

GREAT FIRE IN TORONTO

West Wing of Parliament Buildings Guttled and Provincial Library Destroyed.

A despatch from Toronto says: Entailing damage of at least \$600,000 less than half of which is insured, and the irreparable loss of a library of over 100,000 volumes, many of which can never be replaced, fire gutted the west wing of the provincial parliament buildings in the Queen's Park on Wednesday afternoon. The insurance, which covers the building alone, stands at \$750,000, in 45 companies.

In addition to the fire, water did much damage, and the cellar of the great stone pile is flooded to a depth of several feet.

WHERE IT STARTED.

The discovery of the blaze which led to the first alarm was made by a newspaperman as he was leaving the first floor of the building. The glass which covers the great light-well in the west wing of the main section crashed through. He looked up and saw smoke and flame and rushed to the telephone in the attorney-general's department and phoned to fire headquarters.

GOT GOOD START.

When the firemen began to arrive the fire was burning fiercely at the roof over the fallen light glass, and in the wing running north and south at the extreme west of the great stone pile. Lines of hose were run up outside and in through doors and windows, and the flames did not make any appreciable headway eastward, but tore south into the library and north into the offices in that end of the wing. This was the long stretch in this wing, and it was in this that the fiercest battle was fought.

It was not long before the flames were in possession of the library, and the priceless books were driven from the windows a shower of charred leaves. Beneath this and to the east were the papers upon which judges have been at work for two years in revising the statutes of the province, and a determined effort was made to save these, although the offices of the legal department, in which they were kept, were a drench of water which poured from upper floors, and were filled with blinding smoke. This effort was successful, though the papers were many of them drenched. A like fight to save the records and documents of the railway commission in the upper floor of the north end of the wing resulted in the preserving of those valuable papers and the greater part of the hydro-electric documents in Hon. Adam Beck's room were saved, although the offices were gutted.

ROOF FELL IN SECTIONS.

The roof fell in sections. First it was that section over the light well, then the part over the library went down with a great crash, and later smaller sections further to the north. With every fall, there were great clouds of smoke and cinders

dotted with the bright spots that were burning papers.

The smouldering ruin which was the west wing is now a gloomy sight. It stands there a hulking mass of blackened and disfigured stone, roofless and dilapidated.

The whole western wing was drenched with water from the basement to roof, and setting aside the loss of the library, the great bulk of the damage was caused by water rather than fire.

With the exception of the private office of the King's printer, all the rooms in the wing with all their valuable oak desks, chairs, filing cabinets and general furnishings are soaked and almost destroyed.

MURDERER DEAD IN WELL.

Mounted Police Had Scoured Country in Vain Search.

A despatch from Stettler, Alta., says: While the Royal North-west Mounted Police have been scouring the country for Anton Woolrich, who shot and killed his wife on July 1st, he was lying dead at the bottom of a well. On Friday morning one of the settlers living south of here started to clean out his well and found the body of Woolrich. It is supposed he committed suicide after murdering his wife.

THE WORLD'S MARKETS

REPORTS FROM THE LEADING TRADE CENTRES.

Prices of Cattle, Grain, Cheese and Other Dairy Produce at Home and Abroad.

BREADSTUFFS.

Toronto, Sept. 7.—Flour—Ontario flour new Winter wheat patents at \$4 to \$4.05 in buyers' sacks on track, Toronto; new wheat flour for exports, \$3.90 to \$3.95 outside in buyers' sacks. Manitoba flour, first patents, \$5.80 on track, Toronto; second patents, \$5.30, and strong bakers', \$5.10 to \$5.20 on track, Toronto.

Manitoba Wheat—Old No. 1 Northern, \$1.23 to \$1.25, Georgian Bay ports; new No. 1 Northern for October shipment \$1.01, and No. 2 Northern, October shipment, 98½¢, lake ports.

Ontario Wheat—New No. 2, 97 to 98¢ at outside points.

Barley—No. 2, 55¢ outside, and No. 3 extra at 51 to 53¢ outside. Oats—No. 2 Ontario white new, 37 to 38¢ outside. No. 2 Western Canada old oats 43¢, and No. 3, 42¢, Bay ports.

Peas—Prices nominal.

Rye—No. 2, 68¢ outside.

