

FEBRUARY FIRE LOSS \$800,000

RALEIGH HAS BEST RECORD AMONG LARGER CITIES OF STATE.

34 TOWNS ON HONOR ROLL

Principal Class of Property Damaged or Destroyed Includes 144 Dwellings.

Raleigh. The aggregate of loss by fire in North Carolina during February was \$864,251, according to official reports of each fire on file in the State Insurance department, made public by Commissioner Stacy W. Wade. This shows an increase of about \$200,000 over February last year. For the United States and Canada, February loss is estimated at \$31,447,900, a decrease of about \$10,000,000 from last February.

The marked feature of the State's loss is the small average loss of the 370 fires occurring as compared with the aggregate of 27 fires in which the loss was \$5,000 and over. This totals \$765,675, an average of \$28,362 per fire, while for the remaining total of 333 fires for the other 243 cities, the average loss per fire was but 405. The heaviest single losses were: a film exchange at Charlotte, \$156,000; business building at Wilmington, \$55,000; oil mill near Henderson, \$108,000; fish fertilizer plant at Shallotte, \$50,000; a store at Littleton, \$30,000; dwelling at Pinehurst, \$28,000.

Charlotte leads the cities with heavy losses, having had 28 fires with loss of \$172,335, followed by Gastonia with 4 fires and loss of \$67,155; Wilmington with 11 fires, loss \$58,915; and Winston-Salem with 37 fires, loss of \$49,360.

Raleigh has the premier record among the larger cities, with 8 fires, and loss of \$240. The major fire causes were defective flues and chimneys, 82; overhot stoves and furnaces, 15; oil stoves, adjoining building, smoking and over carelessness, 14; while spontaneous combustion accounted for 8 fires, incendiary, short circuit, child and match, 6. There was not a single electric iron fire, but there was 2 due to explosion of lamps used under incubators.

The principal classes of property damaged or destroyed includes 144 dwellings, 18 stores, 9 barns and stables and 7 warehouses, four schools and dormitories, 3 churches, laundries and factories, and four hotels, movie theatres and cafes.

The statistical table also shows that while out of the 370 fires the losses of buildings was \$390,695 and contents \$473,556, or just about equally divided, in the 27 fires in which the big losses occurred, the contents loss exceeded the building loss by nearly four to one.

The total value of property at risk is shown to be \$4,338,029, insurance \$3,032,924.

The following towns and counties reporting no fire or no damage from fire during February are placed up on the department's honor roll for the month.

Plymouth, Thomasville, Mt. Olive, Concord, Mt. Holly, Fairmont, Badin, Fuquay Springs, Spring Hope, Wayneville, Roxboro, Wake Forest, Jacksonville, Stanley, Creedmoor, Taber, Rockingham, Randleman, Albemarle, Elkin, Granite Falls, Lumberton, Huntersville, Marion, Tryon, Elm City, Forest City, Carthage, Hickory, Louisville, Kings Mountain, Pilot Mountain, Murphy.

Encampment Dates For Guard. Summer encampments for the North Carolina National Guard will commence this year on July 1, when the field artillery regiment will go into training at Fort Bragg and will close on August 30, according to the April issue of the National Guard bulletin, which is issued monthly by Major Gordon Smith, Assistant Adjutant General. According to the bulletin, there will be 3,000 guardsmen in camp, the largest number since 1918.

The schedule of the training camps follows: Camp Glenn, N. C., July 20; 120th Infantry, Staff Corps and Departments, 30th Signal Company and 117th Motor Transport Company.

Fort Bragg, N. C., July 1-15; 105th Engineers.

Fort Bragg, N. C., April 2-16; 117th Field Artillery.

Camp McClellan, Ala., August 4-18; 109th Cavalry and 105th Medical Regiment.

Fort Monroe, Va., August 16-30; Coast Artillery.

What Good Roads Have Done.

Good roads saved each motorist 66 gallons of gasoline last year which at 25 cents the gallon, is a financial advantage of \$16.50. The State Highway bulletin has figured out.

