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The Toronto World

TWELVE PAGES—THURSDAY MORNING NOVEMBER 9 1911—TWELVE PAGES

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VOL. XXXI—No. 11,389

400,000 ARE DESTROYED BY BURNING OF CITY OF HANKOW

Hundreds of Half-Burned Bodies in Ruins—Loss Estimated at \$50,000,000—Imperial Troops Took Part in Pillage—Foreigners Hear Horrible Tales of Brutality.

INSURGENT CAPTURE OF NANKING ONLY PARTIAL

HANKOW, Nov. 8.—Via Wuhu, Nov. 8.—The City of Hankow has been destroyed by fire over two-thirds of its extent. The lowest estimate of the loss is \$50,000,000. Four hundred thousand people are destitute. Hundreds of half-burned bodies lie among the ruins. Many of them are the bodies of women and children.

The customs house, the post office, and the American mission have been spared.

The city has been looted. The imperialists taking a hand in the pillage. Imperialist officers tried to check this work, and executed a number of the soldiers. Refugees were deprived of their loot on entering the British concession, cart loads of valuable furs, silks and jewelry being seized. It is suggested that the Red Cross receive the proceeds.

On Friday afternoon the consuls appealed to the imperialists to cease burning the town. A proclamation, which was issued immediately, declared that the rebels were responsible for the fire and ordered that these be checked. The following day new fires started in various quarters.

Looted School for Blind.

The David Hill Memorial School for the Blind, connected with the Wesleyan Mission, has been looted. While, in contrast, all the mission property in Wuchang, which is held by the revolutionaries, has been protected.

On Nov. 3 there was considerable gunnery practice, beginning before daylight. The imperialist battery behind Hankow moved to the southwest, in belated fulfillment of the promise to shift the line of fire from the concessions. This battery and another stationed on the plains engaged in a heavy duel with Hanyang Hill. The Wuchang forts used powder occasionally and joined in the defence of Hanyang. A few hundred of the revolutionaries

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A NEW CENSUS

Strong Likelihood That New Count Will Be Taken in 1912.

OTTAWA, Nov. 8.—(Special.)—There is now every probability that the census of June last will have to be taken over again.

The World understands that the question has already been informally considered by members of the government, and the result is a very strong likelihood that a new count will be taken in 1912. A decision will be finally reached when it is shown beyond question that the census machinery broke down in June, and that the returns now in the hands of the chief commissioner are so hopelessly unreliable as to be useless. A thorough investigation will be made on the return of Hon. Martin Burrell to Ottawa.

The new census will likely be taken on the English system. In order to have such a recount it will be necessary to pass official legislation and vote money for the cost.

SCHOOLS IN BAD CONDITION.

From information furnished by his deputies, Chief Medical Inspector Struthers will report to the property committee of the board of education to-morrow that a number of the schools are poorly lighted, ventilated and in some instances, overheated. Dr. Dougherty has arranged a dental exhibit, which the committee will be asked to adopt for the schools at a cost of \$350, comprising a series of five cards.

Dr. McCullough, provincial M.H.O., thinks so well of the exhibit that he has offered to contribute \$100 in return for which he wants five sets of the cards. A reputable firm has agreed to furnish tooth paste to the pupils at five cents per tube.

WILL CONTEST NORTH ONLY.

The Toronto Reform Association executive meeting to-night. They may arrange for a candidate in one of the north seats, where a convention is already arranged, but further than that they will not go.

The Liberal party in Toronto is up against it.

Unless something unforeseen turns up, or somebody relents at the last minute, the Liberals will allow the election in this city to go practically uncontested.

The Conservatives will be left with a clear field, and may take advantage of the fact to settle for the time being at least, just what faction, or syndicate of faction, really is in control of the local situation.

ANXIETY IN JAPAN

TOKIO, Nov. 8.—The situation in China of a house divided against itself is causing great anxiety here. Many doubt the capacity of Premier Salonji's cabinet to cope with the delicate position in which the revolution in China places Japan.

The followers of Prince Katsura are actively at work trying to reinstate him in the premiership. The prince is now with the emperor, who is reviewing the military manoeuvres at Kishineu, and it is possible that he will be asked to resume office.

The ministry is now confronted with the difficulty of adjusting the financial program to the naval demand. The uncompromising attitude of the minister of the navy, Vice Admiral Saito, may precipitate the collapse of the government and the tendency in this direction will quite likely be utilized by the Katsura party to bring about the return of the prince to power.

More About the Great Cost of Living.

