

the gallery floor and I got a curtain from the window to make a rope of. I asked him to go down, that I would hold it, but he refused. Then I asked him to hold it for me, and putting it once around the coils, he held the end and I began to crawl down. When I came to the end, I dropped. I must have gone 25 feet, falling on my back on the ice. I was picked up in a semi-conscious condition and kept telling the men who were helping me, 'There is a man in No. 107; get him.' I was taken to the hospital and they tell me I kept shouting for half the night, 'There is a man in No. 107.' That was the number of the apartment."

Wilfrid Larose, of the Hanasard Translators' staff, was on the upper floor of Parliament building. He could not come down by the inside stairs, so thick was the smoke at that moment. He called for the firemen's ladder through one of the windows and came to the ground by that means. Had a very narrow escape.

Mr. Pigeon stated that he was called by 'phone and went to the burning building about 10.30. There he found one of the clerks, Mr. MacCormac, on duty. Two messengers, Messrs. Argue and Micklejohn, were sitting with their overcoats and hats on, they having locked the door leading to the House of Commons. He secured the petty cash, amounting to some \$60, then went into the cellar below to the housekeepers' quarters. At this point all the lights went out, and he had to grope his way by means of a wax candle.

Thomas Wensley, chief engineer, stuck to his post to the very last in order to have the boilers fixed so that there would not be an explosion. In the honour roll with him must be mentioned four of his assistants, John Reeves, John McKee, John Hennessy and E. Gardiepy.

Mr. C. George, the steward at the House of Commons, and his family had a narrow escape. All their house-

hold effects are gone. Mr. George was assisting in the trailing of the hose, when Messrs. Desjardins were killed. That his life is saved was miraculous.

WAR PERSONALS.

D. E. Lothian, of the Outside Division of the Department of Agriculture, who went overseas as private in an infantry battalion, has been given a commission in the Seaforth Highlanders of the British army. He was wounded at St. Julien.

Philip S. Conroy, of the Post Office Department, has been given a commission in the 5th Battalion, C. E.F. He enlisted as a private, but soon became a sergeant in the 2nd Battalion. Before the war he was in the 43rd Regiment, and had been a musketry instructor.

Captain F. H. Maynard, 125th India Rifles, son of M. W. Maynard, of the Department of Railways and Canals, who was wounded in Mesopotamia, has been removed to India. He has wounds in the head and in both legs.

Lieut. Frank McGee is now in a convalescent home in Wales.

Sergt. W. G. Hazlett, 21st Battalion, C.E.F., is coming home to take up instruction duty. He is a clerk in the Department of the Secretary of State.

Lieut. Frank Grierson, Canadian Field Artillery, is to command the new 53rd Battery of the Canadian Expeditionary Force, with the rank of captain. The new C.O. is on the staff of the Finance Department and a leader in all Civil Service organizations and activities in Ottawa. He is Secretary of the Civil Service Federation of Canada and chairman of *The Civilian Committee*.

Twenty-seven and a half millions of dollars were paid as fire insurance premiums in Canada in 1914.