

RECENT FIRES

King's College, Windsor, N.S., is Destroyed—Heavy Losses at Halifax, Montreal, Moose Jaw and Port Arthur

Aurora, Ont.—February 5—Frame mill and storage buildings of the Baldwin Flour Mills on Wellington Street were destroyed. Cause unknown. Estimated loss, \$40,000.

Campbellford, Ont.—February 9—Barns belonging to M. Mullhearn, with four motor cars, were destroyed. Loss partially covered by insurance.

Galt, Ont.—February 10—The Henry Block was damaged. The loss has been estimated at about \$12,000, made up as follows: Loss to building, \$2,000, covered by insurance; George Henry, grocer, \$3,000, insurance \$1,500; Robert Wilson, contents, \$300, no insurance; I.O.O.F. lodge, \$400, covered by insurance; J. C. Kreig, \$2,000, covered by insurance; George Hudson, Hespeler Herald, \$4,000, partly covered by insurance.

Halifax, N.S.—February 5—Two houses situated on Westmount Street were destroyed. One death. Cause, using oil in kitchen stove.

February 8—Building occupied by the Halifax Herald Co., Evening Mail Co., Sunday Atlantic Leader Co., and the Royal Printo and Litho., Ltd., was damaged. Estimated loss, \$100,000.

Hantsport, N.S.—February 2—Candy and chocolate factory, owned by George H. Yeadon and Sons, on William Street, was badly damaged. Cause unknown. Loss covered by insurance.

London, Ont.—February 7—Egerton Street Baptist Church, situated at corner of Hamilton Road and Egerton Street, was destroyed. Cause unknown. Estimated loss, \$50,000.

Lulu Island, B.C.—January 31—Barn at James McCullough's ranch, No. 19 Road, owned by Mr. Nelson, of New Westminster, was destroyed. Cause, explosion of a lamp. Estimated loss, \$10,000.

Medicine Hat, Alta.—February 1—The Alderman Thomas Montgomery Block was damaged. Estimated loss, \$1,000.

Montreal, Que.—February 4—Paint shop of the Blain Carriage Works was destroyed. Three deaths. Cause unknown.

February 8—Havelock Building, Union Avenue, occupied by the Rice studio, was destroyed. Cause, explosion of chemicals. Estimated loss, \$25,000. Other firms who suffered loss were Bell's Galleries, Ltd., and the department store of Henry Morgan and Co., Ltd.

Moose Jaw, Sask.—February 9—The Moose Jaw Hardware building, occupied by J. E. Over's cigar store; Morrison and Blackwood, wholesale hardware; Moose Jaw Hardware Co. and F. Wilson, jeweller, was destroyed. Estimated loss, \$50,000.

New Lowell, Ont.—February 10—Grain elevator, with several thousand bushels of grain, belonging to John A. Bell and Son, was destroyed. Cause, explosion of gasoline tank. Estimated loss, \$13,000. Insurance carried, \$6,000.

Port Arthur, Ont.—February 10—The Walsh Block was damaged. Estimated loss, \$80,000. The principal sufferers were the Wright Furniture Co., the Dunn Hardware Co., Gavin Shoe Store and several offices.

St. Gervais, Que.—February 4—Presbytery, near the church, was badly damaged. Cause, presumed to have been from a defective chimney.

Toronto, Ont.—February 9—Premises occupied by the Walter Dean Canoe and Boat Co., owned by the Toronto Canoe Club, were badly damaged. Cause, presumed to have been from a defective wire. Estimated loss on building, \$5,000; on contents, \$10,000, covered by insurance.

February 10—Three houses and frame building, occupied by the Hope Sash Manufacturing Co., Hope and Banff Avenues, were damaged. Estimated loss, \$45,000. Insurance carried on factory, \$14,000. Gold Medal Manufacturing Co., College Street, was damaged. Estimated loss, \$1,300.

Wolfville, N.S.—February 4—Building, including De-laney's hardware store, offices of the Western Union and the Telegraph Co., were destroyed.

Windsor, N.S.—February 5—University of King's College was destroyed. Estimated loss, \$200,000. Insurance carried, \$45,000.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING FIRES

Belleville, Ont.—January 29—Residence of J. A. Beckley was damaged. Cause, thawing frozen water pipes. Estimated loss, \$900. Insurance carried, \$2,000.

Chesley, Ont.—February 4—Clothing stock belonging to Ross and Warmington was damaged. Cause, from stove in rooms above the store. Estimated loss, \$8,500. Insurance carried in Mount Royal, Dominion and Merchants to the amount of \$6,000.

Hull, Que.—The annual report of the fire department shows that the fire loss has increased by \$11,000 over the figures for last year. This is due in the main to the big fire last summer which destroyed the Dorin Block on Main Street with a damage of over \$11,000 and the loss of three lives, and two fires at the plant of the Hull Iron and Steel Foundries, the fire loss at which is placed at \$34,031, of which \$27,583 was covered by insurance.

Moose Jaw, Sask.—January 20—The per capita fire loss in Moose Jaw during 1919 was \$1.51, as compared to \$2.69 in 1918, \$2.18 in 1917, and \$2.75 in 1916, according to the annual report of Fire Chief George W. Baines. The total fire loss for the year was also greatly lower than in 1918, the building loss being \$7,869 and the damage done to contents \$22,386, a total of \$30,255. In 1918 the loss in buildings was \$24,654 and in contents \$29,267, a total of \$53,921. The average loss per fire was \$444. The 1919 fire loss was 55 per cent. of the property at risk; in 1918 but 2.18 per cent. of the property at risk, and in 1917 4.78 per cent. of the property at risk.

Ontario.—The fire loss in the province for the month of November was \$724,675, according to the fire marshal's report. The insurance loss was \$606,050, and the loss not covered by insurance, \$118,625. The total for the eleven months was \$4,649,610; insurance loss, \$5,692,746, and the loss not covered by insurance, \$2,956,864.

Ottawa, Ont.—The total loss by fire in 1919 is placed at \$174,280, but a large percentage of this amount is constituted in three large fires—viz., the McDougal's, Ltd., fire, where the loss was \$38,355; the McGiffin fire \$16,033, and the Shephard and Morse lumber yard blaze last summer \$11,000. On the total loss, insurance to the amount of \$3,506,843 was carried.

Quebec, Que.—January 16—Factory owned by Mrs. A. E. Hookes and occupied by Dombrowski Brothers, Ltd., was damaged. Estimated loss, \$2,400. Insurance carried, \$3,200.

Riceburg, Que.—January 10—Two barns, owned by Ernest Fournier, together with stock and implements, were destroyed. Cause unknown. Estimated loss, \$5,525. Insurance carried, \$1,300.

Vancouver, B.C.—Fire Chief Carlisle has submitted the following report of fire losses for the month of December, 1919:—

The total loss sustained by fire for the month of December was \$27,907, of which amount \$27,317 was covered by insurance, leaving the property loss above insurance at \$590. The total value of the property at risk was \$756,322.

The following shows the cause of fires: Backfire, carburetter, 2, carelessness with cigarettes 1, defective chimneys 4, defective stovepipes 1, electric iron left on switch 1, electric origin (defective wiring, short circuits) 5, false alarms 11, firecrackers 1, gasoline (carelessness with) 3, gas exploding in chimney 1, gasoline torch exploding 1, hot poker placed in wooden box 1, matches left in clothes near radiator 1, overheated stovepipes 1, rubbish fires 1, sparks (flying) 3, spontaneous combustion 2, thawing water pipes with blow-torches 7, thawing water jackets (ranges) 3, unknown 5.