The main issue in this country, especially in this city, is the cost of living, and the tendency of the cost of living to increase much beyond any increase in wages. In other words, a man who is earning wages, or a salary, finds it harder to live now than it was some years ago. Many things have gone up double in price, but wages have not.

Speaking for the moment of the people who live in Toronto, the cost of living is exceedingly high. Many things are bought in the city at double the amount that is paid to the producer as first cost. Milk is an instance in point. In fact, the farmers are at the present time only getting four cents for their milk, and the dealers who sell it to the consumers are getting nine cents.

One cure for the evil is to let the people do something for themselves. There are thousands of people in Toronto who, if they could get a piece of cheap land near the city, and who could secure cheap and quick transit in and out of their work, or business, would buy a piece of this cheap land, keep their own cow and chickens, and perhaps, keep their own pig. There are hundreds of people in the suburbs who do this sort of thing, and they save a lot of money in the cost of living. A quarter of an acre of land has room for a house and garden and for a hen house, besides other buildings, and a man who can get in and out to such a place, say six miles from the city hall, for five cents each way, or less, and who has the disposition, can raise quite a lot towards the maintenance of himself and family in his garden, and he can raise eggs and chickens, and three or four of them can co-operate in the matter of a cow. These things are done in Europe and in some places in America, but cheap transit and cheap land are essential in this respect.

There is a section of the community in Toronto who do not want to see the people get out to the cheap land or the country. The thing in sight that will let the people out to the cheaper land is the tubes, and the surface railways owned by the street railway, and if we start to build the tubes and the surface routes, we will be able to take the people ten miles out for four cents, where they can get cheap land and still work in the city if necessary. But every effort so far to get municipal railways and the tube system in Toronto has been fought by the newspapers that represent the street car and electric interests and those interested in the radial lines. They want to make municipal ownership dear, while municipal ownership proposes to make it cheap and allow

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What the North Wants

PORCUPINE, Nov. 8.—(From Our Man Up North.)—Both parties in the coming contest, in the north, are due for a little bending. Here are some of the things that will be asked for by the local populace:

1.—A reduction of fees to the prospectors in connection with all mining records.

2.—Lower freight rates on the T. & N. O. into the entire north country, and some kind of a supervision over transportation rates on the government road as well as on the private roads.

3.—A stronger mining code that will not permit wildcatting on the part of those who do nothing to create wealth in a new country.

4.—A liberal homestead act for the aid of settlers to make it possible for a man with a family to settle on virgin soil under primitive conditions. They want the land given outright to the settlers and not sold under a fee system.

5.—Right to cut and profit from the sale or use of all timber on the settlers' lands without paying fees to the government.

6.—A more liberal road-building policy with some of the funds that come from the mining sections.

7.—A very strict adherence on the part of all government health employees to the health act and necessary provisions made to carry out the health regulations in every settlement, such as in the north-ern mining towns wherein the localities are not organized and in a position to help themselves, before it is too late.

Meetings are being held among interested residents and in time candidates who are unwilling to subscribe to the doctrine of "more progressiveness in the north" and discard the plea that "anything goes in a mining camp," will hear from the interested ones.

CHAS. FOX.

ONLY REASONABLE



JIMMIE: I ain't scared to meet em'—but a feller's got to have a little time to think, hasn't he?

ROWELL TO RUN IN N. OXFORD

Dr. Mackay Retires in His Favor—Nominating Convention on Saturday—Dis-satisfaction Expressed.

WOODSTOCK, Nov. 8.—(Special.)—At a meeting of the North Oxford Reform Association here to-day it was decided to accept the resignation of Dr. A. Mackay, M.L.A., who during the last two or three days has been urged upon to vacate his seat in this riding in favor of N. W. Rowell, leader of the opposition.

The meeting was held in private in one of the upper chambers of the Liberal clubroom, and those in authority had very little for publication regarding what business was transacted. It is understood, however, that all was not clear sailing in the meeting, and the debate regarding the resignation of Dr. Mackay became quite warm at times. More than one of those present, it is stated, expressed opposition to the move to bring Mr. Rowell into North Oxford.

After the meeting it was stated that a mass meeting would be held on Saturday, Nov. 11, when a new candidate will be nominated. It is needless to say that N. W. Rowell will be the chosen one.

Previous to the meeting, Dr. Mackay, who has represented the riding of North Oxford since the last election, made the following statement: "It can be considered no secret that I have been asked to vacate my seat in North Oxford. The opposition considers that North Oxford is a safe seat to offer to Mr. Rowell. They asked me to give way to him, and I have consented to do so, subject to the approval of the Liberals of North Oxford. The matter is being considered by the executive committee this afternoon, and if they endorse the proposed arrangement everything will be satisfactory to me."

