

BIG LOSS BY FIRE

Fierce Fire Is Now Raging in Toronto.

APPEALS MADE FOR AID

Near-By Cities Send Men and Engines to the Scene.

WIND IS FANNING THE FLAMES

Property Destroyed of the Probable Value of \$10,000,000--Chief Jumps Six Stories and Survives Only a Broken Leg.

RECENT GREAT FIRES.

1904--	April 19--Toronto, loss, \$10,000,000.
February 8--Baltimore, loss, \$35,000,000.	
1903--	December 26--Chicago, loss, \$10,000,000.
October 16--Aberdeen, Wash., loss, \$1,000,000; four lives lost.	
September 15--Christiania, Norway, loss, \$1,000,000; nine lives lost.	
May 26--Toronto, loss, \$10,000,000.	
February 11--Rock Island, Ill., loss, \$1,000,000.	
February 29--Cincinnati, loss, \$1,000,000.	
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TORONTO, Ont., April 19--Fire swept through a section of Toronto's wholesale business district tonight, causing a loss which will probably reach \$10,000,000. 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.

Jumps Six Stories, but Escapes. Chief Thompson, of the fire department, and George Dowdes, 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 miraculously escaped with a broken leg. A mass of tangled wires broke his fall near the ground. Dowdes has not been seen since, and it is believed he perished.

From the Currie warehouse on Wel-

lington street, where it originated, the fire spread with astounding rapidity to the west, destroying buildings occupied by the Eckhardt Casket Company and Warwick Bros. and Rutter & Gage Company and then made a clean sweep up Wellington street to the Queen's Hotel. The thick fire walls of the hotel and the concentrated efforts of the fire-fighters stopped the flames there, but in the meantime the fire had swept across the street and the block of buildings from Bay street west to the National Club and wiped it out.

At that time, the firemen believed that the fire was under control when a shift in the wind sent the flames roaring down Bay street, destroying every building on both sides from the National Club to Front street. Among the buildings burned in Bay street were those of Wise & Darling, Westwood & Co., Galey & Co., Bond & Co., Ashburn & Sherwin, Almsie & Co., and Buckling Company.

The warehouses of W. H. Brock & Co., Gordon, Mackay & Co., Pugsley, King & Co., Cockshutt & Co. and Brown Bros. were destroyed.

Nothing could resist the force of the flames as they swept down Bay street towards the lake and the firemen fought back the fire from side streets, confining the fire zone to the one thoroughfare wherever possible.

Several frame buildings which threatened to cause a spread of the fire were blown up by dynamite.

Up to midnight the following places had been destroyed: Gillespie, Angley & Co., hats and furs; Dignum & Money-penny, importers; Comfort Soap Works, Davis & Henderson, wholesale stationers; Jessup Steel Company's building, occupied by R. H. Hutchinson & Co., wholesale woolens; Alcott, Sargent & Westwood, fishing tackle; Dodds Medicine Company, Western Steamship Company, Richard J. Baker Company, agents; R. T. Corset Company, C. H. Westwood & Co., fishing tackle; Garland Manufacturing Company, Crage, agent; Rothschilds Bros. & Co., manufacturers; C. W. Bangard & Co., brokers; Ritchie & Ramsay Company, paper manufacturers; Thomas Hoskins, manufacturers' agent; Klineith Paper Company, Andrew Moorehead, wholesale paints; E. W. Gilmour & Bro., silverware; W. H. Payne & Co., commission agents; B. M. Slater & Co., wholesale dry goods; International Brokers, Ltd., manufacturing Company; Whitman & Brown Bros., wholesale stationers; Ralph Smith & Co., lithographers; George N. Hess, Son & Co., window shades; Menzies Manufacturing Company, window shades; H. F. Sharp & Co., photograph supplies; Crown Hotel, Office Specialty Company.

The Evening Telegram office and Brooke & Co.'s warehouse were badly damaged.

