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THE WEST WING AT QUEEN'S PARK DESTROYED BY A GREAT FIRE

Ontario Parliament Buildings Damaged To the Extent of \$750,000

FAMOUS LIBRARY WAS WIPED OUT

Alleged That Slow Work on Part of the Fire Department Largely Responsible for the Loss.

Toronto, Sept. 2.—Damage amounting to at least half a million dollars was caused to the west wing of the Provincial Parliament buildings by a fire which broke out shortly after noon yesterday. The blaze evidently started in the roof of the section of the building connecting the massive central portion with the western wing. Fanned by a strong northwest breeze, the flames rapidly spread into the west wing, into the library itself, and totally destroying it, and doing damage which will to a great extent be irreparable. Blue books, now long out of print, Hansards of the Imperial and Canadian Parliaments, old newspaper files, a valuable collection of political pamphlets, and a splendid law library, including books which had belonged to the late Sir Oliver Mowat, were all destroyed, and can hardly be replaced. The loss in books which can, however, scarcely be expressed in figures, was estimated at a minimum of \$200,000.

Roof Falls In.
At about 1:30 p.m. the roof above the library fell in, and thousands of leaves of books and small pieces of paper flew high in the air, and were carried far and wide by the wind. "There goes one of the finest assets of the province," was the comment of Hon. W. J. Hanna, the provincial secretary, as he observed the complete destruction of the library. Shortly after 2 o'clock the breeze seemed to freshen, and the flames spread in both directions along the roof of the building, inside which the firemen were working. Great efforts were made to cut off the flames, but the blaze toward the central portion of the edifice, in which is the legislative chamber, and these were finally successful, although the roof of the connecting section of the building was practically all destroyed, and all the offices below were flooded. Greater difficulty was experienced in stemming the progress of the fire along the top of the west wing itself, toward the Speaker's apartments. Tongues of flame suddenly broke through at the apex of the roof, and a ladder truck and hose were hurriedly brought to the scene. The rooms occupied by the insurance department were gutted. Curiously enough the fire did not reach the offices on the ground floor of the building below the library, which had burned so fiercely. By 4 o'clock the fire had been got under control, but in the library it smoldered until late in the night.

Many Offices Flooded.
Damage was done by water in the following: The bureau of labor, Hon. Adam Beck's room, Hon. J. S. Hendrie's room, Hon. Mr. Lucas's private rooms of the sergeant-at-arms, the housekeepers' apartments, the steward's apartments, the members' reception room, the dining-room, the Ontario railway and municipal board's offices, the medical room, the apartments of Assistant Clerk Deland, registrar's office of the lands department, the speaker's apartments, the committee rooms, the office of Mr. Sydney, clerk of the legislature; offices of the law clerk of the House, offices of the provincial archivist, the postoffice, and the king's printer department, in which was stock valued at \$20,000. The total damage to the building and contents, exclusive of the books in the library, was estimated at \$340,000. This is covered by insurance policies to the amount of \$750,000.

Civil Servants as Firemen.
The firemen did not reach the scene until fully twenty minutes after the alarm had been given. In the meantime the employees of the building, headed by Sir James Whitney and other ministers, who had hastened from the council, and by deputy ministers, had commenced to fight the fire with the hose equipment kept in the building. Four streams of water were turned on the flames, and it was declared that had it been possible to operate the large pump connected with the engine in the basement, the library might have been saved. This is capable of throwing 500 gallons of water a minute, and has been used successfully in extinguishing two small fires which occurred in the buildings. Owing to the construction of the new wing, however, the water supply has been cut off from this pump. The amateur firemen were assisted by a number of cricketers of the Toronto Zingari Club, and of the Pilgrim Club, of Philadelphia, who were playing on the university lawn, and who

saw the flames. Messrs. Gordon Southam, W. Fleury, H. Gibson and Jack Counsel, of the Zingaris, and Craig, Mitchell, J. Dornan and Percy Clark, of the Pilgrims, hastened to the burning building, and joined the civil servants in operating the hose in the garage, where the flames were located. The cricketers proposed to remove the books from the library, but were told that the fire would never reach that part of the building.

