TWENTIETH ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE FIRE MARSHAL

FOR THE PROVINCE OF

BRITISH COLUMBIA

STATISTICS, 1941

PRINTED BY
AUTHORITY OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

VICTORIA, B.C.:
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1942.

To His Honour W. C. WOODWARD,
Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of British Columbia.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR:

The undersigned has the honour to present the Twentieth Annual Report of the Fire Marshal for the year ended December 31st, 1941.

R. L. MAITLAND,
Attorney-General.

Victoria, B.C., March 30th, 1942.

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REPORT OF FIRE MARSHAL.

OFFICE OF FIRE MARSHAL,
VANCOUVER, B.C., March 30th, 1942.

The Honourable R. L. Maitland, K.C.,
Attorney-General, Victoria, B.C.

SIR,—Pursuant to section 44 of the "Fire Marshal Act," I have the honour to submit the Twentieth Annual Report of the Fire Marshal for the year ended December 31st, 1941.

Fire losses for the year under review show a decrease of $358,048; our biggest decrease being in the unorganized districts, which show a decrease of $314,999 over 1940. I regret to state that there were sixteen deaths from fire in the Province last year compared with seven in the previous year.

During the year 1,466 general inspections were made from this office, also sixty-three hospital inspections, eighty-one school inspections, and 102 bulk gasoline and oil storage inspections. Under the Theatre Regulations 157 theatre inspections and forty-five film exchange inspections were made, and plans were checked for fourteen new and remodelled theatres, of which eight new ones were built and two old ones remodelled. Nineteen examinations for projectionist licences were held, of which thirteen applicants were successful. At the request of the Department of Munitions and Supply, a survey and report was made of a large aircraft factory; and at the request of the Western Air Command a survey and report was made of several of the air-bases on this Coast, setting forth in all cases what was required for adequate fire protection and prevention. Thirty-eight inspections of Provincial Government buildings were made. As British Columbia representatives of the National Research Council Fire Hazard Testing Laboratories, 382 inspections of oil-burners were made, after which National Research Council labels were issued and forty-two oil-burner installations and 367 oil-burners previously labelled by the National Research Council or Underwriters' Laboratories were also inspected.

One hundred and forty-eight investigations were made into the cause and origin of unknown fires and nineteen inquiries were held under the "Fire Marshal Act." Seventy-three appeals were heard from orders issued, and from the decisions handed down no appeals were taken to the Courts. Fourteen prosecutions were launched, as follows: Arson two (conviction one, acquittal one); attempted arson one (conviction one); perjury one (acquittal one); false pretences one (conviction one); nine prosecutions under the "Fire Marshal Act" and regulations and nine convictions.

In conclusion, I wish to express to my staff my appreciation of their excellent work and support during the year. Also, I wish to thank members of the police forces throughout the Province, local Assistant Fire Marshals, and insurance companies and adjusters for their co-operation.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

W. A. WALKER,
Fire Marshal.

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

	Inspections.	Orders.
City Municipalities (33).		
Alberni	36	20
Armstrong	99	------
Chilliwack	248	7
Courtenay	61	------
Cranbrook	516	39
Cumberland	28	------
Duncan	19	3
Enderby	------	------
Fernie	542	23
Grand Forks	141	4
Greenwood	16	------
Kamloops	373	4
Kaslo	147	2
Kelowna	804	1
Ladysmith	57	------
Merritt	64	14
Nanaimo	767	2
Nelson	929	5
New Westminster	3,691	992
North Vancouver	1,283	67
Port Alberni	231	77
Port Coquitlam	------	------
Port Moody	42	3
Prince George	94	13
Prince Rupert	823	5
Revelstoke	102	6
Rossland	947	31
Salmon Arm	3	------
Slocan	2	------
Trail	1,899	84
Vancouver	43,546	359
Vernon	281	3
Victoria	13,011	213
Totals	70,802	1,977
District Municipalities (28).		
Burnaby	24	4
Chilliwack	15	------
Coldstream	------	------
Coquitlam	------	------
Delta	3	------
Esquimalt	74	------
Fraser Mills	------	------
Glenmore	------	------
Kent	9	------
Langley	7	------
Maple Ridge	16	3
Matsqui	16	------
Mission	128	------
North Cowichan	------	------
North Vancouver	------	------
Oak Bay	1,116	8
Peachland	------	------
Penticton	111	3
Pitt Meadows	------	------
Richmond	267	7
Saanich	664	2
Salmon Arm	------	------
Spallumcheen	------	------
Sumas	3	------
Summerland	2	------
Surrey	12	4