The bulletin has found that the gasoline consumption per car during 1923 was 66 gallons less than 1922. Automobiles have increased and good roads have been conducive of greater use of them so that the estimate of saving is considered reasonably conservative.

Governor to Visit Charlotte.

Highway Chairman Frank Page has brought Charlotte into the Pan-American road show, and that city will be host Sunday, June 8, to the South American highway engineers and builders, ambassadors from South American countries, governors of seven states, Secretary of Commerce Herbert Hoover and other distinguished officials and citizens of two continents, making up a party that will spend a week watching Tar Heel road builders at work.

Receiving the news from Mr. Page Commissioner W. C. Wilkinson, of Charlotte, began devising ways and means of extending the visit at least another day. He will get the local folks behind him in plans for elaborately entertaining the distinguished guests. And Mr. Page likely will be besought to give the city at least two days so that the visitors may have ample time to see the town and surroundings.

Approximately 2,000 people are expected to be included in the list of invited guests to the road show, which has been designated a "Shirt Sleeve" exhibition, because the visitors will come to see road construction in actual progress in North Carolina. The state will give one grand show of its good roads, and it will be literally "showing the world" how to build them.

The South American highway engineers and builders will number half a hundred. Seven ambassadors to the United States from South American countries will be in the party. Secretary Hoover will represent the federal government. Governor Morrison and the governors of six South Atlantic states have accepted invitations. Senators Simmons and Overman, the North Carolina delegations in Congress and senators and congressmen from other states will be present. Invitations have been extended to members of road governing boards in every county in the South Atlantic states.

The "Triangle Cities," Greensboro, Winston-Salem and High Point will be the official hosts because of hotel facilities available in the three cities. Five hundred automobiles will be used in transporting them over the state.

The official party, which will number about 75, will arrive in Raleigh on a special train June 4. Taking automobiles here it will go to Greensboro, leaving Greensboro Saturday, the official party and visitors will go by automobile to Charlotte to spend Sunday; and Monday, if Mr. Wilkinson can carry out his plans. From Charlotte automobiles will take them to Asheville where they will board a special train for Tennessee June 10.

Winston-Salem, Greensboro and High Point are raising a large sum to provide for the entertainment of the visitors, and Commissioner Wilkinson proposes that Charlotte give them an elaborate reception.

The show, with the distinguished visitors, will prove of tremendous advertising value to the state and to the cities to be visited.

Staff representatives of New York newspapers will be here, and the press will give prominence to the event.

Bulletin on Boll Weevil.

"Habits and Control of the Cotton Boll Weevil" is the title of a new bulletin just issued by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture for the Agricultural Experiment Station. The bulletin is issued as the March 1924 Bulletin and is written by Dr. R. W. Leiby and J. A. Harris, assistant Entomologists, of the Experiment Station staff. This bulletin sets for the studies, experiments and results obtained from work done during 1923 from the field station of the division of Entomology located at Aberdeen in the Sandhills.

According to Professor Franklin Sherman, Chief in Entomology, the bulletin brings out several important facts. Some of the principal findings are stated by Prof. Sherman as follows:

On April 17 the first weevil out of hibernation was found, but none were found on young cotton until last half of May. Earliest laying of eggs was about mid-June; and the generation of weevils from these eggs appeared largely from July 10 to 18. It was found that the time for starting the general dust-poisoning (i. e. when 10 per cent of squares were being punctured) averaged about July 25, which agreed with the observations made during 1922.

Tests were made with several methods for control of the weevil. Four applications of home-made sweetened mixture gave a net profit of \$1.50 per acre, while seven applications of the material known as Hill's Mixture gave a net loss of \$3.29 per acre. As early-season applications of sweetened mixture did kill many overwintered weevils, and as later applications had but little effect, during the time before blooming, the recommendation for 1924 are to use the home-made mixture. A test of the "Florida Method" gave net loss of \$5.08 per acre; hence while this method may later be adapted to our use, it is not yet recommended.

New State Charters.