Hydro-Electric Papers Saved.
The Ontario hydro-electric commission was in session in its offices on Bay street when the fire broke out. Word was sent to the office and the meeting adjourned, the members hurrying to the building. Some papers relating to the work of the commission were in Hon. Adam Beck's room in the west wing of the Parliament Buildings, but at a telephone message from him they were secured and placed in the vaults of the public works department. Mr. Beck's room was destroyed by debris and water. Hon. Col. Hendrie's room, which was on the same floor, came very near being burned, but the chief damage was by water.

The Insurance.
By 3 o'clock the fire was under control. The loss is estimated at about \$300,000, the insurance companies interested being as follows: London and Lancashire, London Mutual, Manitoba, Aetna, Alliance, Mercantile, Merchants, Montreal Canada, New York Underwriters, North America, Gore District Mutual, Guardian, Hartford, Home, Law Union and Crown, Liverpool, London and Globe, London Assurance Corporation, The Scottish Union and National, Sovereign Standard Mutual, Union of England, Sun, British American, Waterloo Mutual, Caledonia, Western, York Mutual, Yorkshire, Commercial Union, Northern, Norwich Union, Ottawa, Phoenix, Brooklyn, Phoenix Assurance Company, Queen City, Anglo-American, Atlas, Queen Fire, Richmond and Drummond, Rochester and Canada Royal, Connecticut, Equity and German American. The insurance on the Parliament buildings is about \$1,000,000. They were erected at a cost of \$1,250,000.

The Part Destroyed.
The apartments in the buildings which have been destroyed are: The library, the insurance department, the office of the registrar-general, the office of the municipal railway board, the bureau of labor, the apartments of the sergeant-at-arms and those of the king's printer. Judge Morson, who was present at the first estimate of the loss of the library at half a million dollars.

The Parliament buildings were designed by Mr. A. W. C. A. Mann, who was secretary of the building. The building was opened in 1893, in the premiership of Sir Oliver Mowat. The library, which was destroyed, contained Sir Oliver Mowat's library, which from its legal aspect, could not be equalled in Ontario.

In the library were many pamphlets, which had been collected with great effort and which cannot be replaced. Two years ago last spring fire occurred in the main corridor, but was got under control before much damage was done by fire. The water damage was heavy. The cause was attributed to electrical wiring.

THE HISTORY OF THE VICTORIA ORDER NURSES

Interesting Paper Read Yesterday Afternoon at Meeting of Hospital Superintendents.

The afternoon session of the Canadian Society of Superintendents of Training Schools for Nurses opened with a paper on "The History of the Victoria Order of Nurses," by Miss McKenzie, superintendent of the Victoria Order in Ottawa. The paper was replete with interesting facts concerning the order, and was well received. Miss Young, of the General Hospital, Montreal, followed with a paper on "St. Barnabas and Other Leagues." The paper was also very interesting. Before the meeting adjourned Miss Cowles, of Paris, gave an account of the sanitary conditions in the hospital, Bielebe, Arizona, and spoke generally of conditions in the Southwestern States. Her remarks were listened to with great attention.

Afternoon Tea.

At 4:30 an adjournment was made to the Kennebec, where afternoon tea was served by the Ladies' Auxiliary of Victoria Hospital. The delegates were taken to the Kennels in autos, and afterwards were taken to points of interest about the city. In the evening they were the guests of honor at a reception tendered to them in the Y. W. C. A. room, at Wellington street by the Local Council of Women. The rooms were beautifully decorated, and outside numbers of colored lanterns were attractively arranged and made a very pretty appearance. Mrs. H. A. Boomer, president of the Local Council of Women, met the visitors as they entered and extended a very hearty welcome to them. A number of ladies connected with various local organizations were also present and the party spent a most enjoyable evening.

MONUMENT TO PREMIER

A Movement on Foot to Erect One at St. Lin, Quebec.

Montreal, Sept. 2.—A movement is on foot here to erect a monument to Sir Wilfrid Laurier at St. Lin, his native parish. It is proposed to erect this monument during the Premier's lifetime. On the pedestal the proposed design to have engraved in stone the famous slogan adopted throughout the Dominion during the last Federal election: "Let Laurier finish his work." It is proposed that every province shall contribute to this national work. A committee has been formed here for the purpose.

