

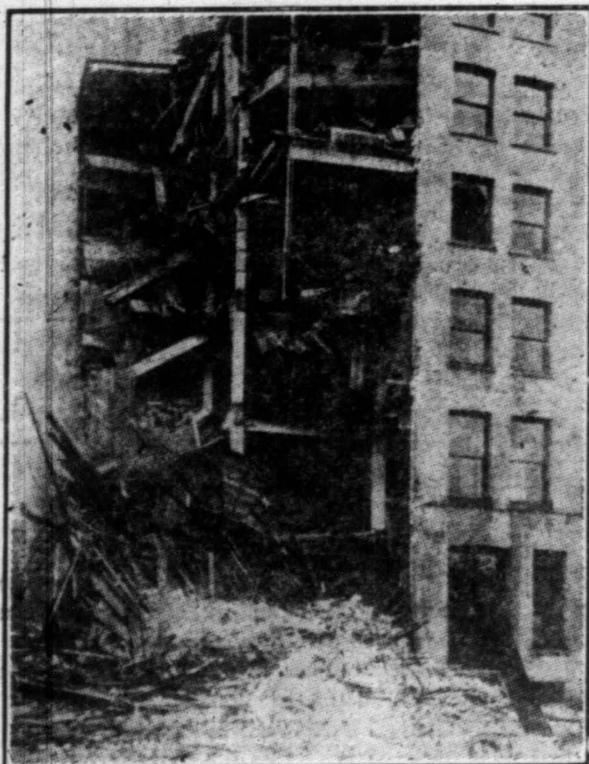
THE INSURANCE CHRONICLE

WATER TANK PLUNCES

Through Six Storey Building at Winnipeg—Underwriters Confer as to Liability.

The six-storey brick warehouse owned by the J. C. Wilson Paper Company, of Montreal, on McDermot Avenue, Winnipeg, was wrecked last week under the weight of an 88-ton fire tank, which was placed on the roof six months ago. The damage will amount to about \$30,000. A thorough examination of the policy will be made and until then the underwriters are not prepared to say whether or not the insurance companies are liable for any loss sustained.

The tank fell through into the basement carrying big girders before it like matches. It burst on reaching the ground and flooded the structure with its 20,000 gallons of water.



Damage Done by Water Tank.

Fire Chief Buchanan, with several men, immediately made an inspection of the condition of the wires and possible sources of fire. The T. Eaton Company had a quantity of farm machinery stored on the top floor. The loss sustained by that firm will likely be small.

The warehouse is of second-class construction, being of brick and the reinforcements of wood. The J. C. Wilson Company occupied the basement, ground, and fourth and fifth floors. Mark Fisher & Sons, Limited, of Leeds, England, leased the second floor; the W. J. Gage Company, of Toronto, the Kinleith Paper Company and the Toronto Pharmaceutical Company, the third floor; and the T. Eaton Company, the top floor.

The walls were 21 inches thick at the basement, tapering to 17 in the centre and 13 at the top. The weight of the tank filled was 175,000 pounds.

City Building Inspector Rodgers thinks that the building was struck by lightning, causing one of the rear corners to collapse. Some contractors think that the girders of the building were not anchored properly to the walls with steel and that the wall brackets were not imbedded to sufficient depth. The weight of the tank would thus cause the walls to buckle. Many other theories are advanced.

NOVA SCOTIA FIRE COMPANY'S AFFAIRS.

The trouble regarding the transfer of shares of the Nova Scotia Fire Insurance Company, which occurred early this year, has been settled out of court. An order dissolving the injunction preventing the election of directors has been secured by agreement of the parties involved. At the adjourned annual meeting of the company the following were elected directors:—John Y. Payzant, J. Walter Allison, J. A. Chisholm, Andrew MacKinlay, J. R. MacLeod, Frank Stanfield, and W. J. Clayton. The management will continue as before. A. C. Baillie being manager. A dividend at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum has been declared payable August 2nd.

SOME RECENT FIRES.

Catineau Point, Ont.—The residence of Mr. William Smith destroyed, loss \$8,000.

Back River, Que.—The fertilizer manufacturing plant of Mr. O. H. Lesage, destroyed; loss, \$25,000.

Yamaska, Que.—Residences of Mr. Michel Cardin, Mr. Louis Villard, and that of another citizen damaged, total loss \$3,500.

Toronto, Ont.—The stables of Mr. Wallace Sheen, Holland Road, damaged; loss, \$650, one horse, \$250; no insurance carried.

New Westminster, B.C.—Penitentiary damaged, loss \$20,000. Fire, which started in paint shop, believed to have been due to incendiaries. An investigation is being made.

Vancouver, B.C.—The Imperial Oil Company's plant damaged, loss \$60,000. Flames started from boiler room; explosion followed. Cause, believed to have been spontaneous combustion.

Montreal.—Steamer "La Prairie" almost totally destroyed. Numbers 466 and 468 Moreau Street, damaged; loss, \$2,000, fully covered by insurance. Children playing with matches the supposed cause.

North Toronto, Ont.—The unfinished residence of Mr. Joseph Wicks, damaged; loss, \$1,500. Residence of Mrs. E. Smith, adjoining also damaged; loss, \$700. Fire fighting system inadequate.

Hamilton, Ont.—Residence of Mr. Charles Smith, 122 Breadalbane Street, damaged, loss \$2,000; leak in gas stove the supposed cause. Residence of A. Smerneos, John Street, damaged; hot ashes the supposed cause.

Swift Current, Sask.—Reliance Hotel damaged. Messrs. J. Dowling and Michael McCutcheon were arrested and remanded for a week on a charge of having started the fire. A quantity of gasoline is supposed to have been used.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING FIRES ALREADY REPORTED.

Welland, Ont.—The shoe repairing shop of Mr. Otto Thies; loss, \$70. Insurance carried in the Dominion.

Baumarsis, Ont.—Summer home of H. Fearman, Hills Island, destroyed. Estimated damage on contents, \$300; on building, \$2,500.

Morrisdale, N.B.—House owned by J. R. Ross, occupied by Mrs. L. A. Currey, destroyed. Loss on contents, \$500. Insurance on building, \$600.

Truro, N.S.—The Colchester "Sun," Limited, building. Estimated damage on stock \$500 and on building \$200. Insurance is carried in the following companies: Phoenix of Brooklyn, Acadia Fire Insurance Co., Occidental Fire Insurance Co., and Ontario Fire Insurance Co.