

TORONTO'S BIG FIRE

Flames Checked After Loss of Many Millions.

STOPPED AT THE WATER FRONT.

The Total Damage Conservatively Estimated at Twelve Million Dollars—Dynamite Used To Check the Progress of the Flames By Blowing Up Small Houses—Carpenterhouse Was a Barrier to the Fire.

Toronto, Ont., (Special).—The fire that raged throughout Tuesday night in Toronto's wholesale and retail business district was the most disastrous in the history of the city. The total loss is conservatively estimated at \$12,000,000; insurance \$8,500,000. The principal warehouses of the city were reduced to ashes, and nearly 250 firms were put out of business. The area covered by the fire is three blocks in length and varies from half a block to two blocks in width.

Every building up Bay street, from Melinda street southward to the Esplanade at the water front, was wiped out, and the fire spread on Wellington and Front streets and the Esplanade, along the water front, from their intersection with Bay street for distances of a few hundred feet to a whole block.

The total number of buildings destroyed were: Bay street, east side 20, west side 30; Wellington street, north side 12, south side 7; Front street, north 22, south 27; Esplanade, 4; Piper street 1.

Early in the evening, when the fire assumed alarming proportions, appeals for assistance were sent to London, Hamilton, Montreal and Buffalo. Special trains were at once started from these points, but it was long after midnight before the first of them began to arrive, and in the meantime the local firemen were having the fight of their lives. From the time the fire started on the north side of Wellington street, and on the east side of Bay street in the E. & S. Currie Neckwear manufacturing plant, until it burned itself out at daybreak, there was not a moment when a shift of the wind to the north would not have resulted in the destruction of the greater part of the city.

Despite the crashing of walls and the confusion, only one serious accident occurred. At an early stage of the fire Chief Thompson got trapped by the flames and was forced to jump from the top of a building. A net-work of wires broke his fall and saved his life. He escaped with a slight leg. When the chief made the leap for his life a traveler from Montreal was on the roof with him, and no trace of him has since been seen. It is probable that he perished in the flames.

The fire started in the elevator shaft in the rear of the Currie Building. Thence the flames spread across the street to Brown Bros., and thence east to Bay street. The wind, which had been brisk, increased to a gale. A general alarm was sounded, but before all the force had assembled the fire had leaped to the high buildings occupied by Ansley & Co. and Pugsley, Dingman & Co. Then Suckling & Co.'s building, adjoining Currie's on the east, caught fire. Almost simultaneously great flocks of flames began to shoot from the Currie Building, and the firemen were obliged to split their forces. The roof of Dingman & Money's building on the northwest corner of Bay and Wellington streets, was the next place to burst into flames. In an incredibly short time the Currie, Suckling's, Currie's, Brown's and Dingman's buildings, Money's were all a mass of flames, and the streams of water thrown into them had no apparent effect.

\$10,000,000 From Klondike.

Seattle, Wash. (Special).—A dispatch to the Post Intelligencer from Dawson says: "The Klondike will produce at least \$10,000,000 this season. No one has done more work this winter than ever before, and will swell the total several millions more. The first sluicing of the year in the Klondike has begun. The clean-up will be in full blast in three weeks."

D. A. R. Against Smoot.

Washington, (Special).—The laying of the cornerstone of Memorial Continental Hall in this city, a protest against the continuation of the United States Senator Smoot of Utah and the defeat of two proposed constitutional amendments to relegate local controversies to intermediary boards were the features of the congress of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Mr. Harriman Loses.

St. Paul, Minn., (Special).—In the United States Circuit Court Judge Sanborn, Thayer, Van Dewater and Hook unanimously denied the application of E. H. Harriman and W. S. Pierce and the Oregon Short-Line Railroad Company for leave to intervene in the case of the United States against the Northern Securities Company.

Sixty Persons Killed.

Armentieres, France. (By Cable).—A Nationalist demonstration held in a big factory provoked a Socialist counter demonstration. When the meetings were over the rival demonstrators started a free fight in the streets. Three-score of persons were injured, and two were stabbed. It was late at night before order was restored.

Captain Linden Dead.

