

FIRE AT TORONTO

The Flames Swept Through the Wholesale District

LOSS ALREADY IN THE MILLIONS

A Fireman Jumps Six Stories and Escapes With a Broken Leg—Neighboring Cities Send Assistance.

Toronto, Canada, Special.—Fire swept through a section of Toronto's wholesale district Tuesday night, causing a loss which will run up into the millions. The fire started in a factory in Wellington street, about 9 o'clock. In less than an hour the flames had spread from building to building on both sides of the street until the whole block was a mass of flames and the fire was utterly beyond control of the local department. Appeals were sent to every surrounding city where fire apparatus could be obtained asking for assistance, Montreal, London, Hamilton and Buffalo at once responded, but it will be hours before they can be of assistance. It was believed at 11 o'clock that the fire was under control, but a sudden shift in the wind again fanned the flames into a roar and clouds of sparks and burning brands were carried down side streets until three entire blocks were doomed.

The firemen were making a gallant fight amid the falling buildings and a mass of tangled wires, but their efforts at midnight seemed to be fruitless.

Chief Thompson, of the fire department, and George Dowkes, of Montreal, were cut off by the flames while directing the work of firemen from a roof. Thompson jumped six stories to the ground and escaped with a broken leg. A mass of tangled wires broke his fall near the ground. Dowkes has not been seen since, and it is believed he has perished.

Up to midnight the following places had been destroyed: Gillespie, Englsley & Co., hats and furs; Dignum & Monypenny, importers; Comfort Soap Works, Davis & Henderson, wholesale stationers; Jessip Steel Company's building, occupied by R. W. Hutchison & Co., wholesale woolens; Alcott, Sargent & Westwood, fishing tackle; Dods' Medicine Company, Western Steamship Company, Richard L. Baker & Co., C. H. Westwood & Co., shipping tackle; Garland Manufacturing Company, G. H. Ragg, agent; Rothschild Brothers & Co., manufacturers; C. W. Bangor, broker; Richie & Ramsay Company, paper manufacturers; Thos. Hoskin Company, Andrew Multhead, wholesale paints; E. W. Gilmore & Brothers, silverware; W. H. Payne & Co., commission agents; R. M. Slater & Co., wholesale dry goods; International Brokers, Limited; Gale Manufacturing Company, Whiteman & Brown Brothers, wholesale stationers; Ralph Smith & Co., lithographers; George H. Hess Son & Co., window shades; Menzies Manufacturing Company, window shades; H. F. Sharpe & Co., photograph supplies; Crown Hotel, Office Specialty Company.

The Evening Telegram's office and Brookes Company's warehouse were badly damaged.

Landing of Japs Frustrated.

St. Petersburg, By Cable.—An attempted landing by Japanese troops on the shores of Korea between Port Arthur and the Yalu river April 12, was frustrated by the Russians. A Japanese torpedo boat flotilla scouted the shores of the bay, but was received with such a heavy fire from the land batteries at Taku Shan, Ching Tai Tse, Tchuanhe and Beshino that it retired. Vice Admiral Togo's flagship then recalled nine transports which were on the way to land troops. A squadron of ten warships protecting the transports withdrew with them. The Russians have 20,000 troops concentrated at Taku Shan.

Only Two Contests.

Atlanta, Special.—The State Democratic primary will be held in every county in the State Wednesday for the purpose of nominating State officers. There will be but two contests in this election, that between Chief Justice T. J. Simmons, of the Supreme Court, and Col. R. B. Russell, who opposes him for this office, and Judge T. S. Turner, of the prison commission, who will be opposed by Judson Strickland, Governor Terrell, Treasurer Park, School Commissioner Merritt, Comptroller General Wright, Secretary of State Cook, Commissioner of Agriculture Stevens and Attorney General Hart, have no opposition.

Colored People Protest.

Richmond, Va., Special.—At a large and representative gathering of Richmond negroes here formal protest was made against the law providing for separation of the races on street cars, which is to be put into effect here tomorrow, and resolutions were adopted, the gist of which is that the negroes of the community will walk in future as evidence of the reality of their protests.

