

trol during a high wind, resulting in some damage and fires raging around Lavant station, seventy miles north of Kingston, on the K. and P. Ry., resulted in the inhabitants sending to Kingston for assistance from the fire department, which was promptly sent.

In the vicinity of Carleton Place, in the latter half of the second week of the month, a number of farmers lost buildings, etc., to the value of ten thousand dollars. A hamlet called Lake St. Peter, near Maynooth, in the northern part of Hastings county, was destroyed by fire on May 13, during a fierce gale. Thirty people were rendered homeless, only the school-house, a boarding house and one residence being left. The Rathbun company lost all their plant. Minor fires are reported from other parts of the province.

Eastern Canada.

During the first week of the month some ten thousand dollars damage was done by forest fires near Mahone Bay, Nova Scotia. Near Parrsborough, on Mines Bay, a large tract of timber was burned over, and some damage done at the village of Hubbards, Halifax county. During the last two or three days of the month considerable damage was done near Shelburne, N.S. Two fires raged in the vicinity and thousands of dollars worth of property was destroyed, including several residences in a couple of villages.

In New Brunswick for a time the situation seemed serious.

About the middle of the month a tract of timberland eight miles long, with a breadth varying from half a mile to four miles, was burned over in King's county, and in York county the fire-rangers of the provincial government were kept busy. Within a mile of Moncton a forest fire burned over five hundred acres and kept a couple of hundred men busy for a time. In Carleton county fire was reported to have overrun a tract ten miles long in one direction and five miles in another, with a width of a mile. The fires throughout the province were mostly confined to old burned land, very little green timber having been destroyed.

Near Buckingham, Que., on May 13th, a bush fire consumed all the buildings connected with a graphite mine, and burned over 1,100 acres of timberland belonging to the same concern, thereby causing a total loss of over \$50,000. Near Megantic, Que., a day or two before, a tract of timber land said to be four or five miles square was burned over. Serious fires are also reported from the more heavily timbered parts of the province.

Manitoba.

About May 5th severe fires started in the country north of Dauphin, along the Canadian Northern Railway. Between

Bowsman and Barrow's Junction six bridges were burned, and traffic on the railway interrupted for several days. Owing to the burning of many poles telegraphic communication was interfered with for some time. The worst fires were in the neighborhood of Mafeking.

In the Riding Mountain district, also, fires started up, and a number of settlers in the district, chiefly Galicians, were burned out. The flames, however, were checked before getting into really valuable timber, though a large quantity of young growth was consumed. The fire is said to have covered a range of country fully two hundred miles in extent. Quantities of timber, cut by portable mills during the winter for settlers' use, as well as some belonging to commercial firms, were destroyed. Near Kelwood one saw-mill was burned. Five gangs of men, under Chief Fire Ranger McLeod, were fighting the fires, and, aided by heavy rain on the afternoon of May 9th, finally got the flames under control.

In the Duck Mountains, also, a large fire raged near Birch river, but it was, after hard fighting, brought under control. Near Swan river, also, heavy fires were reported.

Saskatchewan.

Prince Albert advices of May 6th reported forest fires threatening Big River village and the mills there. The fire had been burning for two days and had reached within three-quarters of a mile of the place. A special train was sent out to bring the people in, and the city of Prince Albert sent a fire engine and several men. The fire fighters, under the direction of A. L. Robertson, Dominion Forest Fire Ranger, got the fire under control, aided by a change of wind.

On the afternoon of May 7th a forest fire approached to about six miles from the city of Prince Albert, but a fortunate change of wind saved the place from any danger.

Alberta.

No serious fires have been reported from Alberta this season.

British Columbia.

Nelson despatches of May 3rd report a fierce bush fire burning near Kaslo, supposed to have started from settlers clearing land. Arrowhead was also threatened by a fire, and some of the inhabitants packed up their belongings preparatory to moving. Considerable damage was done to heavy timber by the fire. Some small fires occurred in the Railway Belt, but no damage of importance resulted.

United States.

The first forest fire of the year in the Lake States was reported on March 18,