

Victims Of Gloucester County Forest Fires Need Much Assistance

With Enough Small Powers Behind France and England to Assure its Victory the Covenant Must be Upheld — Suez Canal Will Not be Closed.

T. A. McDonald, Superintendent of the Colonization Branch of the Lands and Mines Department, arrived home yesterday afternoon from an official visit to the fire stricken area in Gloucester county.

Speaking to The Daily Mail Mr. McDonald stated that New Brunswick's Public Enemy Number One has levelled to ashes over a hundred homes. The situation is being handled by the government but much is to be done if privation and want are to be relieved. Little is left with which to build even a shack, no wood, no trees, no evergreen boughs of which to make a bed—the victims of the red marauder are positively destitute.

To see the result of this monster is a lesson to every man, woman and child, to be ever on guard against Forest Fire. Only those who have come through such a horror as the North Shore Fire can realize the true suffering that follows. With upwards of a hundred homes levelled to ashes and approximately 500 people homeless, the government has a huge problem on its hands. The situation is being tackled in real earnestness, but much remains to be done if privation and want are to be relieved.

Very Little Left

It must be remembered that there was very little left with which to build even a shack—no wood, no trees to cut down, no evergreen boughs to sleep on—everything had gone.

One instance showed where a family of ten were sleeping in a makeshift shack twelve by eight feet.

To be exact, the father, mother, seven children and the grandmother (who by the way had walked for miles ahead of the fire seeking safety and, exhausted, fell by the roadside to be picked up later by a passerby), had nothing left. No shoes, scant clothing, the family is going to start all over again; just how, they are not sure, but by the wave of the hands and their smiles as we travelled away, one could not help but admire the determination that showed on their faces. If only we could have left shoes for them what a help it would have been!

From there we went down the road a little way and again terrible conditions stared us in the face. Huddled around a tent we found another pitiful case—that of Joe Basque, his wife and a large family of children. Journeying on a bit farther to a crossroads where once stood St. Peter's Settlement schoolhouse, all that remained was the stove and the cement steps, where between 40 and 50 boys and girls went each day to their lessons.

Pitiful Conditions

The next tent we stopped at was that of George Duguay and his family. Again the same story—everything gone and the condition of the family was terrible. Little children playing around the ashes, the mother trying to get a bite for them to eat, would make one's heart ache. On the ground was a blanket on top of some old bits of weeds. They had no hay nor evergreen boughs. A little table with five or six slices of bread and some water

Richibucto Road

On September 4 this paper published an editorial dealing with the Richibucto Road leading from this city out through the relief camp. This road has been overhauled during the last year and a half by men working on the relief camp. It should be finished to Albright's Corner and could be so finished if the men in the relief camps could be put to work. It would work in this way. The Fredericton Board of Trade could very well take up this matter.

At the request of prominent residents of Minto and vicinity we are again taking up this matter and repeating the editorial, which was to the effect that if the Provincial Government could see its way clear, perhaps in another year, to extend the old Richibucto Road which runs from Barkers Point below Devon to the relief camps, on to Albright's Corner, it would be doing a public service not only to the merchants of Fredericton and the people of Minto and vicinity, but to many others. If it could be done this fall all the better.

In the early days of the province the military engineers who constructed many of the first roads of our Province laid out this old road. It connected the central part of the Province with Richibucto and other important points on the North Shore. Moncton was then only a village on the bend of the Petitcodiac. People wishing to go to Buctouche, Richibucto, and all points in that section of the province used the "Richibucto Road." So important was the road considered that the governments of the early days gave grants to road houses or inns for the accommodation of the stage coach travellers.

This road would be popular because it cuts off twenty miles between this city and the Grand Lake, and because the land although not hilly, is high enough to get away from the spring freshets which for several weeks each year make travel via the Sheffield Meadows and other low lands impossible. These two advantages alone should make the road popular.

During a great many years this road has been allowed to grow up in bushes and it was entirely abandoned.