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

	Inspections.	Orders.
District Municipalities—Continued.		
Tadanac	5	------
West Vancouver	13	1
Totals	2,485	32
Village Municipalities (19).		
Abbotsford	11	------
Burns Lake	22	------
Chapman Camp	------	------
Creston	------	------
Dawson Creek	51	17
Gibsons Landing	8	------
Hope	------	------
Mission	901	47
McBride	16	------
New Denver	------	------
Pouce Coupe	16	------
Quesnel	------	------
Silverton	6	6
Smithers	99	12
Stewart	8	------
Terrace	13	------
Tofino	1	------
Vanderhoof	26	------
Williams Lake	------	------
Totals	1,178	82
Fire Districts (12).		
Cariboo, County of	128	8
Ioco	------	------
Kootenay, County of	304	15
Nanaimo, County of	------	------
Pacific Mills, Limited	------	------
Powell River	552	3
Prince Rupert, County of	37	------
University Area	------	------
Vancouver, County of	12	------
Victoria, County of	35	2
Westminster, County of	5	------
Yale, County of	179	15
Totals	1,252	43
Grand totals	75,717	2,134
Grand totals, 1940	76,912	5,104
Grand totals, 1939	73,464	5,530
Grand totals, 1938	74,371	5,864
Grand totals, 1937	68,079	5,826

TABLE II.—FIRES REPORTED.

Districts reporting.	Number.	Amount of Loss.
City Municipalities (33).		
Alberni	6	$112
Armstrong	2	31
Chilliwack	9	793
Courtenay	7	784
Cranbrook	12	1,085
Cumberland	6	159
Duncan	14	3,366
Enderby	----	----
Fernie	14	520
Grand Forks	4	113
Greenwood	----	----
Kamloops	14	4,521
Kaslo	3	135
Kelowna	20	1,254
Ladysmith	7	322
Merritt	9	2,342
Nanaimo	35	4,580
Nelson	12	449
New Westminster	96	10,632
North Vancouver	43	14,008
Port Alberni	21	1,007
Port Coquitlam	4	4,756
Port Moody	11	5,243
Prince George	7	2,022
Prince Rupert	19	2,603
Revelstoke	5	720
Rossland	13	3,995
Salmon Arm	4	169
Slocan	----	----
Trail	18	2,486
Vancouver	1,635	311,502
Vernon	4	1,550
Victoria	235	71,886
Totals	2,289	$453,145
District Municipalities (28).		
Burnaby	87	$60,047
Chilliwack	12	13,789
Coldstream	3	41
Coquitlam	11	4,719
Delta	6	435
Esquimalt	20	63,288
Fraser Mills	2	653
Glenmore	2	95
Kent	3	720
Langley	18	13,750
Maple Ridge	16	12,687
Matsqui	13	19,489
Mission	6	20,081
North Cowichan	11	10,266
North Vancouver	22	6,281
Oak Bay	71	2,694
Peachland	----	----
Penticton	18	39,081
Pitt Meadows	1	4,750
Richmond	28	94,672
Saanich	81	15,959
Salmon Arm	2	5,163
Spallumcheen	5	348
Sumas	6	4,368
Summerland	10	13,536
Surrey	26	33,141

TABLE II.—FIRES REPORTED—*Continued.*

Districts reporting.	Number.	Amount of Loss.
District Municipalities—Continued.		
Tadanac	23	$3,994
West Vancouver	35	20,483
Totals	538	$464,530
Village Municipalities (19).		
Abbotsford	1	$33
Burns Lake	------	------
Chapman Camp	------	------
Creston	8	56,809
Dawson Creek	1	950
Gibsons Landing	------	------
Hope	2	544
Mission	9	1,307
McBride	------	------
New Denver	1	275
Pouce Coupe	------	------
Quesnel	1	51
Silverton	------	------
Smithers	2	73
Stewart	------	------
Terrace	1	4
Tofino	1	98
Vanderhoof	1	461
Williams Lake	1	205
Totals	29	$60,810
Fire Districts (12).		
Cariboo, County of	61	$64,310
Ioco	2	6
Kootenay, County of	60	40,364
Nanaimo, County of	118	267,939
Pacific Mills, Limited	11	2,011
Powell River	9	1,293
Prince Rupert, County of	20	60,594
University Area	3	279
Vancouver, County of	36	48,650
Victoria, County of	37	56,451
Westminster, County of	24	20,364
Yale, County of	51	68,073
Totals	432	$630,334
Grand totals	3,288	$1,608,819

NOTE.—Construction of Buildings—

Fire-resisting	30, loss	$4,030
Brick or concrete	304, ,,	79,901
Frame	2,954, ,,	1,524,888
	3,288, ,,	$1,608,819

TABLE III.—CAUSES OF FIRES.