Philadelphia, Pa., (Special).—Capt. Robert J. Linden, formerly superintendent of police of this city, a famous detective, died at his home here of pneumonia, after a month's illness. He was 60 years old. Captain Linden was instrumental in breaking up the notorious Molly Maguire gang, which committed so many murders in the anthracite coal regions a number of years ago.

NEWS IN SHORT ORDER.

The Latest Happenings Condensed for Rapid Reading.

Domestic.

Because of disappointments between the truck drivers and teamowners, Chicago is again threatened with a strike of great dimensions.

Emil Roeski, one of the Chicago car bandits was found guilty of murder in the first degree and was sentenced to life imprisonment.

High winds, cold weather and snowstorms are reported in the North and West. Traffic was impeded by snow at Charlotte, N. C.

The annual meeting of the Woman's Baptist Foreign Missionary Society is in session in Rochester, N. Y.

A petition against a St. Louis union charter has been filed, charging that it is against public policy.

A Chicago judge has declared that nonresidents are eligible to be officeholders in that city.

The Democratic State Convention of Pennsylvania refused to instruct its delegates to vote for the nomination of Judge Parker for president.

The Chicago police are searching for George William Miller, of Brooklyn, who is the sole heir to a large fortune left by his father.

The annual meeting of the National Association of Manufacturers and Distributors of Food Products was held in New York.

The joint funeral of Midshipman Ward and Neumann, who were killed on the Missouri, was held at Oswego, N. Y.

The United States Steel Corporation has made a proposition for the purchase of the Clairton Steel Company.

Monk Eastman, the East Side thug, was sentenced to 10 years in the penitentiary in New York.

Five hundred miners of the Katydick Colliery at Moosic have struck.

The University of Chicago will start the Oxford idea of teaching.

The Klondike will produce at least \$10,000,000 this year.

Vice-Chancellor Hergen, in Jersey City, dismissed the application for an injunction against the Northern Securities meeting and the distribution of stock, sustaining the Northern Securities contention that the suit was unwarranted.

The death of President Hugh C. Dennis, of the Rio de Janeiro and Securities Company of St. Louis, is attributed to brooding over the conviction of Senator Burton.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Stone, of Ogden, Utah, were found dead in each other's arms. The woman is supposed to have poisoned her husband and herself.

Postmaster General Payne and his party have sailed from Galveston for the North on the revenue cutter Onondaga.

A petition in involuntary bankruptcy was filed in New York against the Globe Security Company. Fraud is alleged.

Julius Eckel was sentenced in New Jersey to 60 years in State Prison for killing his wife and Mrs. McDermott.

The coal operators and miners of Iowa signed a two-year agreement that provides for a slight reduction.

Two Chicago negroes caused the arrest of several Chinamen for violation of the Civil Rights Law by refusing to serve them in a restaurant.

Six men were injured by a collapse of the British ship, the Eighty, at Thirty-fifth street, New York. Four of the injured were passersby.

Two St. Louis physicians are using a new drug in the treatment of consumption with promising results.

Four persons were injured by a gasoline explosion in an automobile factory in Detroit.

W. H. Kenworthy, an American Express Company messenger, and Harry Drake, a baggage master on the Big Four Railroad, have confessed to the Cincinnati police that for a year they have been robbing trunks and express packages.

A settlement was reached in the sheet and tin-plate wage dispute and a strike avoided that would have involved thousands of men.

MINER'S FAMILY BURNED

Two Women and Four Children Incinerated in Their Home.

TWO ITALIANS ARE ARRESTED.

Origin of the Fire is Unknown—It May Never be Known, but Rumor Connects it with the Growing out of the Miner's Strike—One Story is That Evidence of an Incendiary Fire Were Discovered in the Interior of the Building.

Somerset, Pa., (Special).—The striking coal miners at Garrett, Pa., are reported to have taken possession of the town.

Armed men are patrolling the streets and a mob armed with rifles and shotguns are reported to have surrounded the works of the Garrett Coal Company.

An outbreak is momentarily expected between the strikers and the miners in the company barricade.

The new workmen are nearly all Italians and are said to be armed and prepared to resist an attack if made.

Sheriff Coleman organized a posse of 25 and has started for the scene of trouble.

At 3 o'clock in the morning the dwelling of Jerry Meyers, a miner, who has been out of employment for several months, but who formerly worked for the Garrett Coal Company, was discovered on fire.