Less than two years ago when the relief project was started from Noonan Brook to the Burpee Mill Stream, the road was reopened. Trees were cut down and the path cleared. The road was made partly by machinery and partly by hand. This was all done by the men on relief. Today you can drive out in a car for twenty miles or so from Barkers Point. The road is better than are some of the by-roads in the country and it is a credit to the men who constructed it. Why cannot it be extended? These same men on relief could do the work and all the government would have to do would be to put up the road machinery and necessary equipment. This would give the public a good road at a minimum cost. Now is the time to take advantage of the opportunity to have cheap road construction. It is a matter for the Board of Trade of this city and the residents of Minto, Chipman and other points to get busy and bring about. It would help our merchants. It would be a convenience to everybody. Will those interested take the matter up with the Department of Public Works and have something done or will they let it drag? There should be no politics in this.

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in cans were all that was in evidence. Where they slept, where they ate, did not seem to matter to them. The father took me to a pile of burnt things he was picking over, nails, pieces of metal, casters of the beds, an old pump. They were his assets. Not large before the fire, but reduced to absolutely nothing.

One could go on indefinitely describing such scenes, as we visited some thirty odd families in pitched tents, where similar conditions prevailed.

Sad indeed was the case of Anthony McLaughlin and his family. Before the fire they had a comfortable home, general store, barns and a small farm. Here again the flames made no exception. The cement steps in front of his store are all that remain. Thirty-eight years of saving and work gone.

Mr. McLaughlin and his family were great workers and highly respected by all who knew them. Their loss seemed particularly great as it would run into thousands of dollars and relief would be far from replacing their life savings.

Charnisay Settlement

Travelling in another direction we visited what was once Charnisay Settlement. All that remains for miles in this particular area is one small log cabin. Here in this district we travelled for miles and miles through charred ground with huge stark burnt trees standing stripped of their beauty—stripped of their value. Here, in strong contrast to the blackened landscape, white Red Cross tents could be seen housing the unfortunate settlers who had worked hard to build homes for their families. Pathetic indeed was it to drive by and see little tots playing out in front of the tents, or running through the ruins of their homes.

Along the road here men were busy cutting down tree remains and hauling them to the side of the road ready for trucks to haul them away, as the government, under the supervision of T. A. MacDonald assisted by H. G. Rogers, have established a portable saw mill and have placed trucks at the disposal of the settlers in order that they may get this wood cut for new homes. They must cut the trees down and haul them to the side of the road, where the government truck picks them up, takes them to the mill and returns the wood to the settlers. It is understood the government is also going to reimburse each family to the extent of one hundred dollars' worth of material for their new homes.

Next Monday, Hon. R. B. Hanson, Minister of Trade and Commerce, will open the campaign in the House. Hear Hon. Mr. Hanson, also Hon. F. C. Squires.

NEW BRUNSWICK HIGHWAYS ARE IN GOOD CONDITION

Increased Efficiency Reached Through Progress Made on Various Paving Projects Now Underway.

Advancement of the season witnesses the highways of New Brunswick reaching an increased efficiency through the progress made on the various paving projects undertaken during the present summer. A number of these undertakings have now been completed and at many places motor traffic is now conveyed over permanent hard-surfaced roadway. Where construction is still under way traffic is, in most cases, uninterrupted. Only one half of the roadway is being rebuilt at any one time and a traffic lane is thus preserved. In the few instances where they have been necessary, detours of good motor-touring surface will be found.

MEETINGS TONIGHT

Reconstruction committee meetings will take place this evening, one at Marysville and the other at Oromocto. The persistent report that Dr. R. W. Earl will be selected as the Reconstruction candidate in Victoria-Carleton could not be confirmed here today, although the probability is that Dr. Earl will be named shortly to represent the Stevens' party in that constituency. E. O. MacDonald, the York-Sunbury candidate, is busily engaged in campaign work at the present time.

FAIR FANCIES..

FAIR GROUNDS, Sept. 13—Five thousand people can't be wrong, and on that we base our contention that yesterday's Free-For-All was one of the greatest race meets ever held at the Fredericton Exhibition track. Despite cold weather, the races yesterday enjoyed the greatest attendance since 1923 when a crowd of about the same size witnessed that memorable race between Single G and Margaret Dillon. Yesterday's meet goes down on record as the second largest ever held on the local track and will remain on record as a memorial to the able work of D. W. Griffiths, secretary of the racing commission, and all those who have co-operated with him this year and past years in gaining and maintaining the prestige of the Fredericton track.