Causes of Fires.	Number.	Amount of Loss.
Acetylene-torch carelessness	1	$746
Ashes against wood	32	8,232
Boiler insufficiently protected	3	747
Broken gasoline-line	2	196
Broken oil-line	2	350
Burning fuse ignited clothing	1	49
Candle carelessness	23	3,073
Carburettor back-firing	33	12,441
Car upset	7	11,550
Children playing with fire	5	2,026
Clothes too near stove or stove-pipe	46	5,927
Coal-gas explosion	2	93
Coal-oil carelessness	2	1,219
Collision	8	1,170
Curtains from lamp	5	65
Curtains from stove	4	69
Defective brooder	2	83
Defective chimney	203	105,510
Defective fireplace	23	6,383
Defective furnace	2	217
Defective gasoline water-heater	1	32
Defective oil-burner	16	25,643
Defective oven	2	466
Defective stove or stove-pipe	23	9,719
Defective wiring	24	19,337
Dust explosion	4	425
Electrical appliances	137	84,958
Exposure	54	15,072
Film-break at the aperture	3	1,217
Firecrackers	19	5,178
Friction in brake-drum	2	224
Friction in conveyer-belt	1	400
Friction in pulley	3	453
Furnace or furnace-pipe insufficiently protected	20	39,560
Gas explosion	1	40
Gasoline carelessness	31	12,023
Gasoline explosion	4	13,015
Gasoline on exhaust-pipe	5	596
Gasoline-pump damaged by car	1	340
Gasoline-torch carelessness	5	681
Gas-plate insufficiently protected	2	7
Grease on stove	35	5,739
Hot brick placed in bed	1	16
Incendiary	25	3,295
Lamp explosion	5	6,124
Lamp upset	7	224
Lightning	23	5,859
Live coals	6	65
Match carelessness	53	8,380
Matches, children with	48	9,078
Molten metal	6	11,011
Oil-furnace back-firing	3	498
Oil ignited from hot metal	1	5,900
Oil-stove explosion	3	745
Overheated asphalt	1	813
Overheated electric motor	2	158
Overheated machinery bearings	1	1,210
Paint, heating on stove, exploded	3	118
Paint-remover, explosion of	1	51
Plastic gum, being heated, ignited	1	225
Sawdust-burner back-firing	13	4,353
Sawdust-burner insufficiently protected	4	64
Short circuit	128	101,986
Smokers' carelessness	1,137	79,456
Sparks from acetylene-torch	2	4,931

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

Causes of Fires.	Number.	Amount of Loss.
Sparks from boiler	13	$15,826
Sparks from bonfire	10	1,301
Sparks from burning rubbish	10	291
Sparks from bush fire	4	16,172
Sparks from chimney	221	83,733
Sparks from engine	4	123,070
Sparks from fireplace	222	10,117
Sparks from forge	1	15
Sparks from furnace or furnace-pipe	15	3,016
Sparks from mill burner	9	27,013
Sparks from picker-machine	2	605
Sparks from slash fire	3	14,914
Sparks from stove or stove-pipe	57	15,749
Sparks from welding-machine	5	15,164
Spontaneous combustion	28	28,310
Static electricity	6	1,644
Steam-pipe insufficiently protected	1	100
Stove explosion	6	1,004
Stove-lid falling on floor	2	20
Stove or stove-pipe insufficiently protected	107	47,121
Stove upset	2	1,115
Stuffing from seat falling on hot muffler	1	475
Sulphur, ignition of	1	165
Sun's rays	3	395
Tar boiling over	5	382
Thawing pipes	4	1,173
Turpentine, ignition of	1	170
Unknown	264	552,121
Wood too near furnace	2	2,199
Wood too near stove	6	5,608
Totals	3,288	$1,608,819

TABLE IV.—CLASSIFICATION OF PROPERTY BURNED AND CAUSES.

