

TOTAL LOSS IS \$5,000,000

First Statement of the Actual Damage By the Great Fire in British Columbia.

A despatch from Fernie, B. C., says: Asked for a statement of fire losses, President Lindsey, of the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company, has given out the following official statement:

"Fire area—Valley of Elk River coal mining district in Kootenay, B. C.; is approximately 30 miles long and two to ten miles broad.

"In this area are situated the City of Fernie and the Towns of Hosmer and Michel, all mining camps. There is a large mining plant at Coal Creek, near Fernie, whence comes the largest output of coal. Although the fire has been within two miles of Coal Creek, the town may be said to be safe, and although the fire is all around Michel there is no grave apprehension as to it.

"Hosmer has escaped with little loss on its mining side, but Fernie has been completely obliterated, only 23 houses and three business houses being left. On both banks of the Elk River are a large number of sawmills, all of which, with one exception, have been swept out of existence, and probably a large number of men have lost their lives in the woods. The bodies recovered so far number 16, and there will be more, but in the woods only.

"The loss of the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company, owning mines at Coal Creek and Fernie and Michel, will be \$200,000; the C. P. R. will lose \$200,000; the Great Northern Railway will lose about \$250,000, and the lumber companies not less than a million. The loss of timber to the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company will be not less than a million.

"The loss to the City of Fernie will be not less than two million. There is no rain in sight, and the fire continues slowly up the mountainside, but nothing but a very high wind would do much damage, as the valley along its lower portions is swept clean of everything combustible. Relief in the form of money, supplies and bedding have come in with great freedom and everyone is now under canvas at Fernie. There are about 3,000 women and children at Cranbrook, to the west of Fernie, and about 1,500 at Lethbridge, to the east, but they are being slowly brought back to Fernie, where tent accommodation can be provided for them."

TRAGIC INCIDENTS OF FIRE.

One of the most tragic fatalities of the fire, and one which shows the extremes to which people were driven to escape the heat, was the finding of the bodies of a family of four in a well, a miner, his wife and children, where they had tried to get relief from the terrific heat. The head of the man, whose name was William Ford, was badly burned, while his wife and children, a boy of 2 years, and a girl of 8 years, all died of suffocation. There was little water in the well, which was curbed with wood, and after climbing into it he and his family were evidently unable to get out again, and the curbing burned down almost to the water's edge, suffocating them.

Even more pathetic is the awful manner in which Mrs. Addie Turner, an aged invalid woman, who lived with her son in Fernie annex, met death. When it was seen that the house was going to be ignited by flying embers in the gale, Mr. Turner, a miner, prepared his wife and children for flight. The aged woman could not walk, and she pleaded with them to leave her and save themselves, but finally, when the house was caught by the flames, Mr. Turner wrapped the old woman in a wet blanket, carried her out of the house, and laid her on the ground. He then seized his wife and children and fled. Nothing

but the blackened bones of the old woman were found by the searching party. Mr. Turner and his family escaped.

PEOPLE FLOCKING BACK.

Every day scores of people are returning to Fernie, and before ten days have passed it is expected that the majority will have returned.

There are no new developments except that donations of supplies and money continue to pour in from all directions. Food is plentiful at present, and sleeping quarters adequate. The sanitary conditions are being very carefully watched, and there is no fear of danger from that quarter.

Cranbrook has done marvels toward alleviating the suffering thousands of Fernie refugees. The moment word was received that Fernie was burned the citizens began to organize committees to receive and care for the people, public subscriptions opened, tents erected on vacant lots, and citizens began to gather blankets and clothing and vacant stores on the main thoroughfares were opened, to be used as distributing bureaus for clothes and blankets. Provisions were donated, a corps of cooks got busy, and everything was in shape to receive and handle the refugees almost before they arrived. The big rink was fitted up as an eating hall and sleeping place. At each meal fully 1,500 people are fed, and every night 750 sleep within the walls.

A NEW FERNIE RISING.

A despatch from Fernie dated Saturday night says: Under a scorching sun the ceaseless work of rebuilding the city has gone on to-day, and the result has been marvellous. To-night, for the first time since the disaster, many will sleep under a roof again. Particular attention has been devoted to the sanitary arrangements, and large bath houses will be completed by to-morrow, when all will be compelled to perform a scientific ablution, whether they appreciate the process or not. Lumber and supplies have been coming in all day, and very little work has been delayed by lack of material. The Bank of Hamilton opened up in their new premises for business to-day, and the Home Bank and Bank of Commerce hope to be in a position to do so to-morrow.