In the Free-For-All Calumet Budlong, a "dark horse" owned by Mrs. Margaret Ballard, North Sydney, led a field of six of the finest horses ever to race on one track, including the great Tollgate and Dermat.

Probably no one enjoyed the races more than Premier A. A. Dysart who, with his party, spent the entire afternoon at the races and on the midway.

Honorable mention: The perfect control of Mrs. Ballard who sat quietly in her chair while the rest of the grandstand rose and excitedly cheered the finishes while HER horse, Calumet Budlong, homped home first—apparently she knows her horse.

Midway personalities: Shorty Brown, (Wee-Haw and her name was Maude) who operates a ball game, is the Brown of the now defunct Brown and Dyer Show, a big one in its time . . . W. A. Baldrige, the rocky road to Dublin-er, was press agent for Ben Williams in the good old days . . . Rocky, the custard man, was once chief assistant on the whip in the g. o. d.'s . . . Floyd Furbush (Brownie to you) the owner of that smiling countenance you see as you step into your seat on the Ferris Wheel, is completing his fifteenth year of smiles in the same place . . . The raw-boned Irish is an old-timer too—he used to be ring master on the Wooden Wild West (Merry-Go-Round) . . . Ben Williams, among his other accomplishments, was the first to take a silo drome into New York City—smart people, these Cape Bretoners.

One of those hissing, crawling Mexican devils got away yesterday and hissed, crawled and writhed his way under an automobile at the rear of the midway—but they "ketch'd" him again and the owner is still talking to himself on the bally stand.

Notable notes: How happy everyone on the grounds seems to be, especially concessionaires who were gently forced into operating legitimate games by the passive presence of the "Moun-

Powers to Submit Conciliatory Plan to Italy From Geneva

FRIDAY THE THIRTEENTH HERE AGAIN

Unlucky Day for Many People According to Superstition — Watch Your Step is Slogan — One More Unlucky Day This Year.

Anything can happen today and according to a popular superstition it usually does. For today is Friday the 13th, the combination of Friday and the unlucky number thirteen, having a very bad omen.

The believers in this superstition hold the conviction that a house is liable to fall on them, they might be kicked by a horse, or there might be poison in their tea. The unbelievers scoff at all this, for they say that "Friday the thirteenth is just another day to them and if anything is going to happen it will, and numbers and combinations have nothing to do with it."

Where the superstition had its source is hard to exactly determine. But ordinarily thirteen is an unlucky number, anyway. One other "Friday the thirteenth" falls this year, coming in December.

WANT NO TRADE WAR WITH JAPAN

OTTAWA, Sept. 13—If Canada rescinds her "arbitrary measures" against Japan, the Nipponese empire will remove discriminatory imposts against Canadian goods.

This announcement was made in a statement issued by the Foreign Office in Tokyo and communicated to the government here. The Canadian government was blamed for the existing trade war between the two countries.

Japan, according to the statement, asks merely the same treatment for its exports as accorded them in the United States and denies requesting special privileged tariff treatment. The statement expresses the hope negotiations between the two countries will remove all difficulties.

GET INDIAN RELIC

The York-Sunbury Historical Society has received from Dr. C. R. Fletcher through his brother-in-law, L. C. Macnutt of this city, an interesting war weapon. It is an Indian war club with a two-foot handle covered with raw-hide and having attached a big stone at the end. It is trimmed with tanned buckskin and bead trimmings. This Indian weapon was used by the Crees during the Northwest Rebellion of 1885, and was captured from one of the Indian braves by Dr. Fletcher who was at that time an officer in a Halifax battalion, which saw service in the Northwest Rebellion. C. A. Taylor, the curator for the museum also secured an old Loyalist uniform which had been in the possession of the Balloch family and was given to the Society by Mrs. Balloch of Waterloo Row.