Property.		Causes.		Amount of Loss.	
Aircraft-manufacturing plants	2	Electrical appliances	1	$73,749	
		Sparks from welding-machine	1	56	
					$73,805
Apartments	163	Ashes against wood	1	$746	
		Candle carelessness	1	25	
		Clothes too near stove	4	223	
		Curtains from stove	1	9	
		Defective chimney	14	775	
		Defective fireplace	1	15	
		Defective oil-burner	2	4,756	
		Defective wiring	1	6,148	
		Electrical appliances	12	2,596	
		Furnace insufficiently protected	1	10	
		Grease on stove	4	68	
		Match carelessness	1	12	
		Matches, children with	3	105	
		Sawdust-burner insufficiently protected	1	25	
		Short circuit	4	183	
		Smokers' carelessness	87	2,902	
		Sparks from bonfire	1	5	
		Sparks from chimney	18	3,364	
		Sparks from stove	1	9	
		Stove explosion	1	10	
		Stove insufficiently protected	1	14	
		Sulphur, ignition of	1	165	
		Unknown	1	115	
		Wood too near stove	1	37	
					22,317
Armouries	2	Smokers' carelessness	2		18
Asphalt plants	1	Overheated asphalt	1		813
Automobile camps	3	Smokers' carelessness	1	$6	
		Sparks from stove-pipe	1	42	
		Unknown	1	28	
					76
Automobiles	302	Broken gasoline-line	2	$196	
		Carburettor back-firing	23	1,279	
		Car upset	7	11,550	
		Collision	7	1,095	
		Defective wiring	15	4,427	
		Exposure	5	175	
		Firecrackers	1	24	
		Friction in brake-drum	2	224	
		Gasoline carelessness	13	616	
		Gasoline explosion	1	7,696	
		Gasoline on exhaust-pipe	5	596	
		Gasoline-torch carelessness	1	600	
		Incendiary	1	40	
		Match carelessness	5	408	
		Matches, children with	1	35	
		Short circuit	79	9,123	
		Smokers' carelessness	111	7,068	
		Stuffing from seat falling on hot muffler	1	475	
		Unknown	22	11,030	
					56,657
Bakeries	3	Coal-gas explosion	1	$88	
		Defective oven	1	285	
		Wood too near stove	1	3,814	
					4,187
Barber-shops	1	Unknown	1		1,875
Barns	23	Electrical appliances	1	$65	
		Lightning	2	100	
		Matches, children with	1	350	
		Smokers' carelessness	1	20	
		Spontaneous combustion	5	5,927	
		Stove insufficiently protected	1	350	

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

Property.		Causes.		Amount of Loss.	
		Stove upset	1	$940	
		Unknown	11	18,790	
					$26,542
Bath-houses	1	Smokers' carelessness	1		14
Battery-houses	1	Gas explosion	1		40
Blacksmith-shops	2	Sparks from acetylene-torch	1	$4,581	
		Sparks from chimney	1	8	
					4,589
Boarding-houses	11	Coal-gas explosion	1	$5	
		Smokers' carelessness	6	87	
		Sparks from chimney	1	10	
		Sparks from fireplace	1	15	
		Sparks from mill burner	1	10	
		Unknown	1	76	
					203
Boat-building works	1	Exposure	1		3,832
Bottling-works	1	Smokers' carelessness	1		1,127
Brick-kilns	1	Unknown	1		400
Bunk-houses	2	Defective chimney	1	$2,000	
		Smokers' carelessness	1	1,384	
					3,384
Canneries	2	Sparks from engine	1	$122,581	
		Unknown	1	25,000	
					147,581
Carpenter-shops	1	Spontaneous combustion	1		100
Chicken-houses	11	Defective brooder	2	$83	
		Sparks from burning rubbish	1	5	
		Stove insufficiently protected	1	365	
		Unknown	7	987	
					1,440
Churches	6	Incendiary	1	$12	
		Smokers' carelessness	3	1,502	
		Stove insufficiently protected	1	12	
		Unknown	1	42	
					1,568
Clubs	14	Defective chimney	1	$77	
		Electrical appliances	1	64	
		Smokers' carelessness	11	239	
		Sparks from chimney	1	35	
					415
Cook-houses	1	Defective chimney	1		2,359
Cooperages	1	Unknown	1		1,037
Dairies	1	Unknown	1		4,750
Distilleries	1	Unknown	1		400
Dry-cleaning establishments	7	Electrical appliances	1	$7	
		Gasoline carelessness	1	282	
		Match carelessness	1	16	
		Sawdust-burner back-firing	1	269	
		Short circuit	1	20	
		Smokers' carelessness	1	52	
		Static electricity	1	71	
					717
Dwellings	1,927	Ashes against wood	24	$7,242	
		Candle carelessness	21	3,042	
		Children playing with fire	5	2,026	
		Clothes too near stove or stove-pipe	35	4,576	
		Coal-oil carelessness	2	1,219	
		Curtains from lamp	4	40	
		Curtains from stove	2	50	
		Defective chimney	158	59,246	
		Defective fireplace	22	6,238	
		Defective furnace	1	152	
		Defective gasoline water-heater	1	32	
		Defective oil-burner	8	1,272	
		Defective stove or stove-pipe	19	9,482	