Buckwheat—Prices nominal.

Corn—No. 2 American yellow, 77½ to 78¢ on track, Toronto; Canadian, 75 to 76¢ on track, Toronto.

Bran—\$20 to \$20.50 for Ontario bran outside in bulk. Manitoba, \$21 in sacks, Toronto freights; shorts, \$24, Toronto freights.

A BOY SAVES FOUR LIVES

Herbert Yates, Aged Sixteen, Succeeds in Rescuing All With Their Mother's Help.

A despatch from Cornwall says: Herbert Yates, the little 16-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Yates of Cornwall, has certainly earned the Royal Humane Society medal for saving life at the peril of his own.

Several families camping at the foot of Sheeks' Island decided on a picnic on Barnhart's Island. Before returning home young Yates and four little boys, aged from eight to thirteen years, were in a boat. They started across the little river which runs down from the Long Sault Rapids between the islands.

The rowlock of the boat broke just as they were in the swiftest water and the boat upset and drifted away. Mrs. E. Derose, Mrs. F. Newman, and Mrs. Shaver, mothers of the little fellows were coming behind in a rowboat with three little girls and witnessed the accident. Young Yates, although only an indifferent swimmer, and burdened with his clothing and heavy shoes, managed to bring the whole lot to the mothers' boat. One little fellow, Freddie Shaver, was almost gone, and did not recover for some time.

50; straight rollers in bags, \$2.60. Feed—Ontario bran, \$22 to \$23; Ontario middlings, \$23.50 to \$24.50; Manitoba bran, \$22; Manitoba shorts, \$24; pure grain mouille, \$33 to \$34; mixed mouille, \$25 to \$27. Cheese—Westerns, 11½ to 11¾¢, and Easterns, 11½ to 11¾¢. Butter—Creamery, 23¢. Eggs—Selected stock, 25½ to 26¢; No. 1 candled at 22½ to 23¢, and No. 2 at 16 to 19¢ per dozen.

UNITED STATES MARKETS.

Minneapolis, Minn., Sept. 7.—Wheat—Sept., 94½¢; Dec., 92½¢; May, 96¼¢. Cash—No. 1 hard, 99¼¢; No. 1 Northern, 98¼¢; No.

good 5 to 5½¢; good at 4½ to 4¾¢; medium, 4 to 4¼¢; cows, 3 to 4¼¢, and bulls, 2 to 3¼¢ per pound. The price of lambs declined ¼¢ per pound, with sales at 5½¢; sheep, 3¾¢ per pound. Calves, \$3 to \$15 per head. Hogs—Sales of the better grades were registered at \$8.75 to \$9 per 100 pounds, weighed off the cars.

Toronto, Sept. 7.—Prime picked butchers' at \$5.50 to \$5.75; medium to good loads from \$4.25 to \$5.40. Two extra fine milk cows sold at \$70 each, and \$50 to \$60 were common prices for good milkers. Sheep were steady, but lambs were easier owing to the heavy run, and from 35 to 40¢ lower. Hogs are now quoted at \$8 f.o.b., and \$8.25, fed and watered.

YOUNG BOY SHOT.

Bullet Fired at a Muskrat Goes Astray.

A despatch from Lindsay says: About 2 o'clock on Friday afternoon Dominick Spratt, aged 14, fifth son of R. W. Spratt, of the firm of Spratt & Killen, was shot through the abdomen while at work in the mill yard of John Carew.

The accident occurred in this way: Some young men were on the river in a boat shooting muskrats and a bullet from their rifle struck young Spratt. It is supposed that the young man with the gun either made a bad aim or that the bullet, striking some obstacle, glanced toward Spratt, inflicting a dangerous wound in the stomach. At the present writing Doctors McAlpine, White, and Blanchford hold out very little hope of saving his life.

FIRED STRAW STACK.