STARTS IN SMALL FACTORY.

Strong Wind Is Blowing and All See Many Buildings Are Doomed.

DETROIT, April 20--A special to the Press from Toronto says:

The fire started about 9 o'clock last night in a small neckwear factory on Wellington street, west of Bay street. A strong wind was blowing from the north-west, and it was not long before the firemen saw that a great portion of the business and manufacturing section was doomed. The fire spread rapidly along Wellington street west to Bay street, and turning north on that street, laid waste to everything on the west side to the National Club, and on the east side to the Telegram office, both of which buildings were saved.

In the meantime greater havoc was being wrought to the south, the flames having crossed the street and worked their way through to Front street, at the same time spreading east to Bay street, and soon the entire block facing on Wellington, Bay and Front streets was a seething mass of flames. Carried by the high winds, the flames spread across Front street and it was not long before the south side of the street, from York to Bay and beyond was ablaze. Urged still further by the winds, the

(Continued on Page Three.)

HE WOULD QUIT

Alexieff Asks the Czar to Relieve Him.

NEW ADMIRAL HIS ENEMY

Viceroy Has Been Gradually Deprived of Powers.

MUCH BLAMED FOR REVERSES

Russia Had Little Idea Japan Was So Well Prepared for War, and Ruler Has Made His Displeasure Plain.

PARIS, April 20--The Journal prints a dispatch from its correspondent at Yankov, dated yesterday at 5 P. M., which says it is affirmed that a fresh battle is raging at Port Arthur.

ST. PETERSBURG, April 19--Viceroy Alexieff has applied by telegraph to the Emperor to be relieved of his position of Viceroy in the Far East. It is expected that the request will be immediately granted. While no official announcement has yet been made, there is every reason to believe that the foregoing statement is correct. The immediate cause of the Viceroy's application is reported to be the appointment of Vice-Admiral Skrydloff, one of Admiral Alexieff's strongest enemies and sharpest critics, as successor to the late Vice-Admiral Makarov in command of the Russian navy in the Far East.

Vice-Admiral Skrydloff had an interview with the Emperor today, and discussed with His Majesty the question of his (Skrydloff's) relation with Alexieff.

The relieving from command of Viceroy Alexieff would not surprise intelligent observers of the Far Eastern situation, who are familiar with the gradual change in the Emperor's attitude toward the Viceroy and M. Bezobrazoff, who represented the militant or advancing element, which was anxious that Russia should remain in Manchuria. It was to these two men that the Anglo-Japanese entente first lost its friends. They believed Great Britain would not go to war and that Japan could not do so. To the indignation of Japan, they succeeded in turning the policy of the Empire from carrying out the treaty for the entire evacuation of Manchuria, pending further demands on China.

On August 13 last, after Japan had submitted an inquiry as to whether Russia was disposed to reopen the negotiations respecting Manchuria and Corea, a Viceroyalty in the Far East, a special

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SHAW WON'T RUN

Secretary Does Not Desire Vice-Presidency.

ONLY A POSITION OF HONOR

Iowa Man Desires to Take Active Part in Affairs.

HIS DECISION IS POSITIVE

Secretary Hay Suggests 1905 Fair Issue Invitations to Foreign Countries and Allow Government to Forward Them.

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The Secretary believes the foreign exhibitors at St. Louis should be invited to transfer their exhibits to Portland next year, and is confident that many favorable responses will be made in view of the fact that invitations are formally presented by the State Department, which will give the Portland Exposition the stamp of Government approval.

Senator Fulton will lay the Secretary's suggestion before the Exposition authorities before advising Secretary Hay further in the premises.

Allows Cutting of Timber.

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BLOW TO HEARST

Convention Refuses to Instruct for Him.

BLUNDERS OF HIS MEN

Oregon Democrats Leave Their Delegates Free.