The inmates of the building were not aroused until the fire, which, it is claimed, started outside the house, broke through the wood.

The flames were driven by a fierce wind, cutting off escape, and Mrs. Meyers, her two daughters, one son and two small children perished in the fire.

Mr. Meyers and a boarder named Jonas Sullivan dashed through the flames to safety. Reports of the origin of the fire are conflicting, but it is agreed that it was the work of incendiaries. Coroner Louthar has been notified of the holocaust and went to Garrett to hold an inquest.

The Meyers house occupied a site on a bluff outside the borough, in full view of the town, and the hundreds of people who rushed to the scene were helpless to rescue the woman and children.

A least 200 shots were exchanged between the mob and men at the mines, but so far no fatalities have been reported.

At the house of Joseph Jocko, an Italian grocer, the lamps were extinguished by shots fired through the windows and the family spent the night in terror. Shots were also fired into the house of George Hamlin, a mine foreman for the W. A. Merrill Company, and John Nelson, a non-striking miner.

Coroner Louthar reached Garrett in the afternoon and wired the Sheriff that the situation was extremely critical. All the officers are armed with Winchester and will be prepared to enforce the law.

Garrett is a mining town situated at the intersection of large Berlin branch of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, two miles west of Meyersdale. The town has a population of about 1,000. President Frank B. Black, of the Garrett Coal Company, is here consulting with the Sheriff.

BANK ROBBER KILLED.

Emmett Stewart Shot by the Watchman at a Richmond Bank.

Richmond, Va., (Special).—Detected in an attempt to rob the True Reformers' Bank, Emmett Stewart was riddled with bullets by Joseph Ward the night watchman, and instantly killed. The dead man was the butler of Hon. Henry Stuart, who owns a splendid estate in Loudoun county but resides here as a member of the Corporation Commission.

Ward heard a noise in the bank about 2 o'clock A. M. He listened and waited and beheld Stewart prowling around the desks. He slipped out through the door, picked up a riot gun loaded with five shells, each having 12 buckshot. On the ground floor in the bank was a similar gun.

Stewart evidently heard the watchman. He picked up this gun and started for the street, going through the front window of the building, which he had broken in order to enter.

Ward was as quick and reached the street through the main entrance in time to meet the burglar. He ordered him to halt, and in reply Stewart brought the riot gun to his shoulder and aimed. Ward fired the one bullet striking the burglar under the left arm, killing him almost instantly.

Husband's Duty to Protect.

Saginaw, Mich., (Special).—Charles Valois was sentenced by Judge Snow to not more than one year nor less than six months for manslaughter. Valois on February 1 last attempted to commit suicide with his young wife. She succeeded in her attempt. His wife was recovered, and a charge of manslaughter, under the common law, was brought against him. The jury lasted nearly a week, and the jury brought in a verdict of guilty.

The world's fourth Sunday school convention opened in Jerusalem in a huge tent outside Herod's Gate.

Financier.

Philadelphia banks and trust companies officially reduced the call money rate to 3 1/2 per cent. Since January 18 the rate has been 4 per cent, but many loans have recently been made at 3 1/2 per cent. Money is extremely plentiful in that city.

It is expected the United States Steel Corporation will turn out about 1,000,000 tons of steel rails this year, against 2,300,000 tons last year.

Missouri, Kansas and Texas net earnings for February were \$320,960, increase, \$55,243.

LIVE WASHINGTON AFFAIRS.

United States Leads World.

Geological Survey statistics just made public place the world's production of petroleum in 1902 at 185,151,089 barrels. Of this the United States and Russia produced 91.44 per cent.

For years Russia has led in point of production, but an increase of 19,377, 722 barrels in the production of the United States in 1902, and a decrease amounting to 4,628,515 barrels these two countries to change places, and puts the United States at the head of the list.

More than double the quantity of the higher grades of refined products is obtained from the average crude petroleum produced in the United States, even as obtained from Russian oil. The United States refined nearly 2.6 barrels of refined products in 1902 for every barrel produced by the rest of the world.

Civil Age Limit 70 Years.