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

Property.		Causes.		Amount of Loss.	
		Defective wiring	4	$1,145	
		Electrical appliances	96	3,104	
		Exposure	25	4,499	
		Firecrackers	5	85	
		Furnace or furnace-pipe insufficiently protected	13	1,376	
		Gasoline carelessness	8	616	
		Gasoline explosion	1	3,944	
		Gasoline-torch carelessness	1	10	
		Gas-plate insufficiently protected	1	4	
		Grease on stove	23	4,479	
		Hot brick placed in bed	1	16	
		Incendiary	8	2,084	
		Lamp explosion	4	6,099	
		Lamp upset	7	224	
		Lightning	19	3,021	
		Live coals	5	40	
		Match carelessness	39	1,065	
		Matches, children with	32	7,911	
		Oil-furnace back-firing	3	498	
		Oil-stove explosion	1	120	
		Paint, heating on stove, exploded	1	37	
		Paint-remover, explosion of	1	51	
		Sawdust-burner back-firing	10	2,014	
		Sawdust-burner insufficiently protected	3	39	
		Short circuit	18	3,411	
		Smokers' carelessness	621	26,656	
		Sparks from bonfire	8	1,270	
		Sparks from burning rubbish	5	123	
		Sparks from bush fire	1	700	
		Sparks from chimney	163	60,977	
		Sparks from fireplace	217	10,071	
		Sparks from furnace or furnace-pipe	6	1,469	
		Sparks from slash fire	1	450	
		Sparks from stove or stove-pipe	46	12,247	
		Spontaneous combustion	5	1,059	
		Static electricity	1	950	
		Stove explosion	5	994	
		Stove-lid falling on floor	2	20	
		Stove or stove-pipe insufficiently protected	88	23,766	
		Stove upset	1	175	
		Sun's rays	2	360	
		Tar boiling over	2	168	
		Thawing pipes	3	1,160	
		Unknown	115	120,872	
		Wood too near furnace	1	256	
		Wood too near stove	3	1,721	
					$405,973
Electrical sub-stations	1	Electrical appliances	1		3,000
Engines	3	Carburettor back-firing	1	$90	
		Unknown	2	1,638	
					1,728
Factories (bed and mattress)	2	Electrical appliances	1	$35	
		Sparks from picker-machine	1	5	
					40
Factories (broom)	2	Sparks from chimney	1	$8	
		Sparks from mill burner	1	40	
					48
Factories (can)	1	Unknown	1		1,593
Factories (cheese)	1	Sparks from chimney	1		3,700
Factories (furniture)	7	Firecrackers	1	$4,750	
		Smokers' carelessness	3	6,543	
		Sparks from boiler	1	215	
		Sparks from chimney	2	72	
					11,580
Factories (jam and pickles)	1	Defective chimney	1		2,349

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

Property.		Causes.		Amount of Loss.	
Factories (paper bag)	1	Defective oil-burner	1		$7,207
Factories (roof products)	1	Tar boiling over	1		200
Factories (sack)	1	Sparks from picker-machine	1		600
Factories (sash and door)	1	Spontaneous combustion	1		5,563
Factories (shoe)	1	Smokers' carelessness	1		19
Fishing-boats	9	Carburettor back-firing	5	$6,287	
		Gasoline explosion	2	1,375	
		Oil-stove explosion	1	125	
		Unknown	1	80	
					7,867
Foundries	9	Defective chimney	1	$236	
		Defective oven	1	181	
		Match carelessness	1	21	
		Molten metal	1	6,300	
		Sparks from chimney	1	24	
		Sparks from furnace	3	221	
		Sparks from welding-machine	1	10	
					6,993
Fruit-packing plants	1	Boiler insufficiently protected	1		159
Garages	40	Ashes against wood	1	$10	
		Defective chimney	1	32	
		Exposure	6	600	
		Firecrackers	2	70	
		Gasoline carelessness	3	2,702	
		Incendiary	1	400	
		Matches, children with	3	475	
		Short circuit	1	14,680	
		Smokers' carelessness	6	768	
		Sparks from burning rubbish	1	78	
		Sparks from bush fire	1	75	
		Sparks from mill burner	1	1,100	
		Sparks from welding-machine	1	3,053	
		Spontaneous combustion	1	75	
		Stove insufficiently protected	2	852	
		Unknown	9	15,131	
					40,101
Gasoline-stations	7	Defective wiring	1	$15	
		Gasoline pump damaged by car	1	340	
		Short circuit	2	36	
		Smokers' carelessness	1	900	
		Unknown	2	1,428	
					2,719
Gravel plants	1	Sparks from bush fire	1		2,500
Greenhouses	1	Defective stove	1		14
Halls	13	Furnace-pipe insufficiently protected	1	$23	
		Smokers' carelessness	6	944	
		Sparks from chimney	2	27	
		Unknown	4	14,625	
					15,619
Haystacks	1	Unknown	1		75
Hospitals	4	Defective oil-burner	1	$6,457	
		Smokers' carelessness	2	10	
		Unknown	1	122	
					6,589
Hotels	131	Defective chimney	1	$250	
		Defective fireplace	1	95	
		Electrical appliances	2	49	
		Grease on stove	1	26	
		Lamp explosion	1	25	
		Short circuit	1	25	
		Smokers' carelessness	108	5,174	
		Sparks from chimney	3	10,800	
		Stove or stove-pipe insufficiently protected	4	249	
		Unknown	9	13,001	
					29,694

