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FLAMES DESTROY OVER \$100,000 WORTH OF PROPERTY; FOUR FAMILIES TURNED OUT IN BITTER WEATHER

Hamm Bros.' Biscuit Works, Blue Ribbon Bottling Works and Other Buildings Damaged—Firemen Have Hard Fight Under Difficult Weather Conditions—\$5,000 Fire in Smalley's Jewellery Store.

Two St. John industries, Hamm Bros. Biscuit Works and the Blue Ribbon Bottling Works, were put out of business temporarily last night by fire and the total loss will run well up to \$100,000, with probably a quarter of that amount of insurance. Four factory buildings and two dwelling houses were destroyed. The Hamm Bros. Biscuit Works occupied two three storey buildings, one brick one wooden, on Main street, and these were completely gutted; a small dwelling adjoining the eastern end of Hamm Bros., in which was located the harness shop of R. J. Currie on the ground floor and a dwelling in the upper storey; the Blue Ribbon Bottling Works facing Elm street; a dwelling house owned by Hamm Bros. and occupied by three families, adjoining it, and the boiler house, which supplied power for both the Biscuit Works and the Bottling Works, and standing at the rear of the Elm street plant, were the buildings destroyed.

Mr. Hamm stated last night that he was unable to account for the fire as there had not been any fire in the buildings except a small fire in the furnace to keep up steam enough to heat the plant, as no work had been done since the day before Christmas and so far as he knew there were no wires where the fire was first noticed.

Officer Sends in Alarm.

The fire was first seen by Officer Kierstead, who was passing the building and noticed the reflection in the eastern end of the wooden building. He rang in an alarm from box 143 and by the time the apparatus arrived there was a big flame visible in the stock room and in less than half an hour both buildings were a seething mass of flames and the efforts of the firemen were concentrated on trying to keep it from spreading.

The officer stated that he passed the building on his way up the street about ten minutes before he rang in the alarm and on that occasion noticed nothing wrong.

Mr. Hamm said he did not see how it could have started from the boiler house, as it was at least one hundred feet away from where the fire was first noticed.

Spreads to Elm Street.

The Main street buildings were connected with the Elm street building by a covered alleyway and the flames followed this and finally got a grip on the Bottling Works and the adjoining house.

The house was occupied by Joseph Garnett, Robert Bryson and Mrs. Doyle. When it was seen there was danger of the house catching fire, willing hands removed the furniture of the occupants and it will probably all be saved.

The Elm street building in addition to the Bottling Works was used in part as a warehouse for Hamm Bros., and a large quantity of flour, boxes, etc., was stored there. These will be a total loss.

The Main street buildings also contained a large stock, as a quantity of goods had been made up in expectation of shutting down for a short time to overhaul machinery, etc. This will be all lost as the water would be as destructive on it as fire.

Mr. Hamm was unable to say last night what the loss would be, but placed it somewhere about \$100,000 with insurance of about \$20,000.

R. J. Currie's Loss.

R. J. Currie who had stock and tools to the value of \$4,000 in his store had \$1,500 insurance, and this will cover any loss, as the most of the goods were removed before the fire reached the building and taken to a place of safety.

How it was Fought.

The fire was fought both from front and rear but it had obtained such a grip that it was some time before any impression was made although tons of water were poured into the burning buildings. The motor engine was stationed opposite the North End police station and supplied two powerful streams; No. 4 was placed on Elm street and also supplied two streams.

Three streams were used in front of the Main street buildings, while a number were carried through from Elm street and used for a time on these to prevent if possible the spread of the flames to the big Elm street building.

A \$5,000 BLAZE ON PRINCE WILLIAM ST.

An alarm was sent in from box 26 at 10:45 last night for a brick blaze in the jewellery store occupied by A. B. Smalley & Son Ltd. on Prince William street. The fire is supposed to

have been started from the furnace becoming overheated. It quickly spread to the first floor and from there to the second floor. The firemen quickly got the fire under control.

The loss from fire and water will probably amount to \$5,000 partly covered by insurance. The storage Corps men were quick on the scene and performed splendid service. The building is situated at 91 Prince William street and is owned by the George E. Fairweather Estate. All four floors are occupied by A. B. Smalley & Son and the damage was confined to the two lower floors.

