



CONVICTS HELD AT RIFLE POINT AS PRISON BURNED

Spectacular Fire Early Today Burned Part of U. S. Prison at Leavenworth, Kansas—Eight Hundred Convicts Kept From Escaping by U. S. Troops

Leavenworth, Kas., April 1.—It took 1200 United States soldiers to maintain order and to prevent prisoners from escaping during a fire which destroyed four buildings of the Federal military prison here early today. All the 800 prisoners were marched out of their cells when it seemed that the whole prison would be destroyed and were held under heavy military guard until the fire was under control. Then after some of the cell houses had cooled sufficiently they were marched back again. The fire was discovered before midnight by a sentry who fired his pistol, the fire call was sounded and the entire garrison at Fort Leavenworth hurried out. The thirteenth infantry armed with rifles was thrown around the entire prison. The fire which probably started in the prison tailor shop, gained rapidly against the prison guard working with buckets and small hose. The fire department was called and with an emergency call and the firemen answered the soldiers in a battle against the flames. The fire was confined to the central row of the buildings and consumed the industrial departments of the prison including the paint shop, the carpenter shop, the laundry and the buildings contained many combustibles and the flames threatened the buildings. The cell houses rapidly became filled with smoke and got sufficiently hot. After the bugle calls were sounded the first guard line was placed about 150 feet from the prison wall and the men in it were stationed ten feet apart. The second line was 200 feet further back. The companies were extended in open order. Through this line no one except an officer or a soldier on duty was allowed to pass. When the fire was started they were among the prisoners. "Let it burn" they yelled. The water pressure was poor and as the water spluttered uselessly from the hose the prisoners laughed and cheered. The flames leaped higher and a gust of wind whipped smoke into the nearest of the three cell houses. The tone of the prisoners changed then. "For God's sake take us out," they screamed, battering against the steel bars in great terror. They thought they would be burned to death. Col. Loughborough saw the danger of the situation when the leaping flames got near the cell houses, and he ordered the prison provost guard to unlock the doors. The 800 prisoners fell in, each convict with his hands on the shoulder of the man in front of him. At double quick, they marched to the farthest corner of the prison enclosure, where they huddled while 100 prison guards stood over them with leveled rifles. Two of the terror-stricken crowd of convicts faintly escaped. Half an hour after the fire started, the Leavenworth Fire Department reached the spot. Nothing could be done to save the burning buildings, however, and the firemen devoted their attention to saving the main structure and keeping the fire from spreading to the military prison. A new military prison is under construction, and it is not probable that the burned buildings will be rebuilt. Major Thomas H. Slaven, Commander of the prison, said the fire was probably caused by a defective draft. He placed the damage at \$65,000. The buildings burned were among the oldest at Fort Leavenworth. They were erected in 1857-58, and were first used for an army commissary storehouse. Many years later they became a part of the United States Penitentiary, and then were converted into a military prison following the erection of a federal prison here.

LICENSE ACT AMENDMENTS TO COME BEFORE COMMITTEE OF HOUSE THIS AFTERNOON

Considerable Business Done By Committees This Morning—Hazen's Chief Commissioner of Public Works Spends More Than His Predecessor—Several Matters Taken up By Municipalities Committee

Fredericton, N. B., April 1.—(Special)—The accounts committee met this morning. Appearing as one of the assets of the province is an item of \$7,400,500 unpaid stamp duty. This, it was explained, was the uncollected bills. During the year, \$1,815,500, mostly bills accounts, had been written off as uncollectable. Mr. Lablouis brought out the statement from the auditor that all the over expenditures of the old government down to October 31, 1907, had been bonded. He explained that part of the expenditures of 1908 were chargeable to the old government, and part to the new government. The various transactions reported in the auditor general's report were the transactions of the fiscal year 1908. All over expenditures of the old government prior to 1907, either appeared in the bonded debt or had been set apart to be funded. Mr. Prescott was very desirous to have it appear that the government had not started with a clean sheet, but he failed to get such an admission from the Auditor. To Mr. Lablouis the auditor general said that \$170,000 had been voted by the old government for several years towards the repairs of roads and bridges, and that last year the amount had been increased to \$190,000. The Chief Commissioner had \$20,000 more to spend in 1908 than in 1907, and he had spent \$14,000 more. It was decided to call the attention of the government to the item of \$808,999, appearing as a suspense account, with the object of having the account closed. The amount represents an unsettled claim of R. W. L. Tibbitts. It was explained that the unexpended balance of the capital account from the proceeds of the last treasury bills sold in London. An item of \$1,000 received from the Chinese head tax caused the statement to be made that the government was benefitting from the importation of Chinamen. Mr. Lablouis asked that Mr. Morrison or Mr. Winslow appear before the committee tomorrow in connection with bridge contracts deposits. Mr. Winslow was sent for, and explained that the policy of the government was to hold the deposits until the completion of the contracts. Mr. Tweeddale thought the old system by which the bondsmen guaranteed the work was the better system. He moved that the committee recommend the department of public works that all contractors furnish bonds in two securities for the faithful performance of contracts in addition to the deposit of five per cent. Dr. Bourque moved as an amendment that in the opinion of the committee the present safeguards made by the government were sufficient protection to the country. The amendment was carried only by the casting vote of the chair and the resolution lost in the same way.

