

The Evening Star

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TWELVE PAGES—ONE CENT

Welcome Rain Drenches
River Lands Where the
Flames Had Held Sway

Great Relief from South Bay Up and On the Long
Reach—Still Danger as Fire Holds in Woods—
The Scene This Morning—Some Details of the
Losses.

A great sigh of relief went up this morning in the area from South Bay to Lingley and on up the Long Reach, when those who had slept during the night awoke to see the leaves dripping, the grass wet, and evident signs of rain. By eight o'clock a light rain was falling, and still continued at half past nine when a Times man left Public Landing in Fred White's car for the city. The prospect then was that the rain would continue. No smoke was to be seen, and a curtain of damp fog hung on the hills. The whole scene was changed as if by magic during the night, and the fears of the people were largely dispelled, although they recognized that back in the forest were smoldering fires which dry weather and a favoring wind would quickly convert into a new and terrible menace. Every man along the Reach was ordered out early this morning, and a determined effort was being made to get the fires entirely under control. There were reports of a fire back of Belyea's Point yesterday and last night, and crews of men went in there and on to Woodman's Point and the Nereps to spend the day with picks and shovels and other tools for warding off the danger from their homes. The whole situation is decidedly hopeful today and if more rain should come the danger may be considered to be past.

It was easy to see this morning how narrowly the Reach escaped. The fire that crossed to Woodman's Point crept through the grass almost to Cosman's Hotel before it was beaten out. Had it got into the woods behind it would have swept the Reach, where people had their most valuable goods packed and spent two nights and a day of dreadful uncertainty. There was but one thought in all minds, and fervent prayers went up last night in the little church at Public Landing, where service was conducted as usual, although the livid smoke just over the hills seemed to threaten disaster before the morning. Some people buried dishes and other things, and all were ready for the worst. Their feelings this morning, when they saw the immediate danger past, were joyful beyond description. They seemed to have been ushered into a new world.

LURKING DANGER TO BE CONSIDERED.
Dr. J. Lee Day of this city, whose summer place is at Westfield station, told a Times reporter yesterday that he had just returned with Warden Drophy after a trip through the woods in which the fire is still stubbornly striving to outlive the rainstorm which set in during the early hours of the forenoon.

Dr. Day, whose hunting exploits have made him a student of the forest, thinks that the fact of the fire's stubbornly being reduced to a minimum for the present should not be construed into a scope as the present one burns deeply into the ground, keeps roots and dry loam aglow for a long time after the fire has been extinguished. Should the sun appear tomorrow and the drying process commence again it would not be long before the fanned embers brightly alight over the scene.

The "slashes" made in the woods by lumbering of late winters—those near-at-hand operations of felling lumbermen—have created air spaces in the woods which have proved thoroughfare for the flames. Through these "slashes" the fire from the woods in the neighborhood of the Mahogany Road area to the later in the morning fire back of Sagwa and en route to Westford.

Fire fighting has been extremely difficult. The usual facilities such as wet earth, damp cloths and water have been simple spading, shovelling and turning the grassy sods to be the chief means of trying to stem the fire's growth.

Hours in Marshes.
Gilbert G. Perkins had an exciting and nerve racking experience. When the fire struck Lingley with such terrible speed, Mr. Perkins and his wife and Mrs. Sten, who is ninety-one years of age, were forced to take to a boat and they crossed the Nereps to the marshes. Here they roamed through the tall grass from one place to another trying to evade the shower of sparks which were falling all around, and which threatened at every moment to set fire to their clothing. After making a car was sent out for about four hours they managed to get back to their starting point and found that Mr. Belyea had rolled his automobile down to the water's edge. They spent the rest of the night in the automobile, and yesterday morning they were for them and brought them into the city. Mr. Perkins' cottage and contents were totally destroyed, with the loss partly covered by insurance. However, he and his family are very thankful to have escaped with their lives and feel very grateful for the assistance of Mr. and Mrs. Belyea.

THE SCENE TODAY.
Times Man's Tour of Burned District This Morning.
This morning Ononette, Hillandale and Lingley presented a scene of utter desolation. Smoldering ruins, naked chimneys rising above heaps of ashes, and hanging telephone wires give to the situation a tragic aspect enhanced by the lowering clouds and falling rain. The flames which on Saturday advanced with such terrifying suddenness has been almost defeated, but were holding reserves in readiness to advance again at the first opportunity. Vigilance has not been relaxed and every effort is being made to prevent renewed resistance in case of another outbreak. Along the road one met men leading cattle bereft of shelter in one place was a flock of chickens huddling together in the rain, seeking refuge. The New Brunswick Telephone Co. had a large crew of men at work putting in new poles and connecting up the disarranged wires to maintain a service. From Morris to Lingley those houses which were fortunate enough to survive the onslaught of the flames were surrounded with piles, casks, wash tubs, barrels, punchons, in fact everything that would hold water. Many of the houses had stages on the roofs and barrels of water mounted on them in readiness for an emergency.

In the neighborhood of Magiesie household goods, furniture, farm machinery, and effects were standing uncovered to the rain.

As Hiram Sees It

"Hiram," said the Times reporter to Mr. Hiram Hornbeam, "as a boy I heard about the great Miramichi fire. I know most about it. Not that I had the personal experience, but I was on the fringe of it. I learned what it was to stand in the presence of an approaching fire that had only to strike and man's puny efforts were as the cracking of a thorn under a pot. Hiram, we must take ourselves seriously as a people and prevent these fires that carry destruction over the face of the land."