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

Property.		Causes.		Amount of Loss.	
House-boats	2	Stove insufficiently protected	2		$586
Knitting-mills	1	Spontaneous combustion	1		9,210
Launches	5	Carburettor back-firing	1	$400	
		Gasoline carelessness	1	250	
		Stove insufficiently protected	2	20,000	
		Unknown	1	1,000	
					21,650
Laundries	13	Clothes too near stove	1	$30	
		Electrical appliances	3	1,238	
		Smokers' carelessness	1	44	
		Sparks from boiler	1	87	
		Sparks from chimney	3	165	
		Spontaneous combustion	1	5	
		Static electricity	1	13	
		Unknown	2	274	
					1,856
Locomotives	1	Boiler insufficiently protected	1		500
Logging camps	7	Gasoline carelessness	1	$6,877	
		Sparks from bush fire	1	12,897	
		Sparks from engine	1	9	
		Sparks from welding-machine	1	12,037	
		Unknown	3	1,861	
					33,681
Lumber-yards	2	Smokers' carelessness	1	$5	
		Sparks from mill burner	1	40	
					45
Machine-shops	5	Oil igniting from hot metal	1	$5,900	
		Smokers' carelessness	1	2,793	
		Sparks from forge	1	15	
		Sparks from welding-machine	1	8	
		Unknown	1	1,372	
					10,088
Meat-packing plants	2	Grease on stove	1	$888	
		Sparks from stove	1	205	
					1,093
Mining properties	7	Clothes too near stove or stove-pipe	2	$1,070	
		Lightning	1	313	
		Short circuit	1	7,200	
		Sparks from engine	1	280	
		Unknown	2	6,302	
					15,165
Motor-cycles	4	Carburettor back-firing	2	$385	
		Collision	1	75	
		Short circuit	1	20	
					480
Mushroom-houses	2	Sparks from boiler	1	$1,132	
		Sparks from chimney	1	15	
					1,147
Offices	19	Curtains from lamp	1	$25	
		Electrical appliances	1	11	
		Exposure	1	185	
		Gas-plate insufficiently protected	1	3	
		Grease on stove	1	30	
		Smokers' carelessness	7	1,339	
		Sparks from chimney	1	3	
		Sparks from stove	1	30	
		Spontaneous combustion	1	91	
		Unknown	4	5,570	
					7,287
Paper-mills	4	Unknown	4		1,367
Peat plants	1	Unknown	1		3,732
Photographic studios	1	Smokers' carelessness	1		64
Poles	1	Unknown	1		178
Pool-rooms	2	Electrical appliances	1	$38	
		Exposure	1	122	
					160

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

Property.		Causes.		Amount of Loss.	
Power-houses	1	Carburettor back-firing	1		$4,000
Printing-offices	6	Ashes against wood	1	$15	
		Defective chimney	1	12	
		Furnace insufficiently protected	1	37,973	
		Short circuit	1	32	
		Spontaneous combustion	1	105	
		Unknown	1	16	
					38,153
Railway-cars	2	Smokers' carelessness	1	$40	
		Unknown	1	1,800	
					1,840
Railway-stations	1	Unknown	1		200
Refineries (sugar)	1	Acetylene-torch carelessness	1		746
Restaurants	12	Ashes against wood	1	$10	
		Exposure	2	1,552	
		Grease on stove	1	154	
		Smokers' carelessness	5	146	
		Sparks from chimney	1	5	
		Sparks from furnace	1	500	
		Unknown	1	3,200	
					5,567
Rooming-houses	85	Clothes too near stove	1	$3	
		Defective chimney	5	118	
		Defective fireplace	1	44	
		Defective wiring	1	20	
		Electrical appliances	3	65	
		Furnace insufficiently protected	1	25	
		Grease on stove	3	31	
		Match carelessness	1	4	
		Short circuit	2	32	
		Smokers' carelessness	55	2,755	
		Sparks from chimney	5	96	
		Sparks from fireplace	2	22	
		Sparks from stove	1	12	
		Unknown	4	2,509	
					5,736
Sawmills	31	Electrical appliances	1	$200	
		Friction in conveyer-belt	1	400	
		Friction in pulley	1	60	
		Lightning	1	2,425	
		Molten metal	1	4,031	
		Overheated electric motor	1	143	
		Overheated machinery bearings	1	1,210	
		Short circuit	4	738	
		Sparks from boiler	8	14,337	
		Sparks from mill burner	2	2,131	
		Sparks from slash fire	2	14,464	
		Spontaneous combustion	1	4	
		Unknown	7	73,060	
					113,203
Schools	19	Electrical appliances	1	$250	
		Furnace insufficiently protected	1	12	
		Gasoline carelessness	1	2	
		Gasoline-torch carelessness	1	10	
		Grease on stove	1	63	
		Incendiary	2	320	
		Matches, children with	1	10	
		Molten metal	1	30	
		Short circuit	1	20	
		Smokers' carelessness	1	36	
		Sparks from chimney	4	1,908	
		Unknown	3	32,006	
		Wood too near stove	1	36	
					34,703