SAYS THE WRONG MAN GOT THE MEDAL FOR BRAVERY

Brakeman George Mills of the I. C. R. He Performed the Act of Bravery for Which A. E. Williams Received Royal Humane Society's Medal—Interesting Statement

The presentation to former Justice of the Peace A. E. Williams, of the I. C. R., previous to his departure from the railway town of Moncton, of the medal of the Royal Humane Society for saving the life of a little child from accidental death on October 13th, 1908, of Moncton, was rather interesting. Mills, of Moncton, coming forward and making a statement that the wrong man got the medal. Mr. Mills states that it was he, not the former I. C. R. police official, who snatched the child from in front of the oncoming locomotive the day in question, and that he did not see Williams, but understands that he was somewhere in the vicinity at the time. A Times man, who saw Brakeman Mills yesterday, previous to his departure on his train No. 134, the Quebec express, obtained from him a rather interesting account of what happened. Mills comes to the city on the maritime express, arriving from Moncton at 1.40, returning on train No. 134, the Quebec express. He thought little of the matter until he learned that Williams had been rewarded for the act. His statement follows: "On my train, 134, that left St. John on Oct. 13th last, among the passengers in the second class car, was a woman with three small children, one of which she carried in her arms. I don't know exactly their destination, but they were bound north. We arrived at Moncton on time, 9.55, on No. 2 track. I helped the mother and children off the train and left them standing on the platform, and went to get my signals off the rear end of the train. All of a sudden I heard a scream, and turning around, saw the little tot running toward the engine of No. 33, coming in on No. 1 track. I ran and caught the child about a foot or two from the engine, and just managed to get my arm past the cylinder as the engine passed. I took the child back to its mother, Conductor Thibideau, of the dining car on my train was present and saw what I had done, and I am told there were others, but I do not know who they were. I understand Conductor Thomas Coffey was present also. Brakeman Mills says that afterwards he heard persons reading of the matter, Williams being mentioned, and it was then remarked that it was untruthful, and that Williams was more than two car lengths away at the time. Mills further says that he has yet to hear of anybody who ever said that Williams performed any such act.

CROWN CASE WILL LIKELY CLOSE TODAY

Andover, April 1.—(Special)—The examination of Leon Seppell occupied the entire session of the hearing this morning in the charge against the three Italians, Sandy Murray, Andrew and James Hatch, of being accomplices in the murder of Edward Green, the Montreal pedler. Seppell corroborated the statements made by Tony Arosio on all points, the only new feature added was his statement that when he and Tony returned to the camp after being out in the woods, Murray gave them a bag of bread, and shoes. The court adjourned at 11 o'clock and this afternoon Seppell will undergo cross-examination. This will close the case for the crown and the defense will open probably tomorrow morning. Big airship.