Anti-Saloon Contest.

Atlanta, Special.—Ways and means for an active campaign in the interests of temperance and the question as to whether league methods work well in the South, were the subjects discussed at the two meetings of the Anti-Saloon Congress in session here. Rev. Dr. P. A. Decker, of Columbus, Ohio; Dr. E. A. Folker, of Nashville, Tenn.; and Rev. A. J. Hughes, of Atlanta, took the most prominent part in the discussions.

TREATY IS RATIFIED

Another Step Taken in the Isthmian Canal Matter.

Paris, By Cable.—The Associated Press is authorized to announce that the contract by which the ownership of the Panama canal passes to the United States, is signed, sealed, delivered and complete.

The title to the canal route is now vested in the government of the United States.

The document by which this transaction is consummated bears the signatures of President Bo and Director Richman, of the Panama canal company, who signed for the company as its responsible officials.

The transfer is complete and without reservation and the United States secures a perfect title.

This result has been accomplished quietly and most unexpectedly, as the public had been given to understand that the contract would not be executed until after the meeting of the stockholders of the canal company tomorrow, at which the question of ratification would be presented. As a matter of fact, however, when the meeting takes place tomorrow President Bo will announce that the sale has been completed, and instead of asking for authority to execute a future contract, it will only remain to ratify the contract of sale which the officers of the company have already formally completed.

It is confidently believed that the completion of the sale before the meeting will increase the vote for ratification, as it will be recognized that nothing more remains but to acquiesce in the action taken by the highest officer of the company.

When W. A. Day and Charles W. Russell, the United States Assistant Attorneys General, who are in Paris to assist in the transfer of the property, were seen tonight by the Associated Press, they reluctantly admitted that the transfer had been consummated, and in order to avoid misunderstandings regarding a transaction of this magnitude, they furnished the following official statement in writing:

"The papers transferring the rights and property by the new Panama Canal Company to the United States have already been executed and delivered. They will be ratified tomorrow by the stockholders' meeting. The arrangement includes a general conveyance and provision for deeds and re-signing in the Republic of Panama and in the canal zone now under the jurisdiction of the United States, in which zone the United States civil laws continue in force, by reason of the session of the zone from a civil law society. All formalities of the local law on the isthmus have been arranged for and secured to the United States.

"The property will shortly be delivered on the isthmus, and upon that being done the purchase price will be immediately paid.

"The full text of the principal documents will be made public tomorrow night.

"The United States gets an unnumbered title."

Japs on Swedish Coast.

Chicago, Special.—A special cable to The Daily News from Stockholm says: "It is reported in responsible quarters that certain strange craft, supposed to be Japanese submarines, are hovering on the east coast of Sweden. They were last seen off the fortified harbor of Faro Sound, in the island of Goetland, in the center of the Baltic sea. It is reported that the St. Petersburg authorities have investigated the matter."

News Notes.

The Berlin correspondent of the London Graphic is responsible for the latest rumor regarding the betrothal of Crown Prince Frederick William of Germany. He says that the Crown Prince may possibly return from Copenhagen, where he is now visiting, formally affianced to Princess Thyra, third daughter of the Crown Prince of Denmark.

The increased length of the modern great Atlantic steamers has made the piers at New York too short for them, and there has been a project to have them extend farther out into the North River. The Secretary of War has just refused to permit this on the ground that it would not be wise to encroach farther on this waterway, which is one of the busiest in the world.

Link Rollis, a well known merchant of Coche county, is dead.

The Hampton Celebration.

Newport News, Special.—Preliminary to the 36th anniversary exercises of the Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute, Virginia Day was celebrated at the Institute Wednesday. Probably 500 educators, among whom are many of prominence, attended the opening meeting. Dr. Robert C. Ogden and his party, numbering over 250, were among the visitors, as were Governor Montague, Governor R. B. Odell, of New York, and Miss Helen Miller Gould. At noon a reception was tendered in honor of the Ogden party and the Virginia guests. Governor Montague made an address. The keynote of which was: "Universal suffrage demands universal education."