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

Property.		Causes.		Amount of Loss.	
Sheds	48	Ashes against wood	1	$11	
		Defective stove or stove-pipe	2	203	
		Exposure	6	301	
		Gasoline carelessness	1	175	
		Incendiary	4	115	
		Match carelessness	1	350	
		Matches, children with	6	142	
		Short circuit	1	30	
		Smokers' carelessness	7	201	
		Sparks from bonfire	1	26	
		Sparks from burning rubbish	2	35	
		Sparks from chimney	3	1,510	
		Sparks from engine	1	200	
		Sparks from mill burner	1	4	
		Sparks from stove	1	32	
		Spontaneous combustion	1	35	
		Stove-pipe insufficiently protected	1	150	
		Sun's rays	1	35	
		Tar boiling over	2	14	
		Unknown	5	4,926	
					$8,495
Sheet-metal works	1	*Plastic gum, being heated, ignited*	1		225
Shingle-mills	10	Boiler insufficiently protected	1	$88	
		Sparks from boiler	1	45	
		Sparks from mill burner	2	23,688	
		Unknown	6	66,678	
					90,499
Ships	1	Spontaneous combustion	1		2,000
Shipyards	1	Short circuit	1		62,800
Smelting plants	20	Broken oil-line	2	$350	
		Defective chimney	1	100	
		Dust explosion	4	425	
		Friction in pulley	2	393	
		Molten metal	3	650	
		Sparks from acetylene-torch	1	350	
		Sparks from furnace	3	687	
		Spontaneous combustion	1	400	
		Static electricity	2	600	
		Steam-pipe insufficiently protected	1	100	
					4,055
Stables	1	Smokers' carelessness	1		239
Stores	105	Ashes against wood	1	$182	
		Burning fuse ignited clothing	1	49	
		Defective chimney	9	37,660	
		Defective oil-burner	2	49	
		Defective stove-pipe	1	20	
		Defective wiring	1	4,793	
		Electrical appliances	8	274	
		Exposure	2	340	
		Firecrackers	5	86	
		Incendiary	1	1	
		Live coal	1	25	
		Match carelessness	2	2,863	
		Matches, children with	1	50	
		Oil-stove explosion	1	500	
		Paint, heating on stove, exploded	1	25	
		Sawdust-burner back-firing	1	50	
		Short circuit	5	87	
		Smokers' carelessness	40	3,682	
		Sparks from burning rubbish	1	50	
		Sparks from chimney	6	181	
		Sparks from furnace	2	22	
		Sparks from stove	1	75	
		Spontaneous combustion	1	1,066	
		Static electricity	1	10	

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

Property.		Causes.		Amount of Loss.	
		Stove insufficiently protected	3	$769	
		Unknown	7	86,143	
					$139,052
Stores and apartments	12	Ashes against wood	1	$4	
		Candle carelessness	1	6	
		Curtains from stove	1	10	
		Defective chimney	1	18	
		Incendiary	1	44	
		Smokers' carelessness	6	47	
		Sparks from furnace	1	182	
					311
Stores and dwellings	23	Clothes too near stove	2	$20	
		Defective oil-burner	1	902	
		Electrical appliances	1	5	
		Exposure	2	3,087	
		Firecrackers	2	71	
		Furnace insufficiently protected	1	30	
		Gasoline carelessness	1	500	
		Incendiary	2	25	
		Paint, heating on stove, exploded	1	56	
		Smokers' carelessness	6	8,928	
		Sparks from stove	1	3	
		Stove insufficiently protected	1	8	
		Unknown	2	2,785	
					16,420
Stores and hotels	1	Smokers' carelessness	1		1,081
Stores and offices	3	Gasoline-torch carelessness	1	$56	
		Short circuit	1	59	
		Smokers' carelessness	1	2	
					117
Stores and rooms	56	Ashes against wood	1	$12	
		Defective chimney	5	124	
		Defective wiring	1	2,789	
		Exposure	2	32	
		Firecrackers	2	82	
		Gasoline carelessness	1	3	
		Gasoline-torch carelessness	1	5	
		Incendiary	3	95	
		Match carelessnesss	2	3,641	
		Short circuit	1	42	
		Smokers' carelessness	26	1,513	
		Sparks from chimney	2	75	
		Sparks from stove	2	94	
		Spontaneous combustion	2	983	
		Thawing pipes	1	13	
		Unknown	3	2,434	
		Wood too near furnace	1	1,943	
					13,880
Street-cars	2	Overheated electric motor	1	$15	
		Short circuit	1	564	
					579
Theatres	8	Exposure	1	$347	
		Film-break at the aperture	3	1,217	
		Incendiary	1	159	
		Smokers' carelessness	1	933	
		Unknown	2	1,043	
					3,699
Tobacco-kilns	1	Unknown	1		684
Tug-boats	2	Defective oil-burner	1	$5,000	
		Unknown	1	510	
					5,510
Warehouses	20	Defective chimney	2	$154	
		Electrical appliances	2	208	
		Firecrackers	1	10	
		Furnace insufficiently protected	1	111	