The House Committee on Reform in the Civil Service authorized Chairman Gillett to introduce the following bill with reference to superannuation in the Government service:

That upon the 30th day of June, 1907, every office in the classified service of the United States held by a person who is then over 70 years of age shall become vacant.

"After the 30th day of June, 1907, every office in the classified service of the United States shall become vacant when the person holding it shall be over 70 years of age."

The committee directed Mr. Gillett to report all pending bills granting pensions to civil employees of the Government to the House, with the recommendation that they lie on the table.

Also that he draft a bill reclassifying the clerical service of the Government, with a view of providing for more frequent promotions in the smaller salaried positions.

Chinese Exclusion.

The General Deficiency Appropriation Bill, as reported to the Senate, contains an amendment the Hitt Chinese Exclusion Bill, which was accepted by the House before the bill was passed. The Hitt bill was introduced in the Senate by Mr. Dennis, and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

The committee's discovery, it is said, has been made that the bill will affect the introduction of Chinese coolie labor into the Panama Canal zone, and to a considerable extent affects the immigration to this country of Koreans and Filipinos.

The British Government is anxious to have the Nicaragua Government protect the Mosquito Indians formerly under a British protectorate, and also to inquire into the claims of the captains of certain small turtle-fishing vessels, now detained at Bluefields, that they may have been wrongfully arrested.

Why a Warship is There.

To prevent any possible misunderstanding the British Government, through its Ambassador here, has explained fully to the State Department the object of the dispatch of the British warship Retribution from Jamaica to the Mosquito coast of Nicaragua, and this explanation is said to be satisfactory.

The British Government is anxious to have the Nicaragua Government protect the Mosquito Indians formerly under a British protectorate, and also to inquire into the claims of the captains of certain small turtle-fishing vessels, now detained at Bluefields, that they may have been wrongfully arrested.

Philippine Loan Awarded.

Secretary Taft has directed the acceptance of the bid of the American National Bank of Kansas City for the entire issue of \$3,000,000 Philippine certificates of indebtedness at the rate of 5 per cent.

Kansas City.—The American National Bank, which was granted the entire \$3,000,000 government issue of Philippine certificates, received telegrams from Chicago, Boston, New York and other cities asking for portions of the issue, the amounts ranging from \$25,000 to \$100,000, and representing nearly \$1,000,000 in the aggregate.

Conditions in Congo State.

In the Senate Mr. J. T. Morgan presented a memorial from missionaries laboring in the Congo Free State praying for an investigation into the unsatisfactory condition of the natives and of American citizens in that country and in connection with a resolution referring the question to the Committee on Foreign Relations, with instructions to investigate and report to the Senate. The resolution was agreed to.

The conference report on the Army Appropriation bill was agreed to, which passes the bill.

Congressional and Departments.

During an examination by a committee of Congress Representative Roberts confessed that he had been married three times and that he has three wives living.

The House Judiciary Committee will report favorably the resolution of the minority asking the Attorney General to transmit certain information to the House.

The State Department is in receipt of information that Mr. Ruseel, United States charge d'affaires at Panama, who has been ill, is slowly improving.

Senator Lodge introduced a bill committing to the Secretary of the Interior the care of all historic and prehistoric objects.

The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations authorized a favorable report on the extradition treaty with Cuba.

Representative Gillett, of Massachusetts, introduced a bill for the retirement of government clerks.

TRIED TO CHEAT GALLOWS

Car-Barn Bandit's Desperate Attempts at Suicide.

UNIQUE METHODS AT DESTRUCTION.

He Jabs a Lead-pencil into His Wrist and Twists and Turns Until He Tears an Artery—Bleeds This, He Eats the Heads of a Number of Matches He Had Accumulated for That Purpose.

Chicago, (Special).—Peter Niedermeyer, the leader of the car bandits, condemned to die on the gallows Friday, made two desperate attempts at suicide Monday. His condition as a result is so precarious that it is feared he will not survive. Should he still be alive next Friday he will be carried to the gallows and executed.

Niedermeyer planned his attempted suicide carefully. First he masticated and swallowed the heads of 70 or 100 sulphur matches. While the phosphorus was burning his stomach he sawed the radial artery of his left wrist with a sharp-pointed lead-pencil. Striking a bone in the wrist he gave up trying to sever the artery, and turned the weapon to the large veins on the outer side of his left forearm, and with jabs and a saw-saw motion he lacerated the flesh and muscles of the arm and tore open the veins, leaving a large, jagged wound exposed, through which the blood gushed in streams, dyeing his bed-clothing and running down over the cell floor in pools.

