FOURTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE FIRE MARSHAL

FOR THE PROVINCE OF

BRITISH COLUMBIA

STATISTICS, 1935

PRINTED BY
AUTHORITY OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

VICTORIA, B.C.:
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1936.

To His Honour J. W. FORDHAM JOHNSON,
Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of British Columbia.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR:

The undersigned has the honour to present the Fourteenth Annual Report of the Fire Marshal for the year ended December 31st, 1935.

GORDON McG. SLOAN,
Attorney-General.

Victoria, B.C., March 31st, 1936.

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REPORT OF FIRE MARSHAL.

OFFICE OF FIRE MARSHAL,
VANCOUVER, B.C., March 31st, 1936.

The Honourable Gordon McG. Sloan, K.C.,
Attorney-General, Victoria, B.C.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my Fourteenth Annual Report for the year ended December 31st, 1935, together with statistics showing fire causes and amounts of loss. While we are grateful to be able to report a decrease of $46,799 for the whole Province as compared with the same period in 1934, we are very sorry to note a serious increase in some of our cities and district municipalities, which in cities amounted to $316,476 and in district municipalities, $122,894. There were two minor conflagrations during the year, one at Greenwood involving a loss of $43,630 and one at Prince Rupert with a loss of $29,547.

An examination of the records reveals that the increased fire losses, in almost every case, are parallel with the decrease in inspections and fire-prevention activities on the part of the municipalities whose duty it is, under section 19 of the " Fire Marshal Act," to provide for a regular system of inspection of buildings and premises within these districts. This laxity is due in a large measure to financial conditions existing, but I submit that it is far cheaper to put out a fire before it starts than after it gets under way. In this connection I might quote the evidence of the Fire Chief of the City of Vancouver, given under oath at an inquiry into a fire which involved a loss of $35,894 and an additional cost of approximately $2,000 to control it, which he stated could have been prevented by a cost of $5 for the services of a qualified inspector.

Regulations governing Inflammable Liquids.—A matter for our consideration is the number of fires due to the careless handling of gasoline. The loss of life and property through this source in the Dominion has been so serious that a meeting of all interested parties was held at Ottawa under the direction of Dominion Government officials to discuss the question of the better control of the sale and handling of these highly dangerous products. A copy of their findings and recommendations with regard to this will be available in the very near future and submitted for your consideration. During the year a number of appliances which use gasoline for fuel have been submitted to the National Research Council laboratories, but up to the time of writing they have failed to receive approval, and are therefore prohibited in this Province. Permits for the construction of one refinery plant and forty-nine wholesale and distributing plants have been issued during the year.

Chimney Regulations.—The necessity for the strict enforcement of the Chimney Regulations is noted when we find that 278 fires, with a loss of $192,697 due to defective chimneys, furnaces, and stoves, were reported last year.

Fire Records.—The increased cost of keeping fire records has been brought to our attention. At the last meeting of the Association of Canadian Fire Marshals the fact was brought out that this was to a large extent due to the great number of small fires, with losses running from $1 to $25 each, which are reported by the insurance companies. These small losses entail a vast amount of work in recording and a great increase in the size of our files. In this Province last year we had 976 fires recorded, with a loss of from $1 to $15 each.

Fire Investigations.—While all fires have been reported and investigated by the local Assistant Fire Marshals and the Provincial Police, all important cases are handled from this office by the Deputy Fire Marshal, W. A. Walker. He has conducted 125 investigations into suspicious fires during the year. Fourteen inquiries have been held under section 12 of the Act. Two prosecutions, one for arson and one for perjury arising out of evidence given at an inquiry, are now before the Courts. Sixteen prosecutions for violations of the regulations were conducted and sixteen convictions obtained.

Theatre Regulations, Part IV. of the " Fire Marshal Act."—Under these regulations 133 theatres were licensed in 1935, an increase of thirty-six over the previous year. Seven new theatres were built and twelve remodelled and brought up to standard. Plans for the above

were checked and approved in this office. During the year 189 theatre inspections were made by Mr. Oswald, of the staff, and seventy-eight orders to remedy dangerous conditions were issued and enforced. Two hundred and twenty-one projectionists were licensed and thirty-two examinations were conducted by members of the Examination Board, twenty-three of which passed and were granted certificates.

Film Exchanges.—Forty-two inspections of film exchanges were made and sixteen orders for improvements were issued; 1,742,000 feet of nitro-cellulose film was removed from service and either destroyed or shipped out of the Province.

Oil-burner Regulations.—Under these regulations thirty-six oil-burners have been approved for sale in the Province. Acting on the authority of the National Research Council laboratories, 2,157 labels have been issued by this office during the year after inspections made by Mr. Oswald, who is the authorized representative of the National Research Council. Amendments to the regulations passed during the year which permitted the wider use of this equipment have been found satisfactory.

Public and Private Hospitals.—Acting at the request of the Department of the Honourable the Provincial Secretary, sixty-one inspections of hospitals have been made by members of the staff and in almost every case orders issued to remove defects and bring them to a higher standard of safety.

