

	1906.	1905.	1904.
January.....	\$17,723,800	\$16,377,100	\$21,790,200
February.....	18,249,350	25,591,000	90,051,000
March.....	18,727,750	14,751,400	11,212,150
Total 3 months.....	\$54,700,900	\$56,720,500	\$123,053,350
April.....		11,901,350	23,623,000
May.....		12,736,250	15,221,400
June.....		11,789,800	10,646,700
July.....		13,173,250	11,923,200
August.....		11,435,600	9,715,200
September.....		13,715,250	14,387,650
October.....		12,267,000	12,866,200
November.....		16,178,200	11,515,000
December.....		15,276,600	19,422,350
Total 12 months.....		\$175,157,800	\$252,364,000

In the list of March fires involving a loss of over \$10,000, we find the following in Canada:

Montreal, Apartment House.....	\$12,900
" Typewriter factory.....	20,000
" Printing office, etc.....	18,000
" Restaurant, etc.....	29,000
" Liquor store.....	25,000
Toronto, Stationary warehouse.....	50,000
" Plate glass warehouse.....	16,000
" Milling plant, etc.....	85,000
Lethbridge, Railway shops.....	20,000
Sarnia Oil works.....	50,000
Lachine, River Steamer.....	50,300
St. John, N.B., Steamer.....	30,900
Brandon, Flour mill.....	10,000
Cornwall, Planing mill.....	25,000
Cobourg, dry goods store, etc.....	12,900
Guelph, Iron works.....	12,900
Newdale, Man., Hardware store.....	16,000

WHO COMMIT ARSON?

THE CAUSES OF THE CRIME.

Those who destroy property criminally by burning are of three classes, the mentally defective, the malicious and the greedy. Of these, the number of defectives will be undiminished until the unfit are no longer permitted to breed, and the number of the passionate will increase in proportion to population until the millennium comes. The number of incendiary fires started by persons greedy for insurance money has been greatly reduced each year since the establishment of the office of fire marshal, in the State of Ohio. The number was in 1901, 292; in 1902, 222; in 1903, 190; in 1904, 168 and in 1905, 96 (November and December estimated).

The idiot starts a fire which results in loss of property, through lack of appreciation of the law of cause and effect and without criminal intent. Therefore, he should be kept in an institution in which he can be constantly under observation. Another defective who burns buildings without sin, is the pyromaniac.

Pyromania is a well recognized occasional propensity of the insane, oftenest found among imbeciles, melancholics, demented and paranoiacs. It occasionally occurs in epileptics. These diseases, usually, are chronic, therefore, pyromania is, ordinarily, incurable. Just as the kleptomaniac has an irresistible desire to steal, without reference to profit, so, the pyromaniac burns from an uncontrollable impulse. He is often apparently normal mentally and in such cases conviction is difficult because of the absence of motive for the crime.

The motives of those convicted during last year were:

To Defraud Insurance Companies.....	14
Pyromania.....	9
Malice or Revenge.....	10
Malicious Mischief; Boys.....	13

The Owner's Alibi.

The fact that an owner, by any one of a number of methods, can cause a fire to break out in his property at a time at which he is miles away, is known to you all. Descriptions have been printed of the teeter which when the candle set upon one end of it burned low would tip and throw a burning candle into oil-saturated waste; of the lighted candle with a fuse from a bladder of gasoline tied around its base, and of tying one end of a string to a lamp and placing the other end, with meat attached, where a stray dog or cat in the alley might after a time discover it and by pulling it upset the lamp into some inflammable stuff.

A stove or flue may be rendered defective so that the place will be burned soon after a fire is started.

A manufacturer may so lighten a part of a machine that friction will start a fire after he has left the premises.

The owner of a store may in the evening remove the plug in the stovepipe in an upper room and fill it with oiled excelsior which will be fired by sparks and fall out upon the floor soon after an innocent clerk starts the fire next morning, he in the meantime having left the town.

OVER INSURANCE.

Mr. Davis, Fire Marshall of Ohio, in giving the preceding view as to who are incendiaries says: "I have some appreciation of the difficulties under which the companies get business, I am constrained to state the disagreeable fact that it is over-insurance which creates the crimes which created the great need for a fire marshal. Many cases have been brought to my notice in which property in a losing business was insured for several times its value, thereby furnishing so attractive a reward for the crime that men feeble of principle must yield to the temptation to burn. Insurance solicitors as a class at least equal the average business man, but the temptation to increase business, or a too child-like faith in the honesty of their fellow men, leads some agents to write amounts which are in excess of the value of the buildings and to insure the contents of buildings without personal inspection.

HIGHLAND CADETS FUND.

It affords us much satisfaction to learn that the subscriptions to the Highland Cadets Fund were so liberal as to have enabled Major Lydon, the commanding officer of the Battalion, to procure the new uniforms for the cost of which subscriptions were solicited.

Individual contributions have been duly acknowledged in the Press.

The Honorary-Treasurer has received the following acknowledgment:

Received from R. Wilson-Smith, Esq., honorary-treasurer Highland Cadets Fund, cheque for \$585, which, together with the amounts already received and acknowledged, namely, \$300, make a total of \$885.