Commits Suicide.

Little Rock, Ark., Special.—A special to The Arkansas Gazette from Hot Springs, Ark., says: "C. V. Taylor, president of the Morrilstown, Tenn., National Bank, committed suicide early Friday by shooting himself through the breast. He lived long enough after the fatal shot was fired to make his will, disposing of a large estate. He had been in the city several weeks. The remains will be shipped to his former home."

SMOOT CASE AGAIN

Crafty Mormons Still Facing Interrogation Points

SOME WARM TESTIMONY IS GIVEN

Brigham H. Roberts Examined As to the Relations Existing Between the Church and Politics.

Washington, Special.—With the reopening of the investigation in the Reed Smoot case, before the Senate committee on privileges and elections, the prosecution devoted considerable time to drawing from Birmingham H. Roberts the character of the oaths which are said to be necessary for a Mormon official to take in order to have the support of the Church for political office. Members of the committee showed an equal interest in the obligations which are said to be taken by Mormons who "go through the endowment house." Along both lines much evidence was brought out which is expected to have considerable bearing on the fitness of a Mormon Church official to hold a seat in Congress.

It was shown by Mr. Robert's testimony that without the consent of the Mormon Church he failed of election to a seat in Congress and later with Church recognition of his candidacy he was elected. In relation to the endowment house obligation Mr. Roberts was extremely reticent.

Mr. Roberts said he has three wives, one married in 1877, the second in 1886 and the third in 1890. He said he has had children by all of the wives and by the first plural wife since his election to Congress.

Senator Overman inquired of Mr. Roberts whether his first wife and his second wife had consented to his third wife.

"No, sir," said Mr. Roberts. "They did not learn of the marriage for three or four years."

"How was that?" asked Senator Beveridge. "Do you mean to say that the marriage was not known to any one?"

"It was known to some of my friends, but not to my wives," was the answer.

"Why was this marriage concealed from them?" asked Chairman Burrows.

"Because I did not want to embarrass them."

"How embarrass them?"

"Well, we know the marriage was illegal and it might be embarrassing to them if they should for any reason be called on to testify."

Mr. Taylor asked Mr. Roberts why he thought it incumbent upon him to take plural wives.

"From boyhood," replied the witness. "I had been taught the rightfulness of plural marriages and I believed this practice to be the law of God. I knew that this practice was contrary to the mandates of Congress, but believed that the law of God was the highest rule and I felt impelled to obey."

Chairman Burrows asked a number of pointed questions which brought out the conversation from Mr. Roberts that he still believes in and practices polygamy. He said that he believes the Woodruff manifesto was divinely inspired and that now in practicing polygamy he knows he is disobeying both the laws of the land and the laws of God. He was asked why he continued to disobey the laws of God if he believed them to be the highest laws, and with a resigned air, he said: "Well, the manifesto led me in the midst of obligations to these views. I am trying to do the best I can to live within the laws, but these obligations I cannot shirk."

At the afternoon session Mr. Roberts said no action had ever been taken by the Church in respect to his living with more than one wife.

Questions were asked respecting Mr. Roberts' view regarding the manifesto of 1890 against plural marriages and living in polygamy cohabitation, and the witness said he regarded the manifesto as an administrative act of the Church and of binding force upon all members. He admits that to disobey any of those laws would subject the member to liability to Church discipline. The witness was asked then in regard to polygamous cohabitation, and said that he and many others were living in polygamy at the time the rules were made against such cohabitation and that they considered themselves under moral obligation to live with the wives they had married.

"Do you think you are morally bound to cohabit with all of your wives?" Chairman Burrows asked.

"I do."

"How many children have you?"

"Thirteen living."

"How many not living?"

"Two."

"When was the last one born?"

"About two or three years ago."

Mr. Vancott in cross-examination asked in regard to the rule which permits officials of the Church to enter into politics, and the witness said he regarded it merely as a leave of absence from Church official duties during incumbency of political offices.