COLONEL HODGINS FOR LONDON DISTRICT

Important Militia Changes Were Announced at Ottawa Yesterday.

Ottawa, Sept. 1.—Some important militia changes are announced today's Militia Gazette. Col. Hodgins takes over the command of militia district No. 1, with headquarters at London. The appointment dates for four years from today. Major and Brevet Lieut.-Col. J. E. Chinn, Royal Canadian Regiment, is appointed chief staff officer for Eastern Ontario, vice Lieut.-Col. T. D. R. Hemming, who becomes D. O. C. of military district No. 3, headquarters at Kingston, Ont., vice Col. W. D. Gordon.

Lieut.-Col. J. C. MacDougall, Royal Canadian Regiment, becomes staff officer for the Maritime Provinces command, vice Lieut.-Col. Humphrey, who becomes D. O. C. of district No. 8, headquarters at St. John, N. B. Col. Peters, of district No. 1, British Columbia and Yukon, vice Col. J. G. Holmes, who retires. Col. Peters' appointment is for one year.

RIO GRANDE ON A RECORD RAMPAGE

Territory 30 to 50 Miles Wide and 150 Miles Long Is Now Under Water.

Austin, Texas, Sept. 1.—The Rio Grande, from the mouth of the San Jose River down to its mouth, a distance of 150 miles, is on the biggest rampage of which there is any record. According to advices received here tonight from several points in that section, the flood waters of the San Jose and San Juan Rivers and their tributaries are pouring in on the Mexican side.

A territory from 30 to 50 miles wide is under water, and an enormous amount of damage has already been done.

Several new towns in the lower valley on the Texas side, are already under water, and the river is still rising. Mercedes, Donna, Harlingen and McAllen are suffering heavy losses on account of the inundation. The town of Hidalgo is under water. At Reynosa, on the opposite side of the river, the flood is sweeping everything before it.

The newer part of Brownsville, particularly West Brownsville, is partly inundated. It is feared that the irrigation system of the American Land and Irrigation Company, on the Mercedes tract of land owned by E. P. Youkum and associates, and the San Juan Benito system, owned by H. Heywood & Brothers, are partly destroyed. The company, which cost \$2,500,000 to construct, is now one of the Government's experimental farms, is threatened. No loss of life is reported.

BLENHEIM EXTENSIONS OF C. W. AND L. E. R.

Work Likely To Be Pushed Along—A Girl Missing—Marriage of Miss Mann.

[Special to The Advertiser.] Chatham, Sept. 1.—W. B. Wells, cricketer and sportsman, arrived home from England last night. He had a great time, and in Upper Wales shot birds that he never aimed at before.

Negotiations were in progress last night and this morning, between the civic industrial committee and representatives of the Canada Gas, Power and Launches (Limited), formerly the Deane Iron Works, with reference to repayment of the civic loan. The C. W. and L. E. shareholders and directors are holding their annual meeting in the Maple City today. It is expected that word to go ahead with this meeting extension will be given at this meeting.

Brackley's Nine and the Hoo Hoes were once more antagonists on the park last night, the baseball game resulting in a victory for Brackley's Nine by a score of 8 to 2.

The Idlewild baseball boys went to Blenheim yesterday and were defeated by the home team in an exciting game, the score being 3 to 1.

There was plenty of excitement on Tecumseh Park this afternoon, the occasion being the ball contest between the Kent Millers and the Hamilton and Brantford All-Stars. The Millers won handsly.

A Girl Missing.
Thinking she had run away from home, relatives of Miss Amy Kingston, a home girl, who has been living with Mrs. Agar, Chatham Township, were inquiring in the city this morning regarding the girl's whereabouts. She left home Friday, saying she was going to visit a family named Sterling at Erie Beach. Whether she reached the beach or not is unknown.

