

## SCHOOL CHILDREN LEARN TO PREVENT FIRE

### Saskatchewan's Programme Provides for Teaching of This Kind in Schools

For the first time in the history of Saskatchewan, time has been devoted during school hours, under the permission of the department of education, for lectures on fire prevention. This was during October 7th or 8th, just before Fire Prevention Day, October 9th. Arthur E. Fisher, fire commissioner of Saskatchewan made a request to the department of education for co-operation along this line with the above results. Special bulletins were prepared for the teachers.

The following circular was sent out:—

"Wednesday, October 9th, 1918, has been named as Fire Prevention Day. Its purpose is to reduce the fire loss of this province, specially that which is directly due to carelessness and avoidable causes.

"The department of education, at the request of the fire commissioner, has very kindly decided to allow the teachers of this province to take up the question of fire prevention with their pupils during the last hour of either the morning or afternoon session of October 7th or 8th. Impress upon your pupils the necessity of telling the folk at home the subject discussed at school.

#### Facts to be Presented to the Pupils.

(a) A few reasons for fire prevention:—

"(1) In 1917 our fire loss was \$2,750,000. During the first six months of 1918, it was \$1,250,000. Property destroyed by fire is absolutely lost.

"(2) In 1917 twenty-three lives were lost and fifteen severely burned. During the first six months of 1918, twenty-three were burned to death and ten severely burned. Impress the awfulness of being awakened by the house on fire, with its consequent danger to human life.

"(3) Necessity of conserving foodstuffs. Destruction of food by fire lessens the supply. Our soldiers at the front must be supplied with food.

"(4) Buildings destroyed are generally replaced. Materials cost more than formerly.

"(5) It is our own money paid in premiums that the insurance companies use to pay losses. We all help to pay our neighbor's loss. Save money.

"A few of the most common precautions to prevent fire:—

"(1) Remove all rubbish and trash that may have accumulated around the premises.

"(2) Look over the heating apparatus. See that the stove pipes and chimneys are in good condition. Do not leave stove pipes too close to partitions without protecting the woodwork. Show the danger of pipes passing unprotected through partitions under stoves from falling ashes.

"(3) Show danger of dumping ashes near wood or where live coals can be blown about.

"(4) Discuss the dangers of children playing with matches.

"(5) Show the danger of fire from overheated stoves and also from leaving hot fires unguarded.

"(6) Make clear the danger of permitting smoking around barns, granaries and stacks. Watch where stubs of cigarettes and cigars are thrown away as well as pipe ashes.

"(7) Oily rags and waste left lying around in barns ignite spontaneously. Burn them at once.

"(8) Gasoline should not be kept in the house nor in the barn. Keep it 25 feet away from any building.

"(9) Oil stoves and lamps should be filled only in daylight and never near an open light or fire. Keep oil stoves well cleaned and watch for leaks.

"(10) Never fill the tank of an auto or tractor with gasoline except in daylight and never near an open light or fire.

"(11) Plow fireguards around the buildings and the granaries.

"Our records show these to be the most common causes of fires due to carelessness. Dwell upon each topic showing the effect of each particular case of carelessness. Use your blackboard so that the facts presented may be considered by the pupil both orally and visually.

"Ask the pupils to inspect their own homes and premises and endeavor to persuade their parents to remedy conditions from a fire prevention standpoint. Have them make a re-

port to you. Suggest the remedying of unfavorable conditions on October 9th, 'Fire Prevention Day.'

"It is a patriotic duty of every citizen of Saskatchewan to prevent fires. Canada at war needs every ounce of her energy and resources, the latter of which fire will absolutely destroy.

"Your co-operation in this great movement is earnestly requested. Think how far-reaching your influence will be and 'do your bit.'

"Kindly advise this office by letter how the discussion was received by the pupils and of any action taken by either pupils or parents.—Arthur E. Fisher, fire commissioner."

## OGILVIE FLOUR MILLS COMPANY

The profits of this company for the year ended August 31st, 1918, are the largest on record so far—namely, \$1,955,414, or \$600,000 more than the profits for 1917. This amounts to 72½ per cent. upon the common stock, after the preferred dividend has been deducted. The statement is as follows:—

Milling profits .....	\$ 832,910
Other profits .....	1,122,504
<b>Total net profit .....</b>	<b>\$1,955,414</b>
Preferred dividend .....	140,000
<b>Available for the common stock .....</b>	<b>\$1,815,414</b>
Common dividend .....	675,000
<b>Surplus for year .....</b>	<b>\$1,140,414</b>
Previous surplus .....	190,177
<b>Total surplus .....</b>	<b>\$1,330,592</b>

The former contingent account has been appropriated for the creation of a new rest account, and a new contingent account, amounting to \$1,596,407, has been opened; the latter sum did not apparently pass through the private account, and, if added to the profits, would make a total of \$3,411,821. The usual quarterly dividend at the rate of 7 per cent. upon the preferred and a common stock dividend of 12 per cent. per annum were paid. There was also a bonus of 15 per cent. upon the common stock.

The margin of profit upon the company's turnover was approximately 2 per cent., the total business handled being \$56,657,117, of which \$40,000,000 consisted of the sale of the products of the flour mills. Business was good for the year, although at times it was difficult to secure sufficient wheat as a result of the control established through the Canada Food Board. The action of the government and the state of the wheat market, are also accounted for as being responsible for the creation of the contingent reserve account. As the continuation of the present high prices cannot be permanent, it may naturally be expected that some loss will be incurred when prices fall again.

It is as much your duty to save as it is the duty of the soldier to fight.

## BRITISH COLONIAL

FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

MONTREAL



Authorized Capital, \$2,000,000.00  
Subscribed Capital, 1,000,000.00  
Paid-up Capital, 247,015.79

**General Fire Insurance Business  
Transacted**

THEODORE MEUNIER,  
Manager

REGINALD B. GAUDIN,  
Assitant Manager