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Make an inventory of your  
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ST. JOHN, N. B.**

## DUTY ON WHEAT IS SUSPENDED IN ITALY

Rome Jan. 31.—A Royal Decree issued today suspends entirely the duty on wheat and other cereals and flour. Previously the duty on wheat had been reduced from \$1.50 to 60 cents per quintal (220.4 pounds); on corn from 28 cents to 10 cents; on rye from 30 cents to 40 cents; on oats from 22.25 cents to 10 cents; on flour from \$2.25 to \$1.05, and on cornmeal from 65 cents to 20 cents.

Notwithstanding the decree and the measures adopted by the government

a large meeting was held at the Labor Exchange today at which inflammatory speeches were made in protest against the high price of bread. It was charged that the high price was due to the government being unable to prevent contraband wheat from going to the belligerents.

A resolution was passed at the meeting which declared that the agitation would continue until the people are able to "impose on the speculators what the government are unable to impose under the law."

The resolution was considered to mean the forcible confiscation of wheat and its distribution among the people.

Chicago, Jan. 31.—Six cent bread was endorsed here Saturday night by the National Association of Master Bakers through its secretary, J. M. Bell, while the bakers were considering raising the price of the five cent loaf, the Clean Food Club was outlining a campaign to teach housewives the economy of home-made bread.

## Don't Shoulder Loss

When fire destroys your property, let someone else rebuild for you, or make good the damage—someone who will give you the protection you pay for and have a right to demand. Here are three fine old companies of the tried and true type

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RATES ARE LOW

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### INVESTIGATE

**WILLIAM THOMSON & CO., Agents - St. John, N. B.**

## BRUSSELS STREET BLAZE BURNED THREE BUILDINGS; SIX FAMILIES HOMELESS

The city firemen had their work cut out for them yesterday afternoon when, for over four hours, they battled with a blaze in three buildings owned by Joshua P. Clayton, Supt. of Fernhill Cemetery, and his brother, James W. Clayton, proprietor of the fruit and confectionery store at 327-331 Brussels street, and in which establishments the fire started. Two buildings were destroyed and another was badly damaged.

The total loss to buildings and contents will amount to about \$8,000,

while Messrs. Clayton have \$2,500 insurance on the buildings. The different tenants burned out have little or no insurance on their furniture and their loss is considerable, although quite a large amount of furniture was removed from the burning houses.

James W. Clayton who resided over his store had entered the store after dinner and found that some water pipes were frozen. While he was engaged trying to thaw out the pipes the fire caught. In a few minutes a gas generator used for running the ma-

chinery in making ice cream, exploded and so heavy was the explosion that it blew the side out of the building facing on Waterloo street and in an instant the fire swept through the store and Mr. Clayton was obliged to flee for his life.

The explosion was heard for blocks and immediately flames and smoke poured from the premises. An alarm was sent in from box 16 on the corner of Brussels and Hanover streets and a few minutes afterwards when Chief

(Continued on page 5)

## BUSINESS SECTION OF AMHERST GUTTED BY FIRE; LOSS NEARLY \$30,000

Amherst, N. S., Jan. 31.—Fire starting at eleven o'clock tonight wiped out several business firms and caused a property loss estimated at \$30,000. The fire was in wooden buildings, extending from Eddy street North, up Victoria street to the residential part of that section.

The blaze started in the third story of the Andrews block which was in the centre of the buildings burned and worked west through what is known as the Pugsley block, and in a short time these with their contents were destroyed. The fire then burned through the basement and upper flat of the W. D. Main block, and the Chambers block.

The temperature was below zero

and with a high wind the firemen had a hard battle getting the flames under control.

The burned buildings were owned and occupied as follows:  
Pugsley block, corner Eddy and Victoria streets, owned by Timothy O'Hearon.

The four lower stories being occupied by Bousaine Bros., general merchants. The upper flat as sample rooms of the Amherst Hotel.

The Andrews block, owned by the estate of the late Mrs. S. B. Andrews, occupied by Fred James, plumber, and John Conn, electrician.

Main block, owned by the estate of the late W. D. Main, occupied by Mrs. Allen, milliner, and J. J. Houston, shoe-maker.

The Robert Chambers block, occupied by Chapman and Flynn, stoves

and furnaces. The Douglas block, occupied by the Amherst Trading Co., of which Councillor Charles D. Shipley is manager.

The loss of the buildings will amount to \$15,000 while the stocks will probably be about the same although it is impossible to get estimate of individual losses. So far as can be gathered the insurance carried is as follows:  
Amherst Trading Co., shop, \$4,000; stock, \$6,000.

Chambers building, \$750.  
Main building, \$1,000.

Andrews building, \$1,000.  
O'Hearon building, \$3,500.  
Chapman and Flynn stock, \$2,000.

Mrs. Allen stock, \$500.  
John Conn, stock, \$800.  
S. J. Houston, tools, \$200.

It is not known if James or Bousaine carried any insurance or not.

*The report of this fire should direct the minds of property owners to the necessity of placing adequate insurance on their properties. The Advertisements on this page are a guide to be considered.*

## This May Happen to You!

Are You Insured?

Have You Enough Insurance?

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Insurance and Fire Prevention Apparatus

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Managers Provincial Branch of THE UNION INSURANCE CO., of Bangor, Me.

Agents MANNHEIM INSURANCE COMPANY, of Mannheim, Germany.

Office: 48 Prince Wm. Street, Market Square

## MASS MEETING AT SUSSEX IN INTERESTS OF TEMPERANCE CAUSE

Sussex, Jan. 31.—A successful mass meeting in the interest of the temperance cause was held this afternoon in the Opera House. The meeting was well attended and the speakers made a fine impression. Mr. Garfield White acted as chairman. The gathering was under the auspices of the Sussex branch of the Dominion Temperance Alliance. It was opened with those present repeating the Lord's

prayer. "Onward Christian Soldiers" was then sung and there was a sacred selection by a quartette composed of H. W. Black, J. D. McKenna, Leon Black and Albert Black. The ladies' orchestra was present and rendered several selections. The speakers were Police Magistrate Ritchie of St. John and Rev. W. F. Parker.

## THE DACIA SAILS FOR ROTTERDAM

Galveston, Tex., Jan. 31.—The steamship Dacia departed at noon today, from Galveston for Rotterdam with 11,000 bales of cotton to be transhipped to Bremen.