U. S. ADDS VOICE FOR PEACE AT ALL COSTS

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 13—A new appeal to Italy and Ethiopia not to go to war in Africa has been made by Secretary Hull.

In a comprehensive statement emphasizing the peaceful ideals of the United States and reviewing the United States attitude in the Italo-Ethiopian crisis, Hull called on all signa-

ries. At last, thanks to the untiring efforts of the secretary and directors, it seems that one can attend the Fredericton Exhibition without fear of having to spend anything he doesn't want to—much more pleasing to the public, and we would think to the concessionaires, than the old highway robbery method—and think what a Christian feeling it must give the gamesters to think that they made an HONEST living for, at least, one week—at the Fredericton Exhibition.

With Little Left to Even Build a Shack, Over Five Hundred People are Homeless — Government and Red Cross to Their Rescue.

GENEVA, September 13—England has been won over to French opposition to use of military and naval sanctions, which might easily provoke a European war. She has definitely decided not to use her navy to close the Suez Canal against Italian military traffic.

Unanimous support of the compromise to be proposed by the conciliation committee may not be necessary, it was learned. If it is approved by a majority of the Council, it will be presented to Italy and Ethiopia. Acceptance by the latter country is taken for granted. If Italy refuses, and begins aggressive action in East Africa, the Council will be called in to special session to vote sanctions.

It is understood that the agreement on economic and financial sanctions and abandonment of military and naval sanctions was reached in conversations between Pierre Laval, French premier and foreign minister, and Sir Samuel Hoare, British foreign secretary.

Will Speak Today

Premier Laval's speech before the League Assembly, scheduled for today, was postponed until today, when he is expected to announce officially France's support of the policy of sanctions.

At the same time, he will recommend use of the conciliatory machinery of the League to prevent a spread of the conflict if an Italo-Ethiopian war should break out despite all efforts to stop it.

Speeches before the League Assembly yesterday morning were in marked contrast to those when Japanese aggression in Manchuria was being debated. At that time the great powers maintained a passive attitude. Yesterday, with the British example before them, delegates of smaller nations spoke vigorously in favor of action to support the League covenant.

Because the Scandinavian nations usually stand together in international affairs, particular interest was taken in a speech by R. J. Sandler, foreign minister of Sweden.

'Must Be Settled'

"The provisions of the covenant apply to big nations as well as small", he said. "Troop movements have aggravated the present situation considerably. It must be settled. The Council has been unable to stop military preparations.

"The question of slavery in Ethiopia must be investigated by the League. It must be investigated from the general point of view of a committee, which can present its report to the Assembly."

Despite a declaration that the Dutch people feel that the League has failed completely in disarmament affairs, Jonkheer A. C. D. de Graeff, foreign minister of the Netherlands, said that his country would support League sanctions in the present difficulty.

Belgium's support was pledged by Premier Paul van Zeeland, who said: "Belgium, which already has given indisputable proof, in the past, of its fidelity to engagements, will not be (Continued on Page Four)

A TRI-PARTY PROTECTORATE OVER ETHIOPIA IS URGED

GENEVA, Septemebr 13—The League of Nations' five-power conciliation committee yesterday instructed its experts to draft a definite plan for peace between Italy and Ethiopia. The scheme will amplify the proposals submitted jointly by Great Britain and France at Paris and rejected by the Italians.

To some extent it is more precise than the Paris proposals but the differences, it is understood, are mainly in form. No proposal is under consideration by the committee which would interfere with the political independence of Ethiopia.

The plan contemplates the following points:

1. As frontier powers, Great Britain, France, and Italy are to give collective assistance to Ethiopia;

2. The work of reorganization is to extend to economic, financial, commercial and constructional development, foreign, settlement, modernization of administrative services, anti-slavery measures, and frontier and other police services;

3. Free activity of foreigners in the economic sphere is to be respected;

4. Particular account is to be taken of the special interests of Italy without prejudice in the recognized rights of France and the United Kingdom;

5. The possibility of territorial adjustments between Italy and Ethiopia is not excluded.

The committee itself will meet Saturday or Monday to consider the scheme it will then submit to the League Council.