A telegram received this morning states that Thomas R. Bennis, who passed away on Saturday at Melfort, Sask., would be buried today. His father and brother are at the funeral. The wedding took place here today of Miss Jennie Mann, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Mann, of Wallaceburg, to James McKenzie, son of David McKenzie, of the same place. The funeral of the late Louis King, of Jeanette's Creek, formerly of Tilbury, took place yesterday at St. Francis Cemetery, low mass being celebrated by Rev. Father Parent. David King, of this city, is a son. The remains of the late Chas. Orendorf, who was recently drowned in the Detroit River, and is thought to have been murdered, were brought to his old home in Ridgeway last night by his brother. The funeral will probably take place on Thursday.

DEATH TOOK LITTLE ONES

Montreal, Sept. 1.—The appalling mortality among children in Montreal is well shown by the figures for the three hot months of the year, and it is safe to say that no other city in Canada, or perhaps on the continent, has such a terrible record. In the three months there were 2,127 deaths, of which 1,233 were children, or 58 per cent. The figures went as high as 70 per cent for some weeks. The highest death rate was the week of July 24, when the thermometer was 85, when out of 214 deaths 153 were children.

CANNOT FIND WEAPON IN SARNIA MYSTERY

Police Unable to Fix Blame for the Tragic Death of Hotelman Hendrie.

Sarnia, Sept. 2.—Although searching diligently, the authorities, under the direction of Provincial Detective Sarvis, have not yet succeeded in finding the weapon that caused the death of Hotelman Hendrie several days ago. The building in which the tragic affair happened, the dead man's hotel, has been searched from top to bottom, but without result. Opinion here appears to be divided as to whether it was suicide or a murder, but up to date the theory of self-destruction seems the least reasonable.

The statement that an arrest had been made in connection with the case was incorrect. If the police contemplate such a move it will not be made until after the inquest, which is called for this evening. The inquest will take place this afternoon at Lakeview Cemetery.

SOME LINGER-LONGERS STILL AT PORT STANLEY

New School Building Open for Inspection—Last Excursion to Cleveland.

[Special to The Advertiser.] Port Stanley, Sept. 1.—The board of trustees of the public school invites the public to visit the new school building on Goldsmith and Charles streets. The regular fall term opens for the kiddies on Sept. 7.

Mr. Henry Keene and family, of London, who have been summering at Yonnest Cottage, Willow Beach, returned to their home today.

Mrs. S. Goldsmith and daughter Adelaide, of London, are the guests of Mrs. Thomas Rowe, at Ro-Erie Cottage, Erie Rest.

Miss Myrtle Lewis, of London, is spending a few days with Miss Freda Clarke, of Westward Ho, Erie Rest.

Messrs. Charles Jones and Charles Abbott, of London, are spending a few days with Mr. O. B. Dorland, at Detroit Cottage, Erie Rest.

Birthday Picnic Party.
Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Millman, of Erie Rest, gave a most delightful picnic on Mitchell's Island yesterday in honor of their daughter, Margaret, birthday.

The enjoyable event was concluded by a monster bonfire on the beach in the evening.

Mrs. and the Misses Clarke, of Westward Ho, Erie Rest, returned to London today, after having enjoyed the balmy lake breezes for the past two months. While a car loaded with coal was being landed from the ferry last evening, it jumped the track, tearing up the planking on the table. After considerable delay, it was again placed on the track.

Last Cleveland Trip.

The steamer Lakeside will make her last trip to Cleveland for this season on Monday night, Sept. 4. The trade done by the boat this summer has been very satisfactory, and the Lakeside or some larger boat will again be put on the route next season.

Mr. Frank Kern, of London, has returned home after spending a couple of weeks on Hill Crest.

Mr. Leo Allbright, of Cleveland, who has been the guest of Mr. Mullens, East Orchard Beach, returned home today.

Misses Torry and Pratt were the hostesses of a jolly bonfire party on Orchard Beach last evening.

Miss Cora Lindop has returned to East Orchard Beach after visiting friends in London.

Brought Home Ill.
Mr. John McLean, barber, of St. Thomas, who was stricken with paralysis last week at the summer home of his daughter, Mrs. W. K. Cameron, Orchard Beach, was removed to his home this morning. Little hope is held out for Mr. McLean's recovery.