BROWNVILLE FIRE

Word was received here last night of a fire at Brownville, Me., on the C. P. R. A double tenement house occupied by Philip Legore and Griffith Jones, William Briggs' house and barn and several sheds were destroyed. The loss is about \$10,000.

A SLIGHT FIRE.

While plumbers were thawing water pipes yesterday afternoon in Dr. J. C. Doore's dental parlors, corner Douglas avenue and Main street, some packing between the floors in the laboratory caught fire and a stubborn blaze was the result. It was at first feared that the flames would spread to the hand-

somely appointed reception parlors, but quick work on the part of Dr. Doore and the plumbers extinguished the blaze without calling upon the fire department.

THREE ALARMS OF FIRE.

The firemen had their first run of the New Year yesterday morning when they were called to the premises of the Canadian Furhanks Morse Company for a slight fire caused by an overheated dynamo. It was quickly extinguished by the chemical and no damage was done to the building. A slight fire occurred in the house of A. W. Adams, 22 Mecklenburg street, about 8 o'clock Monday morning. The fire was soon under control and damages amounted to about \$150. The North End department responded to a call from box 131 Monday afternoon to extinguish a slight blaze in a new house being built by Sgt. Chas. Rankin on Durham street. The fire came from the stove which was being used to dry the plaster, damaging one section of the lower flat to the extent of about \$300. The blaze was extinguished in about fifteen minutes.

GLASS OF SALTS CLEANS KIDNEYS

If your Back hurts or Bladder bothers you, drink lots of water.

When your kidneys hurt and your back feels sore, don't get scared and proceed to load your stomach with a lot of drugs that excite the kidneys and irritate the entire urinary tract. Keep your kidneys clean like you keep your bowels clean, by flushing them with a mild, harmless salt which removes the body's urinous waste and stimulates them to their normal activity. The function of the kidneys is to filter the blood. In twenty-four hours they strain from it 500 grains of acid and waste, so we can readily understand the vital importance of keeping the kidneys active.

Drink lots of water—you can't drink too much; also get from any pharmacist about four ounces of Jad Salts; take a tablespoonful in a glass of water before breakfast each morning for a few days and your kidneys will function. This famous water from the acid of grapes and lemon juice, combined with lithia, and has been used for generations to clean and stimulate clogged kidneys; also to neutralize the acids in urine so it no longer is a source of irritation, thus ending bladder weakness.

Jad Salts is inexpensive; cannot injure; makes a delightful effervescent lithia-water drink which everybody should take now and then to keep their kidneys clean and active. Try this, also keep up the water drinking, and no doubt you will wonder what became of your kidney trouble and backache.

Montreal, Dec. 30.—A fair degree of optimism was evident today as to the outlook of Canadian market in January. Some houses believe that money is going to be a little easier, and the belief is apparently based on something more tangible than mere hopes, that it will be easier. Most firms have been carrying large cash balances because of recent uncertainties as to the permanency of their loans. If any new money made its appearance and there was a reasonable prospect that money could be found to release loans that might be called from time to time there would be a disposition to put these idle cash balances to use.

THE CANADIENS DEFEATED TORONTO

Montreal, Dec. 30.—By defeating the Torontos by a score of 9 to 2, at the Arena last night, the Canadiens showed a glaring form reversal over their previous meeting with the Queen City aggregation, when they were beaten by a score of 7 to 4.

Never at any stage of Saturday night's fixture was the result in doubt as the locals outkicked and outplayed their opponents throughout the match. The Frenchmen's defence was like a stone wall against the attack of the smaller and lighter Toronto players. The play was rough at stages but only one of the penalties incurred by the players came as the result of a melee on the ice, this being in the third period when Randall and Ipre came to blows. Munnery, who was making his initial appearance in a Toronto uniform, was of little service to his club through the frequent penalties drawn by him and Cameron and others who participated in roughing things up during the early stages of the game. The play was too one-sided to be particularly interesting and after Canadiens had secured a commanding lead many of those in attendance left the arena.

Torontos are still suffering from the want of a goaltender, as the exhibition put up by Brooks was as weak as that furnished by him in the match against Wanderers, which gave the Red Bards their only victory of this season.

THIRTEEN FALSE ALARMS IN QUEBEC

Quebec, Dec. 30.—Between six o'clock and eleven o'clock Saturday night thirteen false fire alarms were sounded in this city. The temperature at the time was nearly thirty below zero and the firemen suffered keenly from the cold many of them having their hands, faces and feet badly slipped by the frost. The horses were badly jaded and two of the auto hose wagons were put out of commission.

