

CANADA'S OCTOBER FIRE LOSSES

Total for Month Showed Small Decrease—Ontario Leads Provinces

The *Monetary Times*' estimate of Canada's fire loss during October amounted to \$1,257,072, compared with September loss of \$1,468,324, and \$883,949 for the corresponding period of last year. The following is the estimate for the October losses:—

Fires exceeding \$10,000	\$ 981,038
Small fires	222,069
Estimates for unreported fires	180,465

\$1,383,572

The following are the monthly totals of the losses by fire during 1910, 1911, 1912, and 1913:—

	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.
January	\$ 1,275,246	\$ 2,250,550	\$ 3,002,650	\$ 3,913,385
February	750,625	941,945	1,640,153	2,037,386
March	1,076,253	852,380	2,261,414	1,710,756
April	1,717,237	1,317,900	1,355,055	1,470,622
May	2,735,536	2,564,500	2,251,815	2,123,868
June	1,500,000	1,151,150	4,229,412	3,069,440
July	6,386,674	5,384,300	1,741,371	2,579,698
August	1,667,270	920,000	1,164,760	3,034,775
September	894,125	1,123,550	883,949	1,468,324
October	2,195,781	580,750	1,416,218	1,383,572
November	1,943,708	1,506,500	1,184,010	
December	1,444,860	2,866,950	1,769,905	
	\$23,593,315	\$21,459,575	\$22,900,712	\$22,781,832

Large Fires.

The fires at which the loss was estimated at \$10,000 and over were:—

Sep. 26—Steveston, B.C..	Farm buildings	\$ 10,000
Sep. 27—Toronto, Ont. . .	Manufacturing building..	40,000
Oct. 1—London derry, N.S.	Hotel	10,000
Oct. 1—Gananoque, Ont.	Spring and axle works..	35,338
Oct. 2—Ottawa, Ont. . .	Residence	10,000
Oct. 3—Pembroke, Ont. .	Business block	60,000
Oct. 4—Toronto, Ont. . .	Garage, etc.	30,000
Oct. 7—Toronto, Ont. . .	Business block	25,800
Oct. 9—Winona Beach, Ont.	Fishing huts, etc.	10,000
Oct. 10—Morin Heights, Que.	Lumber mill	30,000
Oct. 11—Ottawa, Ont. . .	Cattle barn	75,000
Oct. 12—Montreal, Que..	Sash and door factory...	15,000
Oct. 13—Ottawa, Ont. . .	Sash and door factory...	57,000
Oct. 16—New Liskeard, Ont.	Store	10,000
Oct. 16—Montreal, Que..	Convent	80,000
Oct. 17—Montreal, Que..	School	10,000
Oct. 18—St. Hilaire, Que.	Church	45,000
Oct. 19—Brantford, Ont..	Leather factory	80,000
Oct. 22—Montreal, Que..	Business block	25,000
Oct. 25—Ganges Harbor, B.C.	Hotel	15,000
Oct. 27—London, Ont. . .	Factory	17,000
Oct. 27—Edmonton, Alta..	Store	110,000
Oct. 29—Montreal, Que..	Business block	100,000
Oct. 29—Port Maitland, N.S.	Business block	30,000
Oct. 30—Edmonton, Alta.	Rink, etc.	30,000
Oct. 31—Toronto, Ont. . .	Manufacturing building..	20,900
Oct. 31—Quebec, Que. . .	Store, etc.	130,000

Many Structures Damaged.

The structures damaged and destroyed included 53 residences, 36 barns and stables, 26 stores, 16 sheds, 9 hotels, 9 factories, 6 business blocks, 5 schools, 5 workshops, 3 planing mills, 3 warehouses, 3 garages, 3 churches, 3 fish-houses, 2 foundries, 2 apartment houses, 2 sash and door factories, 1 each elevator, wool mill, laundry, armory, brick kiln, newspaper plant, exhibition building, rink, restaurant, bank, oil-house, smoke-house, icehouse, hall, gas works, and picture theatre.

Of the presumed causes, 15 were attributed to incendiaries, 9 matches, 8 sparks, 6 defective chimneys, 5 ignited gasoline, 5 electrical, defects, 5 defective and overheated stoves, 4 tramps, 3 friction, 3 engine backfiring, 2 defective chimneys, 2 dropped cigarettes, 2 overturned lamps, 1 each burst oil-pipe, fuse from dynamite charge, hot ashes, hot castings, lightning, ignition of burning wax, collision, fumigating and smoking in bed.

