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CANADIAN JOURNALISTS TAKE ACTIVE PART IN CONFERENCE DEBATE ON IMPERIAL DEFENCE

Special to The Standard.
London, June 9.—The Imperial Press Conference resumed the discussion on Imperial Defence this morning. Mr. A. J. Balfour presiding, Lord Roberts and Mr. Haldane, the Secretary of State for War, were present.
A grave note was again emphasized in the speeches of the home statesmen.
Mr. Balfour.
Mr. Balfour, in opening, declared that all local defence, though it was necessary, was subordinate to imperial defence, and subordinate from the standpoint of particular localities themselves, not only from the viewpoint of the Empire. (Applause.)
In dealing first with the military aspect of the question, Mr. Balfour laid down two propositions: first, that all the forces of the overseas states should be under the control of these states; and, second, that they should be organized on a common basis. Respecting the navy, he did not regard it as necessary, unless any local defence, but anything in the nature of coastal protection should be rigidly subordinate to a fleet in action. (Here, here.)
The fate of the Empire would be dependent on fleet superiority and that superiority must be shown in home waters. If there was to be an armageddon, it would take place in the German Ocean, the English Channel, or perhaps the Mediterranean.
The Signs of the Times.
Mr. Balfour continuing, said: "Anybody who reads the signs of the times will, I think, agree with the weighty words of Lord Rosebery and Sir Edward Grey, and will recognize that no man can now speak of imperial defence without some note of anxiety—"

FOREST FIRES IN CARLETON COUNTY HAVE SWEEPED ENORMOUS SECTIONS OF VALUABLE LAND; HON. J. K. FLEMMING A HEAVY LOSER

Wide areas of the forest lands of New Brunswick are in a blaze, such as has seldom been known in the history of the province. The weather has been exceedingly dry for a long time now, and the lumber land owners are praying for rain. The weather probabilities, however, do not forecast any immediate showers.
Raging Near Hartland.
The reports from Hartland state that the forest fires are still raging fiercely in that vicinity. Hon. J. K. Fleming, who is in the city speaking to a Standard representative last evening, stated that on Monday he had his mills at Hartland shut down, and ordered the crew out to fight the fire as the blaze gave promise of sweeping his timber lands to destruction. They were fairly successful in their efforts to quench the fire, but a long-distance message from Hartland stating that the fire had broken out again, and had already destroyed his lands to the extent of \$3,000. The mill hands are again at work and are doing everything possible to prevent further destruction. Mr. Fleming's lands consist of about six miles east of Hartland.
These lands were purchased by him about a year ago, and although he has done everything possible to protect them from fire, he has unfortunately sustained a heavy loss, and it is likely that he will suffer more damage. Besides Mr. Fleming there are many other whose lands have been already burned over.
The Fire Near St. John.
The fires in the vicinity of the Black River Road, Red Head, and Loch Lomond are now practically extinguished, but a terrific fire has sprung up in the vicinity of Brown's Flats. The fire has already burned about three miles in each direction, and is still fiercely raging. It has crossed McKell's Lake, and last evening was burning on both sides of the lake.
Mr. Jones a Loser.
Mr. George B. Jones, M. P. P., of Jock's Cove, suffered considerable loss yesterday; and Captain Anderson who owns a hotel for fishermen near the lake, is in great danger of losing his property, as the fire is only about one-eighth of a mile from his hotel.

