



Evening Telegram

W. J. HERDER, Proprietor
C. T. JAMES, Editor

Thursday, May 27, 1920.

Forest Fire Dangers.

There is no greater menace to any timbered country than that of forest fires. Be they large or small their destructiveness is incalculable, and though not apparent in all its significance at the time, yet the effect becomes too real in the future when only stunted trees spring up where previously there had been strong, straight and lordly trunks and foliage. Newfoundland has suffered much in the past from forest fires. One time the danger was not regarded so seriously as it is at present, and few—if any—precautions were taken to obviate outbreaks. The consequence was that whole areas of valuable timber were wiped out in the blazes which were of frequent occurrence. Some years ago, realising the peril of such, a fire patrol was organised by the Government of the day, and rangers and wardens appointed to cruise the forests and take precautions to guard against or avert sylvan conflagrations. The result of the wisdom of this policy has been more than manifest, and through the agency of fire patrols a great diminution in the number of fires can be recorded. The forest laws have been improved upon and amended all with the view of restricting the tendencies of camping parties to be careless or negligent with their fires, under severe penalties both of money and imprisonment. In the early days of the railway locomotives hauling trains through the inland portions spanned by the track were not compelled to have spark screens over their smoke stacks. Under the Fire Patrol Regulations referred to they are obliged to take this precautionary measure. A great many of the fires up country had their origin in flying sparks thrown out by the furnaces of the engines. To-day the danger of these is reduced, it might be said, to a minimum. But there is an ever-present peril of fire which only the most careful attention can reduce, and there is always a danger of a blaze springing up somewhere during the dry season, produced by causes over which no person has control. Yesterday's papers contained an item that two forest fires of serious proportions were burning between Clarendville and Northern Bight. How these were caused cannot be determined exactly. They are none the less dangerous because of that, however, though if caused by forest parties or anglers, those responsible should be, if possible at all, discovered and their punishment of such a nature as to be a warning to others. The news item further states that there is much good timber in the section, and the railway employees were using every effort to extinguish the blaze.

Writing upon the subject of forest fires in the United States, the *Hardwood Record* (Chicago) says, "For years light surface fires have burned intermittently and repeatedly over the greater part of the forest, directly or indirectly killing both young

and old growth, implanting the seeds of decay, and leading to other forms of destruction no less ruinous. It is easy to understand the severity of the damage. Even where they do not kill outright any of the larger trees, ground fires introduce fungi and insects into them. Such fires destroy young growth and impair the fertility of the soil. Every fire does some harm: the damage is multiplied by those which follow. Repeated fires eventually so weaken a tree that it falls an easy victim to the wind. Long before this happens, however, the trunk is so eaten out by rots, and insects introduced by earlier fires, as to be worthless for use. From the standpoint of replacement, the damage to young growth is of great importance. In general terms the smaller growth up to four or five feet in height is ordinarily killed by fires occurring in the fall of the year, while late spring fires kill all young growth not over twelve feet high; but chestnuts and poplars two or three inches in diameter and twenty feet high are often so badly scarred by a single fire that they die within a year. The destruction of seed by fall fires reduces materially the crops of seedlings which would otherwise appear the ensuing spring. The reproduction of some of the best species may often be entirely choked out by the briars and weeds which follow fires, and the resulting stand may thus suffer a lasting reduction in value while still in its infancy. There are thousands of acres on which repeated fires have profoundly changed the character of the forest by burning out valuable but fire-tender trees and causing their replacement by resistant but poorer species." What is true of forest fires elsewhere holds equally true in Newfoundland, and in order to ensure more general protection fire patrols should be doubled and trebled—if necessary in order that they may all the more easily, by virtue of numbers, cope with the fire fiend in all parts of the dominion where there are valuable timber areas, and prevent as much as possible the menace to our forests which both small and ground fires as well as those of larger proportions offer. Unless something like this is done, there will be the annual volume of destruction wrought by forest fires in more or less proportions, according to the dryness or dampness of the weather. No person, we think, would cavil at or object to an increased estimate for the enlargement and greater efficacy of the fire patrol of Newfoundland.

War Veterans Discussing Dedication Day.

The Great War Veterans' Association has for several meetings past been discussing the matter of a Dedication Day on which flowers will be laid at a shrine to the memory of the men who have fallen. It is thought that Dedication Day should be on the Sunday, preceding July 1st, when there will be a parade, and special religious services could be held on this day. It is intended to have the first issue of the "Veteran Magazine" appear on July 1st.

Church Women's Entertainment.

The Cathedral Women's Association had a very enjoyable soiree in the Synod Hall last evening, a large gathering attending. A fine concert programme was gone through. Canon Jeeves proposed a vote of thanks to those who took part therein. The vote was passed.

Relief.

The relief you have been praying for is here. Make the most of it while you have the chance during this sale of 500 English all Wool Men's \$50.00 Suits at \$33.00.

