

RECENT FIRES

Business Section of Drumheller Destroyed, Loss \$50,000—
Business Section of Grassey Lake Destroyed, Loss of
\$65,000—Nanton Court Apartments, Toronto, \$50,000

Balaclava, Ont.—October 2—Large frame barn of Daniel Stewart was destroyed by fire. The loss is \$8,500, partly covered by insurance.

Barrie, Ont.—October 4—Stables of Dr. Alfred Morren, Collier Street, were destroyed, together with the contents. The loss is \$5,000.

Darmood, Sask.—September 27—Johnson's general store and Brown Brothers' hardware store were destroyed by fire. The loss is \$10,000, with \$6,700 insurance.

Drumheller, Alta.—October 2—A serious fire broke out, destroying the Drumheller Cafe, Fossko's grocery store, Skinner and Waites' bowling alley, the Drumheller Club, and partially destroying Vickers' garage. The loss is \$50,000.

Grassey Lake, Alta.—October 1—Business section was damaged by fire. The loss is estimated at \$65,000, partly covered by insurance.

Hamilton, Ont.—September 30—Thompson's drug store, 672 Barton Street East, was damaged by fire. The loss is \$2,000.

Havelock, Ont.—September 29—Grocery and bakeshop of G. R. McGregor were destroyed. The loss is \$12,000, partly covered by insurance.

Kenora, Ont.—September 29—Grocery store of Martin and Pointier was damaged. Loss is \$10,000.

Kitchener, Ont.—October 4—Barn on the farm of Philip Weber, on the road between St. Jacob's and Elmira, was totally destroyed by fire. The loss is \$6,000, partly covered by insurance.

Meaford, Ont.—October 2—Apple evaporator, owned and operated by Reid and Gower, was damaged by fire. The loss is estimated at \$8,000, partly covered by insurance.

Quebec, Que.—October 1—Limoilou Convent, on Eighth Avenue, was damaged by fire. The fire is believed to have been caused by a spark from a nearby mill.

Seeley's Bay, Ont.—September 29—Barn of C. Blackman was struck by lightning and destroyed. The loss is heavy, and partly covered with an insurance of \$1,500.

Sherbrooke, Que.—October 2—Three large barns and the storage houses on Alderman William Brault's farm on the Brompton Road were destroyed, causing a loss of \$30,000, with insurance of \$9,000.

Toronto, Ont.—October 1—Nanton Court Apartments, Rosedale, were damaged by fire. The loss is \$50,000.

Watson, Sask.—September 25—Green and Ketchen garage damaged by fire. The loss is \$20,000.

Yarker, Ont.—September 27—Barn of Alfred Galbraith was damaged by fire. The fire was caused by lightning, and the insurance was \$700.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING FIRES

Beaverton, Ont.—September 15—Cupola and core-room of Smith Brothers was damaged by fire. The fire was caused from the oven. The total loss was \$950, with insurance of \$2,000 in the Gore District.

Milford, Ont.—September 6—St. Philip's Anglican Church was damaged by fire. The fire was caused by lightning. The loss is \$3,500, with \$1,250 insurance in the London Mutual.

Manitoba.—During the month of July there have been 148 fires reported, with a loss of \$157,219. There have been three fatalities. There were two apartment buildings damaged, dwellings 27, farm buildings 31, offices 4, warehouses 5, stores 5, stables 3, and hospitals 1. The following were the causes: Lightning 30, matches 10, rubbish 14, smoking 15, spontaneous combustion 3, explosions 4, and reported unknown 22.

Ontario.—During the month of August there were 592 fires, with losses of \$157,592. Lightning caused 139 fires. There were 101 farm barns destroyed.

Toronto, Ont.—Fire department records for the month of September show that that were 149 alarms. Estimated total damage, \$39,527; loss to contents, \$24,910. There were thirteen fires caused from dumps and grass and twelve from children playing with matches.

Vancouver, B.C.—September 2—Three suites, owned by T. A. Linesley. The loss was \$3,800, with insurance of \$100,000 in the following companies: Union Assurance, Canada Accident, Car and General, Palatine, New York Underwriters, Providence, California, London Underwriters, Niagara, Mercantile, National Union and Hartford.

Vancouver, B.C.—September 5—The fire chief of Vancouver has sent the following information regarding the fire in the Empire Building on September 5th:—

"The value of the building is given as \$70,000, with insurance to the amount of \$56,000 carried on same in the following companies: Norwich Union, Agricultural, Vulcan, Fidelity-Phenix and Continental. The loss is estimated at around \$1,500 to \$2,000 (building only). Damage to contents is set at \$130 (no insurance carried covering same). The total value of contents is given as \$72,050, with insurance on same to the amount of \$45,600.

"The cause of the fire is undoubtedly 'incendiary,' the fire having been started in some old paper in the hallway (corner), second floor, north side of the building. I would add that a number of fires, all of incendiary origin, occurred within a few days only of the above, and all about the same hour, as follows: Fairfield Block, September 1st, 9.58 p.m.; loss about \$9,500. Tunstall Block, September 2nd, 12.42 a.m.; loss about \$15,000. 609 Pender Street West, September 2nd, 2.14 a.m. (rooming house); loss about \$65. Park Rooms (rooming house), September 2nd, 4.30 a.m.; loss estimated at \$250. Moore printing establishment, 319 Pender Street West, September 3rd, 11.52 p.m.; estimated loss, \$250.

ONTARIO FIRE PREVENTION LEAGUE

The annual meeting of the Ontario Fire Prevention League was held in Toronto on October 5th. The following officers for 1920-21 were elected: Honorary president, Hon. E. C. Drury; president, Arthur Hewitt; first vice-president, J. M. Watt, London; second vice-president, G. C. Martin, Hamilton; secretary-treasurer, George F. Lewis, Toronto.

Prohibition of wooden shingle roofs on dwellings not situated more than 50 feet from adjacent structures was advocated by J. B. Laidlaw, manager of the Norwich Union Fire Insurance Society, in an address before the meeting. After brief discussion of his resolution to seek legislation along these lines the convention endorsed his views.

In his report as secretary-treasurer, George Lewis said that during the first eight months of 1920 there were 626 fires in Ontario, with losses of \$7,361,380, and insurance, \$5,309,214. For the first eight months of 1919 the figures were: Fires, 6,351; total losses, \$7,352,501; and in 1918, fires, 7,484, loss, \$10,079,491. Fire losses in the United States and Canada, he said, were ten times those of European countries.

Two acts which it is proposed to have introduced at the next session of the Ontario legislature were discussed. One deals with lightning rods and their installation. The other is to regulate the location, construction and operation of dry-cleaning establishments using gasoline.

Fire Marshal E. P. Heaton, of Ontario, in a short address, estimated that 80 per cent. of the fires in the province are preventable. Other speakers were Franklin H. Wentworth, secretary of the National Fire Protection Association, Boston; John B. Laidlaw, manager of the Norwich Union Fire Insurance Society, Toronto; W. H. Shapley, president of the Dominion Fire Protection Association; and Arthur Hewitt, president of the League.