Government Institutions and Buildings.—Periodical inspections of Government buildings have been made during the year and reports made to the various departments interested.

Other Public Buildings.—One thousand four hundred and ninety inspections of other buildings classified as public buildings under section 2 of the "Fire Marshal Act" have been made by members of the staff, and dangerous conditions brought to the attention of the local Assistant Fire Marshals having jurisdiction, for their prompt attention. Fourteen appeals from their orders have been made to the Fire Marshal and passed upon. In only two instances were appeals taken to the Courts. These cases were dismissed.

National Research Council.—It is only right in this report to refer to the splendid work in the interests of fire-prevention being carried out by the National Research Council laboratories. Their work along the line of testing appliances likely to promote fire and their advice and co-operation in all matters referred to them has been found of great value and assistance in our work and is highly appreciated.

Provincial Police.—The co-operation of the officers and men in the matter of fire-prevention and investigation of fires is gratefully acknowledged. The reduced fire losses in the unorganized districts patrolled by them are largely due to the work they are doing.

Assistant Fire Marshals.—I wish further to express my appreciation of the work being done by the local Assistant Fire Marshals throughout the Province. This work is being carried out under serious handicaps and often without remuneration. Acknowledgment is also due to the members of the staff for their co-operation and efficiency in carrying out the duties assigned to them.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,

J. A. THOMAS,
Fire Marshal.

TABLE I.—INSPECTIONS MADE AND ORDERS ISSUED BY ASSISTANT FIRE MARSHALS.

Name.	Inspections.	Orders.
City Municipalities (33).		
Alberni	9	8
Armstrong	27	------
Chilliwack	1	1
Courtenay	46	------
Cranbrook	821	37
Cumberland	50	3
Duncan	25	3
Enderby	2	------
Fernie	313	14
Grand Forks	113	4
Greenwood	------	------
Kamloops	277	------
Kaslo	------	------
Kelowna	856	8
Ladysmith	54	9
Merritt	43	19
Nanaimo	589	4
Nelson	1,604	96
New Westminster	3,262	468
North Vancouver	891	72
Port Alberni	169	23
Port Coquitlam	------	------
Port Moody	69	5
Prince George	276	114
Prince Rupert	1,292	131
Revelstoke	102	7
Rossland	883	62
Salmon Arm	41	------
Slocan	------	------
Trail	1,998	96
Vancouver	27,451	3,155
Vernon	155	28
Victoria	8,648	244
Totals	50,067	4,611
District Municipalities (28).		
Burnaby	210	4
Chilliwack	11	11
Coldstream	------	------
Coquitlam	16	------
Delta	------	------
Esquimalt	55	4
Fraser Mills	------	------
Glenmore	9	2
Kent	46	------
Langley	------	------
Maple Ridge	------	------
Matsqui	------	------
Mission	157	------
North Cowichan	16	1
North Vancouver	------	------
Oak Bay	213	2
Peachland	------	------
Penticton	124	6
Pitt Meadows	------	------
Richmond	------	------
Saanich	------	------
Salmon Arm	14	------
Spallumcheen	------	------
Sumas	------	------
Summerland	------	------

TABLE I.—INSPECTIONS MADE AND ORDERS ISSUED BY ASSISTANT FIRE MARSHALS—*Continued.*

Name.	Inspections.	Orders.
District Municipalities—Continued.		
Surrey	35	1
Tadanac	26	------
West Vancouver	------	------
Totals	932	31
Village Municipalities (17).		
Abbotsford	39	8
Burns Lake	------	------
Creston	------	------
Gibsons Landing	------	------
Hope	14	------
Mission	390	39
McBride	------	------
New Denver	4	------
Pouce Coupe	26	5
Quesnel	------	------
Silverton	30	------
Smithers	68	16
Stewart	45	8
Terrace	------	------
Tofino	25	9
Vanderhoof	88	3
Williams Lake	13	4
Totals	742	92
Fire Districts (12).		
Cariboo, County of	109	------
Ioco	------	------
Kootenay, County of	85	8
Nanaimo, County of	------	------
Pacific Mills, Limited	------	------
Powell River	506	------
Prince Rupert, County of	153	------
University Area	243	------
Vancouver, County of	10	------
Victoria, County of	------	------
Westminster, County of	------	------
Yale, County of	2	------
Totals	1,108	8
Grand totals	52,849	4,742
Grand totals, 1934	53,150	3,502
Grand totals, 1933	56,998	4,325
Grand totals, 1932	74,441	5,753
Grand totals, 1931	72,821	6,852

TABLE II.—FIRES REPORTED.

