

## TWENTY-ONE LIVES LOST IN SCHOOL FIRE

SHOCKING DESTRUCTION AT PEABODY HAS AROUSED GENERAL SENTIMENT OF PEOPLE.

### CAN PREVENT RECURRENCES

Movement Started in Massachusetts to Make Every Child Safe While in School Buildings.

The shocking destruction of the lives of twenty-one school children by the recent school fire in Peabody has aroused a general sentiment that, so far as human foresight can prevent the recurrences of any such catastrophe, it shall be prevented. So this year, on Fire Prevention Day, a movement is to be started in Massachusetts to make every child while in the schools of the State safe from danger from fire. Arrangements are now being made for a meeting in Faneuil Hall, at which the best experts will be invited to take part in the discussion of various problems to be solved in making schools safe—removal of structural defects, installation of automatic sprinkler protection, administration, cost. Men of influence are standing behind the movement. It will be ardently supported by Fire Prevention Commissioner O'Keefe of the Metropolitan District of Boston, who has already succeeded in so thoroughly convincing the property owners of Greater Boston of the necessity for better fire protection, that the total number of sprinkler equipments ordered and installed in his district this year is several times greater than the number ordered and installed in Chicago during the same period. The National Fire Prevention Association will help in the movement. Its success is assured from the start. In fact, already, throughout the state, the schools are being carefully inspected by the local authorities. The observance of Fire Prevention Day in Massachusetts will this year be no empty form. To quote the governor's proclamation, "It would be a sacrilege even to compare the loss of millions of wealth with the loss of precious lives. But as life is seldom lost in fire, except as property burns, it becomes our solemn obligation to protect property that lives may be saved."—The Standard.

### "SAFETY FIRST" FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

The public school children of the State of Michigan are being introduced to "Safety First" placards being placed on the bulletin boards of all schools in the State, with these rules printed on them:

- "Do not walk on railroad bridges or tracks."
- "Do not walk around the end of lowered gates."
- "Do not loiter about railroad stations or cars."
- "Do not jump on or off trains, cars or engines."
- "Do not crawl under, over or between cars."
- "Do not cross tracks without stopping, looking and listening to see whether a train is coming."
- "Do not play on or around turntables."
- "Never take chances. The safe course is always the best, and it is the quickest in the long run."
- "Be on the alert."
- "Get the safety habit."
- "Practice it every minute."

### SAVES MONEY AND ANXIETY.

Making sure that one is getting "insurance that insures" is a most vital matter for those who place insurance on life or property, or whatever other asset is sought to be insured. And it is very proper to have an eye to the stability of companies and their reliability in the matter of payment of their losses whenever they occur. For a company or agent to set forth evidences of stability and reliability is no idle boast, and gives information to the insured that is most essential in the saying of both anxiety and money.

### TEACH THE CHILDREN.

By teaching the children, some of whom will in a few years administer the laws, a long stride toward fire prevention will be taken, and the children while being taught, will interest parents, who will, as never before, recognize the importance of the question, and, rather than plead ignorance on such an important and self-interesting subject, will lend their aid in the campaign for fire prevention.

One individual in a set of individuals can do only little, but if the sentiment for the saving of life and property is spread (and it can be through education) the interest must increase, and a vast army, fighting against fire waste, will soon bring results. Fire prevention means the saving of life and property, and it should appeal to every one, else something is lacking. What is it?—Safety Engineering.

# CO-OPERATION IS OUR WORD

REALIZING THAT OUR FARMER READERS SHOULD ALL SUBSCRIBE TO A THOROUGHLY RELIABLE, TIMELY AND AUTHENTIC FARM PAPER AND ONE MADE TO COVER THEIR EXACT NEEDS, WE HAVE DECIDED TO DO A LITTLE CO-OPERATING OURSELVES, AND ARE HAPPY TO

ADVISE OUR FRIENDS THAT WE HAVE MADE ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER COMPANY WHEREBY YOU CAN SECURE BOTH THE GASTONIAN AND THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER IN A CLUB FOR ONLY \$1.50, EFFECTING A SAVING TO OUR READERS OF 50 CENTS.

The Progressive Farmer is a weekly paper, therefore timely. It is made by men who know and are in close touch with the conditions of this section, therefore made for the farmer and children. The Progressive Farmer has the most practical household department of any agricultural paper in the South, with a special page for the young folks. Its features make a special appeal to farm women as it does the men.

You need and will receive both profit and pleasure from the Progressive Farmer.

The Gastonian is a clean cut, up-to-date county paper that gives you all the local news and the important national news, and all the news.

You will lose ten times its subscription price if you do not get it regularly, in missing the bargains advertised in its columns.

You cannot expect to have a county paper that is read by all the people of its county for support. We are dependent on you.

You need and should have both your county paper and the weekly Southern farm paper. So don't delay. Join in your subscription to this splendid club at once.

