THE EVENING TELEGRAM, ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDEAND, NOVEMBER 15, 1924-12

**Forty-Three Families Rendered Homeless** BY FIRE IN WINDSOR. to save them.

> CUT A WIDE SWATH. Started in a Shed in the Lower Section of the Town, and Fanned by a High Wind, Destroyed Four Blocks of Buildings and Caused Property Loss Estimated at \$350,-000, on Which There is Only Small Insurance-Many Other Buildings Threatened and Were Only Saved Strennous Work on the Part of Fire Fighters.

WINDSOR, N.S., Nov. 9 .- Fortytown twenty-seven years ago, but there were continuous prayers in the three families homeless; \$350,000 with a characteristic whim of the fire Anglican church and Catholic churchworth of property destroyed; four fiend this time it destroyed practically es, the only two that were open, people town blocks wiped out, and the entire all that was left of the old town on coming to and from the sanctuaries town threatened with disaster worse the former occasion. It started in a with the hope that was borne of desthan the calamity which temporarily shed on the waterfront, back of the pair. wiped it out of existence in 1897-Hants Wholesalers Warehouse and such were the results of a fire which did not stop until it had cut a swath broke out on the waterfront of Windextending the whole length of the

sor at 1.15 o'clock this morning and ravaged through a large section of threatened disaster, a confiagration fanned by a forty mile northwest gale, carrying sheets of flame from one end of the town to the other, the citizens sent out appeals to Halifax, Dartmouth, Wolfville and Kentville.

When the fire was stayed, Windsorians were the first to acknowledge that had it not been for the assistance which came to them by special train and rushed by motor along every highway leading to the town, history would have indeed repeated itself, been again but acres of smoking of the town. ruins. The factor that saved Windsor

was good roads, over which motor fire apparatus could travel at a mile minute Prayers of fervent thankfulness as-

of citizens gathered in every church step of a house a mile away burst in- house offices. He shouted fire, and es, one occupied by Charles Spencer,



We take this opportunity of announcing to the public that we have been appointed Sole Distributors in Newfoundland for the famous



of Windsor to-night, that on this to flames and menaced that home. Thanksgiving eve there had been From the time the fire started until By this time help was arriving and spared to them their homes and it was well under control after daythe citizens of Windsor were aroused nousehold treasures although menac- light, more citizens spent the night to the fact that they were having ed at times as beyond human power on the roof of their houses than there another fight for a life time for their were in their beds. Fear and faith; homes and for many, for all they poshold goods and sent them to Falfear that all they had recovered in sessed. A general exodus from the mouth. the years since that terrible Sunday

town began. Everything within the come another strategical point for if The memory of that disaster of the when they stood without a roof over town that had wheels was commandearly morning of October 17, 1897 is their heads and compelled to begin the fire ever reached that avenue, eered, and scores of trucks and other again would all hope of saving Windstill poignant in the minds of many life all over again, was to be wiped notor vehicles from outside places of Windsor's citizens, and tonight it out by another scourge; faith that sor go by the board. In the Somerse came to the assistance of the citizens House all was packed ready for reseems that they only escaped a sec- some Providential intervention would in moving household goods. Many moval, but by this time the danger ond calamity by some miraculous in- save them, directed the feet of many residence, not only within the fire everywhere was so imminent that tervention. Under conditions so iden- a citizen to the Churches, and it was area, but all throughout Windsor was there were none left to carry away tical they seemed uncanny, the fire of said that from two o'clock when completely emptied of its contents and the furniture. The Jenkins house a this morning might well have been a there seemed that nothing could save the effects carried to the park, old this point was another weak spot in continuation of that which swept the Windsor, until long after daylight, King's College grounds, to Avonton this bulwark protecting the centre

and even to Falmouth. town, but the concentration of effort Here on the north side of King saved it and what stood behind it. Street was the only section of Wind-But, Esty Cochrane's stables at the sor which had not been destroyed in rear were a serious source of danger the catastrophy of 1897, and here and constantly igniting as the sparks the fire seemed determined to finish were showered upon the roofs. An-

EXODUS FROM THE TOWN.