His second attempt came after the wound had been dressed and closed by the county physician. Niedermeyer was lying apparently unconscious in the hospital under a guard's care. His right arm and hand were hidden by the bed-clothing, and with hardly a discernible motion he slipped the bandage off his left arm and with his sharp fingernails tore away the threads in the wound, and inserting his forefinger into the ragged hole, he worked again at the veins and sought to reach the artery.

He unconsciously uttered a groan and made a convulsive movement which attracted the attention of the physicians, nurses and the guard, and on throwing back the coverlets the attendants saw with horror that Niedermeyer had torn away the bandages and reopened the wound.

Niedermeyer opened his eyes and with a leering, weak smile exclaimed: "Let me die, Doc. Go away and let me die. You were almost too late the first time. Now why do you try to save my life?"

Niedermeyer lost a large quantity of blood, was almost pulseless for a time. The principal danger, however, is that the poisonous phosphorus has burned him so severely that his life cannot be saved for its final snuffing out on the gallows.

Niedermeyer says he got his idea of swallowing phosphorus when a prisoner in the jail committed suicide in that manner while Niedermeyer was awaiting trial. For the last two weeks Niedermeyer has been saying the matches he was able to fitch and beg. He even gave up smoking to some extent so he could hold them in his arse and eat the heads of the long gashes. Then he pushed the sharp end of the pencil into one so it would pass under the veins. Then he twisted the pencil around and around until the veins were twisted and burst. In doing so the pencil was broken into several pieces.

Niedermeyer's first attempt at suicide was nearly successful. Guard John Roeder, passing Niedermeyer's cell, saw him huddled on his cot with a blanket drawn over his head. A moan attracted his attention and when he attempted to arouse him proved fruitless he summoned Jailer Whitman and the cell was opened. Niedermeyer was unconscious and his clothing and the blanket were found soaked with blood, which was flowing from a ragged hole in his wrist.

Other guards were summoned in and he was taken to the jail hospital. The artery in his wrist was fastened. Then it was learned that he had attempted to poison himself. In his cell was found a quantity of matches from which he had eaten the heads, and Jailer Whitman said most of those probably had been smuggled to him by other prisoners.

A letter written by Niedermeyer prior to the attempt at suicide was found concealed in his cot. In the letter the writer incidentally expressed regret for his career, and also regrets leaving his wife and two children, but chiefly the letter was a morbid glorification of the writer's courage and his loyalty to his kind associate, Gustav Marx. The letter says: "There are four reasons why I should take my own life."

"First, because of the public boast that I cannot commit suicide while I am so closely guarded."

"Second that I cannot cheat the scaffold."

"Third, that they cannot say they executed me and made me pay for a crime."

"Fourth, to have another mystery for the ignorant police to solve."

The letter concludes as follows: "It seems very pleasant to have this everlasting enjoyment of rest I am an atheist and do not believe in any religion."

"PETER NIEDERMAYER."

The Michigan Water Scandal.

Allegan, Mich., (Special).—Thomas F. McGarry, a prominent attorney who was convicted of bribing former City Attorney Lant K. Salisbury and turning over to him the boodle fund in the Lake Michigan water deal, was sentenced to four years in the State Reformatory at Jonia. McGarry's crime was recently affirmed by the State Supreme Court. He is the first of the men arrested as a result of the water deal to receive a prison sentence.

SAILORS FIGHT POLICE.

Riot at Pensacola Quelled By the Marines—One Was Killed and Four Injured.

Pensacola, Fla., (Special).—In a riot here between police and bluejackets from the warships and a few artillerymen from Fort Barrancas, Private Banks, of the Seventh Company of Artillery, was instantly killed and four bluejackets from the Iowa and Alabama wounded, though not seriously.

The riot started over the arrest of a bluejacket. Three police officers were at the patrol call, when a petty officer from one of the ships blew a whistle signal in use on the ships to gather and rushed the policemen.