FIERCE FIGHT AS A PRELUDE

Californians Go Home Disgusted, Getting Only a Sop to Comfort Them--Sweep Triumphs Over Peery Faction.

Vote on Hearst Resolution.

	Number of Delegates.	Yes.	No.	Not Voted.
Baker	13	13	0	0
Benton	5	5	0	0
Blackman	11	4	3	4
Chapman	4	3	4	4
Columbia	4	1	3	0
Cook	4	6	0	0
Crook	11	4	2	5
Curry	2	2	0	0
Douglas	12	3	9	0
Gilliam	12	3	9	0
Grant	6	0	6	0
Harney	3	3	0	0
Jackson	10	10	0	0
Josephine	3	0	3	0
Klamath	1	1	0	0
Lake	3	1	2	0
Lane	13	12	1	0
Linn	13	13	0	0
Malheur	3	3	0	0
Marion	17	7	9	1
Morrow	4	1	3	0
Multnomah	48	22	23	3
Polk	7	0	7	0
Sherman	3	1	2	0
Tillamook	3	3	0	0
Umatilla	13	0	13	0
Union	11	11	0	0
Walla	9	0	9	0
Wasco	1	1	0	0
Washington	9	6	3	0
Wheeler	3	3	0	0
Yamhill	8	8	0	0
Totals	572	115	191	6

Hearst boomers tried to stampee the Democratic State Convention yesterday. They failed miserably, for the convention refused to pledge Oregon's eight National delegates to the yellow journalist.

The eight delegates are sent to the National Convention free to vote for the Presidential candidate of their own choice. Hearst workers succumbed after their defeat. They boast, however, that their men have two or three friends on the delegation, such as S. M. Garland, J. D. Matlock and W. F. Butcher.

But truth is, Parker sentiment will dominate, should New York's candidate be high man at St. Louis. F. V. Holman and James Gleason are uncompromising anti-Hearst men, and C. E. Redfield and T. R. Sheridan are understood to be of the same stamp, though not so intensely. Governor Chamberlain is placed by both sides as neutral. The delegation is not pledged to the unit rule.

Thus Hearst can count on receiving votes from Oregon only in case he can develop surpassing strength in the National Convention, and even then two or three votes might hold out against him.

The fight yesterday was fierce and acrimonious. Cries and groans assailed the speakers from each side. For an hour and a half turmoil reigned and the orators spit fire at one another. The scene will be remembered as one of the most stirring in Oregon politics.

Disappointed but Defiant. The result was a crushing disappointment to Hearst workers. The most turbulent of them hurled defiance at their opponents, even after they went down to defeat. They clamored that Hearst is the popular favorite of the party, and called upon the convention to obey the popular will. Their opponents scarcely denied the popularity of Hearst, but denounced instruction as inexpedient and impolitic, and declared that the party in this state should bind itself indissolubly to no candidate whatsoever. In refusing to instruct, the convention did not go on record as opposed to Hearst's nomination; indeed antagonism to the journalist cropped out in the debate only once or twice.

The real business of the convention waited while the delegates tussled with the Hearst problem. Not until evening did the convention proceed to fill the ticket. The morning was taken up with temporary organization and the afternoon with permanent organization and the Hearst spasm.

The three boomers who came from California to capture the delegation were visibly chagrined. After the failure of their resolution they quit working entirely. Nor was either of them in the convention when a resolution was adopted last night commending Hearst as a valiant defender of the faithful. A similar resolution was rejected in the Multnomah County Convention last Thursday.

Campaign Badly Managed. The Hearst campaign was badly managed. For several weeks emissaries from California have been working for the yellow candidate, but they incurred the ill-will of leaders in both factions in this county. Though both professed friendship they turned against the California men at last and the votes of this county killed the Hearst resolutions. Even then the hostility of Multnomah might not have burst the Hearst boom, had not that candidate's managers run counter to the state organization. They assailed the State Central Committee and prepared to

(Continued on Page 8.)

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