There were destroyed 56 horses, 6 cows, 4 mules, 12 pigs, 1 squirrel, 1 raccoon, 1 dog, 6,500 bushels of wheat, 10,500 bushels of oats, 6,481 tons hay, 100 tons peas, 100 tons straw, 400 tons ensilage, 300 tons coal, 14 box cars, 14 freight cars, 13 carriages, 4 sleighs, 16 autos, 3 electric cars,

2 tug boats, 1 ferry boat, 800 military uniforms, 50,000 rounds ammunition, set of band instruments, 2 threshing machines, 1 tent.

During September, 15 lost their lives through fire.

The following are the monthly totals compared with 1909, 1910, 1911 and 1912:—

	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.
January	16	27	27	27	14
February	8	15	12	11	21
March	16	20	18	24	22
April	18	37	20	15	11
May	21	15	28	18	33
June	16	52	13	6	18
July	4	15	110	9	9
August	17	11	22	16	29
September	10	10	13	6	27
October	26	16	17	21	15
November	34	19	20	22	..
December	33	19	17	28	..
Totals	219	256	317	203	199

The fires at which the fatalities occurred were:—

Renfrew, Ont.	Smoking in bed	1
Asquith, Sask.	Burning building	1
St. Thomas, Ont.	Playing with matches	1
Eastern Harbor, N.S.	Burning building	1
Hamstead, N.B.	Playing with matches	1
Wilkie, Sask.	Burning building	1
Caughnawaga, Que.	Started fire with coal oil.....	1
Toronto, Ont.	Set clothing alight	1
Gleichen, Alta.	Burning building	1
Saskatoon, Sask.	Set clothes alight	1
North Battleford, Sask.	Burning building	2
Toronto, Ont.	Foundry fire	1
Ponoka, Alta.	Burning building	1
Arrowood, Sask.	Burning building	1

15

Provincial Fire Losses.

The fire waste in each province for first nine months of this year has been estimated by *The Monetary Times*, as follows:—

Ontario	\$7,322,118
Quebec	3,853,051
Alberta	3,636,431
Manitoba	2,062,797
Saskatchewan	1,945,328
Nova Scotia	1,548,717
New Brunswick	1,057,005
British Columbia	903,594
Prince Edward Island	452,791
	\$22,781,822

NOVEMBER FIRES

Lakefield, Ont.—November 1—Strickland homestead. Loss and cause unknown.

Strome, Alta.—November 2—Business section. Loss, \$50,000. Cause unknown.

Cobalt, Ont.—November 3—Dane Mining Company's plant. Loss, \$5,000. Cause unknown.

St. Catharines, Ont.—November 3—Grand Trunk freight sheds. Loss, \$50,000. Cause unknown.

Montreal, Que.—November 1—Shed rear Women's Hospital, 1002 St. Catharines Street. Loss and cause unknown.

Toronto, Ont.—November 1—Mr. S. J. Marchalleck; office 19 Richmond Street East. Loss, contents \$50, building \$25. Cause, overheated stove. Mrs. Burke's residence, 60 Bellefair Avenue. Loss, \$50. Cause, defective gas grate. Mr. S. Sosken, shed, etc. Loss, \$35. Cause unknown.

November 2—Queen City Produce Company, 624 Parliament Street. Loss, contents, \$800; building, \$150. Cause unknown.

November 3—Mr. C. Rollinick's bicycle store, 127 Chestnut Street. Loss, building, \$100; contents, \$400. Cause unknown. Mr. A. Arego's shed, 105 Elm Street. Loss, contents, \$50; building, \$50. Cause unknown.

That a fire prevention bureau, under the control of the Montreal fire department, be established; that this bureau comprise a staff of not less than thirty-seven competent inspectors, whose duties should include the frequent inspection of all buildings and premises to see that the by-laws concerning cleanliness of premises, the removal of waste, the disposal of hot ashes, and, generally, all by-laws dealing with the hazard of fire, be strictly enforced; that all matters which have any relation whatever to the safeguarding of life and property from fire, including the erection and maintenance of fire escapes and all other appliances, should be within the jurisdiction of the fire department, were the recommendations of a deputation of Montreal business men to that city's board of control.