MR. HAZEN'S AUNT IS COUNTESS NOW

Fredericton, N. B., April 1.—(Special)—Not for twenty years has the volume of business transacted at Fredericton been of such magnitude as during the month just ended. The total value of free and dutiable goods entered was \$145,957, and the duty collected was \$8,492; while for the corresponding month last year the imports amounted to \$72,650 and duty to \$6,228. The total imports for the year just ended amounted to \$827,478 and the duty \$54,459, against imports of \$335,539 and duty of \$56,776 for the previous year. Friends of Mrs. (Captain) Leigh, a Fredericton lady, who for twenty years has been residing in England, will be interested in the announcement of her marriage on February 17th to Count Louis De Granville, of Paris. The countess is a daughter of the late Hon. John A. Beckwith, of this city, and aunt of Premier Hazen. The appeal in the case of Gill vs. Gill was allowed with costs by Judge Wilson at the county court this morning. The defendant and witnesses failed to appear and Counsel Crockett and Guthrie withdrew from the case. Costs were ordered to be paid within thirty days. The plaintiff in this case is the son of John Gill, supreme court judge, and was convicted and fined by Police Magistrate Marsh two years ago for assaulting his stepmother. Probate Court. In the estate of Annie Logue, married woman, Last will proved, whereby the deceased gives her estate to her niece, Ina Belle Rathburn, of Rothesay, and appoints her and her mother executrices. The niece being under age, the mother is sworn in as sole executrix, durante minore aetate, reserving the rights to another executrix on her coming of age. No realty. Personal estate \$850. Mr. Alexander W. Baird, proctor. In the estate of Abraham Isaacs, cigar manufacturer. Last will proved, whereby the deceased gives all his estate to his wife, Jane, to use the income for the support of herself and children, with authority for her to appoint a trustee to act after her death and to pay the income for the support of the children until the youngest child comes of age, then and after her death the whole to be divided equally among them, four in number. Real estate consisting of a half interest in the Princess street cigar manufactory, the building and lot being valued at \$5,500, also country house on the Gondola Point Road, \$800. Personal property, \$11,000. Mr. J. Joseph Porter, proctor. A NEW FIRM The fruit branch of the F. E. Williams Co's business has been disposed of to Messrs. Charles H. Knodell and Brady DeBoo, and will be carried on under the firm name of Knodell & DeBoo. The packing and general grocery business of the Williams Company will be carried on as heretofore. F. E. Williams said that he had disposed of his fruit business so that he might be able to devote more attention to his rapidly growing pork packing business. Both members of the new firm were in the employ of the Williams concern. Edward Sears the new postmaster of the St. John office assumed his duties today. Yesterday he took over the assets of the office and was sworn in last evening by Inspector Colter. The new official spent his time this morning in gathering information about the work of the office. Many called to extend congratulations.

TROUBLE MAY BE SETTLED

Glouce Bay, N. S., April 1.—(Special)—It is understood that at this afternoon's session of the conciliation board, an authoritative statement will be made offering to take back all the men who belong to U. M. W. A. and are out of work and to give these men the same opportunity of employment as P. W. A. men. It is further understood, however, that the Coal Company will not recognize the union. An amicable settlement is now confidently hoped for.

THOUGHT ACID WAS MEDICINE

Halifax, N. S., April 1.—(Special)—A fatality resulting from the use, by mistake, of carbolic acid is reported from Beaver Bank, near here. Fred A. Grove, a two-year-old boy, was the victim. His father administered the fatal dose, thinking it was medicine prescribed by the doctor.

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BIG AIRSHIP IS AT MERCY OF THE WIND

Moncton, April 1.—The Zeppelin airship, with the Count himself on board is the plaything of the winds and is being swept helplessly over the country. She is out of control and drifting with no hope of being able to make headway against the increasing wind. The wind is too high to attempt a landing. Soldiers in swift automobiles are racing over the country after the vessel in order to be on hand should a descent be attempted and several squadrons of heavy cavalry have been ordered out and are galloping down the roads to the north-westward for the same purpose. Launch, April 1.—The Zeppelin airship flew over Lunenburg at 10 minutes past 12 going to the northeast.

LONGBOAT IS THE FAVORITE IN MARATHON

New York, April 1.—Longboat a favorite at 8 to 5; Dorado at 5 to 2, Shrub at 3 to 1, Maloney at 5 to 1, and both Hayes and St. Ives at 10 to 1, is one of the many series of odds quoted here in anticipation of the much awaited Marathon Derby at the Polo grounds Saturday. But there is much uncertainty in the speculation, for it is generally agreed that the race will be a hard one, for it will be under new conditions over a grass track five laps to a mile in the open air. There will be no sharp turns, smoky atmosphere and no overpowering steam heat to weaken the stamina of the men, as has been the case in the Marathon contests at Madison Square Garden. Athletic experts predict that Shrub and Dorado will set the pace, while Longboat, Maloney and Hayes will run under waiting orders. St. Ives is an unknown quantity, as he has never been seen in a race here, but reports from Princeton say that he looks like a dangerous factor. A feature of the contest is the probability that it will draw the largest crowd that ever witnessed the full running of a Marathon race in this country. The Polo grounds seat 30,000 people this season, because of recent extension of the bleachers to completely surround the field.