Districts reporting.	Number.	Amount of Loss.
City Municipalities (33).		
Alberni	------	----------
Armstrong	5	$3,640
Chilliwack	5	665
Courtenay	10	1,104
Cranbrook	5	648
Cumberland	7	1,432
Duncan	10	1,885
Enderby	4	3,434
Fernie	14	1,300
Grand Forks	12	2,066
Greenwood	17	43,655
Kamloops	14	3,609
Kaslo	4	1,516
Kelowna	23	2,503
Ladysmith	3	178
Merritt	4	290
Nanaimo	52	6,928
Nelson	29	12,678
New Westminster	70	22,551
North Vancouver	36	2,438
Port Alberni	15	4,497
Port Coquitlam	3	3,305
Port Moody	5	2,885
Prince George	6	2,306
Prince Rupert	38	32,439
Revelstoke	14	3,778
Rossland	11	22,742
Salmon Arm	1	1,609
Slocan	------	----------
Trail	22	1,365
Vancouver	1,266	467,425
Vernon	15	2,124
Victoria	180	102,963
Totals	1,900	$759,958
District Municipalities (28).		
Burnaby	82	$30,835
Chilliwack	12	10,924
Coldstream	4	26,818
Coquitlam	6	3,866
Delta	7	2,200
Esquimalt	11	1,635
Fraser Mills	------	----------
Glenmore	2	1,660
Kent	7	2,693
Langley	18	16,722
Maple Ridge	25	32,591
Matsqui	18	16,100
Mission	4	3,548
North Cowichan	11	2,339
North Vancouver	27	19,186
Oak Bay	57	3,688
Peachland	2	263
Penticton	18	2,243
Pitt Meadows	2	4,370
Richmond	28	27,458
Saanich	37	20,401
Salmon Arm	3	5,332
Spallumcheen	------	----------
Sumas	7	4,883
Summerland	1	1,662
Surrey	45	82,503
Tadanac	11	4,746
West Vancouver	34	55,707
Totals	479	$384,373

TABLE II.—FIRES REPORTED—*Continued.*

Districts reporting.	Number.	Amount of Loss.
Village Municipalities (17).		
Abbotsford	6	$3,108
Burns Lake	2	2,722
Creston	2	1,033
Gibsons Landing	------	------
Hope	------	------
Mission	------	------
McBride	------	------
New Denver	------	------
Pouce Coupe	------	------
Quesnel	3	560
Silverton	------	------
Smithers	6	7,827
Stewart	8	6,221
Terrace	------	------
Tofino	------	------
Vanderhoof	3	1,927
Williams Lake	------	------
Totals	30	$23,398
Fire Districts (12).		
Cariboo, County of	45	$147,128
Ioco	5	635
Kootenay, County of	84	112,396
Nanaimo, County of	103	202,241
Pacific Mills, Limited	6	3,370
Powell River	5	54
Prince Rupert, County of	20	92,520
University Area	10	393
Vancouver, County of	31	53,523
Victoria, County of	26	34,561
Westminster, County of	12	9,311
Yale, County of	68	117,841
Totals	415	$773,973
Grand totals	2,824	$1,941,702

NOTE.—Construction of buildings—

Fire-resisting	20, loss	$441
Brick or concrete	206, ,,	273,171
Frame	2,598, ,,	1,668,090
	2,824, ,,	$1,941,702

TABLE III.—CAUSES OF FIRES.

Causes of Fires.	Number.	Amount of Loss.
Acetylene-torch carelessness	4	$1,324
Ashes against wood	25	5,073
Boiler insufficiently protected	2	814
Broken oil-line	1	5
Bunsen burner, carelessness with	1	3
Candle carelessness	20	721
Carburettor back-firing	33	6,289
Car upset	17	8,115
Children playing with fire	7	712
Clothes too near fireplace	1	10
Clothes too near stove or stove-pipe	45	1,968
Coal-gas explosion	7	2,858
Coal-oil carelessness	1	384
Curtains from candle	3	64
Curtains from lamp	2	1,450
Curtains from stove	6	77
Defective battery connection	1	17
Defective brooder	3	1,331
Defective chimney	169	135,651
Defective fireplace	25	2,876
Defective furnace or furnace-pipe	6	2,709
Defective gas connection	2	99
Defective installation of dry-kiln	1	254
Defective lamp	4	477
Defective matches	7	91
Defective oil-burner	13	819
Defective oil-stove	1	19
Defective oven	1	2,985
Defective sawdust-burner	2	15
Defective stove or stove-pipe	26	28,126
Defective vacuum-tank	1	350
Defective wiring	41	26,367
Dutch oven back-firing	1	1,032
Electrical appliances	86	2,757
Exposure	108	112,911
Film igniting from hot aperture-plate	4	825
Fire-crackers	24	836
Fuel-oil dropping on overheated engine	1	12
Furnace or furnace-pipe insufficiently protected	11	1,133
Gas explosion	2	33
Gaoline carelessness	26	9,894
Gasoline explosion	5	1,600
Gasoline on exhaust-pipe	4	524
Gasoline-pump damaged by car	1	537
Gasoline-torch carelessness	3	205
Gas-plate insufficiently protected	1	43
Grease on stove	41	2,169
Hot metal on wood	3	2,371
Incendiary	34	129,763
Incense-burner explosion	1	3
Incense-burner upset	1	10
Knives laid on stove, handles ignited	1	2
Lamp explosion	4	6,093
Lamp upset	10	16,071
Lantern upset	1	3,926
Lightning	6	405
Live coals	29	1,569
Match carelessness	50	2,796
Matches, children with	44	12,284
Oil explosion	1	4,000
Oil-furnace back-firing	3	212
Oil-stove explosion	1	3,300
Oil-stove upset	1	491
Overheated machinery bearings	2	3,451
Sawdust-burner back-firing	4	320