BOYLES AND MRS. NESBITT ARE UNDER ARREST IN CONNECTION WITH THE COOKVILLE AFFAIR

Special to The Standard.
Sackville, N. B., June 9.—The finding of the body of a dead infant in the cellar of the house lately vacated by William Boyles at Cookville, some ten or twelve miles from Sackville, the exclusive report of which appeared in today's Standard, has led to the discovery of a shocking condition of affairs. The inquest held today was by Coroner Baird of Middle Sackville. Dr. Calkins who held a postmortem gave evidence that the body of the child was fully developed and weighed about ten pounds. He found a cord tied about its neck and cotton wool stuffed in its mouth sufficient to cause death, though he could not say positively that death was due to this cause. The body had been buried about a month. William Boyles, his wife and Mrs. Annie Nesbitt, who lived with the Boyles and also several neighbors gave evidence, but threw no light on the mystery though the evidence pointed to Mrs. Nesbitt as the mother of the child. The jury brought in a verdict that the child belonged to Mrs. Nesbitt, and implicating Boyles as the father and that death was due to strangulation. On the strength of this Mrs. Nesbitt and Boyles were arrested, and will be taken to Sackville tomorrow for examination. Mrs. Nesbitt has been twice married. Her first husband, a man named Milton, was lost at sea. She then went to the United States and married a man named Nesbitt from whom she separated and returned to Cookville where for a year or more she and two children were living with the Boyles family. She is about 40 years of age.

MURRAY DRANK THE GOLDEN MANY BOTTLES OF BAY RUM OF ANIVERSARY OF MARRIAGE

Special to The Standard.
Annapolis, N. S., June 9.—That as a result of having drunk dozens of bottles of every conceivable kind of liquor from bay rum and whiskey to gin and Florida water, Kenneth Murray, late yesterday came to an excruciatingly painful death, was the substance of a verdict rendered by a coroner's jury here this evening. Murray, who was forty-four years of age and married, and leaves besides his widow several small children, started on a drunken spree about ten days ago, which lasted until the time of his death, during which time he consumed nearly 50 bottles of different kinds of liquors amounting to the number being over a dozen bottles of bay rum. The effects of which death was chiefly due.
Held Inquest.
This afternoon Dr. Withers held a coroner's investigation and after viewing the body adjourned to the town hall where the evidence was given before a large number of citizens. J. M. Owen appeared for the Crown and one of the features of the inquiry was a clash between Doctor Withers and Mr. Owen regarding the right of the Crown to be represented at the investigation. After a sharp discussion the coroner conceded Mr. Owen's right to appear in person. The widow was the first witness called and she deposed that her husband had drunk enormous quantities of liquor and had suffered great agony before death. On the table were found twenty bottles which had contained liquor and were amongst those used by the deceased. Other witnesses showed the crafty manner in which the unfortunate man had obtained the liquor. Unable to purchase even bay rum himself, he had employed several small boys to obtain it for him, a bottle at a time, they having bought it under several pretences.

WITH HER OWN FIRE APPARATUS FIGHTING TO SAVE VILLAGE OF BATH, WOODSTOCK SUFFERS FROM FLAMES TO EXTENT OF NEARLY \$100,000

Special to The Standard.
Bath, N. B., June 9.—A disastrous fire broke out here about eight o'clock this evening in the rear of the buildings owned by Tompkins Bros., whose barns, general store and dwelling were entirely destroyed.
Some goods were saved from the store, but their loss is heavy, being about \$15,000 with about eight thousand insurance. From Tompkins' store the fire extended to the hotel on the corner owned by Gilbert Giberson, the dwelling which was occupied by a tenant named Colby Hatheway, was entirely consumed and Mr. Hatheway lost all his household effects.
Hotel Destroyed.
The hotel occupied by Gilbert Giberson was badly gutted and practically destroyed but the barns attached were saved with difficulty. Giberson's loss is partly covered by insurance.
The fire companies from Woodstock, Perth and Perth assisted the Bath firemen in fighting the fire which was under control by 11 o'clock. Dr. Cummins' residence to the north was saved, but the origin of the fire is unknown but it is supposed to have started in the rear of the building near the railway track.
The Woodstock fire fighters were rushed here by a special train.
FIRE AT WOODSTOCK.
Dickinson's Tannery Burned Down With Loss Of Nearly \$100,000.
Woodstock, N. B., June 9.—The tannery owned by J. D. Dickinson & Son of this town was totally destroyed by fire about one o'clock this morning. The origin of the fire is unknown. The tannery consisted of three large buildings, wood structures, situated in the lower part of the town. Owing to the fire at Bath, the fire department at Woodstock was crippled by the absence of their fire engine and some of the men who had gone to Bath to lend assistance in fighting the fire there.
At first it was thought that the lower end of the town would be wiped out and the fire fighters with their engine which had gone to Bath were ordered back immediately and left there for Woodstock about two-thirty this morning.
The fire was got under control, however, at 3 a. m., having consumed the tannery buildings together with the office building which is situated across the street.
The tannery plant took in the upper leather and sale buildings of J. D. Dickinson & Son, and their loss is about \$90,000 insurance. The upper part of the office building was used as a dwelling.

