

## FIRES OF THE WEEK.

MOYIE, B.C.—C.P.R. freight shed destroyed, July 26.

GOLDEN, B. C.—Columbia River Lumber Company's mill destroyed on July 21.

WINNIPEG.—Thirty-three Canadian Northern Railway cars burned, August 2. Loss placed at \$40,000 exclusive of contents.

ST. JOHN'S, QUE.—House of Mr. P. Marcell, on Bernier Range, struck by lightning and destroyed, August 4. Two children lost their lives.

MEAFORD, ONT.—Fire in Mrs. Maxwell's house, Barry Street, August 2. Contents destroyed and house damaged.

ALEXANDRIA, ONT.—Barns and outbuildings on the farm of Mr. D. R. McDonald, M.L.A., at Williamstown, destroyed July 28. Estimated loss, \$5,000.

GOPHER HEAD, ALTA.—New residence of Isaac Collins and contents, destroyed, July 25. Loss estimated at \$1,750, partially covered by insurance.

MONTREAL.—Barn belonging to Mr. Benoit, farmer at Parc Laval, burned, following lightning, August 4, with horse, two cows and a quantity of farming implements.

WARKWORTH, ONT.—Two cottages belonging to Mr. J. C. Boyce, at Percy Broom, a summer resort on the Trout River, destroyed by fire following lightning.

CALUMET, ONT.—Barn of James Trotter, struck by lightning and destroyed, August 2. Total loss, including a great quantity of hay and agricultural machinery. Estimated loss, \$8,000.

PORT ARTHUR.—Sawmill at Nalabu near here, owned by Varsveld Brothers, destroyed after having been struck by lightning. (The loss, estimated at \$10,000, is not covered by insurance.)

OTTAWA.—House of Mrs. Pete Champagne, of Chelsea Road, about a mile out of Hull, and its contents were burned, August 1. An Ottawa man, named James O'Leary, is now in custody charged with setting fire to the place.

SASKATOON, SASK.—Winnipeg Oil Company completely burned out, July 29. Fire originated through explosion of gas that had generated from the oil in one of the rooms of the warehouse. Estimated damage, \$10,000.

SELKIRK, MAN.—Cold storage and warehousing plant of Winnipeg Fish Company totally destroyed August 2 by fire of unknown origin. Plant had not been operated for two years. Loss estimated at \$60,000.

MACLEOD, ALTA.—On the 30th ult., a fire occurred on the premises of Mr. F. B. C. Metge, restaurant. The following companies are interested: Queen, \$2,500; Northern, \$1,500; Canadian Fire, \$1,000. Loss total.

MOOSE JAW, SASK.—Fire in department store of T. W. Robinson & Co., largest retail establishment in Moose Jaw, on July 31st, did great damage through smoke and water to stock, but building was but little damaged. Cause of fire unknown.

WOODSTOCK, N. B.—House and barn of A. Hand, Connel road, struck by lightning and burned with contents, including valuable horse. House of Mr. W. S. Hany, six miles up the river, also burned; barn and its contents destroyed in the locality; and a building struck and fired in the town.

KOOTENAY, B.C.—Recent forest fires in the Kootenay district have entailed heavy losses upon the Great Northern Ry., U. S. A. Ten cars were burned, a large number of bridges have gone and a large amount of the company's timber has also been destroyed.

PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE, MAN.—By the fire which occurred on the 25th ult., on the premises of Mr. C. D. McPherson, Portage la Prairie, the following companies are interested:

ON BUILDING	
Northern	\$1,000
Phoenix of London	1,000
Liverpool & London & Globe	500
Manitoba	500
Occidental	1,000
	<hr/> \$4,000

Loss 10 per cent

ON CONTENTS.	
Central Canada	2,000
Montreal-Canada	1,000
	<hr/> \$3,000

Loss about 75 per cent.

ST. JACQUES L'ACHIGAN, P.Q.—On the 1st instant, a fire at St. Jacques L'Achigan, Que., destroying about twelve buildings. The following companies are interested:

Phoenix of London	\$2,400
London & Lancashire	600
Liverpool & London & Globe	500
Northern	2,500
London Mutual	1,760
Stratheona	5,600
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Total loss	\$13,360
Property loss about	\$35,000

### ABNORMAL FIRE LOSSES THROUGHOUT THE WEST.

Losses in the West for July, say Chicago advices to the New York Journal of Commerce, are abnormal and several general agencies report the month as being the worst in their history. While lumber losses have been unusually numerous and severe, all classes of property have been burning. The dry weather is largely responsible for the forest fires, which lead to the lumber losses, and for the high loss ratio on farm property. It is believed also that some moral hazard is developing owing to the business depression and the damage to the crops. Lightning and tornado losses have been unusually severe the last week.

The July losses in Chicago have been the heaviest the month has known for some time. Up to July 30, 1,400 alarms had been turned in, while 600 is the monthly average. There were 164 alarms on the Fourth of July alone. It is estimated that the insurance losses for the month will be considerably over \$1,000,000. The Gries-Pfleger tannery and the North Western Malt Company fires alone cost the companies \$500,000. The losses last July were \$222,326.

Some of the smaller lumber mutuals, continue the advices, have been hard hit by the heavy losses on poles and ties in the woods in northern Wisconsin and Minnesota. The stock companies which write this class at all charge a rate of 2 per cent. and over, with the average clause and the 80 per cent. clause. Some of the companies have been writing the risks at \$1.95 without any average