TABLE III.—CAUSES OF FIRES—*Continued.*

Causes of Fires.	Number.	Amount of Loss.
Seat-cover loosened and ignited from muffler	1	$16
Short circuit	115	19,052
Smokers' carelessness	581	35,013
Sparks from boiler	2	1,402
Sparks from burning rubbish	11	12,473
Sparks from bush fire	5	2,561
Sparks from chimney	324	133,828
Sparks from Christmas crackers	1	18
Sparks from cupola	1	499
Sparks from engine	5	65,486
Sparks from fireplace	214	7,049
Sparks from forge	3	2,704
Sparks from furnace	5	559
Sparks from grass fire	6	374
Sparks from grinding-machine	2	7,976
Sparks from mill burner	10	4,729
Sparks from sanding-machine	1	33
Sparks from stove or stove-pipe	52	23,335
Spontaneous combustion	19	80,060
Static electricity	3	415
Stove explosion	1	70
Stove-lid dropped on floor	3	24
Stove or stove-pipe insufficiently protected	115	60,198
Sun's rays	2	24
Tar boiling over	7	995
Thawing pipes	29	16,107
Unknown	293	899,716
Water-heater explosion	3	371
Wood too near furnace	3	500
Wood too near stove	15	12,484
Totals	2,824	$1,941,702

TABLE IV.—CLASSIFICATION OF PROPERTY BURNED AND CAUSES.

Property.		Causes.		Amount of Loss.	
Apartments	131	Ashes against wood	2	$520	
		Clothes too near stove	3	38	
		Curtains from stove	3	53	
		Defective chimney	2	22	
		Defective fireplace	1	49	
		Defective oil-burner	2	226	
		Electrical appliances	4	51	
		Exposure	5	4,934	
		Furnace insufficiently protected	1	75	
		Grease on stove	2	32	
		Incendiary	2	340	
		Incense-burner explosion	1	3	
		Live coals	2	36	
		Match carelessness	5	32	
		Matches, children with	1	154	
		Oil-furnace back-firing	2	127	
		Short circuit	4	490	
		Smokers' carelessness	65	1,207	
		Sparks from chimney	10	834	
		Sparks from fireplace	5	109	
		Spontaneous combustion	1	1,228	
		Stove-pipe insufficiently protected	2	65	
		Thawing pipes	1	10	
		Unknown	5	1,377	
					$12,012

TABLE IV.—CLASSIFICATION OF PROPERTY BURNED AND CAUSES—*Continued.*

Property.		Causes.		Amount of Loss.	
Automobile camps	2	Sparks from fireplace	1	$3	
		Unknown	1	900	
					$903
Automobiles	205	Carburettor back-firing	27	$2,772	
		Car upset	17	8,115	
		Coal-oil carelessness	1	384	
		Defective battery connection	1	17	
		Defective vacuum-tank	1	350	
		Defective wiring	12	1,004	
		Electrical appliances	1	10	
		Exposure	8	3,945	
		Gasoline carelessness	3	378	
		Gasoline on exhaust-pipe	4	524	
		Incendiary	1	235	
		Match carelessness	3	774	
		Matches, children with	1	3	
		Seat-cover loosened and ignited from muffler	1	16	
		Short circuit	72	6,915	
		Smokers' carelessness	27	1,141	
		Sparks from burning rubbish	2	54	
		Sparks from grass fire	1	3	
		Unknown	22	6,645	
					33,285
Bakeries	4	Exposure	1	$235	
		Smokers' carelessness	1	73	
		Sparks from chimney	1	10	
		Wood too near stove	1	839	
					1,157
Banks	6	Defective oil-burner	1	$9	
		Exposure	1	7,700	
		Match carelessness	1	248	
		Smokers' carelessness	2	935	
		Sparks from furnace	1	144	
					9,036
Barns	30	Exposure	2	$1,025	
		Smokers' carelessness	2	425	
		Sparks from burning rubbish	1	666	
		Sparks from bush fire	2	2,289	
		Sparks from chimney	1	400	
		Sparks from stove	1	700	
		Spontaneous combustion	1	1,360	
		Stove insufficiently protected	2	7,780	
		Unknown	18	20,679	
					35,324
Battery-manufacturing plants	1	Unknown	1		46
Blacksmith-shops	1	Sparks from forge	1		2,609
Boarding-houses	12	Clothes too near stove-pipe	1	$52	
		Exposure	1	1,000	
		Smokers' carelessness	4	2,249	
		Sparks from chimney	1	23	
		Sparks from fireplace	2	9	
		Stove or stove-pipe insufficiently protected	2	99	
		Unknown	1	220	
					3,652
Boat-houses	1	Unknown	1		15,000
Bottling-works	1	Defective chimney	1		1,335
Breweries	1	Boiler insufficiently protected	1		809
Bridges	4	Smokers' carelessness	3	$14	
		Unknown	1	2,000	
					2,014