MACKAY NOMINATED.

OWEN SOUND, Nov. 8.—(Special.)—At the Liberal convention held here to-day Hon. A. G. MacKay was the unanimous choice, and he will take the field in opposition to Mr. G. M. Boyd, the Conservative candidate. No other name was placed before the delegates. Addresses were delivered by Jas. E. Keenan, Owen Sound; C. W. Froudford, M.L.A. for Centre Huron, and A. G. MacKay.

The latter's address dealt chiefly with the charges contained in a writ-ten statement against him some time ago. He also attacked the government's hydro-electric policy, and their course in dealing with the province's educational problems.

NOT THREE OF A KIND.

Joe Atkinson: Bob Fleming won't be surprised if John Ross joins us against the tubes. Bob Jeffrey: I've been hearin' the like myself. The People: Bats!

Registration in Toronto

Sir James Whitney yesterday said that the writs for the general election would be issued on Nov. 17. It was intended that they should have been issued on the 13th, but in order to allow of the final division of a number of voters' lists the 17th has been decided upon. This means that registration in Toronto will be held on Nov. 24, 25, 27 and 28. The election day will be the 29th.

P. O. EMPLOYEES DEMAND MERIT EXAMINATIONS

Complain That Liberal Appointees Were Shaved Over Heads of Better Men—Roman Catholics Favored.

Some of the Toronto postoffice employees are decidedly dissatisfied with the treatment meted out to them by the late Laurier government, and are asking the new powers that be to right the wrongs under which they are suffering.

Considerable of this unrest was shown by a letter recently sent by 23 senior clerks to Postmaster-General Beller, in which it was set forth that 23 junior clerks had been unduly and without merit examination promoted over their heads.

The postmaster-general replied that the matter would receive attention. This reply has been copied and sent to each of the Toronto members, with a request that they follow it up.

Strong letters will furthermore be sent to the various Conservative Associations in Toronto, as well as to the postoffice employees' executive in which it will unmistakably be stated that the methods of the late administration were of a high-handed order.

It is said that 50 per cent. of the Toronto postoffice positions have been filled with Roman Catholics. It is further said that in the last ten years the ratio of Catholics securing positions in the local head office and branches as against Protestants has been five to three.

EXAMINATIONS SUSPENDED.

Previous to the Laurier regime every man entering the postoffice service had to pass a preliminary examination, and if he wished to become an inside clerk another examination was necessary. But when Laurier came into power these qualifying examinations were cast aside and men were entered into the service and over the heads of those who had duly qualified for responsible positions, without any examination as to their ability.

Among the occupying positions in the postal service, who it is asserted, have never qualified, is a son of Inspector Ross.

Let it be said as far as possible outside of the question, the complainants in the postoffice will put up a strenuous effort to have merit decided promotion and not favoritism.

BIG FIRE IN REGINA.

REGINA, Nov. 8.—One hundred and sixty thousand dollars is the estimated damage done by fire which to-night gutted the large warehouse of the American Abell Thresher and Engine Co. The entire contents of the building were destroyed, including a large number of separators and engines. The estimated damage is distributed as follows: Buildings, \$10,000; separators and engines, \$50,000; repairs, \$100,000.

J. E. STARR FOR JUVENILE COURT

Former Toronto Pastor Now at Allandale. Appointed at Salary of \$2400—Authority of Magistrate.

Rev. John Edward Starr of Allandale, formerly pastor of Berkeley-st. Methodist Church, has been appointed a commissioner, with the powers of a police magistrate, to constitute a juvenile court for the City of Toronto, especially authorized to deal with juvenile delinquents. The salary will be \$2400 a year.

The announcement was made yesterday afternoon by Sir James Whitney and the appointment is considered a popular one, as Rev. Mr. Starr has been regarded in many quarters as the best man for such an office. All his life Rev. Mr. Starr has been interested in boys and their welfare.

When quite a young man he was actively engaged in Y.M.C.A. work, long before he entered the Methodist ministry.

The newly-appointed commissioner has been pastor of several churches in Toronto. One of his first charges was Berkeley-st. Church, after which he went to Victoria, B.C. On returning to this city he was for three years pastor of Bathurst-st. Methodist Church and for another three years was at Crawford-st. Church. While pastor at Crawford-street he was connected with the Children's Aid Society a few years after its inception, and was for some time secretary and agent of the society. That was about 14 years ago. For the second time

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TEARING DOWN J. E. L. POLES

Company Started Work of Removal, Anticipating City's Action.

