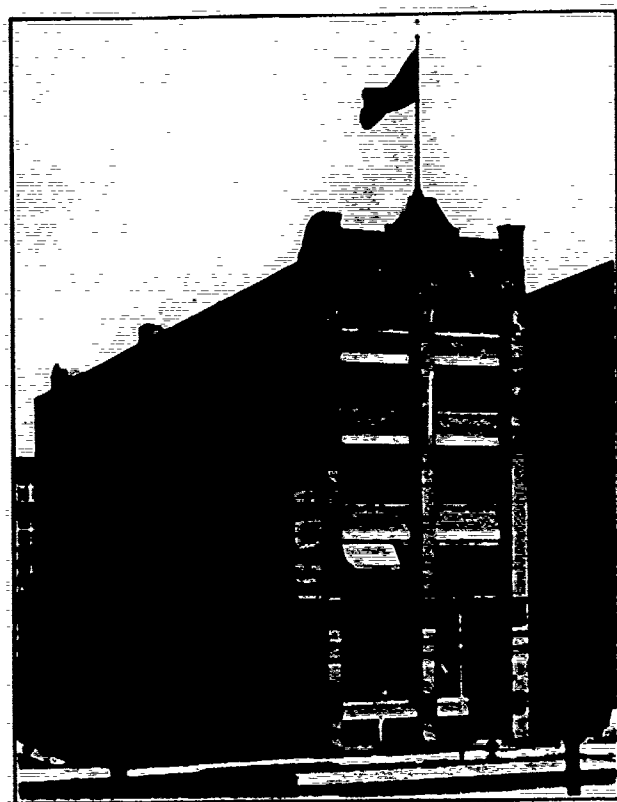


A HANDSOME WAREHOUSE

FIRST of the Toronto wholesale houses, which suffered in the great fire of April 19, 1901, to get back into new quarters in the burnt area, was The Copp, Clark Co., Limited. Exactly four months after the fire, on August 19, they took possession of the first two floors of the new structure, illustrated on this page. The work of building was pushed forward rapidly, and just about one year after the old building was destroyed, the finishing touches were put on the new building. This month The Copp, Clark Co. Limited, are at last comfortably ensconced in their new home.

The building, which is of brick and steel construction, has a frontage of 35 feet on Front street, and extends back 200 feet to Piper street. It is five storeys in height, not including the basement. Every care has been taken to render the structure completely fireproof. The stairways are inclosed in fireproof compartments, and



Exterior of New Warehouse.

the two elevators, passenger and freight, are shut off from the rest of the building by fireproof walls. Light is supplied to the building from large windows at the front and rear, while an extensive well half way back on the east side insures perfect light to the middle portion of the warehouse.

The Sample Room.

The front section of the ground floor is taken up with the sample room—an extremely bright and attractive spot. The walls have been covered with a green ingrain paper, topped by an expensive English bordering in which a lotus flower, nestling in green leaves lying on a dark background, is the central feature. Along the base a dark green burlap has been placed. Flags, maps and framed portraits of authors have been employed effectively to decorate the walls.

On display stands, constructed uniformly of polished

ash, are laid out samples of every article handled by the company. Stretching nearly the whole length of the western wall, are stands and low wall shelves on which The Copp, Clark book publications are disposed. Down the centre of the room are tables for the display of stationery and fancy goods of every description. Near the entrance is the office of Mr. A. Reed, the buyer for and manager of the stationery department.

Shipping Facilities.

The balance of the ground floor to the rear comprises the shipping room. Shipping facilities are second to none, and the system employed obviates all mistakes. Goods coming down for shipment from the various departments above are received from the elevator and pass down along one side of the room to one counter, from which they are called across to another counter on the other side of the room. Packers and layers-out never interfere with each other, and no incorrect packing can possibly result.

The Upper Floors.

To the front of the first floor are located the general offices of the company, (of which a partial view is shown), and the private office of the president, Mr. H. L. Thompson. The stationery department occupies the balance of this floor with a charging room at the rear. The facilities for the storage of the staple lines of stationery kept on this floor are excellent. The second floor is devoted to the book department. At the front is the office of Mr. William Copp, the manager, and the book department office. To the rear is the charging room. The balance of the floor is used for the storage of the book stock. On the third floor are fancy goods and fancy lines of stationery. Here are to be found huge piles of games, playing cards, crayons, fancy baskets, cards and calendars. At the front is Mr. Nord's office. The fourth floor is termed the auxiliary store room. Here all surplus stock is stored, though in the Fall this floor is cleared out to accommodate the import fancy goods business. The basement is utilized to store heavy goods, such as slates, etc.

An Historic Firm.

Few stationery houses can trace their existence back as far as The Copp, Clark Co., Limited. While the business has been conducted under various names, the present house is the direct descendant of the original firm of Hugh Scobie, established in Toronto in 1811. Hugh Scobie was succeeded by W. C. Chewett & Co., who for many years carried on business on King street east, where the store of the W. A. Murray Co. now stands. Chewett & Co. were in turn succeeded by Copp, Clark & Co., the firm consisting of the late W. W. Copp, the late Henry J. Clark, and the late Charles Fuller. The first warehouse of the company was located at 47 Front street east, and later the business was moved to 9 Front street west.

In 1885 The Copp, Clark Co. Limited, was incorporated with a capital of \$200,000, and with Messrs. Copp, Clark and Fuller as directors. About twelve years ago a re-organization became necessary, owing to the death of all three. Strange to say, they passed away within two years of one another. The company as it now stands was then formed, with Mr. H. L. Thompson, president, Mr. Wm. Copp, vice-president, and Mr. A. W. Thomas, secretary-treasurer. The handsome warehouse on Front street west, which was destroyed in the great