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

Property.		Causes.		Amount of Loss.	
		Sawdust-burner back-firing	1	$2,020	
		Short circuit	1	184	
		Smokers' carelessness	1	175	
		Sparks from boiler	1	10	
		Sparks from chimney	1	750	
		Spontaneous combustion	3	1,612	
		Turpentine, ignition of	1	170	
		Unknown	5	19,376	
					$24,780
Woodworking plants	2	Sparks from stove	1	$3,000	
		Spontaneous combustion	1	75	
					3,075
Workshops	2	Clothes too near stove-pipe	1	$5	
		Short circuit	1	2,700	
					2,705
Totals	3,288		3,288		$1,608,819

TABLE V.—SUMMARY.

	Fires reported.					Amount of Loss.				
	City Municipalities (33).	District Municipalities (28).	Village Municipalities (19).	Fire Districts (12).	Totals.	City Municipalities.	District Municipalities.	Village Municipalities.	Fire Districts.	Totals.
1941.										
January	237	57	3	29	326	$18,578	$16,194	$163	$13,250	$48,185
February	175	42	3	42	262	29,188	36,523	761	59,302	125,774
March	195	41	3	45	284	43,699	46,316	1,114	36,104	127,233
April	185	37	1	42	265	19,775	10,079	300	60,400	90,554
May	203	56	2	32	293	28,190	15,977	326	45,321	89,814
June	139	36	1	24	200	34,155	102,949	50	17,888	155,042
July	204	39	2	46	291	21,655	57,438	44	43,624	122,761
August	184	40	1	33	258	88,383	36,826	461	141,171	266,841
September	142	42	2	28	214	27,417	6,232	460	49,317	83,426
October	191	47	2	36	276	48,902	37,795	20	38,628	125,345
November	172	50	1	28	251	27,267	13,970	205	16,848	58,290
December	262	51	8	47	368	65,936	84,231	56,906	108,481	315,554
Totals, 1941	2,289	538	29	432	3,288	$453,145	$464,530	$60,810	$630,334	$1,608,819
Totals, 1940	2,397	532	39	451	3,419	488,195	495,855	37,484	945,333	1,966,867
Totals, 1939	2,372	543	26	456	3,397	730,922	304,680	8,492	659,516	1,703,610
Totals, 1938	2,206	516	45	471	3,238	1,458,720	319,784	74,554	676,976	2,530,034
Totals, 1937	2,093	465	30	421	3,009	783,919	272,012	23,743	1,064,404	2,144,078
	11,357	2,594	169	2,231	16,351	$3,914,901	$1,856,861	$205,083	$3,976,563	$9,953,408

TABLE VI.—LOSS OF LIFE, 1937–41.

Occupancy.	Cause of Fire.	Loss of Life.	
		Adults.	Children.
Apartment	Defective wiring	1	--
Bunk-house	Smokers' carelessness	1	--
Dwelling	Defective chimney	--	1
Dwelling	Gasoline carelessness	1	--
Dwelling	Lamp upset	1	--
Dwelling	Smokers' carelessness	1	--
Dwelling	Smokers' carelessness	1	--
Dwelling	Stove insufficiently protected	--	2
Dwelling	Unknown	1	--
Dwelling	Unknown	1	--
Dwelling	Unknown	2	--
Fishing-boat	Unknown	2	--
Store	Oil-stove explosion	1	--
Totals, 1941		13	3
Totals, 1940		7	--
Totals, 1939		7	--
Totals, 1938		7	3
Totals, 1937		3	--

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