

| City | Burglaries Fires. | |
|---------------|-------------------|--------|
| | Reported. | |
| New York City | 9,730 | 10,046 |
| Chicago | 6,668 | 6,054 |
| Boston | 3,794 | 2,246 |
| Cincinnati | 843 | 1,907 |
| Cleveland | 1,804 | 1,357 |
| Toledo | 374 | 570 |
| Detroit | 962 | 1,084 |
| Grand Rapids | 181 | 323 |
| Saginaw | 154 | 234 |
| Bay City | 137 | 210 |
| Jackson | 111 | 165 |
| Kalamazoo | 57 | 123 |

The cost of burglary insurance is trifling, when there is considered its possible benefit to the insured

From Western Fields.

ATTENTION DIRECTED TO IRRIGATION.

Prospects on the Eve of Harvest—August Heat Wave Hastened Ripening Grain—Cutting will be under Way next Week—Gubernatorial Visitors from Across the Line—C.P.R. Activity in the Rockies—British Columbia Mines.

The Western Canada Irrigation Convention, which closed its sessions at Winnipeg a week ago, will meet next year at Kamloops, B.C. Interesting and practical papers were a feature of the recent gathering. One given by Mr. R. H. Campbell, of the Department of the Interior, Ottawa, was on, "The Relations Between Irrigation and Forestry," Mr. C. W. Peterson of Calgary spoke on, "The place of Irrigation in Sub-humid Districts." Prof. H. W. Campbell, known as "Dry Farming Campbell," also addressed the convention, and cleared away some erroneous ideas regarding his system of soil culture. The convention resolved to ask the Governments of Alberta and British Columbia to issue bulletins regarding irrigation, as is done by the Department of Agriculture of the United States. Another resolution called for placing the responsibility for noxious weeds along irrigation ditches on those responsible for the maintenance of the ditches. Still another called for irrigation experts on agricultural institute staffs.

The Dominion Government will be asked to set aside the whole of the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains for a forest preserve in order to save the rivers of Alberta.

The convention urged that the Government and irrigation companies come to a working arrangement for the construction of bridges over the ditches while the case is being settled in the courts. A resolution to the effect that the Agricultural College of Alberta should be located at a point where the necessary area of irrigable land can be included in the college farm, in order that the students may be given instruction in the practise and theory of artificial application of water to crops, was passed unanimously. The British Columbia Government will be urged to establish an agricultural college as soon as possible.

The Growth of Western Towns.

According to Mr. Alexander Hardy, formerly of the Quebec & Lake St. John Railway, the Western territory to be served by the Grand Trunk Pacific (over which he has recently travelled) will soon be dotted with thriving towns. Speaking of Wain-

wright, 667 miles west of Winnipeg, on the main line and near to Edmonton, Mr. Hardy says that while there were only half a dozen houses in the town in November, 1908, to-day the amount of assessable property in this community is not less than \$500,000, and the municipality is about to issue debentures for the purpose of permanent street improvements. A school house is also being erected at a cost of \$16,000 to \$17,000, and large hotels, banks and other modern buildings are the order of the day. Edmonton he speaks of as being a surprise even to the most optimistic regarding the progress of the Canadian West. There he found a very progressive population of 25,000, with 22 hotels, 14 baking establishments, 11 schools, 22 churches of all denominations, two sanitariums, two colleges, four hospitals, three clubs of very up-to-date management, three daily and five weekly newspapers, and thirty-six wholesale establishments, some of which would do credit even to the large cities of Eastern Canada. The assessed value of real estate in Edmonton to-day reaches \$22,500,000, and last year the value of buildings put up was very nearly \$3,000,000.

On the Eve of Harvest.

While it is never safe to chuckle till "the last load's in," the West has every reason to feel assured that crop-yields for 1909 will be satisfactory both as to quantity and quality. And while grain quotations have come down somewhat from the dizzy height of a few weeks since, world-conditions of supply and demand make it practically certain that substantial prices will continue to rule. August is now almost half over, and general conditions are keeping most favourable. Even more necessary than usual is fine August weather this year, owing to the late start made in the spring; also July rains were so frequent in some sections that the grain, while not injured thereby, was held back somewhat from ripening. Sunshine this month will be transmuted quickly into the gold of maturing grain.

According to reports received by the C. P. R.'s general grain agent at Winnipeg, the damage done by hail this year to Western crops amounts to well under one per cent. of the total probable yield. To the individual grower here and there whose crop is severely damaged, this mathematical statement will bring cold comfort. But, as Mr. Atcheson remarked, "the business communities generally will not feel such a slight loss. At specific points where the most damage has been done there will be a slight depression among the business men, but apart from the local points business men may so far rest easy."

The Call for Harvesters.

The recent heat wave gave a spurt to the ripening of wheat, and the West is now shouting loudly for harvesters. C. P. R. reports indicate that cutting will be general all over Manitoba by the beginning of next week, and throughout Saskatchewan and Alberta by a few days later. The first harvesters' excursion left the Maritime Provinces this week. The next harvesters' excursion will be run from Quebec province and Northern Ontario on the 19th instant, the men being respectively collected at Montreal and Toronto. They will go to Manitoba and further west, and will