Two of the police officers backed away from the crowd, firing as fast as possible at the advancing bluejackets, who were hurling stones, bottles and other missiles at them. It was during this shooting that the artilleryman was killed.

Reinforcements from the police station arrived at this juncture and partly disbanded the bluejackets. Later, owing to many threats of the men from the warships to kill the policemen, Admiral Barker ordered marine guards to the ships ashore, and they quelled the riot and prevented further trouble.

Captain Wheeler Killed.

Manila, (By Cable).—Capt. David P. Wheeler and Corporal Percy Heyvelt, of the Twenty-second Infantry, while reconnoitering the Moro works along the Paraca River, in the Lake Lanao district of the Island of Mindanao, April 11, were stabbed in the abdomen. Captain Wheeler died at Marahui, April 13. Corporal Heyvelt is fatally wounded.

FACTS WORTH REMEMBERING.

A woman 5 feet 3 inches high should weigh 127 pounds.

In Sweden there is but one drug store to every 15,000 people.

Pens are polished with emery powder in a large revolving drum.

The Southern States are producing half the lumber cut in America.

Public benevolences in America during ten years aggregate \$610,400,000.

The Russian population of Siberia now numbers not far from 8,000,000.

We have now twelve battle-ships in service, and fourteen more building or authorized.

That the cost of living has increased 30 per cent in ten years in shown by Dun's Index.

The Railway Exchange Building just completed in Chicago has office room for 200,000 persons.

The English buy \$30,000,000 of eggs abroad each year, the average price being 10 cents a dozen.

An invention which secures the complete combustion of coal was mentioned at a banquet at Glasgow.

The manufacture of tropical air for scientific and technical purposes has assumed considerable proportions in Germany.

The reach of a searchlight for practical use is 700 yards, but torpedoes can be used effectively from 1,200 to 1,400 yards.

The result of a cricket match in Melbourne was cabled to London, 17,000 miles, through nine relays, in two and a half minutes.

Dr. Loeb has created a new species of sea life by crossing star fish and sea hares by the use of solution of sodium hydrate.

Considering our exports by countries, the largest total is to the United Kingdom, \$524,263,000; the next largest to Germany, \$193,842,000 and Canada, \$121,267,000.

NEWSY CLEANINGS.

A monster oil well has been struck just south of Upper Sandusky, O.

Thus far all levees on the Mississippi near Memphis, Tenn., have withstood the floods.

Quarry owners in Montpelier and Barre, Vt., have locked out 1800 granite cutters.

It is claimed that the total cost of the British army this year will be \$140,000,000.

Census bureau reports show that 24,045 acres of land were under irrigation in New Mexico in 1902.

FORCES ALONG THE YALU

The Japanese Army May Soon Try to Cross the River.

RUSSIANS ARE READY FOR THEM.

About 20,000 Prepared to Resist a Japanese Invasion of Manchuria—The Russian Occupying Strongly Fortified Positions on the Manchurian Side North of Antung—Japanese Submarine Boats.

London, Sunday, (By Cable).—Advices from Seoul and points near the Yalu River indicate that the Japanese will soon make an attempt to cross the river and invade Manchuria.

Rumors of a battle at Wiju are not confirmed, though an engagement may begin at any moment.

The Russians occupy strongly fortified positions at Chiu Tien Chen, on the Manchurian side of the river and about ten miles north of Antung, and on Tiger Hill, a rock promontory jutting out into the Yalu River. The Japanese forces and batteries are screened behind the hill between the river and Wiju.

A recent dispatch from Lioyang said the Russian intrenchments on the Yalu had been completed. The center of the line of fortified positions is at Antung. The right flank rests at Tatumg Koa, about 25 miles southwest of Antung, and the left at Chiu Tien Cheng. It has been reported that there are about 20,000 Russian troops composed of infantry, cavalry and artillery, at Antung ready to oppose the Japanese if they attempt to cross the river, and a recent dispatch from Tokio says it is known there that the Russians were in force on the Manchurian side of the Yalu.

The major force of the first Japanese army to land in Korea is near Wiju, according to a dispatch from Korea, and the Japanese are said to be landing at Chulsan, near the mouth of the Yalu.

There have been frequent skirmishes between Russian and Japanese troops in the vicinity of Wiju during the last week.

ALEXIEFF W