The work of dismantling the Toronto Electric Light street lighting system has commenced.

"The men are out taking down the wires now," said R. F. Pack, manager of the T.E.L., last night. "They are taking down the poles also."

The mayor will ask the board of control to-morrow to order the T.E.L. to remove their poles, so he announced yesterday.

THINGS NOT EASY.

Hay and oats are scarce throughout the province, and farmers are facing the necessity of large purchases at high prices in order to put them thru the winter.

RUGS FOR MOTORING.

A motor trip this time of the year is just as pleasant as one in summer and is the ideal "fresh air cure" for any ill, providing you are warmly clothed. Warm rugs are a necessity and the only "warm" rugs are contained in the catalogue of furs. The Dineen Company is showing a very special line including some reversible fur designs with heavy home-spun cloth linings, at from \$40 to \$50. All fur rugs, made from Black Goat, \$12 to \$15, Rock Bear Robes, \$25.

RESIGNATION OF BALFOUR WAS SURPRISE

Successor Will Likely Be Rt. Hon. Walter Hume Long—Caucus Called for Monday—Ex-Leader Will Remain in the House of Commons.

LONDON, Nov. 8.—The Unionist party is to swap horses while crossing the home rule stream. Arthur J. Balfour at an emergency meeting of the City of London Conservative Association this afternoon announced to his constituents his retirement from the leadership of the opposition.

Impaired health, increasing age and the desirability of the leadership passing into younger hands, were the reasons which he gave for this step in a speech which was marked by much feeling. But no one doubts that the increasing attacks against him by the ambitious younger Conservatives, particularly the tariff reformers, were the principal factor in inspiring his decision.

While a number of influential Unionists and would-be leaders, notably Austen Chamberlain and F. E. Smith, have been demanding his retirement from the leadership, few believed that Mr. Balfour would drop the helm at such an important stage of the party's fortunes.

Lansdowne Will Remain.

The announcement was a sharp surprise to all parties and made an immense political sensation. No sooner was Mr. Balfour's withdrawal known than reports were circulated that Lord Lansdowne, leader of the opposition in the house of lords, who shared in the attacks, would accompany his colleague to the background. But Lord Lansdowne issued a denial of this tonight.

Mr. Balfour will remain in the house of commons, although he would be elevated to the peerage if he so desired. While he is as spokesman, was recognized as the leader of the whole party, the leadership will now be divided, his successor sharing it with Lord Lansdowne. That successor doubtless will be the Right Hon. Walter Hume Long, who represents The Strand. A caucus has been called for Monday for the purpose of choosing a new leader. Mr. Long commands the confidence of the older and younger elements of the party.

Advanced tariff reformers favor Austen Chamberlain, and Sir Edward Henry Carson, Dublin University, and F. E. Smith, Walton division of Liverpool, cherish ambitions for Mr. Balfour's shoes.

Mr. Balfour's Statement.

Mr. Balfour was received in audience this afternoon by the King and informed his majesty of his decision. During the course of his speech before his constituents he said: "I desire to leave the position of heavy responsibility which I hold before I can be suspected of suffering from that most insidious of all diseases—that disease which comes upon those who, without losing their health or intellect, nevertheless get petrified in the old course they have pursued; whose authority grows because they have been so long in public service, or are great men of science, or eminent men of business, but who cannot deal with the problems which in this changing world are perpetually arising with all. Freshness and elasticity are desirable in those who have got to conduct great concerns."

"No man knows himself when that hour arrives. I am vain enough to hope that I have not reached that period. But I would be miserable if I ran the margin too fine."

Mr. Balfour deprecates the reports of party dissension. There were always animosities when the party was out of power. He believes it to be in normal condition, and declared that the country was fast tiring of sweeping change legislation. The party, he said, would soon return to power.

Deprecate Party Dissension, NN

Many Conservatives contend that the question of his health was the only reason for Mr. Balfour's retirement. Some members of the Halsebury Club, which was reported to be working for that object, point out that the club adopted a resolution of confidence in Mr. Balfour and Lord Lansdowne only last Monday. They say that leading members threatened to resign if Mr. Balfour's retirement was made a plank of the club's program.

The Liberals and the adherents of the Irish party join the Unionists in regretting that the house of commons debates will lose a great share of interest when the figure, to whom followers and opponents alike conceded intellectual pre-eminence, is no longer in the forefront of the battle.

Disaffection with Mr. Balfour as leader has long been growing among the tariff reformers, who criticized his apparent lack of convictions on that issue, and gained great impetus when he advised the house of lords to swallow the veto bill.