Mr. and Mrs. O. E. Dorland, of Detroit Cottage, Erie Rest, gave a most enjoyable dancing party the other evening in honor of their guest, Miss Gertrude F. Bell, of Toronto.

Miss Jessie Spittal and Miss Yates have returned to London after summering at Erie Rest.

Miss Louise Babbitt, of St. Thomas, has returned home after visiting Miss Pearl Drake, at The Ark, Hill Crest.

Miss Florence Campbell, of Hill Crest, spending a few days with Miss Ella Smith, Shady Nook, Orchard Beach.

Miss Cora Price, of All-Inn Cottage, Orchard Beach, gave a hot bonfire party the other evening.

Miss Beatrice Underwood has returned to London after visiting Miss Florence Belton, Orchard Beach.

Master Russel Eckert, of London, returned home this morning after a most enjoyable rest in The Cooler, Orchard Beach.

Summerhome in The Cooler.
Summerhome in The Cooler, Orchard Beach, closed yesterday. Some are home and some are not. Miss Grace Greer has returned to her home in London after visiting Miss Dorothy Belton.

Mr. Wallace Laut, of Lingerlonger, Orchard Beach, spent today on Erie Rest.

THURSDAY
PROBS:
FINE
AND WARM.

SMALLMAN'S/NERAM LIMITED

DUNDAS AND RICHMOND STREETS.

September

Marks the passing of the summer so far as merchandise is concerned. After this week all departments will be thoroughly in order and settled in their permanent quarters in the new section, our Clothing Department occupying the Richmond Street Section, lately occupied by Dress Goods, Silks and Linings. These will be moved over into the rear fixtures in Dundas Street Section. To reach the Dress Department take any aisle to rear of store. All new shelvings are now in place excepting in Clothing Section. These will not be ready for a few days, as well as the new showcase counters. But everything is now in good order, and we are well equipped to serve you, and serve you well.

For the present and the early days of September the bargain harvest of summer merchandise has reached the climax, as you have seen by the prices recently advertised and goods now on sale.

Let Us Remind You of a Few

Meanwhile new fall goods are crowding in on us a little in advance of the time to wear them, which has something to do with these hurry-up sales. There are also some Special early offerings in the new, which we have already drawn your attention to. The 50 dozen Doilies, pure linen centres, with hand-crochet centres, each 5c

And those French Wings, large size, double, just in from Paris. \$1.50 Wings for per pair 95c

SPECIAL SALE COUNTER—WEST SIDE.

New Fall Arrivals in Flannels and Wash Goods Departments

Are You Going to Make a Few Warm Comforters?

New Turkey-Red Chintz and Figured Sateens for These.

36-inch Turkey-Red Chintz, in Paisley and floral patterns, fast colors; yard 15c

30-inch Figured Sateens, in old rose, light and dark green, blue, old gold grounds, with dainty floral designs; price, 12½c

Batting For Filling These, and for Cushions Also

See our O. K. Batt, the pioneer, full-size, O. K. in size and make; two yards wide and two and one-third yards long. As big as the quilt, in one perfect piece. Simply unroll and unfold twice each way. No trouble, no waste, no thin parts in O. K. Batts. Clean, long, staple Cotton Batting; light and strong; each 25c

Also full 16-oz. Batt, made of best quality, long, staple Cotton; light and fluffy; full of life. Once used always used. Per batt, 35c, or 3 for \$1.00

WEST AISLE—MAIN FLOOR.

Ladies' Finger Tipt Silk Gloves

In black, white, tan, brown and navy. \$1.25 quality for, per pair 49c

Ladies' Cotton Vests

18c and 25c quality, each 15c

Ladies' Wash Suits

Sensational price reductions. \$7.50 to \$12.50 Suits \$3.75

Choose Now From Our Beautiful Assortment of Challies and Kimono Cloths

VICTORIA CHALLIES, 15c YARD

Pretty Paisley and Japanese designs for kimonos and sacques, in pale blue, light and dark red, pink, green, etc.; fast colors; 36 inches wide; per yard 15c

KIMONO CLOTHS, 15c to 25c YARD.