PARLIAMENT'S JURISDICTION QUESTIONED QUEBEC HAD SERIOUS FIRE YESTERDAY

Special to The Standard.
Ottawa, Ont., June 9.—The question of the jurisdiction of Parliament over the White Pass and Yukon Railway and the right of the railway commission to deal with its tariff, was questioned by F. H. Chrysler, K. C., this afternoon during the argument of the complaint of the Board of Trade of Dawson, that the rates of the railway are excessive. He argued that the Canadian Parliament had jurisdiction only when the railway passed through two or more provinces or was for the general advantage of Canada, but if a Canadian company built a railway elsewhere Parliament had no authority.
In the United States there was jurisdiction over commerce but in Canada over work only. As there was a doubt he stated whether the Yukon as a mining district would exist ten or fifteen years hence he insisted that the railway would have been entitled at its commencement to draw from the revenue one-twentieth of the cost of construction each year in order that the railway might pay for itself during the period the district lives as a mining centre. The case is not concluded.
Started in Mill.
The fire started in the lumber mill and gained a great start through the employees endeavoring to get it under control without summoning the fire brigade. When the latter was finally called the flames had got a great hold on the place and were rapidly spreading to the surrounding property.
Soldiers Help Firemen.
Only the plentiful supply of water and assistance rendered by a detachment of men from the R. C. G. A. from the citadel enabled the firemen to control it when they did. On Prince Edward street the heat was so great that the rails on the C. P. R. track were expanded and the train due to leave at 1:30 was delayed for several hours. The damage is only partially covered by insurance.

NEW OFFICERS TO COMMAND REGIMENTS

Special to The Standard.
Ottawa, June 9.—One cavalry and six regiments get new commanding officers in today's general orders. They are: 2nd Dragoons, western Ontario—Major J. Z. Fraser, becomes Lieut. Col.; 6th Carleton—Major G. D. Perkins, vice Lt. Col. W. Baker; 1st York—Major H. F. McLeod, vice Lt. Col. J. S. D. Chipman; 82nd Prince Edward Island—Major G. Vrockett, vice Lt. Col. D. Stewart; 8th Middlesex—B. Welch; 27th Lambton—Major R. I. Towers, vice Lt. Col. R. MacKenzie; 40th Northumberland—Major E. B. Bird, vice Lt. Col. W. H. Floyd; R. E. Willis resigns from the Royal Canadian Regiment. Capt. T. J. F. Murphy, permanent army medical corps is promoted major.
Other Changes.
To be Provisional Lieutenant, G. R. Turner; 78th Colchester—Lt. J. E. Bartroutr; 82nd Abegweit—To be paymaster with honorary rank of captain—James Arthur Warburton; 8th Temiscouata and Rimouski—To be Provisional Lieutenant—Azarie Pluze.
N. S. MAN BROKE HIS NECK.
Prince Albert, Sask., June 9.—George Wilkins, fell off a barn at Tigerhill and broke his neck. He leaves a wife and ten children in Nova Scotia.