TABLE IV.—CLASSIFICATION OF PROPERTY BURNED AND CAUSES—*Continued.*

Property.		Causes.		Amount of Loss.	
Bunk-houses	3	Sparks from stove-pipe	1	$1,350	
		Unknown	2	1,877	
					$3,227
Canneries	2	Incendiary	1	$15,180	
		Unknown	1	62,996	
					78,176
Car-barns	1	Defective wiring	1		50
Chicken-hatcheries	1	Defective chimney	1		5,000
Chicken-houses	18	Defective brooder	3	$1,331	
		Defective lamp	2	252	
		Defective oil-stove	1	19	
		Defective stove	1	5,500	
		Matches, children with	2	725	
		Smokers' carelessness	1	5	
		Stove insufficiently protected	1	65	
		Unknown	7	3,123	
					11,020
Churches	5	Defective chimney	1	$1,640	
		Defective furnace	1	57	
		Grease on stove	1	869	
		Smokers' carelessness	1	83	
		Unknown	1	14	
					2,663
Clubs	4	Defective wiring	1	$1,609	
		Smokers' carelessness	3	29	
					1,638
Cooperages	1	Defective installation of dry-kiln	1		254
Dry-cleaning establishments	4	Defective sawdust-burner	1	$5	
		Incendiary	1	198	
		Sawdust-burner back-firing	1	182	
		Static electricity	1	225	
					610
Dwellings	1,782	Acetylene-torch carelessness	1	$150	
		Ashes against wood	13	1,850	
		Candle carelessness	20	2,772	
		Children playing with fire	7	712	
		Clothes too near fireplace	1	10	
		Clothes too near stove or stove-pipe	39	1,703	
		Coal-gas explosion	6	2,751	
		Curtains from candle	3	64	
		Curtains from lamp	1	750	
		Curtains from stove	1	6	
		Defective chimney	141	94,063	
		Defective fireplace	22	2,683	
		Defective furnace or furnace-pipe	4	2,637	
		Defective gas connection	1	77	
		Defective lamp	2	225	
		Defective matches	6	72	
		Defective oil-burner	6	407	
		Defective sawdust-burner	1	10	
		Defective stove or stove-pipe	23	22,586	
		Defective wiring	22	18,497	
		Electrical appliances	58	1,305	
		Exposure	43	15,632	
		Fire-crackers	20	564	
		Furnace or furnace-pipe insufficiently protected	7	416	
		Gas explosion	2	33	
		Gasoline carelessness	14	2,960	
		Gasoline explosion	2	133	
		Grease on stove	31	767	
		Hot metal on wood	1	5	
		Incendiary	15	12,342	

TABLE IV.—CLASSIFICATION OF PROPERTY BURNED AND CAUSES—*Continued.*

Property.		Causes.		Amount of Loss.	
		Incense-burner upset	1	$10	
		Knives laid on stove, handles ignited	1	2	
		Lamp explosion	3	1,931	
		Lamp upset	7	4,864	
		Lantern upset	1	3,926	
		Lightning	6	405	
		Live coals	25	588	
		Match carelessness	30	641	
		Matches, children with	25	2,401	
		Oil-stove explosion	1	3,300	
		Sawdust-burner back-firing	2	98	
		Short circuit	18	8,163	
		Smokers' carelessness	341	12,336	
		Sparks from burning rubbish	6	10,749	
		Sparks from bush fire	3	272	
		Sparks from chimney	271	77,232	
		Sparks from Christmas crackers	1	18	
		Sparks from fireplace	202	6,971	
		Sparks from furnace	3	53	
		Sparks from grass fire	1	35	
		Sparks from mill burner	2	579	
		Sparks from stove or stove-pipe	46	14,976	
		Spontaneous combustion	9	1,696	
		Stove-lid dropped on floor	3	24	
		Stove or stove-pipe insufficiently protected	90	44,635	
		Sun's rays	1	20	
		Tar boiling over	5	930	
		Thawing pipes	26	9,108	
		Unknown	122	203,351	
		Water-heater explosion	2	286	
		Wood too near furnace	3	500	
		Wood too near stove	12	11,591	
					$607,873
Electrical plants	1	Sparks from grass fire	1		71
Engines	1	Carburettor back-firing	1		65
Factories (bed and mattress)	3	Defective wiring	1	$2,954	
		Static electricity	1	30	
		Thawing pipes	1	6,972	
					9,956
Factories (box)	2	Sparks from mill burner	1	$2,003	
		Unknown	1	8,078	
					10,081
Factories (fireclay products)	2	Matches, children with	1	$117	
		Sparks from grinding-machine	1	402	
					519
Factories (jam)	1	Short circuit	1		113
Factories (rope and twine)	1	Overheated machinery bearings	1		172
Factories (sash and door)	5	Exposure	1	$35	
		Matches, children with	1	7,000	
		Sawdust-burner back-firing	1	40	
		Sparks from sanding-machine	1	33	
		Unknown	1	21,410	
					28,518
Factories (sausage)	1	Unknown	1		641
Fences	2	Ashes against wood	1	$6	
		Unknown	1	10	
					16
Fishing-boats	1	Smokers' carelessness	1		50
Flour-mills	1	Short circuit	1		15