The fires are still burning fiercely on the mountain sides and eating into the good timber. There is no hope of extinguishing it, unless there is a heavy rain soon, and from present indications there is none in sight. All the offices in connection with the relief work have been removed to the school premises, and are conveniently situated. No further casualties have been reported, but it is impossible to make a thorough and systematic search yet. The Great Northern Railway are busily engaged in replacing the big bridge across the Elk River and repairing their roadway, and the C. P. R. have completed the new station and freight sheds and have made good progress on their roadway. Everything is still running smoothly and the same cheerful and confident feeling remains.

BOTH LEGS CUT OFF.

Man Killed at London Returning From Picnic.

A despatch from London, Ont., says: William Mullins, a young man from Dorchester, fell from the steps of a Pere Marquette train on Thursday night while returning from the Irishmen's picnic at Port Stanley and had both legs cut off below the knee, from the effects of which he later expired in Victoria Hospital.

LEADING MARKETS

BREADSTUFFS.

Toronto, Aug. 11.—Ontario Wheat—Old fall wheat quoted at 84c to 85c outside; new at 84c to 85c outside.

Manitoba Wheat—Quotations at Georgian Bay ports; No. 1 northern, \$1.11½; No. 2 Northern, \$1.09; No. 3 northern, \$1.08.

Barley—No. 2, 58c to 60c, outside; No. 3 X, 56c to 57c.

Bran—Quoted at \$16 to \$18 per ton in bulk outside; in bags, \$2 more.

Corn—No. 2 yellow, nominal at 86c to 86½c, Toronto freights; kiln-dried, 84c to 84½c.

Oats—Ontario No. 2 white, nominal, 44c to 46c outside; Manitoba, No. 2, 43½c, lake ports; No. 3, 42½c; rejects, 45c.

Shorts—Quoted at \$20 to \$21 in bulk outside; in bags \$2 more.

Flour—Manitoba, first patents, \$6; seconds, \$5.40; strong bakers', \$5.30; Ontario winter wheat patents, \$3.30 to \$3.35.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Butter—Steady and a little quieter. Wholesale prices are:—

Creamery, prints 25c to 26c

do solids 23c to 24c

Dairy prints, choice 23c to 24c

do ordinary 21c to 22c

Dairy, tubs 21c to 22c

Interior 17c to 18c

Poultry—Wholesale prices, live weight: Spring chickens, 14c to 15c; fowl, 10c to 11c; ducks, 8½c to 9c; dressed, about 2c higher.

Eggs—20c to 21c per dozen in case lots.

Cheese—Large, 12½c to 13c, twins 12c to 13c.

Honey—8½ to 10c per pound.

Beans—\$2 to \$2.10 for primes and \$2.10 to \$2.20 for hand-picked.

Potatoes—Ontarios, 80c to 90c per bushel in farmers' waggons; Americans, \$3.35 to \$3.65 per barrel in car lots on track here.

PROVISIONS.

Pork—Short cut, \$23.50 per barrel; mess, \$19 to \$19.50.

Lard—Tierces, 12c; tubs, 12½c; pails, 12½c.

Smoked and Dry Salted Meats—

Long clear bacon, 11½c to 11¾c, tons and cases; hams, medium and light, 14½c to 15c; hams, large, 12½c to 13c; backs, 17½c to 18c; shoulders, 10c to 11c; rolls, 10½c to 11c; breakfast bacon, 15c to 15½c; green meats, out of pickle, 1c less than smoked.

BUSINESS AT MONTREAL.

Montreal, Aug. 11.—Grain—The market for oats is firm, with a fair demand; Manitoba No. 2 white, 48c; No. 3, 47c; rejected, 46c per bushel in car lots, ex store. Flour—Choice Spring wheat patents, \$6.10; seconds, \$5.50; Winter wheat patents, \$5; straight rollers, \$4.30 to \$4.50; do., in bags, \$1.90 to \$2.10; extras, \$1.65 to \$1.75. Feed—Manitoba bran, \$22 to \$23; shorts, \$25; Ontario bran, \$20 to \$20.50; middlings, \$24 to \$25; shorts, \$24.50 to \$25 per ton, including bags; pure grain mouille, \$30 to \$32; milled grades, \$25 to \$28 per ton. Cheese—The market continues firm, with westerns quoted at 12½ to 12¾c, and easterns at 12 to 12½c. Butter—Finest creamery being quoted at 23½ to 24c in round lots, and 24½c in a jobbing way. Eggs—Sales of selected stock were made at 23c; No. 1, 20c, and No. 2, 16c per dozen.