MAIN GATES OF CANADIAN 'SOO' CARRIED AWAY BY COLLISION; LOSS WILL BE OVER \$350,000

Sault Ste Marie, Mich., June 9.—With all the weight of Lake Superior behind it, an ungoverned torrent of water rushes tonight through the four locks of the Canadian canal, built to carry vessels around the impassable rapids of the Saint Mary's River. The entire fall of approximately twenty feet is concentrated in the lock which was wrecked today when the steamer Perry G. Walker, of the Gilchrist fleet, rammed her bow through the lower gate. The canal enclosing within its walls is thus evincing a tremendous spectacle, including two waterfalls and a big whirlpool.
Gates Were Open.
The upper gates were open when the Walker crushed open the lower gates and the tremendous power of the rapids was instant play. The steamer Assinibola, a big Canadian Pacific passenger liner, moored within the lock chamber was torn from her moorings. Riding on the crest of the flood, she jammed the Walker from her path, and her port anchor rammed a hole in the Walker's side. The liner's engine crew put full steam ahead in a desperate endeavor to give the big vessel steering way and with her wheelman battling to overcome the swirling current, the Assinibola swept into the open reaches of the river below. The Assinibola's cargo shifted and this gave her a considerable list and several plates on her

MONCTON HOSPITAL MEETING ASSELIN WAS FREED FROM JAIL

Special to The Standard.
Moncton, June 9.—At a meeting of the Moncton hospital board tonight communications from the Fredericton and Charlottetown boards in regard to the manner of cleaning and renovating were read. The treasurer's report showed receipts of \$12,656.45 and a balance of \$282 in the bank after providing for a deposit of nearly \$900 at the beginning of the year. The officers were elected as follows:
F. W. Sumner—President, re-elected.
Vice-President—James Doyle.
Treasurer—J. H. Hamilton.
Directors—A. H. Jones, J. A. Geary, and C. W. Robinson.
Steel and Iron Company. A force of workmen numbering fifty, were gathered about the furnaces, making ready to drill in the morning. Without a moment's warning there was a terrific roar and a great mass of molten iron spurted from the furnace, sweeping down the workmen. Twenty or more were caught in the crush, six of whom are known to have been caught by the hot iron and incinerated. Fourteen others were badly mutilated.
C. O. F. EXCURSION TO POINT DU CHENE.
Special to The Standard.
Moncton, N. B., June 9.—Catholic Foresters had an excursion today to Point du Chene. The ships in harbor were decorated in honor of the visitors, and the day was spent very pleasantly.
Miss Nettie V. Hatfield, left on Tuesday morning to visit friends in Carleton Place.

SIX WORKMEN CREMATED IN STEEL WORKS

Special to The Standard.
Wheeling, W. Va., June 9.—In a horrible accident here tonight at least six men were burned to a crisp, four were fatally injured and ten were seriously hurt. Thirty others had narrow escapes.
Shortly after eight o'clock tonight, a "blow" occurred in the Martin's Ferry (Ohio) furnace of the Wheeling Steel and Iron Company. A force of workmen numbering fifty, were gathered about the furnaces, making ready to drill in the morning. Without a moment's warning there was a terrific roar and a great mass of molten iron spurted from the furnace, sweeping down the workmen. Twenty or more were caught in the crush, six of whom are known to have been caught by the hot iron and incinerated. Fourteen others were badly mutilated.
Special to The Standard.
Halifax, N. S., June 9.—James Tynan lost his life, and ten other firemen were injured by the collapse of a roof while fighting the flames which completely destroyed the upholstery factory and packing building of the Nova Scotia Furnishing Co. on Argyle street this afternoon. Tynan, with twenty other firemen was stationed in the building when the roof suddenly gave way and the men were carried beneath it and buried in the debris. Suffering from the fall, burns and injured limbs, they were all rescued with the exception of Tynan, who was not located until an hour afterwards.
Cremated and Suffocated.
First his legs were observed, and the ruins were after much labor re-

HALIFAX FREEMAN KILLED WHILE FIGHTING FLAMES

Special to The Standard.
Halifax, N. S., June 9.—The property of the Quebec Seminary on the Plains of Abraham has been bought by the National Park and Battlefields Commission for \$125,000.
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Berlin, Ont., June 9.—The button works of J. Y. Shantz & Son were totally destroyed by fire tonight. The loss is \$150,000. The building was insured for \$90,000.
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