"Mister," said Hiram, "we orto teach 'em in the schools. Every boy an' every gal orto be told how to build a fire that wouldn't spread—put it out afore they get it. A hull lot of these fires is just plain carelessness—yes, sir. No man orto let a match go out of his hand or go as long as it aint burnt. I wish everybody was as ready to stop 'em as they be to help people that's been burnt out. If we had as much foresight as we be hindmost this 'ud be a good 'ol better world—By Hen!"

EXPECT MCKEOWN WILL BE RELEASED

No Official Order Yet in the Case of Sinn Fein Leader, Convicted of Murder, However.

London, Aug. 8.—While no definite pronouncement could be obtained this forenoon regarding the case of John J. McKeeown, member of the Irish Republican Brotherhood, who was convicted of the murder of a British officer, it was reported that McKeeown would be released on bail by the other Sinn Fein leaders who were in prison.

SPANISH IN VERY BAD WAY

The Turks Now Assail Their Last Stronghold, Melilla—Troops Landed on Coast.

London, Aug. 8.—Moroccan tribesmen who two weeks ago signally defeated Spanish troops in Northwestern Morocco and who have been pressing their advantage since that time are reported to have advanced in force before Melilla, the last stronghold of the Spanish in that section of the country.

MAINE FOREST FIRES CHECKED BY HEAVY RAIN

Downpour Yesterday Relieves Fighters After Strenuous Battle—Incendiaries Reported at Work.

Portland, Maine, Aug. 8.—Heavy rain yesterday and last night checked the forest fires which for several days have been devastating woodlands and threatening villages in various parts of the state. The rain started yesterday forenoon in Penobscot county, where firemen and volunteers struggled throughout Saturday to save the village of Howland.

BIG LEAGUE RACES GET INTERESTING

Pirates Pulling Away From Giants for National League Honors—New York, However, is at Top of Americans.

New York, Aug. 8.—The final three games in the most important race open with the New York Giants leading the Cleveland team champions, by one game, in the Pittsburgh section of the National League.

WEATHER REPORT

Table with columns for location, temperature, and weather conditions. Locations include Toronto, Victoria, Kamloops, Edmonton, Prince Albert, Winnipeg, White River, Sault Ste. Marie, Gulf and North Shore, Kingston, Ottawa, Montreal, Quebec, St. John, N. B., Halifax, St. John's, Nfld., and Detroit.

GIRL KILLED IN AUTO ACCIDENT

Quebec, Aug. 8.—Germaine Page, twenty-one years of age, was instantly killed at Deschambault, late Saturday night, when an automobile, in which he was driving with three companions, plunged into the ditch. The party was returning from Montreal, and included Alfred Duchesney, aged twenty-seven years, the owner of the car, who suffered a severe cut on the forehead, as well as internal injuries. Chauffeur Martinette and C. Lemieux escaped injury.

MEETING TODAY ON PROBLEM OF UPPER SILESIA

Supreme Allied Council in Session in Paris.

France, Italy and Great Britain at Variance on the Matter of Boundaries—Lloyd George and Briand Attempt Adjustment.

Paris, Aug. 8.—Consultations relative to the Upper Silesia question took place here today between the heads of various government delegations to the meeting of the supreme Allied council preliminary to the first session of the council this afternoon. It was hoped to present at the first meeting of the body the views of France, Great Britain and Italy, which have been divergent.

U. S. ALSO HAS SERIOUS FIRES

Springhill is Surrounded by Flames—People of Maccan Prepare to Move Out—Sydney Threatened.

Halifax, N. S., Aug. 7.—Forest fires of unprecedented proportions covering in the aggregate scores of square miles and doing damage as yet impossible of estimation swept through sections of Nova Scotia Saturday and Sunday. Information from Cumberland county, Nova Scotia, indicated that not only the farms and scattered settlements in that section had been wiped out. The worst forest fires in years were reported from Cape Breton island. So far there has been no loss of life.

SCHOOLS UNDER DIRECT CONTROL OF GOVERNMENT

Expenses Provided for by Direct Appropriation in New Zealand—Salaries According to Number of Pupils.

Toronto, Aug. 8.—To Canadians the suggestion that all the public schools of the dominion be placed under direct control of the Ottawa government would sound strange, but such in effect is the system which prevails in New Zealand, according to T. U. Wells, of Auckland, N. E., the official representative of the New Zealand government who has reached this city to attend the imperial teachers conference.

TURKS DECIDE TO EVACUATE ANGRORA

Paris, Aug. 8.—Turkish Nationalists have decided to evacuate Angora, their capital, and retire on Caesarea, according to a despatch from Constantinople.

DEATH OF MRS. WILLIAM HAWKER

The death of Mrs. William Hawker wife of William Hawker, the Prince William street druggist occurred at her home, 255 Charlotte street early this morning. Mrs. Hawker who was in her seventy-sixth year had been confined to her home through illness for several months. Besides her husband, Mrs. Hawker leaves to mourn four sons, Samuel H., and Joseph Edward, of this city; William C. of Waterville, Maine, and James Thomas of Montreal, West, and four daughters, Mrs. E. M. Robertson of Digby, N. S.; Miss Elizabeth, at home; Mrs. J. B. Thompson of this city and Miss Charlotte Ethel of the staff of the mechanical military hospital at Halifax.

LIQUOR CASE

A boarding camp off the Cushing road in the parish of Lunenburg was raided about 2:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon by a party of men.

THE LATE DR. R. C. RUDDICK

The body of Dr. Robert C. Ruddick, who died in Estonia, Sask. last week, arrived in the city on the Montreal train this morning, en route to Hillsboro, N. B. The body was accompanied by Dr. William Ruddick and wife of Montreal and Mrs. Garnet Coburn and son, of Estonia. Dr. Ruddick will be buried by the side of his wife at Hillsboro tomorrow afternoon.

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