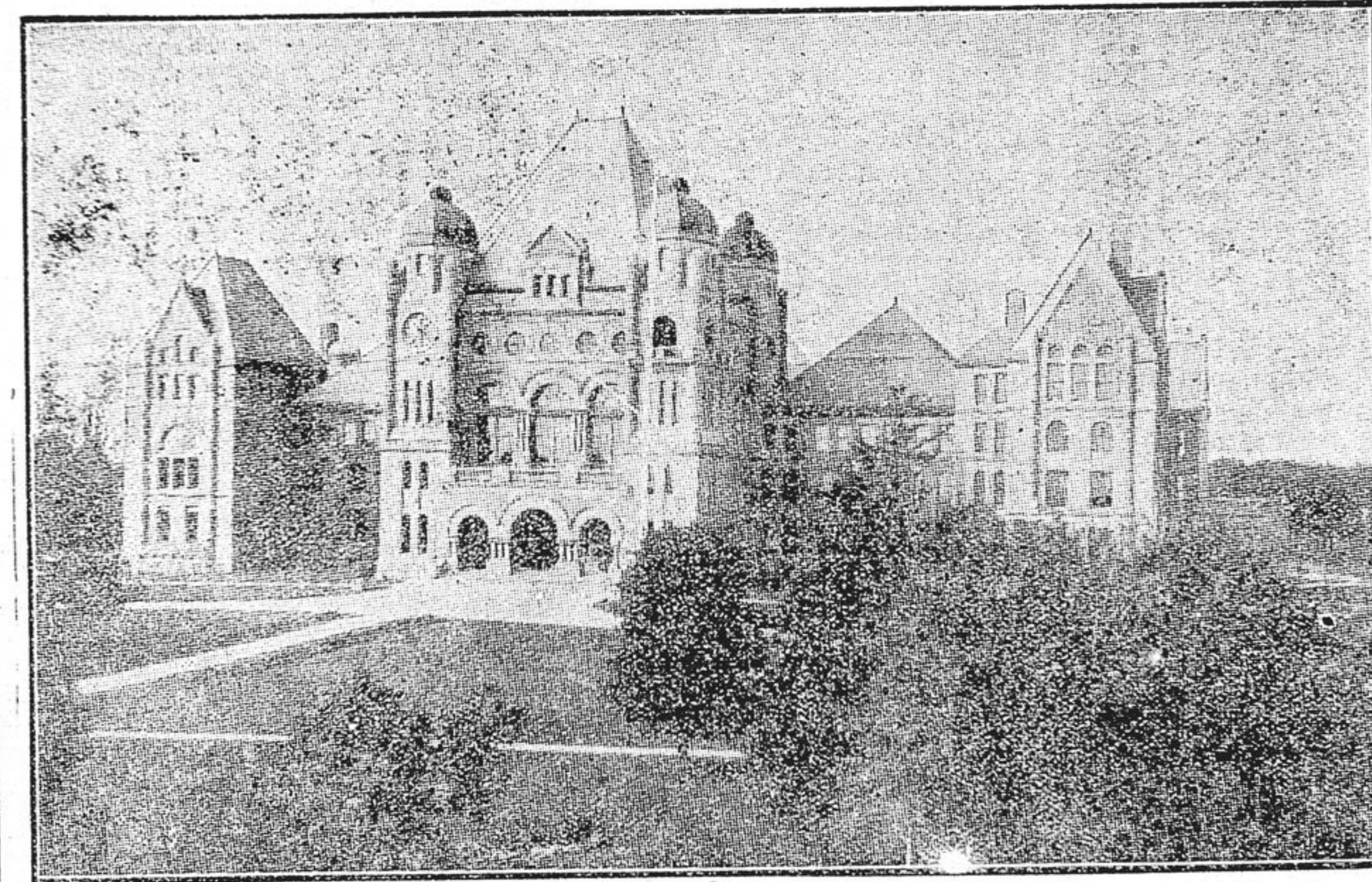
A Barnado Boy Destroyed His Employer's Barn.

A despatch from Brantford says: As a sequel to the destruction of the barn and its contents belonging to Fred Ilett, a farmer on the Paris road, last Monday, came on Friday the admission of William Hawkins, a sixteen-year-old Barnado boy, who had worked for Ilett, that he had touched a match to the adjacent straw stack, thus firing the barn. The boy has been taken to Toronto and will be deported as an undesirable. He is a recent arrival in this country. No reason is assigned for the act, which caused the loss of property valued at \$3,000.

MRS. J. S. MACDONALD DEAD.

Widow of Ontario's First Premier Passes Away.

A despatch from Cornwall says: Mrs. John Sandfield Macdonald, widow of the late Hon. John Sandfield Macdonald, first premier of Ontario, died on Friday morning, in her 90th year.