TABLE IV.—CLASSIFICATION OF PROPERTY BURNED AND CAUSES—*Continued.*

Property.		Causes.		Amount of Loss.	
Foundries	7	Hot metal on wood	2	$2,366	
		Short circuit	1	55	
		Sparks from chimney	1	32	
		Sparks from cupola	1	499	
		Sparks from forge	1	10	
		Sparks from furnace	1	362	
					$3,324
Freight-cars	1	Unknown	1		50
Fruit-packing plants	3	Incendiary	2	$24,643	
		Unknown	1	48	
					24,691
Gaols	1	Smokers' carelessness	1		15
Garages	46	Acetylene-torch carelessness	1	$166	
		Ashes against wood	1	19	
		Carburettor back-firing	2	690	
		Defective oil-burner	1	42	
		Defective wiring	1	280	
		Exposure	1	75	
		Fuel-oil dropped on overheated engine	1	12	
		Gasoline carelessness	2	13	
		Gasoline-torch carelessness	1	10	
		Incendiary	6	2,119	
		Match carelessness	3	230	
		Matches, children with	3	21	
		Smokers' carelessness	3	25	
		Sparks from chimney	3	371	
		Spontaneous combustion	1	10	
		Tar boiling over	1	5	
		Unknown	15	24,151	
					28,239
Gasoline-stations	2	Gasoline-pump damaged by car	1	$537	
		Short circuit	1	35	
					572
Greenhouses	2	Defective oil-burner	1	$50	
		Stove insufficiently protected	1	20	
					70
Halls	13	Ashes against wood	1	$66	
		Electrical appliances	1	18	
		Exposure	2	5,125	
		Matches, children with	1	1,500	
		Smokers' carelessness	3	91	
		Stove or stove-pipe insufficiently protected	2	3,000	
		Unknown	3	7,253	
					17,053
Hospitals	6	Candle carelessness	1	$99	
		Coal-gas explosion	1	107	
		Furnace-pipe insufficiently protected	1	321	
		Grease on stove	1	185	
		Smokers' carelessness	1	6	
		Sparks from chimney	1	5	
					723
Hotels	65	Defective chimney	3	$15,628	
		Defective oil-burner	1	70	
		Defective wiring	1	176	
		Electrical appliances	1	25	
		Exposure	3	2,141	
		Gasoline carelessness	1	10	
		Match carelessness	1	135	
		Smokers' carelessness	45	1,859	
		Sparks from chimney	5	44,343	
		Stove explosion	1	70	
		Unknown	3	3,364	
					67,821

TABLE IV.—CLASSIFICATION OF PROPERTY BURNED AND CAUSES—*Continued.*

Property.		Causes.		Amount of Loss.	
Launches	12	Carburettor back-firing	3	$2,762	
		Defective wiring	1	667	
		Gasoline carelessness	2	5,550	
		Gasoline explosion	2	1,464	
		Match carelessness	1	100	
		Short circuit	2	905	
		Tar boiling over	1	60	
					$11,508
Laundries	6	Boiler insufficiently protected	1	$5	
		Defective chimney	1	5	
		Electrical appliances	1	366	
		Smokers' carelessness	1	6	
		Sparks from grass fire	1	150	
		Unknown	1	10	
					542
Logging camps	9	Short circuit	1	$217	
		Sparks from engine	4	64,505	
		Unknown	4	57,193	
					121,915
Lumber-piles	3	Sparks from grass fire	1	$15	
		Sparks from mill burner	1	600	
		Unknown	1	150	
					765
Lumber-yards	1	Smokers' carelessness	1		5,445
Machine-shops	2	Gasoline-torch carelessness	1	$95	
		Sparks from forge	1	85	
					180
Mining property	8	Defective chimney	1	$265	
		Lamp explosion	1	4,162	
		Smokers' carelessness	1	189	
		Stove-pipe insufficienty protected	1	637	
		Unknown	4	50,837	
					56,090
Offices	18	Bunsen burner, carelessness with	1	$3	
		Electrical appliances	2	8	
		Exposure	3	9,531	
		Incendiary	1	114	
		Live coals	1	922	
		Match carelessness	1	199	
		Smokers' carelessness	4	78	
		Sparks from chimney	2	48	
		Spontaneous combustion	1	300	
		Stove-pipe insufficiently protected	1	25	
		Unknown	1	148	
					11,376
Oil-houses	1	Gasoline carelessness	1		190
Oil-refineries	1	Defective oil-burner	1		15
Pile-drivers	1	Unknown	1		313
Power-houses	1	Short circuit	1		10
Printing-offices	4	Short circuit	1	$182	
		Spontaneous combustion	1	26	
		Unknown	2	2,238	
					2,446
Pulp-mills	1	Overheated machinery bearings	1		3,279
Railway-stations	2	Exposure	1	$141	
		Unknown	1	650	
					791
Relief camps	1	Smokers' carelessness	1		10