Charters were issued by the secretary of state's office as follows:

Citizens Insurance and Realty company, Fayetteville, authorized capital, \$50,000; subscribed, \$400; incorporators, G. E. Edgerton, L. M. Edgerton, Thomas D. Clark, and F. H. Thompson, all of Fayetteville.

Green Lumber company, Thomasville, authorized capital, \$25,000; subscribed, \$16,000; incorporators, W. E. Founts, Z. V. Crutchfield, E. W. E. Founts, Z. V. Crutchfield, E. M. Crutchfield, all of Thomasville.

PLAGIARISM OF FAMOUS AUTHORS

Writer Says Shakespeare Stole Whole Plots.

Plagiarism is as old as the human race. In mechanics all inventions are plagiarism, for if inventors had not borrowed ideas from their predecessors progress would come to a standstill. Voltaire is quoted as saying: "Of all forms of theft plagiarism is the least dangerous, and often proves beneficial." Hildreth Harper, in an article entitled "A Pageant of Plagiarists," in a recent issue of Book Notes, declares:

"Shakespeare stole whole plots, incidents and ideas from his predecessors; while Moliere derived not only his plots but entire scenes from Italian comedies. Pope only acknowledged: 'I freely confess that I have served myself all I could by reading.'

"Dieruffel has been called the 'perpetual plagiarist.' His famous funeral oration over Wellington was said to be from an article by Thiers on Marshal Saint-Cyr. A similar example of plagiarism was once performed, by the Hon. John J. Ingalls. He delivered an eloquent eulogy on a certain J. N. Barnes. It was given great praise as an admirable piece of rhetoric, but it was discovered that the eulogy had been appropriated from a sermon.

"Another skilled 'adapter' was Charles Reade. He was known to have appropriated Swift's 'Polite Conversation,' with a work of his own entitled 'The Wandering Hebr.' De Quincy first pointed out that Coleridge's hymn is a paraphrase of an almost unknown poem by a German authoress, Frederica Brunn, called 'Chamonix at Sunrise.'

"Owen Meredith (Lord Lytton) was one of the most daring plagiarists, it is said, that ever lived. 'Lucille' was a bare-faced bit borrowed from de Mussey and Helms. It is even possible that he never wrote an original line in his life. 'Sterne,' it is pointed out, took the best passages of his 'Tristram Shandy' from older authors, then denounced plagiarism in the words of Burton.

"Benjamin Franklin laid claim to translations of 'De Senectute' done by Logan, and copied his counsels against intemperance, out of the works of Jeremy Taylor. Longfellow translated an Anglo-Saxon metrical fragment, and his version agrees almost verbally with Rev. J. J. Conybeare's. Thomas Hardy appropriated an entire chapter from 'Georgia Sceses,' by an almost forgotten American humorist, made a few changes and inlaid it in his 'Trumpet-Major.'—New York Times.

A Real Sleuth

There is a ten-year-old boy, whose mother thinks he is destined to become a noted detective. One day he was begging for permission to try his hand at mending a broken umbrella over which his father was working, and at last was sent out of the room on an errand.

When he returned his father, and mother were talking, and the umbrella had vanished.

"I know where you have put it," he said, after a glance around the room. "You've put it in that closet, and—"

"Well, where else should I put it?" demanded the father, impatiently; but the mother waited for her boy to finish.

"I know it's there," he said, triumphantly, "because whenever you open the closet door that photograph on the end of the bookshelf falls down, and it's down now! And I know 'twas father put it in, for mother would have stood the picture up again."

Art Endures

In the department of esthetics, wherein critics mainly disport themselves, it is almost impossible to think of a so-called truth that shows any sign of being permanently true. . . . But the work of art, as opposed to the theory behind it, has a longer life, particularly if that theory be obscure and questionable, and so cannot be determined accurately. Hamlet, the Mona Lisa, Faust, Dixie, Parsifal, Mother Goose, Annabel Lee, Huckleberry Finn—these things, so baffling to pedagogy, so contumacious to the categories, so mysterious in purpose and utility—these things live. And why? Because there is in them the flavor of salient, novel and attractive personality. . . . because they pulse and breathe and speak, because they are genuine works of art.—H. L. Mencken, in "Prejudices, Third Series."