Two members of the fire brigade, who were of duty are suspected and a rigid investigation will be instituted by the fire department tomorrow.

FOR HALIFAX RELIEF.
East Florencville and neighboring communities have already responded to the call for help from the needy in the stricken city of Halifax. In addition to three crates of bedding and one of clothing the sum of \$321 has been sent forward.

\$30,000 FIRE IN CALAIS FACTORY

St. Stephen, Dec. 29.—A destructive fire broke out in the candy factory of Beckett & Co., Calais. The factory was badly gutted and the adjoining buildings occupied by the Calais Advertising Co. and the Knights of Pythias Hall; also the drug store of Percy Lord, were much damaged.

The loss is probably \$30,000. Charles Gillis, chief of the Calais fire department, fell through the elevator shaft and received a bad shaking up.

BESSARABIA IS NOW REPUBLIC

Petrograd, Saturday, Dec. 29.—Bessarabia has declared its independence as the Moldavian republic, to form a part of the Russian federated republic.

Bessarabia is a government of Southwestern Russia, adjoining Rumania. About half the inhabitants are Rumanians. The population is in the capital of Bessarabia, which has an area of about 10,000 square miles.

MRS. WHEELDON IS OUT OF PRISON

London, Dec. 29.—Mrs. Alice Wheeldon, who with her daughter and the latter's husband, was found guilty and sentenced last March to ten years imprisonment on the charge of conspiracy to poison Premier Lloyd-George, has been released from prison at the premier's request. Mrs. Wheeldon is near death through a hunger strike.

PURE RICH BLOOD PREVENTS DISEASE

Bad blood—that is, blood that is impure and enervated, thin and pale—is responsible for more ailments than anything else. It affects every organ and function. In some cases it causes catarrh; in others, dyspepsia; in others, rheumatism; and in still others, weak, tired, languid feelings and worse troubles. It is responsible for run-down conditions, and is the most common cause of disease.

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ENEMY HOLDS 46,712 BRITISH PRISONERS

London, Dec. 15.—(By mail)—British prisoners held by the enemy, including those in Switzerland, total 46,712, according to an official announcement. The prisoners include members of the regular army, territorial forces, royal naval divisions, divided as follows:

Officers other ranks	
In Germany	1,863 41,836
In Turkey	340 1,959
In Bulgaria	42 586
In Austria	12 74
Totals	2,257 44,455

Dorchester, Dec. 29.—The result of the vote polled in Westmorland, December 17, was officially declared today by Returning Officer I. U. Killam, showing A. B. Copp's majority to be 1,634. The totals stand, A. B. Copp, 6,480; Dr. O. B. Price, 4,846.

George McCord was present to represent Mr. Copp, and Dr. Price was represented by Raleigh Triggs, of Sackville. Dr. Price also being present in person.

The votes by parishes follow:—Salisbury, Copp, 275; Price, 544; Moncton parish, Copp, 727; Price, 700; Shediac, Copp, 1,153; Price, 208; Dorchester, Copp, 971; Price, 207; Sackville, Copp, 748; Price, 607; Westmorland, Copp, 256; Price, 237; Botsford, Copp, 687; Price, 323; Moncton city, Copp, 1,663; Price, 2,022.

New York, Dec. 30.—The already Greater New York became more acute today by reason of the unprecedentedly cold weather. The available supply of fuel at the New Jersey terminals cannot be moved owing to the impossibility of obtaining men to handle it during the below-zero weather. Another cause for worry to the fuel officials is the probability that the Hudson River may be frozen over and interrupt navigation, in which event the city would be cut off with less than one day's supply on hand.

A canvass of all retail coal cellars in the city was being made today, and the empty ones are to be the first to get a supply. All citizens without fuel are being directed to the cellars men who still have coal on hand.

North Vernon, Ind., Dec. 30.—Seven are known to be dead and about twenty injured as the result of a head-on collision between a westbound and an eastbound Baltimore and Ohio train, a mile east of here last night. All the dead were members of the crew.

The cause of the wreck is reported to have been the failure of the automatic block system to work.

GOOD BLOOD
"Blood will tell" blotches and blemishes, like murder, will out, unless the blood is kept pure. Its purity is restored and protected by the faithful use of

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