TABLE IV.—CLASSIFICATION OF PROPERTY BURNED AND CAUSES—*Continued.*

Property.		Causes.		Amount of Loss.	
Restaurants	7	Defective chimney	1	$30	
		Defective wiring	1	416	
		Grease on stove	1	4	
		Smokers' carelessness	3	65	
		Stove insufficiently protected	1	186	
					$701
Rooming-houses	60	Clothes too near stove	1	$25	
		Curtains from stove	2	18	
		Defective chimney	2	755	
		Electrical appliances	4	262	
		Exposure	1	3	
		Furnace insufficiently protected	1	76	
		Gasoline carelessness	1	275	
		Grease on stove	1	22	
		Incendiary	1	600	
		Match carelessness	2	142	
		Matches, children with	5	264	
		Short circuit	2	17	
		Smokers' carelessness	16	1,750	
		Sparks from chimney	10	829	
		Sparks from fireplace	5	53	
		Sparks from stove	1	48	
		Sun's rays	1	4	
		Unknown	4	5,410	
					10,553
Sawmills	19	Dutch oven back-firing	1	$1,032	
		Furnace insufficiently protected	1	245	
		Incendiary	1	63,000	
		Short circuit	1	60	
		Sparks from boiler	1	1,387	
		Sparks from engine	1	981	
		Sparks from mill burner	6	1,547	
		Static electricity	1	160	
		Unknown	6	39,325	
					107,737
Schools	7	Defective chimney	1	$1,218	
		Incendiary	2	10,092	
		Matches, children with	1	47	
		Sparks from burning rubbish	1	1,000	
		Unknown	2	2,150	
					14,507
Scows	1	Unknown	1	.....	500
Sheds	32	Ashes against wood	3	$60	
		Defective furnace	1	15	
		Defective stove	1	20	
		Exposure	2	1,592	
		Fire-crackers	1	98	
		Match carelessness	3	295	
		Matches, children with	1	25	
		Smokers' carelessness	4	35	
		Sparks from chimney	3	55	
		Sparks from grass fire	1	100	
		Spontaneous combustion	1	70	
		Unknown	11	3,444	
					5,809
Sheet-metal works	2	Exposure	1	$35	
		Stove insufficiently protected	1	600	
					635
Shingle-mills	5	Unknown	5	.....	53,899
Ships	4	Defective stove	1	$20	
		Spontaneous combustion	2	75,000	
		Stove insufficiently protected	1	350	
					75,370

TABLE IV.—CLASSIFICATION OF PROPERTY BURNED AND CAUSES—*Continued.*

Property.		Causes.		Amount of Loss.	
Ski clubs	1	Sparks from stove	1		$655
Smelting plants	6	Broken oil-line	1	$5	
		Oil explosion	1	4,000	
		Short circuit	3	620	
		Sparks from boiler	1	15	
					4,640
Stables	2	Unknown	2		10,493
Stores	68	Acetylene-torch carelessness	1	$58	
		Ashes against wood	2	2,466	
		Defective match	1	19	
		Defective wiring	1	750	
		Electrical appliances	4	177	
		Exposure	12	10,883	
		Fire-crackers	2	20	
		Gasoline carelessness	1	295	
		Grease on stove	3	210	
		Live coals	1	23	
		Short circuit	2	71	
		Smokers' carelessness	18	4,945	
		Sparks from burning rubbish	1	4	
		Sparks from chimney	2	275	
		Sparks from stove	1	5,600	
		Stove insufficiently protected	4	2,232	
		Unknown	10	37,545	
		Wood too near stove	2	54	
					65,627
Stores and apartments	24	Defective chimney	2	$30	
		Defective gas connection	1	22	
		Defective oven	1	2,985	
		Electrical appliances	5	174	
		Exposure	2	286	
		Gasoline carelessness	1	19	
		Smokers' carelessness	6	980	
		Sparks from chimney	1	5	
		Sparks from fireplace	1	48	
		Spontaneous combustion	1	58	
		Stove insufficiently protected	1	8	
		Unknown	2	35,928	
					40,543
Stores and dwellings	37	Clothes too near stove	1	$150	
		Defective chimney	4	5,224	
		Electrical appliances	3	40	
		Exposure	8	25,764	
		Fire-crackers	1	154	
		Gasoline carelessness	1	207	
		Lamp upset	1	43	
		Smokers' carelessness	2	7	
		Sparks from chimney	7	5,281	
		Sparks from stove	1	6	
		Stove-pipe insufficiently protected	1	20	
		Unknown	7	6,724	
					43,620
Stores and halls	2	Smokers' carelessness	1	$51	
		Unknown	1	3,593	
					3644
Stores and hotels	3	Lamp upset	1	$11,114	
		Unknown	2	10,832	
					21,946
Stores and offices	10	Oil-furnace back-firing	2	$101	
		Smokers' carelessness	5	400	
		Unknown	2	10,030	
		Water-heater explosion	1	85	
					10,616