Sounded the Same

At a concert in Glasgow a famous soprano was singing a song in Italian. An old man in the front row of the pit suddenly burst into tears and would not be comforted.

On being asked why he had broken down he said: "She reminds me so of my daughter."

"But surely," some one suggested, "your daughter couldn't sing like that?"

"No, but it was the same in a way," the old man said. "You couldn't understand what she was singing about, either."

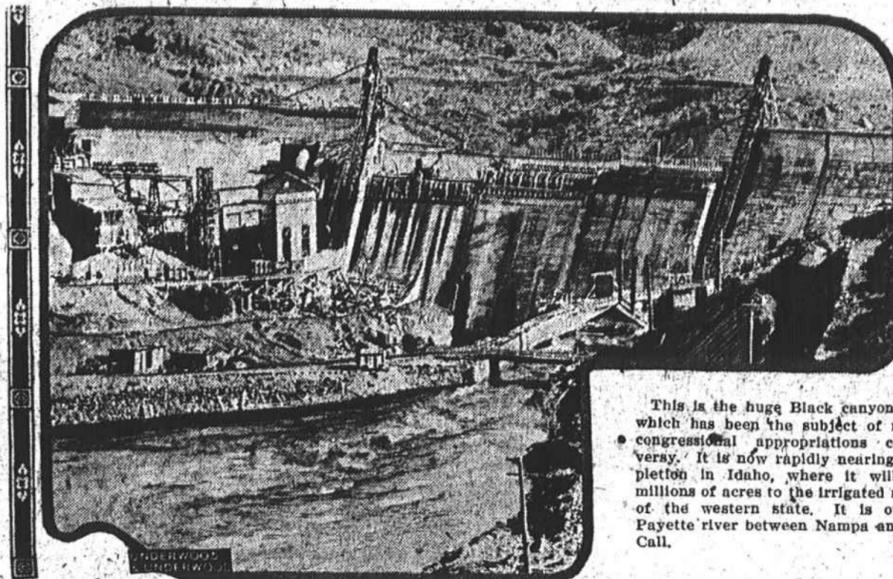
Needed the Space

While posing in evening clothes for a new photograph a movie hero was very insistent about having the photograph show plenty of shirt front. And, as he was good for about a thousand dollars' worth of work every year, the photographer was anxious to oblige. But a photographer has his bump of curiosity the same as others.

"Why so much shirt front?" asked this one.

"To write autographs on," explained the star.

Great Irrigation Project Nearing Completion



This is the huge Black canyon dam which has been the subject of recent congressional appropriations controversy. It is now rapidly nearing completion in Idaho, where it will add millions of acres to the irrigated region of the western state. It is on the Payette river between Nampa and McCall.

When the Italians Annexed the City of Fiume



General view of the procession through the main street of Fiume during the ceremonies attending the annexation of Fiume by Italy.

SKIRTS TOO TIGHT



Marie Hall, twenty-six, said to be the queen of the feminine bootlegging speed drivers of Ecorse, near Detroit, said at the county jail that she would abandon tight skirts in the future when participating in her vocation. Charged with bootlegging, she led prohibition agents a merry chase through Ecorse, but a traffic jam, a tight skirt and a mud puddle lost her the race. She was held in \$1,000 bail.

Wade Gets New Motor for Long Flight



Lieut. Leigh Wade, one of the globe-encircling army aviators, putting a new Liberty motor in his plane at Seattle, preparatory to starting on the flight to Asia by way of Alaska.

CELL FOR HITLER



Adolph Hitler, organizer of the Bavarian revolt of last November which fizzled into a "beer hall putsch," was convicted of treason and sentenced to five years in prison.

Memorial to Shanghai's War Dead

Scene at the recent dedication of the memorial to the men of Shanghai, China, who volunteered for service and lost their lives in the World war. It contains names of more than 200 heroes. The memorial is located on the Bund, or water front, and exactly between the international and French foreign settlements.

