Mercantile Summay

FIRES OF THE WEEK.

Fuller particulars have come to hand of the serious conflagration at Portage la Prairie, which took place on Thursday of last week. It appears to have started in the cellars of the Grand Central Hotel, and to have quickly spread from that point. Some dozen or more stores, besides the hotel, were destroyed at a loss of about $75,000. The insurance will about half cover the loss. Other fires took place in the Queen's Own Hotel, owned by J. H. Ross, near London. Less, $6,000; insurance, $4,500. The fire was caused by a defective flue.——Lorne flour mills, owned by James Gray, in Rockwood, Ont.——An acetylene gas generator in the C.P.R. roundhouse, at Owen Sound, exploded on the 3rd inst., and completely wrecked the building, one man being probably fatally injured. ——A fire which originated in Hall & Co.'s dry goods store, in Rat Portage, on the 3rd inst., did some $40,000 worth of damage. Almost the whole of two blocks owned by A. Carmichael was destroyed. The loss is only about half covered by insurance.——Morden Manufacturing Co.'s factory, at Gananoque; loss, $30,000. The factory had barely been completed, and new machinery for making office furniture, etc., had only just been installed, all of which is a total loss. ——The Port Huron Elevator Company's elevator for handling the grain brought by the G.T.R. from upper lake ports, completely destroyed at a loss of $25,000.——Hammell Bros.' confectionery store, in Hamilton, badly damaged to the extent of $5,000 or $6,000. Insurance, $3,000.——J. E. Scott's new block in Dunnville, almost burned down at a loss of over $10,000; insurance small.——The British Restaurant, owned by Murray & Johnston, in Owen Sound, and three other buildings destroyed; loss, $3,000; only partially insured.——John Radford's sawmill, at Woodstock, burned down.——The Excelsior Wrapper Co.'s premises, in Montreal, destroyed by a fire which started in an overheated stove; loss, $60,000; fully covered by insurance.

THE Canadian Pacific Railroad bridge over the Columbia river, at Robson, is now practically completed.

A FANCY goods dealer, named H. S. Hashim, New Westminster, B.C., is pressed by his principal creditor, after being fifteen months in business, and makes an assignment.——V. Monier, wholesale liquor dealer, at Phoenix, B.C., has assigned, having been in the place less than six months. Previous to this he did business at Cascade.——John Leberry, wholesale dealer in meats, New Westminster, had three writs issued against him, and rather than wait for more he took his departure.——The mortgagees have taken possession of the grocery stock of Mrs. M. J. Thompson, Victoria, B.C., and that will not pay half their claims.