UNITED STATES MARKETS.

Detroit, Aug. 11.—Wheat—No. 1 white, cash, 95½c; No. 2 red, cash, 96½c; Sept., 98c; Dec., \$1.00½.

St. Louis, Mo., Aug. 11.—Wheat—Cash, 94c; Sept., 95½c; Dec., 97½c.

CATTLE MARKET.

Toronto, Aug. 11.—Only a very limited number of good export cattle were on sale. Their prices were quoted at \$5 to \$5.50 per cwt. Some light and medium animals sold at around \$5 per cwt.

Good loads of butchers' cattle, \$4.50 to \$4.85; medium, \$3.75 to \$4.35; common, \$2.50 to \$3.50; choice cows, \$3.50 to \$4.25; common cows, \$2 to \$3; canners, 75c to \$2 per cwt.

There was a good enquiry for choice and fair milch cows and springers at \$40 to \$60 each.

Some of the calves brought forward were of poor quality, and sold at easy prices. Quotations were 2½ to 5½c per pound.

Lambs were 25c higher, while ewes were steady. Prices were:—Export ewes, \$3.75 to \$4.40; bucks, \$3 to \$3.25; lambs, \$5.50 to \$6.25 per cwt.

Select hogs went down to \$6.75, fed and watered. Lights and fats were selling at \$6.50 per cwt.

Fire destroyed a large portion of the business section of Stirling on Saturday. Damage was done to the extent of \$75,000.

MEN RETURNING TO WORK

Little Interruption to C. P. R. Business in Montreal.

A despatch from Montreal says: The C. P. R. strike situation remains without any developments of importance. Mr. Bell Hardy claims, on behalf of the men, that so far as they are concerned the situation is most encouraging, the ranks of the strikers being constantly supplemented by others who are throwing down their tools from time to time. On the other hand, the C. P. R. does not appear to be disturbed.

As regards the Angus shops, the company has all the carpenters that it wants, and the car building department is proceeding with its work as usual. Plenty of laborers are offering their services, and it is said that on Friday 27 of the men who went on strike were taken back to work. It is further said that in other centres the men are dribbling back. The number of engines now at the Angus shops is about the same as usual, namely, between 50 and 60. They are there for repairs, and are destined for Western lines. Mr. Bell Hardy, when seen, declared that the Executive of the Federated Trades are well satisfied with the progress of affairs.

The C. P. R. management still preserves a policy of silence, and practically the only item that came from official sources was that men

were already returning to work at the shops in the Atlantic and Eastern Ontario divisions. The number of strikers at the Angus shops who have returned was given as 271, but whether they were union or non-union men was not specified.

EFFORT TO SMASH STRIKE.

A despatch from Winnipeg says: Throughout the West the C. P. R. is preparing for a vigorous effort to break the strike of mechanics in the Winnipeg shops. Accommodations are being provided for a thousand strike-breakers, and the same preparation at every point in the West of importance is being made. For the first day or so no move looking to the bringing in of strike-breakers was made by the company, but now from every direction plans with the utmost vigor are being pushed. Officials say they can replace every man on strike and will do it.

The company claims they are finding all the men required, but admit employing some Orientals. The operation of the trains is not being interfered with and no reports of disorders are current. The C. P. R. authorities assert that they will move the crop in increasing volume on time and get coal up from the lakes in sufficient quantities.

SHORTAGE IN ACCOUNTS.

Wm. Martin, Jun., North Bay Tax Collector, Missing.

A despatch from North Bay says: With the civic treasury short twenty-eight thousand dollars, the tax collector missing and a warrant out for his arrest, North Bay contributes its quota to the many sensational shortages recorded in Canadian newspapers recently. For several years the positions of Town Treasurer and tax collector have been filled by William Martin, sen., and Wm. Martin, jun., father and son. Some months ago Wm. Martin, jun., was appointed Police Magistrate, which position he has held up to the present time. The appointment of a new tax collector this spring, followed by an audit of the town books, revealed a large shortage in the collector's accounts, and an arrangement was made between the Council and the officials involved to protect the town by turning over their property to the municipality, thus avoiding litigation and criminal proceedings. This not being carried out to the satisfaction of the Councillors, it was decided to institute criminal and civil actions against both father and son. A warrant was issued for the arrest of Wm. Martin, jun., but up to the present he has not been located. Judgment was obtained by defaulting a civil action, and legal proceedings will be taken against the elder Martin to ascertain to what extent he is responsible for his son's shortage.

