

RECENT FIRES

Rapid Succession of Large Fires Follows Advent of Winter Weather—Month's Losses Will Probably be Large

Blenheim, Ont.—December 10—Residence of Robert Inch was completely destroyed. Cause unknown. Estimated loss, \$5,400. Insurance carried, \$3,500.

Brown's Flats, N.B.—December 10—Residence of William Thorpe with contents was destroyed.

Burlington, Ont.—December 17—Cottage adjoining the Brant Hospital used as officers' quarters was damaged. Estimated loss, \$2,500.

Cranbrook, B.C.—December 10—Slaughter house belonging to P. Burns and Co., with contents, was destroyed. Estimated loss, \$15,000.

Duck Lake, Sask.—December 7—Bank of Montreal with contents, and the residence of the manager, at Duck Lake, were totally destroyed.

Fort James, B.C.—December 10—The Hudson Bay Co.'s store was destroyed.

Halifax, N.S.—December 10—Building of Bristers' garage and auto stores was destroyed. Cause unknown. Five automobiles and a motor truck were burned. Estimated loss, \$35,000.

December 14—Building occupied by Messrs. George and Clifford Ramey, manufacturers of mineral waters was destroyed. Estimated loss, \$5,000.

Huntingdon, B.C.—December 16—Residence of H. Irwin, on Fourth Street, was destroyed. Cause unknown.

Kitley Township, Ont.—December 9—The barn and smaller buildings on the farm of Elliott Ballantyne were destroyed. Eighteen head of cattle, one horse and 40 tons of hay were burned.

Mongolia, Ont.—December 12—Residence of Mr. Lehman, and the barn, stable and outhouses of John Lowry, were destroyed. Cause unknown. Partial insurance carried.

New Waterford, N.S.—December 11—Book store owned by Thomas A. Guy was destroyed. One death. Estimated loss, \$5,000.

Outremont, Que.—December 10—Building of the Joffre apartments, situated at 1105 Bernard Street West, was damaged. Estimated loss to tenants, \$1,600, and to building, \$10,000, covered by insurance.

Peardonville, B.C.—December 15—Van Gueider shingle mill on the international boundary line was destroyed. The horses in the barn were saved but two automobiles were burned.

Petrolia, Ont.—December 13—Petrolia Town Hall was damaged. Supposed to have originated from a cigar or cigarette stub thrown under the stage. Estimated loss, \$184, covered by insurance.

Sarnia, Ont.—December 15—Plant of the Asbestos Covered Metal Corporation was damaged. Cause unknown. Estimated loss, \$25,000, covered by insurance.

Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.—December 16—Wholesale fruit and grocery storehouse of the Gamble-Robinson Co. was destroyed.

Souris, P.E.I.—December 12—Building occupied by James C. Ferguson's drug store and D. McEachern's barber shop, also an adjoining store and restaurant owned by M. J. Paquet were destroyed. Buildings occupied by Dr. F. S. MacDonald and H. Lavie, barber, were damaged. Estimated loss, \$8,000, partly covered by insurance.

St. John, N.B.—December 11—Apartment house on City Road was destroyed. Two deaths.

St. Thomas, Ont.—December 13—Large cafe and boarding house owned by Wellington Hella, building owned by T. Finnegan, of St. Thomas, and two smaller buildings were completely destroyed. Several other structures were damaged. Cause unknown. Partially covered by insurance.

Toronto, Ont.—December 12—Two houses situated at 260 and 262 Rhodes Avenue were damaged. Cause, gas explosion. Estimated loss, \$685.

Toronto, Ont.—December 16—Warehouse owned by Dominion Glass Co., Sudbury Avenue was destroyed. Cause

unknown. Estimated loss, \$100,000, covered by insurance. Residence of R. Sims, 330 Poulton Avenue, was destroyed. Cause unknown. Estimated loss, \$3,500. Two buildings owned by C. Roebuck at 127 and 129 Chestnut Street were damaged. Estimated loss, \$600.

Vancouver, B.C.—December 9—Building of the Hastings shingle mill, 1355 Powell Street, with one of the dry kilns and a quantity of shingles was damaged. Estimated loss, \$1,000.

Woodstock, Ont.—December 9—The Ontario Garage was destroyed. Estimated loss, \$15,000.

Woodville, Ont.—December 17—Knox Presbyterian Church was totally destroyed. Cause, thought to be due to overheating of new furnace. Estimated loss, \$25,000. Insurance carried, \$10,000.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING FIRES

Brandon, Man.—Up to the end of October this year Brandon had twenty-four fires with a total loss of \$11,690, according to the provincial fire commissioner's report. Brandon stands third in the province for fires. Winnipeg had 624 up to the end of October, St. Boniface thirty-four, St. James twenty-two, with a fire loss of \$23,185, and Portage la Prairie had seventeen, seven less than Brandon, but with a loss of \$42,067.

Kingston, Ont.—The fire loss for Kingston, from January 1 to December 15 of this year was almost \$10,000 greater than for the entire year of 1918. According to the report of Fire Chief Armstrong, the loss on buildings up to December 15 this year was \$30,538, while the loss on contents was \$24,731, making a total of \$55,270, as against \$47,815 for the year 1918. Insurance on buildings in 1918 amounted to \$1,108,200, as against \$1,578,300 the previous year.

Moose Jaw, Sask.—December 2—The cooper shop of the Robin Hood Mills was damaged. Estimated loss, \$12,000, fully covered by insurance. Slight damage was done to the adjoining property occupied by the Moose Jaw Furriers. Insurance carried, \$4,000.

St. Malachie, Que.—December 4—Warehouse and grain elevator owned by Dorchester Co., Ltd., were totally destroyed. Estimated loss, \$100,000. Insurance carried was as follows: Phoenix of London, \$11,521; Home, \$5,000; Liverpool-Manitoba, \$5,000; Mount Royal, \$7,500; Globe and Rutgers, \$5,000; Connecticut, \$5,000; Sun, \$5,500; Yorkshire, \$5,000; British Empire, \$2,500; Canada, \$5,000; National of Paris, \$5,000; Strathcona, \$2,500; Royal, \$5,000; total, \$69,521.

Timmins, Ont.—December 2—A business block, including P. McCormick, E. Bridger, J. R. Gordon, Tirrils, Theriault's tailor shop, Oddfellows' hall, Orangemen, Smith's Lunch, Fat's Lunch, was damaged. Estimated loss, \$18,050. Insurance carried, \$15,000. Insurance paid, \$9,500.

Vancouver, B.C.—Fire Chief Carlisle submits the following report to *The Monetary Times* for the month of November:—

"The total loss by fire for the month was \$3,308, of which amount, \$3,023 was covered by insurance, leaving the property loss above insurance at \$285. The total value of the property at risk was \$1,072,600.

"The following shows the cause of fires for the month: Awning (carelessness with cigarettes), 1; backfire, carburetter, 1; carelessness with cigarettes, matches, etc., 1; defective chimneys, 2; defective fireplaces, 2; defective oil feed pipe, 1; electrical origin (defective wiring), 5; fire breaking out again, 1; overheated bearing, 1; overheated shaft, 1; overheated stove pipe, 1; rubbish fires, 1; smoke scares, 5; spontaneous combustion, 1; tar pot on fire, 1; wood left on top of boiler, 2; wood left in oven to dry, 1."

The following is the report for the eleven months ended November 30, 1919: Total value of property involved by fire, \$12,555,515; total insurance carried, \$6,124,793; total loss, \$575,752; total insurance paid, \$366,371; loss above insurance, \$209,381. (All fire losses adjustments have been completed to date.)