He said he did not regard it as an endorsement by the Mormon Church. It was brought out that in his first canvass for office, when he had not the consent or leave of absence, he was defeated. In his second canvass he obtained the "leave of absence" and was elected.

Senator Bailey asked a number of questions regarding the witness' views of his obligations as a citizen and whether there could be a religious obligation which would justify him in denying his services to his State to discharge duties which would devolve upon him by the acceptance of a political position.

LABOR WORLD.

Lynn, Mass., shoemakers will probably go on strike.

The miners of the Central Pennsylvania field will accept a reduction of wages without the expected opposition.

Wages of women workers in Canada have increased in recent years from twenty-five to fifty per cent, more than men.

Membership in the Journeymen Blacksmiths' organization has increased an average of over 2000 per month in the last year.

Minnesota's manufacturing enterprises employed during 1903, 94,189 men and 11,998 women, 548 boys and 143 girls under sixteen years of age.

Thirty-three shoe manufacturers of Lynn, Mass., who employ turn workmen, have locked out the 500 men in this department and the trouble may grow.

Longshoremen's Union of Tacoma, Wash., has declared a strike against the United States Government. The trouble arises over a question of wages.

At a recent meeting of the Ship Liners' Union at Montreal, Can., it was unanimously decided to affiliate with the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada.

At Spokane, Wash., the plumbers' strike, which has been on for several months, is in danger of collapsing, and it is probable that the union may be disbanded.

Weekly wages in the textile trade in England average from \$6.50 to \$9 a week; in France, \$3 and \$3.50; English hours are fifty-four to fifty-six; French, over sixty.

The age at death of the workmen in East London is about twenty-nine, whereas in the well-to-do districts of West London the average age is about fifty-five.

Fire Guttled Victory Talking Machine Store.

Camden, N. J., Special.—The interior of the store of the Victor Talking Machine Company, of this city, was totally destroyed by fire Saturday afternoon, causing a loss estimated by an official of the company at nearly \$500,000. The concern carried an insurance of \$250,000. Upward of a half million phonographic disc records and 25,000 talking machines, in various stages of completion, were destroyed. The original records, which cannot be replaced, were also ruined.



THE NECESSARY MAGAZINE IN THE PRESIDENTIAL YEAR

The Review of Reviews is often called a necessity, in recognition of its usefulness in keeping readers "up with the times."

In Presidential election years the REVIEW OF REVIEWS is more than ever "the necessary magazine." Everybody wants to be truly and quickly informed about this or that public question that has forged to the front; to know about the new candidates and personal factors in politics, to have a complete picture at hand of the current movement of history.

In Dr. Shaw's editorials, in its authentic and timely contributions, in its brilliant character sketches, in its condensations and reviews of all the important articles of other magazines, and in its hundred a month of valuable portraits, witty cartoons, and interesting views, the REVIEW OF REVIEWS gives the much desired news of the world's and our own progress. "The World under a Field-glass" is the way one subscriber describes it. Men in public life, like President Theodore Roosevelt, the members of Congress, and the great captains of industry, who must keep "up with the times," intelligent men and women all over America, have decided it is "indispensable."

25c. a copy, \$2.50 a year
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13 Astor Place, New York

Minor Mention.

After gaining and losing \$500,000 in New York, John B. Altman and his wife, when about to lose their home in St. Louis, decided to die together and turned on the gas. They left a note, saying they had agreed to die after chloroforming a pet cat, which was all they had untrammelled by debts. The cat's body was found in the cellar. Altman, who was sixty-eight years old, and his wife, Juliana, came to this country fifteen years ago.

News of the Day.

It is probable that an investigation into the alleged frauds in the Postoffice Department will be conducted during the recess of Congress by the Senate committee.

Matias Ortel was arrested at Barcelona as an accomplice of Joaquin Artao in the attempted assassination of Premier Maura. He was taken to the train at Huntington, W. Va., Sunday and was instantly killed.

\$7,500 Cash Contest

THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION'S

Great New Offer Upon Receipts of Cotton at All United States Ports From September 1st, 1903, to May 1st, 1904, Both Inclusive.