BISHOP, SONS & CO., LTD.

SPEEDING MUST STOP.—During the past few days a young man driving a red motor cycle has been terrifying people on the Lond Pond Road by his reckless speeding. As the number of the machine is known, it will be reported to the authorities if the speeding does not stop.

A Charming Performance.

The third performance of Collier and Stephenson's celebrated opera, "Dorothy," staged by the pupils and ex-pupils of St. Patrick's Hall and Holy Cross Schools, at the Casino Theatre, last night, was attended by another capacity audience, and needless to say everybody was delighted. Scenery, costumes, acting, dancing, singing were perfect and the applause was spontaneous and continuous. The ballet dance at the beginning of Act III, by eight little pseudo-girls was most rapturously received and encored. The make-up of the boys in this was more than perfect, the audience doubting the sex, so real was the costuming and coiffuring. The Huntsman's Chorus was a gem and displayed the vocal talents of the performers more so perhaps than any other item. There was a swing and dash in it that sent the auditors in ecstasies of delight. One scarcely knows just where to select any particular part or character for special mention, because all the performers were so well up in their respective roles, sustaining them most capably. The love episodes of "Frisclilla," (Master W. M. Galgay), and "Lurcher," (Mr. P. H. Jardine) has to be seen to be thoroughly appreciated, as no words can be put in cold type to convey the inimitable acting and expression of the Sheriff's officer. He is one laugh right through. The orchestral accompaniment was by such exponents of the musical art as Prof. McCarthy, Mr. F. W. Bradshaw, Mrs. Pidgeon, Miss Power, Mr. L. Marshall, Hon. A. W. Mews, Messrs. Stafford, Bulley, Fitzgerald, Skinner and Cronin, directed by Professor Hutton, whose talent in wielding the baton of conductor is so well known. "Dorothy" will be repeated again to-night. As an attraction of worth the performance should not be missed.

Woman Suffrage.

TO ALL THE MEMBERS OF OUR PARLIAMENT:— Seventeen hundred women have signed the petition for Woman's Suffrage during the two days' canvass; thousands more are anxious to register but have not had the opportunity; telegrams are pouring in daily from all over the island asking that the women of Newfoundland be given the right. During the coming week, you men who make our laws will be enabled to grant our demand. Let us have the franchise. Be fair! In what way are we, your country-women, inferior to those of other countries? This is not a party measure or some question for the Government or Opposition to decide, but one where every man must think and act for himself.

—Seventeen Hundred Women.

A Well Tailored \$50.00 Suit for \$33.00.

Hurry up and pay us a visit. Those English all-Wool Tweed Suits will soon be gone. You will never again have the opportunity of getting such excellent hard-wearing clothing at so low a price. They were made by firms of the highest repute throughout the Old Country. Every Suit has been separately passed by Government experts and is strongly made and well-tailored. They are obtainable in all sizes and a wide variety of colours. Do not forget that your time is very limited, so you must act at once.

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Unauthorized Road Closure.

People living in and around that portion of the town near the Newfoundland Brewery, are complaining of the action of some person or persons in fencing off a road, known as the "Rocky Road." This line was some years ago set aside by the Municipal Council to be later made into a road. People have been using it ever since. Now they are deprived of the right and are forced to go by a longer and more round-about way.

Forest Fire Raging.

A report was received in the city to-day from Manuels saying that a forest fire of rather serious proportions was raging near Long Pond, Upper Gullies. The Department of Agriculture was notified and steps will be taken to have it extinguished before damage to residences occurs.

Reids' Boats.

Argyle left Marystown at 12.30 p.m. yesterday, going West. Clyde, Home, Peira at St. John's. Glouce arrived at Fort aux Basques at 7.10 a.m. yesterday, on her way to Humbertmouth. Melgie at North Sydney. Sagona arrived at Fort aux Basques at 4.15 p.m. yesterday.

From Cape Race.

Special to Evening Telegram. CAPE RACE, To-day. Wind light and variable; weather fine; the steamer Ranger and Viking passed West yesterday afternoon; nothing sighted to-day; one berg in sight, eastward. Bar. 29.95; Ther. 54.

Supreme Court.

BEFORE CHIEF JUSTICE AND JUSTICE KENT.

W. F. Conker vs. W. J. Herder and C. T. James. Mr. Mews for plaintiff moves for an order for the defendants to furnish particulars of the facts alleged in the defence.

Howley, K.C., asks leave to amend particulars of the defence. Mr. Mews asks for adjournment till this afternoon.

Police Court.

A 13-year-old boy, remanded from yesterday, charged with stealing a number of coats, purses and other articles, valued over \$100, was fined \$100, 6 months' imprisonment. The culprit made a statement to the police in which he described taking the articles from the hallways of various houses during the past three months.

A young man charged with stealing a watch from a Chinaman, was fined \$10 or 20 days.

