

SEVEN CITIES BURNED A MILLION

Fire Losses of Canadian Municipalities From Coast to Coast

Preliminary figures received by *The Monetary Times* show the fire losses of seven Canadian cities as follows:—

St. Catharines, Ont.	\$ 5,158
Ottawa, Ont.	310,000
Halifax, N.S.	316,200
Victoria, B.C.	46,951
Saskatoon, Sask.	269,973
Calgary, Alta.	142,536
Peterboro', Ont.	11,583

\$1,102,401

From Atlantic Coast.

Halifax's fire loss is estimated by Fire Chief Broderick as follows:—

January—Insurance at risk, \$62,200; insurance losses, \$5,209; losses over insurance, \$150; total losses, \$5,359. Fire alarms, 38. February—Insurance at risk, \$119,000; insurance losses, \$995; total losses, \$995. Fire alarms, 23. March—Insurance at risk, \$48,300; insurance losses, \$4,774; total losses, \$4,774. Alarms, 17.

April—Insurance at risk, \$95,500; insurance losses, \$16,708; losses without insurance, \$400; total losses, \$17,108. Alarms, 33. May—Insurance at risk, \$56,200; insurance losses, \$10,175; losses without insurance, \$3,845; total losses, \$14,020. Alarms, 32. June—Insurance at risk, \$9,000; insurance losses, \$350; losses without insurance, \$50; total losses, \$400. Fire alarms, 11.

July—Insurance at risk, \$19,300; insurance losses, \$1,090; losses without insurance, \$275; total losses, \$1,365. Fire alarms, 13. August—Insurance at risk, \$33,650; insurance losses, \$26,910; losses without insurance, \$7,827; total losses, \$34,737. Fire alarms, 10. September—Insurance at risk, \$13,000; insurance losses, \$2,829; losses without insurance, \$2,200; total losses, \$5,029. Fire alarms, 14.

October—Insurance at risk, \$446,150; insurance losses, \$114,638; losses without insurance, \$60,940; total losses, \$175,578. Fire alarms, 26. November—Insurance at risk, \$105,000; insurance losses, \$480; total losses, \$480. Fire alarms, 20. December—Insurance at risk, \$64,150; insurance losses, \$12,065; losses without insurance, \$44,000; total losses, \$56,065. Fire alarms, 33.

The fires causing the largest losses were:—

August 4th—Box 4. Evan Thompson, corner Duke and Barrington Streets. Insurance at risk, \$23,150; insurance losses, \$20,910; losses without insurance, \$1,022; total loss, \$21,932. October 7th—Box 36. A. Downey, Granville Street. Insurance at risk, \$19,500; insurance losses, \$3,777; losses without insurance, \$140; total loss, \$3,917.

October 27th—Box 38. Corner Barrington and Sackville Streets. Insurance at risk, \$321,250; insurance losses, \$95,307; losses without insurance, \$65,800; total loss, \$161,107. December 29th—Box 28. F. B. McCurdy. Insurance at risk, \$9,000; insurance losses, \$9,000; losses without insurance, \$44,000; total loss, \$53,000. Total—Insurance at risk, \$1,071,500; insurance losses, \$189,893; losses without insurance, \$126,307; total losses, \$316,200.

From Saskatoon and Ottawa.

Saskatoon's loss as shown by Fire Chief Heath's report is as follows:—

Loss on real estate, \$109,897; loss on personal property, \$160,076. Total, \$269,973. Insurance on real estate, \$640,000; insurance on personal property, \$374,360. Total, \$1,014,960. Total of insurance over loss, \$630,083; losses not covered by insurance, \$7,820. Fire in brick buildings, 28; fire in frame buildings, 109; prairie fires, 13; rubbish heaps, 11.

Of the causes for fires the greatest number are unknown being 45, defective chimneys 21, overheated stoves and pipes 14, prairie fires 13, and rubbish heaps 11. There were two fires of incendiary origin and one fire was started by smoking in bed and another by children playing with matches.

Preliminary figures from the city of Ottawa show the loss to be approximately \$310,000.

A comparison of the largest fires, with the estimated losses, of 1914 with those of the preceding year is as follows:

1914	
Ketchum block and Medford Apartments	\$100,000
Barrett's wood yard and yard of J. and C. Low	60,000
Watson Carriage Company	40,000
Total	\$200,000

1913.	
Grand Opera House and Harmony Hall	\$ 72,000
J. R. Booth sawmill	60,000
McAuliffe-Davis lumber plant	50,000
Lowe-Martin printing plant	45,000
Greater Ottawa Lumber Company	27,000
J. B. Duford	26,000
Offices corner of Rideau and Sussex streets	22,000
Total	\$302,000

Cause Was Removed.

Fire Chief James Smart of Calgary reports that with a total risk in the city of \$4,792,483 covered by insurance of \$2,959,766, there was a total loss during the year 1914 of only \$142,536.

"During the year the department has responded to 417 alarms of fire which is 74 less than in the previous year. The decrease is principally due to the comparative absence of fires caused by hot ashes which, I suppose, is the result of the less use of coal and the substitution of gas. Cases of incendiarism are also much less than those of the previous year."

At Peterborough, Fire Chief Howard's department received 132 alarms, the loss being estimated as follows: Buildings, \$2,298; contents, \$9,285.

Smallest for Seven Years.

Fire Chief Davies informs *The Monetary Times* that Victoria's loss is the smallest fire loss for seven years, the returns are as follows:—

Month.	Alarms.	Loss on buildings.	Loss on contents.	Insurance on buildings.	Insurance on contents.
January	15	\$ 38	\$ 50	\$ 150	\$ 500
February	16	605	246	23,250	6,000
March	26	6,506	9,811	82,400	106,200
April	14	832	645	35,000	6,500
May	23	3,206	1,633	34,250	9,850
June	18	1,245	639	24,800	1,400
July	59	779	2,301	19,200	12,200
August	40	55	10	3,000	1,000
September	20	139	99	16,500	8,800
October	15	2,678	3,116	168,750	16,200
November	9	300	142	1,300	450
December	21	2,924	8,946	29,700	16,400
	276	\$19,310	\$27,641	\$438,300	\$185,500
1913	265	\$18,626	\$28,725	\$357,850	\$167,700

Gallons of water used from hydrants for extinguishing of fires, 476,835; feet of 2½-inch hose laid, 80,220; gallons of chemicals used, 3,915½; tubes Pyrene used, 7; feet of ladders raised, 1,216; rubbish-burning permits granted, 2,010; buildings inspected, 230; gasoline tanks inspected, 25; notices served, 140; fire escapes inspected, 3; police court convictions, 11.

	1914.	1913.
Total loss by fire on buildings and contents	\$ 46,952.31	\$ 47,352.74
Total insurance on buildings and contents	623,800.00	525,550.00

BUSINESS REFERENCE VOLUME

The eleventh edition of Heaton's Annual has been issued, and it contains, among other features, a concise description of the towns in Canada of any commercial importance, including existing industries and opportunities for new industries. A section covering agriculture, commerce, education, finance, fisheries, forests, fox-farming, immigration, mining, population, railways, game laws, water-powers, etc. A chapter headed "Where to Find It," which is a bibliography of the Dominion and Provincial government reports and standard publications relating to Canada.

Heaton's Annual—1915 edition. Price, \$1; postage, 12 cents. Heaton's Agency, Toronto.