Front view of Parliament Buildings, Toronto, showing the West Wing (the left of Picture) which was destroyed.

Mr. T. L. Kinrade has sent his resignation to the Hamilton School Board, and is not expected to return to the city.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Apples—\$2.50 to \$3 per barrel. Beans—Prime \$2.25 to \$2.30, and hand-picked, \$2.50 to \$2.60 per bush.

Hay—No. 1 timothy, \$14.50 to \$15 a ton on track here, and No. 2 at \$13 to \$13.50.

Straw—\$9 to \$9.50.

Potatoes—60 to 65¢ per bag on track for Ontarios.

Poultry—Chickens, dressed, 14 to 16¢ per lb.; fowl, 10 to 12¢; turkeys, 16 to 17¢ per lb.

THE DAIRY MARKETS.

Butter—Pound prints, 19 to 21¢; tubs and large rolls, 18 to 19¢; inferior, 16 to 17¢; creamery, 23 to 24¢, and separator, 22½ to 23½¢ per lb.

Eggs—23¢ per dozen for case lots. Cheese—12½¢ per lb. for large, and 13¢ for twins.

HOG PRODUCTS.

Bacon—Long clear, 13¼ to 14¢ per lb. in case lots; mess pork, \$24.50 to \$25; short cut, \$26.50 to \$27.

Hams—Light to medium, 15 to 16¢; do., heavy, 14 to 14½¢; rolls, 13½ to 14¢; shoulders, 12½ to 13¢; backs, 18 to 18½¢; breakfast bacon, 16½¢.

Lard—Tierces, 14½¢; tubs, 14¾¢; pails, 15¢.

BUSINESS AT MONTREAL.

Montreal, Sept. 7.—The market for oats is steady; No. 2 Canadian Western, 44½ to 45¢; No. 3 Canadian Western, 43½ to 44¢. Barley—No. 2, 66 to 67¢; Manitoba feed barley, 64 to 65¢. Flour—Manitoba Spring wheat patents, firsts, \$5.90; Manitoba Spring wheat patents, seconds, \$5.40; Winter wheat patents, \$5.75; Manitoba strong bakers', \$5.20; straight rollers, \$5.

THE NORTH POLE REACHED

Dr. Cook, of Brooklyn, N. Y., Reported to Have Achieved the Impossible.

A despatch from London says: Dr. Frederick A. Cook, of Brooklyn, U. S. A., arrived at Lerwick, in the Shetland Islands on Wednesday morning, from the Arctic regions, where he has been for nearly three years. He reports that he has discovered the North Pole. Dr. Cook declares, according to the brief telegrams which reach London, that he attained the latitude of 90 degrees north on April 21, 1908.

Dr. Cook came out of the unknown wilds at the close of May, this year, at the Greenland Colony of Upernavik. He was taken on board the Danish steamship Hans Eged, which makes a regular stop at Lerwick. The vessel remained there only a short time, and then continued her voyage to Copenhagen. She is due to reach there on Saturday. The Danish inspector of Greenland, who was on board the Hans Eged, also telegraphs that Dr. Cook reached the Pole. He says that the Eskimos who accompanied Dr. Cook confirm all the details of the story which he tells.

STATEMENT BY DR. COOK.

A despatch from Paris says:

The Paris edition of the New York Herald of Wednesday morning publishes a signed statement from Dr. Frederick A. Cook, which is dated Hans Eged, Lerwick, Wednesday, on his experiences in the Arctic region:

"After a prolonged fight with famine and frosts," says Dr. Cook, "we have at last succeeded in reaching the Pole. A new highway, with an interesting strip of animated nature, has been explored and big game haunts located, which will delight sportsmen and extend the Eskimo horizon.

"Land has been discovered which rests on earth's northernmost rocks. A triangle of 30,000 square miles has been cut out of the terrestrial unknown. The expedition was the outcome of a Summer cruise in the Arctic seas schooner Bradley, which arrived at limits of navigation in Smith Sound late in August, 1907. Here conditions were found to louch a venture to the Pole. J. R. Bradley liberally supplied from his vessels suitable provisions for local use. My own equipment for emergencies served well for every purpose in the Arctic."