

FEBRUARY FIRE LOSSES

Decrease in Total for the Month—More Fatalities

The *Monetary Times*' estimate of Canada's fire losses during February, 1919, is \$1,091,834, compared with \$3,915,290 in January, 1919, and \$2,243,762 for February, 1918. This reduction will be welcome to all fire insurance companies, for whom the month has been a comparatively satisfactory one. The following is the estimate of the February losses:—

Fires exceeding \$10,000	\$ 695,000
Small fires reported	180,595
Estimate of unreported fires	216,239
Total	\$1,091,834

The *Monetary Times*' record of the past three years and this year to date shows the following monthly losses:—

Month.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.
January	\$ 1,649,217	\$ 1,918,660	\$ 2,688,556	\$ 3,915,290
February	3,275,600	2,009,953	2,243,762	1,091,834
March	1,406,501	2,050,650	1,682,286	.....
April	1,460,437	1,317,714	3,240,187	.....
May	1,850,205	1,163,110	3,570,014	.....
June	494,557	1,184,627	3,080,982	.....
July	3,039,634	1,101,734	3,369,684	.....
August	1,057,109	1,230,183	3,110,445	.....
September	981,703	1,301,700	917,286	.....
October	1,077,815	704,605	5,119,145	.....
November	923,235	959,049	1,059,580	.....
December	3,271,496	5,144,100	1,733,917	.....
Totals	\$20,487,509	\$20,086,085	\$31,815,844	\$ 5,007,124

The following is a list of fires in February at which the loss was \$10,000 and over:—

Toronto, Ont., February 1, waste mills of J. M. Lawlor, \$10,000.

Ville St. Pierre, Que., February 1, factory of the Lumber and Construction Company, \$40,000.

Halifax, N.S., February 4, dry goods store of Y. Kennedy, \$50,000.

Montreal, Que., February 2, premises of the Yale Bedding Company, \$40,000.

Halifax, N.S., February 4, three dwelling houses, \$15,000.

Beaverton, Ont., February 10, varnishing plant of the Beaver Company, Limited, \$10,000.

North Bay, Ont., February 19, building of Rutherglen Milling and Mining Company, \$15,000.

St. John, N.B., February 12, the court house, \$10,000.

Quebec, Que., February 24, Mechanics' Supply Company's stores, \$150,000.

Sherbrooke, Que., February 25, J. M. Nault's dry goods store, \$30,000.

Sillery, Que., February 18, dwelling of A. Laurent, \$39,000.

St. John, N.B., February 21, warehouse of the Nashwaak Pulp and Paper Company, \$30,000.

Sydney, N.S., February 21, the McKenna Garage, \$40,000.

Thorold, Ont., February 23, plant of the Thorold Basket Company, \$20,000.

Winnipeg, Man., February 26, the Broadway Drill Hall, \$15,000.

Beaverdale, Que., February 10, premises of the Beaver Company, Limited, \$15,000.

Shawinigan Falls, Que., February 26, business block, \$150,000.

Mitchellton, Sask., February 28, post office and general store, \$16,000.

Among the structures damaged or destroyed last month were:—Stores, 4; fish houses, 2; waste mill, 1; factory, 1; residences, 17; school, 1; plants, 6; business buildings, 4; tenements, 2; barns, 4; courthouse, 1; laundry, 1; market place, 1; warehouse, 1; garage, 1; drill hall, 1; business block, 1; post office, 1; residential section, 1.

Among the causes reported last month were:—Explosion of coal tar, 1; overheated chimney, 1; overheated furnace, 1; defective furnace, 1; overheating oil, 1; explosion of boiler, 1; explosion of lamp, 1; hot ashes, 1; overheated stove pipes, 1; overheated heater, 1.

The following is a list of fires at which fatalities occurred last month:—

Rosalind, Alta., February 1..	Trapped in burning house.	1
Welland, Ont., February 6 ...	Trapped in burning house.	1
Sudbury, Ont., February 9 ...	Trapped in burning house.	4
Halifax, N.S., February 10...	Suffocated in burning house.	3
Fredericton, N.B., February 13	Clothing caught fire	1
Windsor, Ont., February 15 ..	Trapped in burning house.	1
Winnipeg, Man., February 17.	No particulars given	1
Cobalt, Ont., February 18 ...	Scalded from burning water	1
Gilbert Plains, Man., February 7	Burning gasoline	1
Montreal, Que., February 21..	Trapped in burning hotel..	8
Toronto, Ont., February 22...	Clothing caught fire	1
Portage la Prairie, Man., February 25	Burning gasoline	1
Total		26

The following table, compiled by *The Monetary Times*, shows deaths caused by fire during the past seven years and this year to date:—

Month.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.
January	27	14	26	3	10	21	28	13
February	11	21	18	11	23	19	87	26
March	24	22	27	23	23	20	34	..
April	15	11	22	14	6	15	7	..
May	18	33	8	5	14	12	10	..
June	6	18	12	2	6	9	9	..
July	9	9	8	13	268	19	6	..
August	16	29	3	14	30	12	7	..
September	6	27	9	27	6	21	13	..
October	21	15	9	7	39	23	11	..
November	22	24	14	12	12	21	3	..
December	28	13	19	11	94	15	26	..
Totals	203	236	175	142	531	207	241	39

RECENT FIRES

The *Monetary Times*' Weekly Register of Fire Losses and Insurance

Alberton, P.E.I.—March 2—Business section of town was destroyed. Both sides of Main St. were ruined. Estimated loss, \$100,000.

Anyox, B.C.—March 2—Plant of the Granby Consolidated Ore Co. was damaged. Estimated loss to ore bins, tracks and smelters of \$50,000.

Ingersoll, Ont.—February 28—Barn on the farm of F. Minshall was destroyed after being struck by lightning. The loss is covered by insurance.

Mitchellton, Sask.—February 28—The post-office, a general store and premises occupied by the Security Lumber Co. were damaged. Estimated loss, \$16,000.

Ottawa, Ont.—February 28—Three houses on Creighton Street were damaged. House of A. Brisvois, 33 Creighton Street, was badly burned. Estimated loss, \$2,000.

Toronto, Ont.—February 28—The Wigwam restaurant, on the west bank of the Humber River, was destroyed. The loss is covered by insurance.

March 4—Building at 387 Brock Avenue was damaged. Estimated loss, \$700.

Shawinigan Falls, Que.—February 26—Business block was damaged. Ten stores were burned. Estimated loss, \$100,000.

Vancouver, B.C.—February 22—Brick block at 126 Pender Street East was damaged. Estimated loss, \$8,000.

Woodburn, Ont.—February 28—House of H. Young, a farmer, was destroyed. Caused by defective chimney.