PRISON-MADE GOODS BARRED

New Zealand's New Law Prohibits Importation.

A despatch from Ottawa says: The Department of Trade and Commerce has received a cable from the New Zealand Government stating that the importation into New Zealand of all prison-made goods has been absolutely prohibited. Hitherto there has been a surtax of 20 per cent. ad valorem on all prison-made goods going into New Zealand.

CANADA'S APPLE CROP.

Yield Will be Substantially Same as Last Year's.

A despatch from Niagara Falls says: At the convention of the International Apple Shippers' Association on Friday the Executive Committee submitted a valuable report of the estimated crop for this year, based on the best of information. Canada's yield will be substantially the same as last year's, but will be differently located. Nova Scotia's will be equal to last year's and Ontario's east of Toronto slightly lighter. The district north of the main line of the Grand Trunk will be the same; south of the main line will be in excess of last year's yield. British Columbia's will be below that of last year and will require shipments from eastern Canada. The New England States promises little better than half of last year. The quality for the entire Canadian territory promises to be good.

A BANKER'S SUICIDE.

A. H. Ridout, of Port Elgin, Takes His Own Life.

A despatch from Port Elgin says: After a trying illness of a year and a half from nervous prostration Mr. A. H. Ridout in a fit of insanity took his life on Wednesday. He had been connected with the Bank of Hamilton for thirty years, and for the past seventeen years was agent of the bank here. A prolonged stay in a sanitarium and a European trip last year served to stay the progress of the disease but slightly. The deceased leaves a widow and three children.

PIGSKIN GRAFTED ON BOY.

Successful Operation Performed in St. John Hospital.

A despatch from St. John, N.B., says: Two months ago Eugene McAuliffe, the 14-year-old son of Jere McAuliffe, the actor, fell under a train and his left leg had to be amputated close to the trunk. Tuesday evening eight physicians performed a skin grafting operation. Some days ago a boy friend gave a large section of skin, which was successfully grafted. On Tuesday a young pig was chloroformed and skin taken from it to cover a great raw wound on McAuliffe's body. The pigskin has completely taken hold and McAuliffe will recover. This is the first operation of the kind ever attempted in Canada.

CHOLERA IN INDIA.

Baptist Mission Board at St. John Receives Bad News.

A despatch from St. John, N.B., says: At the monthly meeting of the United Baptist Foreign Mission Board for the Maritime Provinces on Wednesday, it was announced that word has been received that cholera is raging at the mission stations in India. No missionaries have died, but at one station in the Madras presidency the natives are said to be dying at the rate of eight or ten a day.

COAT OF MAIL SAVED SULTAN

Would-be Assassin Had Large Sum of Gold When Arrested.

A despatch from Geneva, Switzerland, says: The Sultan of Turkey was stabbed in the breast on Monday night by a minor palace official. The coat of mail which the Sultan always wears deflected the blow. The would-be assassin was arrested. Apparently he had been bribed to commit the act, as he had a large sum of gold in his pockets, and his baggage was packed ready for flight.

GERMAN TOWN BURNED.

Six Persons Lost Their Lives in Fire in Baden Province.

A despatch from Berlin says: The greater portion of the Town of Donaueschingen, Baden, has been destroyed by fire. Six persons lost their lives.

CROP CONDITIONS PERFECT

Cool Weather Has Followed the Scorching Heat in the West.

A despatch from Winnipeg says: Crop conditions in Manitoba and in Western provinces could not be better. The weather has been cool the last couple of days, and is a relief from the scorching heat, which in some districts threatened to cause a decrease in the yield.

"We want harvest hands," is now the cry from almost every section of the West. Barley cutting

is now general throughout Manitoba, while wheat cutting has started in several places and will be general in a couple of weeks.

The Provincial Department of Agriculture reports a demand for help from many sections of the country, but as the harvest excursions from Ontario have not started there are few men of the desired class available.