New arrivals for early fall selling, in Paisley and Persian designs, stripes, etc., in pale blues, pinks, greens, greys, browns, reds, etc. Get your pick while the assortment is best; 27 inches wide; per yard 15c, 20c and 25c

WOOL CHALLIES, 50c.

Pretty stripes for fall wear. White grounds with sky, brown, mauve and green stripes; also pale blue, tan and mauve grounds with narrow black stripes; 28 inches wide; fast colors; per yard 50c

WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

are often sent out even when no invitations have been issued. It makes a nice way to remember the friends of the bride and groom. Call and see our latest styles of type and newest shapes in wedding stationery.

THE MALLAGH BOOKSHOP

Society Stationers, 183 DUNDAS STREET, LONDON.

DISCHARGE AT KINGSTON

Great Lake Captains Have a New Scheme to Save Time.

Montreal, Sept. 1.—Instead of making their eastern terminus here, a number of upper lake boats have taken to unloading grain at Kingston in order to crowd a greater number of ships into the busy fall season, and the difference is shown in the Lachine Canal figures issued. The rush season for Canadian grain started last week with the arrival in port of the J. H. Plummer and the Nevada. Other vessels, however, that followed on their heels from the west, discharged their wheat at Kingston elevators, where it was loaded into barges and brought through to Montreal. These barges are beginning to arrive at the rate of five or six a day. Lake captains declare that by discharging grain at Kingston they save three or four days' extra journey caused by delay in the canals.

INDUSTRY REOPENS

The Mica Mills of the Gatineau Once More to Operate.

Ottawa, Ont., Sept. 1.—After a cessation of nearly three years, due to the business depression across the line, the Gatineau mica industry is about to be opened up on a larger scale than ever. Several American firms using mica are negotiating contracts with the Hull mine owners, and the result will be employment in that city and district for hundreds of hands.



FAVOR GRANT TO SELKIRK.

Toronto, Ont., Sept. 1.—The Union of Ontario Municipalities, at its meeting in the city hall this morning passed a unanimous resolution urging the Dominion Government to give a liberal grant to the Selkirk Centennial Exhibition.

FOR PUBLIC WORKS.

Ottawa, Ont., Sept. 1.—During the last fiscal year the expenditures of the public works department totalled \$14,784,739, as compared with \$11,199,384 for the year previous. The revenue was \$299,437, or \$7 more than in 1907-08.

ALBERTA, "The Pick of the Basket."

In discussing the future of Alberta in the September 4th issue of Collier's Premier Rutherford refers to Alberta as the "Pick of the Basket" among Canadian provinces. In 1850 Alberta was practically uninhabited, in 1900, it had 70,000 inhabitants. It became a province in 1905, and today has a population of 300,000 people. No magazine has ever published a series of articles so absorbingly interesting to the Canadian people as this story of the future of the province told by the premier and lieutenant-governor themselves.

CURES

DIARRHŒA, CRAMPS, DYSENTERY, COLIC, CHOLERA MORBUS, CHOLERA INFANTUM and all Summer and Bowel Complaints.

Ask for Dr. Fowler's and insist to getting what you ask for. Refuse Substitutes—They're Dangerous. The original is manufactured only by THE T. MILBURN CO., Limited Toronto, Ont.

THE T. MILBURN CO., Limited

Toronto, Ont.

THE CHARLOTTE COLLISION.

Ottawa, Ont., Sept. 1.—The collision in Charlotte Harbor recently between the Turbina and two other vessels is to be investigated at Toronto this week. The blame is alleged to be due to the Turbina's engineer, and investigation will be conducted by the chairman of boiler inspection, instead of the wreck commissioner.

LYCEUM SEES WARD

Latter Says Defence Conference Result Was a Compromise.

Montreal, Que., Sept. 1.—Hon. Jas. Bryce, British ambassador to the United States, had a conference with Premier Ward today. Subsequently, Sir Joseph stated that the announcement of Premier Asquith concerning the outcome of the Imperial defence conference was a compromise. Sir Joseph stating that he was strongly for an imperial navy. Australia, he said, wanted New Zealand to join in forming a local navy, but New Zealand declined, preferring to contribute directly to the imperial navy.