

ario to pass an act, to be of general application in every part of the Province, and with no exceptions, to prohibit the use of wooden shingles or other combustible material as a roof covering on any building hereafter erected nearer than fifty feet to an existing structure, and to prohibit the extensive repair of any existing roof covering composed of wooden shingles."

This is just another instance of the many attempts by certain interests to eliminate the wooden shingle as a roof covering. In spite of this fact the number of cities having anti-shingle ordinances throughout the United States and Canada remains about the same, (stated in Mr. Laidlaw's address as being 91, which is approximately correct), for as often as one city decides to experiment with an anti-shingle ordinance some other city will repeal one which had formerly been passed, but had not produced the desired results, that of reducing the fire losses.

There are many cities that have passed

anti-shingle ordinances only to repeal them at a later date. There is another class of cities that have investigated the question, and have passed common sense building codes, in which they permit of the use of vertical grain, or quarter sawed shingles, in which the shingles must be 5-2" in thickness at the butts. These shingles will lay flat on the roof and will not curl up at the edges, allowing places where inflammable material may accumulate. The fact is that such shingles are the only shingles that should be used for roofing, as they give better satisfaction and last longer.

The public is often willing to take for granted reports made as to the origin of fires without giving careful thought as to whether or not the case had been carefully diagnosed and the real cause found. This condition has been known to exist, and in many cases the shingle has been blamed in reports of fire causes as "Sparks on Shingle Roof" when the cause should have been reported as "Defective Flue," or as "Sparks from Chim-

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