## THE GASTONIAN

### BC COST! BOOST FOR A

#### SCHOLARSHIP HONOR ROLL.

Miss Jane Morris' Room—Irene Crook, Richard Upton, Oscar Kiser, Fred Arrowood, John Loyd Beach, Beeler Ballard, Peora Ramsey, Grace Smith, Gladys Douglass.  
Miss Mitchell's Room—Edith Parker, Helen Chandler, Sara Chandler, Lillian Bryson, Robert Johnson, Louis Bates Joseph Seapark, Martha Walden.  
Miss Summer's Room—Allen M. Grigg, Sara Glenn, Alfred Grigg.  
Miss Anderson's Room—Jack Jackson, Madeline Moore, Nannie Rockwell, Alice Wilkins.  
Miss Roberts' Room—Clarice Walters, Mildred Williams, Fred Anders, Cora Potent.  
Miss Mason's Room—Elizabeth Smith, Elizabeth Parker.  
Miss Nolen's Room—Lander Lay, Geneva Goodman, Raymond Boldin.  
Miss Horton's Room—Eliza Wingate, Earl Huffstetler, Oran White, Lucy Mauney, Charlotte Beal, Raymond Welch, Mary Bell Mauney.  
Miss Rice's Room—Fannie Christy, Leah Grayson, Gertrude McLean, Esther Ramsey, Laurence Parker, William Mauney, Tilman McSwain.  
Miss Gall's Room—Nellie Van Pelt, Leah Branon, Miriam Eury, Mabel Falls.  
Miss Stewart's Room—Ora Pope, Edith Lewis, Grace Gibson, Pearl Lowe.  
Miss Sandifer's Room—Blanch Lawson, Henry Hammette, Floyd Pickers, Artie Blackwell, Mildred McHenry, Wanda Shultz, Ray Glover, William Putnam, Norella Deaton, Lillian Maples, Louise Quinn.  
Miss Adams Room—Lela Bell Newton.  
Miss Curlee's Room—Ruth Jordan, Troy Baker, Ella Killian.  
Miss Simmons' Room—Fannie Sra Shrdll.  
Miss Pettit's Room—John Sills, Lillian Simpson, Mary Hamilton, Nelle Gilliam, Vernie Hinson, Ida Wyatt, Pauline Padgett, Herbert Pite.  
Miss Huey's Room—Groady Horton.  
Miss Weir's Room—Ruby West, Hattie Spencer, Gertrude Gilliam.  
Miss Gallant's Room—Hope Biggers, Roy Jones, Willard Biggers, James Lewis, Lillian Johnson.  
Miss McLean's Room—Odell Childers, Genell Hampton, Carrie Lee Parker, Louise Tritt.  
Miss Pott's Room—Mary, Kate Poole, Floyd Caldwell, Earle Kincaid, Guyell Rose, Marion Rose, Gracie Price, Alice Ham, Lois Beauchamp, Gracie Hartsoe, Pearl Clark, Beulah Ham, Alice Poole, James Cashion.  
Miss Lewis' Room—Carrrie Ray, Miss Stimson's Room—William

Jobb, Hester Ray, Annie Bell Brady, Miss Carrie Morris' Room—Hazel Smith, Beulah Sisk, Lola Simpson, Kathleen Dellinger.  
Miss Wynn's Room—Margaret Wain.  
Miss Pegram's Room—Frances Robinson.  
Miss Jean Withers' Room—Fred Bach, Ethel Lovelace, Ed Miller, Anree Haynes.  
Miss Wilkins' Room—Evelyn Boyd, Annie Blair Anders, Marion Brison, Elene Mauney.  
Miss Eaddy's Room—Lowry Miller, Beulah Mseknie, Lavine Craig.  
Miss Hart's Room—Eleanor Smith.  
Miss Cashwell's Room—Hinda Lovell, Goldie Gosbel.  
Miss Rankin's Room—Willard Jennings.  
Miss May Withers' Room—Helen Anston, Knox Whitesides.  
Miss Bradley's Room—Robt. Boyd, Beulah Bradley.  
Miss Grier's Room—Rebekah Mauney, Blanche Grigg.

### How to Cure Colds.

Avoid Exposure and Drafts.  
Eat Right. Take  
Dr. King's New Discovery.

Your Cough and Cold begin to get better as soon as you take Dr. King's New Discovery. It is prepared from Pine Tar, healing balsams and mild laxatives. Dr. King's New Discovery kills and expels the cold germs, soothes the irritated throat and allays inflammation. It heals the mucous membrane. Search as you will, you cannot find a better cough and cold remedy than Dr. King's New Discovery. Its use over 45 years is a guarantee of satisfaction.

"From exposure I had a cough and cold combined that nearly put a finish to me. While looking for something to ease the irritation that bothered my throat and lungs, a friend advised 'Dr. King's New Discovery.' I bought a bottle, the first dose helped and before the first bottle was used my cold was well."—G. R. Spaven, Smithdale, Ark. At all druggists.

poor sort of a parent.