A drunk and disorderly asked for another chance, and was fined \$2 or 7 days. A young woman, resident of Monroe Street, summoned her neighbor for assault, the trouble being over the Housing Problem. The woman's sister-in-law was also assaulted. The defendant claimed that the complainant came out of her house with the "Union Jack" and said, "Three Cheers for the Kaiser." The incident happened the day after Empire Day, while her husband was taking away his belongings. The defendant could not resist the insult with the result that a general melee ensued. The case was dismissed. The husbands of the contending parties are returned soldiers.

Model of New Methodist Home on Exhibition.

A white plaster model of the new proposed Methodist Home is to-day on exhibition in a window of the Board of Trade Building, and many people stopped to admire it. The model was made from the plans of A. J. C. Paine, architect of Ottawa, Canada. The Home, which will be built out of the funds subscribed in the big whirlwind campaign of 1919, will be erected in Buckmaster's Field, Le-Marchant Road.

No Trace of Missing Child.

The people of Portugal Cove are mystified over the non-finding of the little fellow Miller, who strayed from his home there on Sunday evening last. Members of the search party aver that they made a thorough examination of every tree, rock and hiding place within an area of three-quarters of a mile. If the child is not found before Sunday, all the people in the place will take up the search. The parents of the child were in the city to-day and were unable to throw any light on the matter. Inspector General Hutchings, who had two men on the search, issued instructions this morning to have the matter thoroughly investigated. That the child may still be alive is not unlikely, as children have been known to stray for longer periods and survive. In this connection some twenty years ago a child of the same age as the Miller boy, strayed from her home near Colinet, and was discovered by a man returning from Whiteburn, seven days after. The child was taken to her parents where, after careful nursing she survived and is alive to-day.

Shipping Notes.

Schooner Lena, Cullen, Master, arrived at Carbonear 10 days from Sydney via Trepassay, coal laden to J. Rorke & Sons. Schooner Senator sailed from Wood's Island for Gloucester with \$51 barrels pickled herring from the Bay of Islands Fisheries Co. Schooner Protector, has arrived at Catalina from Louisburg coal laden to P. Templeman. Schooner Ambition cleared from Bay Roberts for Sydney in ballast yesterday. French steam trawler Emanuele from Boulogne, France, via St. Pierre has arrived at Hr. Grace for dockage. Schooner Silver Queen, 10 days from with a cargo of salt to T. H. Carter & Sons yesterday coal laden. Schooner Mark M. Gray arrived in port last evening from Santa Fe with a cargo of salt to T. H. Carter & Co. S. S. Eagle sailed last evening for Sydney.

McMurdo's Store News.

THURSDAY, May 27. The wonderful success of Colortie in renewing straw hats is well known, and at a time when economy should be to the front, the judicious use of this preparation will result in a real saving by those who employ it to give a new lease of life to last summer's hat. A pretty wide variety of colors—all that are really necessary for ordinary use—can be had from us. As to its value, if you have not already used Colortie, ask your neighbor—nine chances to one She has. Price 40c. a bottle.

New American Sailors.

Bishop's are receiving to-day by express another small shipment of Ladies' Newest American Sailor Hats, more beautiful than previous shipments which were so popular in St. John's. Will the ladies who have been waiting on their arrival please take notice.

KNOWLING'S.

Ladies' White Voile BLOUSES, For \$1.40 to \$8.00

Ladies' Striped Voile BLOUSES, \$5.25

Blouses of Unusual Quality

We have just opened a shipment of Ladies' Voile BLOUSES.

Distinctive style, Smartly made, Tailored and otherwise, Bountifully embroidered and trimmed, Yet marked exceptionally low.

Sizes 34 to 40

Prices, - - - \$1.40 to \$8.00.

G. Knowling, Ltd.

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Baby Carriages

AND

SULKYS

Our Stock of **CARRIAGES and SULKYS**

Are now open for inspection. You will find our prices the **The Lowest in Town.**

Martin-Royal Stores Hardware Co., Ltd.

BAIT FOR FISHERMEN.

Have forty barrels Fresh Frozen Herring in Nfld. Atlantic Herring Cold Storage. Will be sold cheap. Apply

J. F. MURPHY, Broker & Commission Agent, may22,31,30d Beck's Cove. MINARD'S LINIMENT RELIEVES NEURALGIA.

Nothing Doing.

The old farmer, with his seventeen-year-old son, entered the country editor's office and said: "This boy of mine wants to go into the literary business. Is there much money in it?" "Well, yes," said the editor. "I've been in it myself for twenty years, and—"

from head to foot, glanced around the poorly-furnished office, surveyed the editor once more, and then, turning to his son, said: "Come 'long home, Jim, an' get back to your ploughin'."

EMPIRE HALL (formerly Blue Puttee Hall), cor. Gower Street and King's Road, may be hired for small dances or meetings. Rates: Evenings \$13 up. Afternoons \$8. Apply W. F. POWER, Manager. Jan.27