TABLE IV.—CLASSIFICATION OF PROPERTY BURNED AND CAUSES—*Continued.*

Property.		Causes.		Amount of Loss.	
Stores, offices, and rooms	1	Defective chimney	1		$2,373
Stores and rooms	32	Ashes against wood	1	$21	
		Defective chimney	5	5,877	
		Electrical appliances	2	321	
		Exposure	1	9,000	
		Lamp upset	1	50	
		Oil-stove upset	1	491	
		Short circuit	2	73	
		Smokers' carelessness	11	384	
		Sparks from chimney	3	60	
		Stove-pipe insufficiently protected	1	40	
		Thawing pipes	1	17	
		Unknown	3	19,908	
					36,242
Street-cars	1	Short circuit	1		555
Tanneries	1	Spontaneous combustion	1		312
Telephone-poles	2	Exposure	2		550
Theatres	11	Ashes against wood	1	$65	
		Curtains from lamp	1	700	
		Exposure	2	7,275	
		Film igniting from hot aperture-plate	4	825	
		Smokers' carelessness	1	50	
		Stove insufficiently protected	1	65	
		Unknown	1	16	
					8,996
Tug-boats	3	Gasoline-torch carelessness	1	$100	
		Stove insufficiently protected	1	200	
		Unknown	1	700	
					1,000
Undertaking-parlours	2	Exposure	1	$1,800	
		Stove-pipe insufficiently protected	1	171	
					1,971
Warehouses	19	Exposure	3	$3,896	
		Gas-plate insufficiently protected	1	43	
		Grease on stove	1	80	
		Incendiary	1	900	
		Matches, children with	2	27	
		Short circuit	1	556	
		Smokers' carelessness	2	84	
		Sparks from grinding-machine	1	7,574	
		Unknown	7	158,523	
					171,683
Water-tanks	1	Sparks from chimney	1		4,000
Welding-shops	1	Acetylene-torch carelessness	1		950
Wharves	1	Exposure	1		308
Woodyards	1	Unknown	1		5,924
Totals	2,824		2,824		$1,941,702

TABLE V.—SUMMARY.

	Fires reported.					Amount of Loss.				
	City Municipalities (33).	District Municipalities (28).	Village Municipalities (17).	Fire Districts (12).	Totals.	City Municipalities.	District Municipalities.	Village Municipalities.	Fire Districts.	Totals.
1935.										
January	248	49	2	33	332	$129,975	$36,535	$139	$29,910	$196,559
February	106	29	2	16	153	137,325	10,398	310	24,572	172,605
March	136	37	3	38	214	30,824	12,523	24	51,601	94,972
April	185	56	6	48	295	75,138	27,906	4,489	72,549	180,082
May	186	49	2	56	293	33,661	23,750	7,718	38,300	103,429
June	156	44	.....	36	236	50,967	25,006	.....	88,352	164,325
July	131	33	2	28	194	23,396	45,776	1,811	38,892	109,875
August	116	36	1	43	196	23,332	46,154	20	223,972	293,478
September	125	34	1	22	182	16,925	38,967	867	10,989	67,748
October	176	37	3	27	243	94,285	21,488	1,091	66,116	182,980
November	196	48	2	40	286	81,174	38,504	3,833	85,085	208,596
December	139	27	6	28	200	62,956	57,366	3,096	43,635	167,053
Totals, 1935	1,900	479	30	415	2,824	$759,958	$384,373	$23,398	$773,973	$1,941,702
Totals, 1934	1,540	390	30	399	2,359	443,482	261,479	31,782	1,251,758	1,988,501
Totals, 1933	1,748	463	33	391	2,635	737,602	398,039	64,820	651,792	1,852,253
Totals, 1932	1,884	529	55	474	2,942	1,079,084	943,059	111,948	1,164,914	3,299,005
Totals, 1931	1,673	483	44	480	2,680	1,057,728	686,086	78,716	1,339,864	3,162,394
	8,745	2,344	192	2,159	13,440	$4,077,854	$2,673,036	$310,664	$5,182,301	$12,243,855

TABLE VI.—LOSS OF LIFE, 1931–35.

Occupancy.	Cause of Fire.	Loss of Life.	
		Adults.	Children.
Dwelling	Children playing with fire	----	3
Dwelling	Lamp upset	----	1
Dwelling	Sparks from chimney	1	----
Dwelling	Stove insufficiently protected	----	1
Dwelling	Stove insufficiently protected	1	----
Dwelling	Unknown	1	----
Dwelling	Unknown	1	----
Store and dwelling	Unknown	1	----
Store and rooms	Unknown	1	----
Totals, 1935		6	5
Totals, 1934		2	2
Totals, 1933		6	----
Totals, 1932		6	1
Totals, 1931		6	2

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