Contest Opened Jan. 18th, 1904; Closes April 20th, 1904.

DIVISION OF PRIZES.

For the exact, or the nearest to the exact, estimate of the total number of Bales of Cotton received at all United States ports from September 1st, 1903, to May 1st, 1904, both inclusive.....	\$ 2,500.00
For the next nearest estimate.....	1,000.00
For the next nearest estimate.....	500.00
For the next nearest estimate.....	125.00
For the 5 next nearest estimates, \$25.00 each.....	125.00
For the 10 next nearest estimates, 12.50 each.....	200.00
For the 20 next nearest estimates, 10.00 each.....	250.00
For the 50 next nearest estimates, 5.00 each.....	300.00
For the 100 next nearest estimates, 3.00 each.....	
Total	\$ 5,000.00

Additional Offers for Best Estimates Made During Different Periods of the Contest.

For convenience the time of the contest is divided into estimates received by The Constitution during four periods—the first period covering from the beginning of contest to February 10, 1904; second period, from February 10 to March 1, 1904; third period, March 1 to 20; fourth period, March 20 to April 20, 1904. We will give the best estimate received during each period (in addition to whatever other prize it may take, or if it take no prize at all), the sum of \$125.00.

The four prizes thus offered at \$125.00 each amount to..... \$ 500.00

TWO GRAND CONSOLATION OFFERS.

First—For distribution among those estimates (not taking any of the above 188 prizes) coming within 500 bales either way of the exact figures..... \$ 1,000.00

Second—For distribution among those estimates (not taking any of the above 188 prizes and not sharing the first consolation offer) coming within 1,000 bales either way of the exact figures..... 1,000.00

Grand Total..... \$7,500.00
In case of a tie on any prize estimate the money will be equally divided.

Conditions of Sending Estimates in This Port Receipts Contest.

Subject to the usual conditions, as stated regularly in The Constitution each week, the contest is now on. Attention is called to the following summary of conditions:

- Send \$1.00 for The Weekly Constitution one year and with it ONE ESTIMATE in the contest.
- Send 50 cents for The Sunny South one year and with it ONE ESTIMATE in the contest.
- Send \$1.25 for The Weekly Constitution and Sunny South both one year, and send TWO ESTIMATES in the contest—that is, one estimate for The Constitution and another for The Sunny South.
- Send 50 cents for ONE ESTIMATE alone in the contest IF YOU DO NOT WANT A SUBSCRIPTION. Such a remittance merely pays for the privilege of sending the estimate. If you wish to make a number of estimates on this basis, you may send THREE ESTIMATES FOR EVERY \$1.00 forwarded at the same time estimates are sent. If as many as ten estimates are received at the same time without subscriptions, the sender may forward them with only \$3.00—this splendid discount being offered for only ten estimates in one order. A postal card receipt will be sent for ALL ESTIMATES RECEIVED WITHOUT SUBSCRIPTIONS. Where subscriptions are ordered, THE ARRIVAL OF THE PAPER ITSELF IS AN ACKNOWLEDGMENT THAT YOUR ESTIMATE HAS BEEN RECEIVED AND IS CAREFULLY RECORDED.
- The money and the subscription and the estimate must come in the same envelope every time. The estimate, the money and the subscription go together. THIS RULE IS POSITIVE.

Secretary Hester's Figures Covering the Period of the Contest.

COTTON SEASON.	TOTAL PORT RECEIPTS.	BALES IN COTTON CROP.
1897-98.....	8,333,862.....	11,199,994.....
1898-99.....	7,993,451.....	11,274,840.....
1899-00.....	6,843,134.....	10,383,422.....
1900-01.....	6,346,312.....	9,436,416.....
1901-02.....	7,218,179.....	10,680,680.....
1902-03.....	7,378,627.....	10,727,559.....

The figures above are certified by Secretary Henry G. Hester, of the New Orleans Cotton Exchange, who will furnish the official figures to decide this contest.

Address All Orders to THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION, Atlanta, Ga.