The value of Peruna in the home can scarcely be estimated. It prevents many of the common ailments. It is an excellent remedy for coughs, colds, catarrh, grip, spring fever, tired-out feeling.

Some people prefer Peruna Tablets to the fluid Peruna.

#### Newton Happenings.

Newton, Nov. 22.—Rev. C. C. Meier, of Merry Oaks, was invited to preach in the local Baptist church yesterday and last night with a view of calling him here to succeed Rev. T. A. Adams, resigned, captivated two audiences yesterday. The congregation received his sermons with every indication of pleasure.

John S. Abernethy, agent of the Southern railway here for many years has invented a section bill or bulletin board which is said to be the only thing of its kind. He has returned from Washington where he went to see about patenting it.

#### Burglars Make Big Haul.

Wilson, Nov. 22.—Burglars entered the store of Diddy and Agnew sometime after Saturday night and carried away pistols valued at \$700 and in addition cutlery and ammunition worth another \$100. This is the sixth time within two years that this firm has suffered from thieves, and this time it appears that some one familiar with the store must have been connected with the robbery.

## SCHOOL BUILDINGS

### BETTER AND SAFER FIRE PROTECTION IN SCHOOLS

In a pamphlet just issued by the Insurance Commissioner, he says: "Let us Continue to Erect School Buildings, but not of the 'Built-to-Burn' Character."

In America we burn twelve school houses and two colleges every week. In the United States, a fire occurs every day in some school. The loss of life is great, while the loss of property amounts to several hundred thousand dollars. The American people have given less thought to the protection of schools and their precious contents than has been given to manufacturing plants and buildings in general. Frequently the lives of our children are saved simply because the fire occurs while the school is not in session.

The above statement contains warnings for us here in North Carolina. We are in the midst of a great educational uplift and advance. We are building an unusually large number of school

giving additional safety to children.

As school buildings are being erected continually, I am anxious to have your department (1) urge all school committees to look into the matter thoroughly before approving of any plans for new buildings or changes in old ones; (2) call their attention to these suggestions as meeting with your approval; and (3) join with me in providing and sending out general plans for school buildings embodying these suggestions.

Of course, I need not say that it will afford me pleasure at any time to give any further information or details desired or examine any plans for you or any school committee in the State or their architect.

Respectfully submitted,  
JAMES R. YOUNG,  
Insurance Commissioner.

November 1, 1915.

depreciation, and call for not more than one-half the present insurance rates.

3. A reinforced concrete building will cost only 12 per cent more than the brick, metal-roof hollow construction and occasion for repairs, and insurance at one-third less.

4. Again, at practically no additional cost all inside stairways and openings can be cut out of all these buildings—frame to concrete—furnishing safety to children and building by the use of tower stairways or fire-escapes. These tower stairways are desirable because simple, safe, and economical, making unnecessary fire escapes and yet rendering buildings of two or more stories absolutely safe for children even in case of fire.

5. I recognize that it is hard to change any general custom of a people, but I am prepared to show that these suggestions are in accord with any of the well established rules designed by teachers for school buildings, and are principles that do not interfere with the best efforts and skill of architects. These suggestions have been submitted to you, your assistants, and many school superintendents and teachers, and met with the approval of all. Both associations of architects in the State have heartily endorsed the suggestions as desirable for improving school buildings and

#### UNUSED.

Husband—"You charge me with reckless extravagance. When did I ever make a useless purchase."  
Wife—"Why, there's that fire-extinguisher you bought a year ago; we've never used it once."—Boston Transcript.

As between dry cleaning at home with gasoline and fighting in the European trenches there isn't much choice, so far as safety is concerned.

flat in which you live is a firetrap, you can move out. If you believe a certain hotel or theatre is unsafe, you need not patronize it. But if your school is in daily danger of becoming a fiery furnace—the law compels your children to attend. Just the same.—Wisconsin Industrial Commission.

A freakish fire in Houston, Texas, occurred recently where a defective flue blaze ignited the insulation on an electric wire and the blaze followed the course of the wire across the room and down the wall paper. It was discovered in time to prevent serious damage.

Dry cleaning in the kitchen.  
With "stuff" and gasoline.  
Doth fill and "stuff" man's pockets.  
Also the graveyard green.

A night in the winter.  
A crack in the flue.  
A heap of black charcoal.  
When the fire is through.

Little sparks from matches.  
Little piles of trash.  
Will turn your pretty cottage  
Into smoke and ash.

Sixteen hundred homes burn in this country every week.

#### RATS AND FIRES.

The most common way in which rats cause fires is by gnawing away the insulating covering from wires used in electric lighting, where the wires pass under floors or in partitions.

The insulating materials are used for nests, which rats build of combustibles in contact with naked wires. Rats often do mischief by gnawing the insulating covering of telephone wires to obtain the paraffin which it contains.—Safety Engineering.