SAW REFLECTION IN HALIFAX. the work not accomplished on that other leap of the fire, and its last nemorable morning. The old Post vicious attack, jumped over five What Windsor had to fight this north side of King Street, reaching morning may be appreciated when it Office, escaping that fire, and since houses and descended upon the reand including the residence of is known that the reflection was the new Post Office has been built, sidence of Mrs. J. E. Graham, which the town until subdued about day- George Geldert. On the south side of plainly to be seen in Halifax, forty- occupied by Andrew Purvis as a though standing habitable suffered light. Helpless in the face of the King Street it destroyed the residence six miles away, and even by ships at restaurant, was the first to go. From damage both from fire and water. Its of M. A. Goudge-but here it was see off the harbor of Halifax. this building the fire spread north neighbor, the Methodist parsonage, compelled to recoil, for there it met It is estimated by some that the toward the fort, and carried those was a long time the scene of strenuthe combined fighting forces of Wind- wind was blowing a gale of fifty miles buildings behind the Station, includous and successful efforts and there sor, Kentville, Wolfville, Dartmouth an hour when the alarm of fire sound- ing the old Burnham property now the last stand of the fire fighters was and Halifax-otherwise nothing would ed at 1.15 o'clock this morning. Cap- owned by John Kuhn. All the out made, and the victory finally won. have saved Windsor. Outposts of tain Charles Pike of the schooner buildings, more or less fire traps at 48 FAMILIES HOMELESS.

citizens prevented the fire ravaging Whiteway, lying at the Government any time, closely connected with one When daylight came, forty-three other sections of the town, for sparks, pier, accompanied by a member of another, were razed almost as if that were as a great blizzard grips a his crew, was returning to the vessel with a breath, and the block of fire amilies of Windsor were homeless To some of them, the loss, while place with hall, burning boards, like at one o'clock. Passing a small shed tenements owned by J. H. Brown was serious, was not of the cruel nature fire ships in the air, and even sheets in the rear of the Hants Wholesalers the next. This by virtue of its size, of flame were carried over the heads Warehouse, in which considerable wooden construction and height was it was to others. It was comparaof the fire fighters and momentarily hay was stored, they noticed the one of the worst menaces of fire, tively easy for some to find shelter and Windsor to-night would have for four hours, threatened every home double doors being unbooked and The heat, radiating from this build- among friends and relatives or that which money could procure, but for swaying in and out with the wind, ing, was such that adjacent buildings others aid had to be sought imme-Residences a mile and a half away They thought this strange, but con- ignited automatically. Cobett Street diately, and immediately without from the scene of the fire were tinued on their way to the vessel. A intersected the north side of King

threatened by falling embers, while few minutes after, coming on deck Street at this point, and leaping the seeking it was offered. L. H. Martell, M.P., took early the dead leaves along King Street for Captain Pike first noticed a reflection narrow way the fire next attacked a mile kindled from the sparks which on the mast, and he then saw the the Carver block, three double tene- steps to have the Drill Shed placed sended to Providence from hundreds fell among them. A mat on a door- fire through the windows of the ware- ments; Dr. W. E. Dimock's two hous- at the disposal of either families or business men; Rev. Mr. Judd of someone passing along Water Street and one by Dr. Dimock himself, were fered to take six families at the Col-

legiate School. Eric Boulden open the next to go, following in quick sucsent in the alarm ed his home for two or three fami-From the very first the seriousness cession by George H. Currey's resilies. Assistance was offerd by Wolfof the situation and the inadequacy dence. Here the fire leaped the reof the Windsor fire fighting force was sidence of Mrs. John Card and Frank ville, Halifax, St. John, Hantsport evident. It was beyond their control Pugsley and burned the Royal Bank and Kentville, offers coming by telefrom the moment the local apparatus residence occupied by the Manager P. graph and telephone, suggesting was put to work, for within almost a A. Curry, and the house next to it oc- clothing and any other assistance shorter time than it takes to tell, the cupied by George D. Geldert. Beyond which might be required. While these arge warehouse and sheds with all this there was an open space, and the outside offers were coming in, the their contents of fertilizer, feed, flour fire went no further along the north Town officials were not idle, and and hay and coal, were a raging fur- side of King Street. early in the afternoon a meeting of the Mayor. Town Council and pronace with the wind fanning the flames WAGED REAL FIGHT. minent citizens was held, The follow

CALLED FOR ASSISTANCE.



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of

Mr. Col



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drectly upon the town.