NO ONE WANTED A CHEAP TRIP

Montreal, April 1.—(Special)—In accordance with the judgment handed down by the privy council the inauguration of a two cent a mile fare between Montreal and Toronto on the Grand Trunk took place this morning, a special third-class car being attached to the train which left Montreal at 8.45 and only one attached to the train leaving Toronto for Montreal. The car had a clean and bright appearance with hard bottom seats. When the train pulled out there was not a third-class passenger on board. The officials are of the opinion that this service is unequalled for big airship.

MINERS ON STRIKE IN PORT HOOD MINE

Halifax, N. S., April 1.—(Special)—The first strike for 100 years in connection with the coal mines of Nova Scotia is now on at Port Hood colliery. The men went out on March 23, and are still out. The men demand an increase of wages for the miners working on the south side of the mine or, failing that, that all men shall be placed on the north side. This the company declined to do, and all the men went out. The strike affects 350 men.

FUNERALS

The body of William Gregory arrived from New York last night, and the funeral was held from Trinity Church at 9 o'clock this afternoon. Service was conducted by Rev. R. A. Armstrong, and interment was in Fernhill. The funeral of Mrs. Kane was held from her late home, Sheffield street this morning at 10.30. Service was conducted by Rev. J. E. Hand, and interment was in Cedar Hill. The funeral of Daniel Doyle was held from his late home, Corner of Carleton and George streets this afternoon, at 2.30 o'clock to the Cathedral, where the burial service was read by Rev. Father O'Brien. George A. Lockhart, who for the past seven or eight years has been employed in the James Robertson Co., has severed his connection with that firm and accepted a position as traveller for W. H. Thorne & Co. Previous to the leaving the James Robertson Co., yesterday, Mr. Lockhart was presented with a very fine travelling bag by employees of the company.

REPAIRS TO MARSH BRIDGE ABOUDEAU

If the bill now before the legislature relating to the Marsh Bridge aboudeau goes through the work of making repairs will be commenced this summer. Yesterday the bill was agreed to in committee and it is expected to pass without any trouble. Being a city which has been notified that the bill has become law, a meeting of the common council will be called to take up them after of repairs. Some time ago tenders were called for, and the bid of Clark & Adams was the lowest. It was decided not to award the contract until the bill abolishing the city from damages had been agreed to. Now that this is practically settled, the city will be able to go on with the work as soon as the official notification is received. The federal and provincial governments have each agreed to contribute a third of the cost, and the city is to pay the other third. The estimated cost is about \$21,000.

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SCREENS AND THE LICENSE LAW

Copies of the amendments to the liquor license act have been received, and the following relates to screens: "Both during the hours in which it is lawful to sell liquor, and during the hours in which the said sale of liquor is prohibited, there shall be no screen, blind, device, ground or colored glass, or other device placed at a window, which provides for any place or bar-room, where intoxicating liquors are licensed to be sold, that shall in any manner interfere with the full view of said place or bar-room from the outside of such place or bar-room." The vote on the local option contest is to be by secret ballot, which provides for a yes or no answer to this question: "Are you in favor of the granting of liquor licenses in— ward (or the parish) of—"

TEA AND SALE

The young ladies of the Carleton Presbyterian church, members of the Ladies Society are holding a tea and sale in the Sunday school today. Tea will be served from 6 to 8. The tables and those in charge follow: Candy Booth—Mrs. Smeaton, D. Wilson, Mrs. McFadden, Miss Blanche Wilson. Fish Pond—Miss May Campbell. Fancy Work Table—Mrs. Walter Brown, Mrs. Fred Lilley, Miss Blanche Walker, Miss Nellie Brown. Apron Table—Miss L. McLellan. The affair is under the direction of Mrs. Frank Stewart, president of the society. The ice cream table will be in charge of Miss Maude Cameron and Miss Kitty Drinan.

SETTLERS COMING ACROSS THE LINE

Winnipeg, Man., April 1.—(Special)—Seventy thousand persons from the United States will arrive in western Canada during the present year, according to the statement of J. K. Bruce Walker, commissioner of immigration. These newcomers will settle on 25,000 homesteads, and will have under cultivation inside of the next two years over 2,000,000 square miles of additional territory. The movement across the line so far this season is one hundred per cent greater than last year, and it has been found necessary to put on extra inspectors at Emerson and Northport to handle the work. The greater portion of the new comers are settling in the territory west of Moosejaw.

