

CHRISTMAS TREE DANGERS. A WARNING TO FOND PARENTS.

Last Christmas 12 Ohio homes were burned by wax candles igniting Christmas trees. The facts from these accidents show the importance of giving heed to the advice in the don'ts which follow.

Don't use festoons of tissue paper or cotton batting on a tree.

Don't use any ornaments made of celluloid.

Don't light a single candle until everything is ready for the entrance of the juveniles who are to be dazzled.

Don't let the children touch the tree.

Don't permit a draft of air to sway the branches of a tree while it is illuminated.

Don't let Uncle Fred shift the position of his Roosevelt bear to make it show better, because he is likely to sway a candle against something which will take fire.

Don't leave an illuminated tree unwatched.

Don't put cotton beneath the tree to make the carpet look like snow covered ground.

Don't remove a thing from the tree until the candles on it are blown out. When the removal of presents begins children and adults too, are giving their attention to individual items rather than to the effect of the tree as a whole, so it don't much matter how the tree looks.

In the interest of the safety and the beauty of the tree also, it is better that the presents be put under it; not on it.

There is now in the market such a variety of non-inflammable and inexpensive brilliant baubles and artificial evergreens for the purpose that, with candy bags, a tree may be decorated beautifully indeed at little cost. Most of the presents ordinarily placed in a tree disfigures it both by their presence and by springing the branches out of position, spoiling its symmetry thereby.

CHRISTMAS TREES IN CHURCHES.

The dangers of Christmas trees in churches are the same as those in homes, with the liability of death from a stampede or from the roasting of a Santa Clause added. In years not a Christmas has passed without at least one impersonator of Santa Claus being burned to death by his disguise taking fire. The cotton in the raiment of this dispenser of goods and goodies should be washed in strong alum water before it is donned, if he is to take presents from a lighted tree.

Last Christmas in Ohio three adults were seriously burned and disfigured while personating Santa Claus and one child was fatally burned with a wax candle.

What could be sadder than the maring of this joyous and sacred season by the burning of homes and of loved ones through carelessness?

D. S. CREAMER, State Fire Marshal,

Ohio.

FIRE ON ST. HELEN STREET, MONTREAL.

A disastrous fire occurred on the 9th instant, in building number 12 St. Helen St., Montreal, occupied by Messrs. Galarneau & Co., leather merchants. The fire quickly spread to adjoining buildings.

The following companies are interested:

T. MAY & CO. STOCK

Commercial Union..	\$2,500
Hartford..	2,500
Northern..	5,000
North America..	2,500
Phoenix of Hartford..	2,000
Phoenix of London..	2,500
Queen..	2,500
Rochester-German..	3,500
Equity..	5,000
Traders..	2,500

Total loss.. \$30,500

T. MAY & CO. BUILDING.

Caledonian..	\$5,000
Liverpool & London & Globe..	5,000
London Assurance..	6,000

Insurance loss total.. \$16,000

TURNER STOCK.

London and Lancashire..	\$10,700
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Total loss.. \$10,700

GALARNEAU & CO. STOCK.

Phoenix of London..	\$25,000
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Total loss.. \$25,000

GALARNEAU & CO. BUILDING.

Caledonian..	\$5,000
North British and Mercantile..	5,500

Total loss.. \$10,500

DREYFUS STOCK.

Guardian..	\$5,000
Ottawa..	4,000
London-Mutual..	5,000

Total loss.. \$14,000

YORKSHIRE IMPORTING CO. STOCK.

Alliance..	\$2,000
Connecticut..	2,000
Guardian..	5,000
Hartford..	5,000
Liverpool & London & Globe..	5,000
London & Lancashire..	2,000
London-Mutual..	3,000
North British & Mercantile..	8,000
Quebec..	4,000
Western..	4,000
Rochester-German..	2,000

Total loss.. \$42,000

MATTHEW, TOWERS & CO. BUILDING.

Caledonian..	\$7,500
North British & Mercantile..	2,500
on rents..	1,600

\$10,600

MATTHEWS, TOWERS & CO. STOCK.

British America..	\$10,900
Hartford..	5,000
Home..	10,000
Liverpool & London & Globe..	5,000
Queen..	20,000
Royal..	30,000

Total loss.. \$80,900