

Canada's fire losses for the first nine months were:—

January	\$1,500,000
February	1,263,005
March	851,690
April	720,650
May	3,358,276
June	1,360,275
July	1,075,600
August	2,582,915
September	1,615,405

\$14,327,816

The following is a list of September fires involving losses of \$10,000 and over:—

Victoria, B.C.—Messrs. M. R. Smith & Company's candy factory, \$50,000.

Niagara Falls, Ont.—Mr. C. N. Glendenning's mill, \$25,000.

Yamaska, Que.—Fifteen dwellings and several barns, \$50,000.

Almonte, Ont.—Block owned by the Patterson estate, \$12,200. Several buildings destroyed, \$57,500.

Rigaud, Que.—The Merchants' Bank and the James Fletcher Company, \$20,000.

Kingston, Ont.—The Thousand Island Steamboat Company's steamer "Islander," \$20,000.

Metcalfe, Ont.—Buildings owned by Mr. James Simpson, \$20,000.

Montreal, Que.—The La Nicholas and Montreal Witness buildings, \$162,000.

St. Marguerite Station, Que.—Mr. McDuff Lamb's home, \$10,000.

Shoal Lake, Man.—Several buildings destroyed, \$14,000.

Hamilton, Ont.—The Savoy Theatre, \$25,000.

Nelson, B.C.—Hall Mines' buildings, \$15,000.

Toronto, Ont.—Stables of Messrs. Hendrie & Company, \$15,000. Race horses owned by Hon. Adam Beck, \$10,000.

Saskatoon, Sask.—Bowerman Block destroyed, \$40,000.

Midland, Ont.—Messrs. Chew Brothers' lumber yard, and that of Mr. Chew, M.P., \$500,000.

What Were Destroyed.

The structures destroyed and damaged included 88 residences; 65 barns and stables; 26 stores; 10 hotels; 6 factories; 5 warehouses; 4 offices; 4 blacksmith shops; 4 mills; 3 steam boats; 3 lumber yards; 3 machine shops; 2 laundries; 2 automobiles; 2 canneries; 2 theatres, and a church, bank, power house, livery, Marconi station, cotton mill, dairy, grain elevator, mine buildings, mattress works, and car of oxide.

Causes of Fires.

Of the presumed causes to which fires are attributed, 28 were from lightning; spark from engine, 7; incendiarism, 6; playing with matches, 4; coal oil explosion, 4; oil stove explosion, 2; defective wiring, 2; and also, defective chimney, leaky carburettor, fire in compressor plant, overheated stove pipe, spontaneous combustion, match dropped and chemical explosion.

Loss of Life in Fires.

The loss of life in fires during September showed a decrease of seven compared with that of August. The number of buildings burned in which people met death was greater. The Vernon hotel fire in August assisted much in making the high total.

Here are the September details:—

City or Town. Lives Lost.

Underwood, Ont. 1

St. John, N.B. 1

St. Andrew's, Ont. 1

Perth, Ont. 1

Melita, Man. 1

Cape Rouge 1

Vegreville, Alta. 1

Hamilton 1

Montreal 2

10

Causes.

Suffocated.

Cause unknown.

Suffocated.

Burned in house.

Burned in house.

Clothes ignited.

Prairie fire.

Clothes ignited.

Jumped from blazing house.

10

125

The fire fatalities for the first nine months of the year were:—

January 16

February 8

March 16

April 18

May 20

June 16

July 4

August 17

September 10

125

The fire which destroyed the barns of Mr. J. D. McLellan, Cornwall, Ont., doing \$4,000 damage, is supposed to have been caused by incendiaries.

Incendiaries are believed to have set fire to the barns of Mr. J. Fiske, and Mr. W. Ginnis, Charlottetown, P.E.I.

Incendiarism is suspected in connection with the fire which destroyed Mr. Q. E. West's barn at Woodstock, Ont., causing \$5,000 loss.

An investigation is being held into the cause of fire at Fernie, B.C., which destroyed Mr. Struther's store.

The fire at Shoal Lake, Man., in which the Miller Block was destroyed is supposed to have been caused by incendiaries.

Several fires of incendiary origin occurred at Portage la Prairie, Man.

An incendiary was supposed to have set fire to the home of Mr. J. R. Gallagher, Thurlow Township, Ont.

Mr. Walter William Hall, believed to be insane, admitted burning the barn of Mr. A. H. Beckstead, Cornwall, Ont.

SEPTEMBER HAPPENINGS.

Brief Summary for the Busy Man of the Chief Events During the Past Month.

Miscellaneous.

The Royal Commission appointed to investigate the civic affairs of Montreal concluded its sittings.

Mining.

The Ontario Government sold the Provincial Mine to Mr. F. M. Connell, of Haileybury, Ont., for the sum of \$113,111.

Stock Exchange.

The organization of the Dominion Exchange, Ltd., empowered to do a general stock exchange business was announced, Mr. J. R. Roaf, Toronto, being the solicitor for the organizers.

Commercial.

Mr. W. F. Thompson, vice-president and general manager of the Ogilvie Flour Mills Company, announced that many additions would be made to the company's plant.

The annual meeting of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association was held at Hamilton, Ont.

A Royal Commission appointed to investigate trade relations between Canada and the West Indies took evidence in Ottawa, Toronto, St. John, Halifax, and Montreal, and decided to meet early in 1910 in order to visit the West Indies.

The retail merchants of Winnipeg formed a protective association.

Life Insurance.

The Detroit Conference of Accident Underwriters convened at Niagara Falls.

The annual report of the Dominion Insurance Department was published, showing the total premiums received in 1908 by Canadian life insurance companies to be \$16,081,504.

by British companies \$1,546,275, by United States companies \$7,066,866, a grand total of \$24,694,645.

A Government statement was published showing the gross premiums of life insurance companies in Saskatchewan in 1908 to be \$581,743 and the companies' investments in that province, \$7,821,092.

The third annual convention of the Life Underwriters' Association of Canada was held in Toronto on September 1st, 2nd, and 3rd.

Transportation.

The Montreal Street Railway published its annual report showing net earnings for the fiscal year of over a million and a half dollars.

The Quebec-Levis Ferries were purchased by Mayor Bernier, of Levis, Que.

The Allan Line Steamship Company transferred its headquarters from Glasgow to Montreal and made several changes in its directorate.

Mr. W. R. Clarke, holding a charter to build a road from Edmonton to Fort McMurray, returned from Europe with, it was reported, \$14,000,000 for the construction of the railroad.

The Canadian Pacific Railroad published its annual report, showing a surplus of \$3,847,162 on the year's operations.

The British Columbia Electric Railway Company made a stock issue of \$500,000 to provide for extensions.

Banking.

The Lake Superior Corporation published its annual report showing a profit and loss balance of half a million dollars.

The Bank of Ottawa increased its capital stock by the issue of 5,000 shares.

The Standard Trust and the Financial Company, Ltd., was organized in Vancouver with a capital of \$1,000,000.