HE DESERVES TO BE SUCCESSFUL

Worcester, Mass., April 1.—(Special)—Every three years for the last two years, Arthur Burke, aged 51 years, has journeyed to Montreal to propose marriage to his Canadian sweetheart, Burke started on his seventh trip yesterday. "It says he expected that this time he would be successful," Burke's representative, Alexander Macaulay, the club's representative, said yesterday. Before starting for Montreal yesterday Burke obtained a United States certificate from his parish priest regarding the death of his first wife. The annual meeting of the Thistle Curling Club will be held this evening, at 7.30 o'clock, after which a "smoker" will be held, for which a fine programme has been arranged. A feature of the evening will be the formal welcoming home of Alexander Macaulay, the club's representative, on the victorious Canadian Curling team, which toured Scotland.

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THE TIMES NEW REPORTER

Circulation . . . \$29,407,000 £28,684,000
Pub. Dep. . . . 19,158,000 20,689,000
Private. Dep. . . . 44,194,000 42,533,000
Govt. Secs. . . . 15,312,000 15,149,000
Other Securities . . . 35,297,000 35,658,000
Reserves . . . 30,754,000 39,712,000
Bulion—This week, 48,252, last week, 49,055.
Bank rate—This week, 82 1/2 per cent; last week, 3 per cent.

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"Well, well, well," said Mr. Hiram Hornbeam to the Times new reporter this morning. "So Hazen's gone to build the Valley railroad right away—ain't he?" "No," said the new reporter, "he ain't gone to do anything this year. I guess I'll wait a spell."

THE BANK OF ENGLAND DISCOUNT RATE REDUCED TODAY FROM 3 TO 2 1/2 PER CENT

London, April 1.—The rate of discount of the Bank of England was reduced today from 3 to 2 1/2 per cent. This is the first change since Jan. 14, when the rate was advanced from 2 1/2 to 3 mainly for the purpose of building up the bank's gold reserve. The steady influx of gold from all quarters especially from America, decided the directors of the Bank of England to reduce the rate to 2 1/2 per cent at today's meeting. The prospect all point to a further plethora of money throughout the summer and in some quarters a further reduction to two per cent is forecasted. In confident anticipation of today's announcement the money market allowed discount rates to fall away sharply. Continental exchanges on London declined as a consequence and Vienna was enabled to purchase \$2,000,000 gold on the market. The Continental demands however are not expected to assume large proportions as the monetary position in European centres is quite easy. The lower bank rate was discounted on the stock exchange where a rise in gilt edged securities has been going on for some days. April 1, 1909.

REPAIRS TO MARSH BRIDGE ABOUDEAU

If the bill now before the legislature relating to the Marsh Bridge aboudeau goes through the work of making repairs will be commenced this summer. Yesterday the bill was agreed to in committee and it is expected to pass without any trouble. Being a city which has been notified that the bill has become law, a meeting of the common council will be called to take up them after of repairs. Some time ago tenders were called for, and the bid of Clark & Adams was the lowest. It was decided not to award the contract until the bill abolishing the city from damages had been agreed to. Now that this is practically settled, the city will be able to go on with the work as soon as the official notification is received. The federal and provincial governments have each agreed to contribute a third of the cost, and the city is to pay the other third. The estimated cost is about \$21,000.

A STRONG TICKET

There is a well defined rumour that within a day or two an aldermanic ticket endorsed by leading business men will be announced, and that a very vigorous campaign will be inaugurated to elect the full ticket. The names of a number of well known business men are mentioned, and if the whole affair comes off as is expected, there will be a decidedly lively fight for civic honors.

MINERS TAKE A HOLIDAY

Shamokin, Pa., April 1.—There was a complete suspension of anthracite mining in this region today in celebration of the anniversary of the inauguration of the 8 hour work day in the soft coal fields. The operators made an effort to have the miners work today, but both union and non-union workmen remained away from their collieries. Pottsville, Pa., April 1.—Although notices were posted at all the collieries yesterday that there would be no holiday today, there was wheels turning in the lower anthracite region this morning. The orders of President Thomas L. Lewis were obeyed almost to a man to observe the anniversary of the eight hour work day in the bituminous region.

SCREENS AND THE LICENSE LAW

Copies of the amendments to the liquor license act have been received, and the