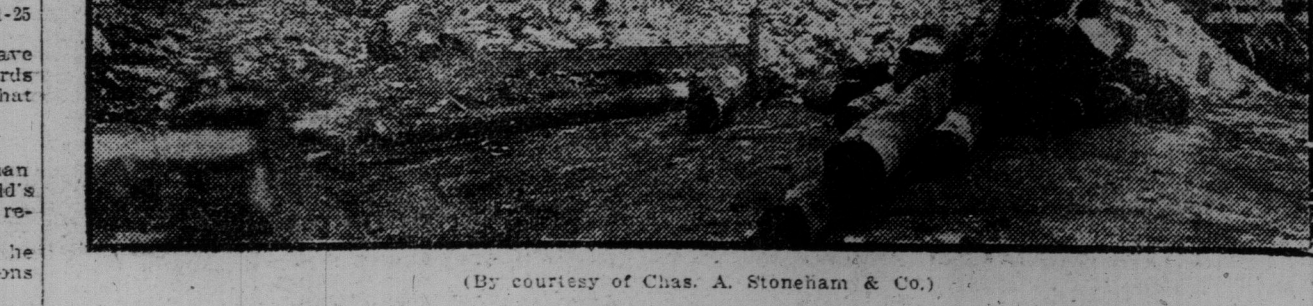
Published Estimates Described as "Rubbish" by Men Who Know—Silver Lining to the Cloud.

### FUND STARTED IN MONTREAL

MONTREAL, July 13.—The owners of the Hollinger mine have started a relief fund in Montreal for the Porcupine sufferers, with the following amounts:

### Straw and Panamas Marked Down

"Every man who has a closing-out sale of all the men's straw hats in the house. The regular \$2, \$2.50, and \$3 straw hats, in either plain or sensit hat, in latest of salop designs, for \$1.50—other \$2 and \$4 hats for \$2. Panamas, regular \$5, for \$3.20. This represents some exceptional values in high-class hats for men for summer wear. The chance of a lifetime."



(By courtesy of Chas. A. Stoneham & Co.) The head frame of the West Dome shaft, where R. A. Weiss, the mine manager, his wife and daughter and forty of his miners perished.