

FIRE LOSSES IN JUNE ARE SMALL

TOTAL OF MONTH ONLY \$176,629
LIGHTNING IS SMALL
DAMAGE.

Raleigh. The officially reported fire loss for the month of June totals \$176,629 as compared with \$397,093, for June 1923, according to the monthly fire report of Insurance Commissioner Stacy Wade. There were 111 fires of which 17 were caused by lightning and these 17 fires showed a loss of \$86,325 or nearly half the total of the other 94 fires, the report says.

Most of the lightning fires were of barns and stock, asserts the statement, while most of the loss was from three fires, a cotton ginney at Clayton with a loss of \$33,500 and a cotton warehouse at Robeson with a loss of \$24,000 in all an aggregate of \$66,000. In the State there were only two other fires during the month of June where the loss was over \$5,000. It was stated, these being a drug plant at Raleigh, \$10,000 and a veneer plant at Goldsboro, \$48,000. Deducting a loss of \$122,000 from these five houses from the total loss for the state, leaves \$54,629 as a loss for the 106 other fires.

The compiled data shows that the fire loss for the first 6 months of 1924 in North Carolina was \$1,531,815 as compared with \$2,857,119 for the same period of 1923. The estimate for the United States and Canada for the first six months of 1924 shows a loss of \$181,096,250 as compared with \$222,050,200 of 1923.

Prominent among the cities reported as having no loss from fires were: High Point, Durham, Washington, Greenville, Statesville, Tarboro, Reidsville, Sanford and Thomasville. Towns with but one fire given was Rocky Mount, Hickory, Albemarle, Henderson, Monroe, Gastonia, Wilson, Oxford, Greensboro and Kinston.

Peach Crop Bigger Than Ever.

"Between 150 and 200 cars of peaches have been shipped from the Sand Hills so far," said Stacy Brewer, editor of the Vass Pilot, who was a Raleigh visitor yesterday. Next week the Georgia Belles and the Elberta will begin to go forward. The Elberta form the greater part of the Sand Hill peach crop.

"The crop this year will be bigger than it has ever been before, much bigger. The movement, it is expected, will exceed 2,500 carloads. The greatest crop hitherto has been 1,600 carloads.

"Not only is it the largest crop, but it is also the best crop. Worms are almost unknown and formerly they were the bane of peach growing industry.

"Prices up to this time have not been satisfactory. But the fruit that has been shipped has not been the next selling varieties. Besides Georgia has been shipping in large quantities and the markets have been oversupplied. Soon however, the Georgia season will be over and Sand Hill peaches will be the only ones that can be had. Then much better prices are expected, particularly as the Sand Hill peaches are the best in the world."

Long George Kelly of Giants Is Marvel of Baseball



This first baseman is the marvel of baseball this year. He hit three home runs and batted in all the eight runs his team made against the Reds June 14. He is hitting .372. His fielding is uncanny. In the picture is shown his remarkable reach. Kelly's actual reach, forward into the infield from the base for a low throw, is 7 feet, 6 inches, from toe on the sack to clutching fingers taking the ball from off the top of the grass blades. The average man cannot reach six feet thusly and catch a ball.

Last spring down in the training camp they started to sing that song "Has Anybody Here Seen Kelly?" over the Giants first sacker, all because of his weak hitting in Florida practice games. And nobody seemed to be able to see him; even McGraw's sight was getting dim as he looked out where long, lank, solemn, earnest Kelly stood around. And then the season opened and Kelly opened up on his greatest major year. His timely hitting kept the Giants in first place until their pitching staff began to function. Kelly is among the first five, if you please, above Frisch and Young. But it was his exploit of hitting three home runs in one day against Cincinnati on June 14 and batting in or scoring all of New York's eight runs that brought him bright and sudden fame. And this, mind you, was the second time Kelly had hit three homes in one game. Last year he did that little thing against Chicago.

Kelly's fielding is even more wonderful than his hitting. Jake Daubert, long king of first sackers, recently pronounced Kelly the best infielder of the game today. His reach is uncanny. He not alone reaches higher in the air than any man in the game, but he can reach further in after wild heaves than seems humanly possible. He seems to uncoil and stretch like a constrictor serpent.

They use to pan Kelly, now the king at the Polo Grounds. He fought up hill all the way to his major league greatness. Kelly hit for an average of exactly .127 his first three years in New York. No wonder they panned him. But McGraw's faith in the lank one never wavered. He sent him to Rochester on option. Called him back and then his game heart and natural gifts brought him into his royal own.

Fisher Wins Shoot



Sergeant Fisher, member of the United States Marine corps, who won the championship for rifle shooting at the Olympic games held at Ch...

FIRST REQUISITE OF SUCCESSFUL PLAYER

"Play the Ball," Is Tip Given by Scott of the Yankees.

Learning to play the ball always on the big bound is the first requisite of a successful short stop, says Everett Scott, short stop of the Yankees.

Playing "heads up" baseball at all times would be my second bit of advice to any shortstop who aspires to make the big league.

By "heads up" baseball I mean to make a study of your batters, be alive to every situation, figure out what you are going to do with the ball when you get it, so as to make the wisest possible play.

A ground ball is difficult to handle only when the fielder plays it badly and gets it between bounds. This happens often, even to the most expert infielders in the major leagues.

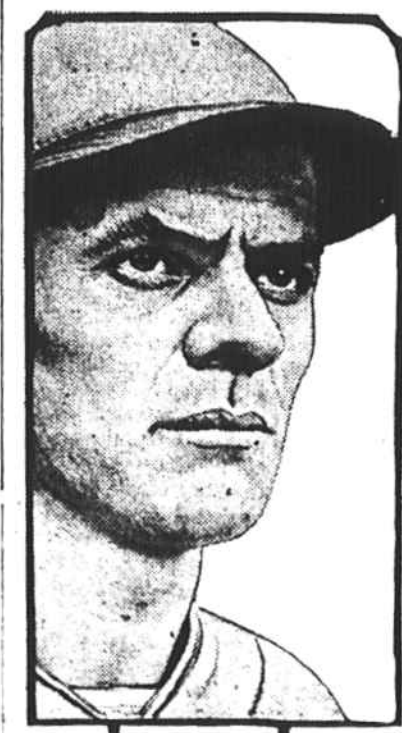
When a ground ball is hit in the general direction of the shortstop he must figure the number of bounds the ball will take before it reaches him and play it accordingly.

On a certain ball it may be necessary for the shortstop to back up a couple of steps to be in a proper position to receive it. On another ball it may call for the fielder to run in three or four steps to meet it.

In the parlance of the ball field, getting a ground hit on the proper bound is known as "playing the ball." The big bound is always the proper bound, making it easy to handle.

When a fielder is not taking a grounder on the big bound he is letting the ball "play him" and then trouble starts.

Ezzell Is Hard Hitter



Homer E. Ezzell, third baseman who was traded by the St. Louis Browns to the Boston Americans for Norman McMillan is playing a nice game for the Hub outfit. Ezzell is known as a consistent swatter of the ball.

Throwing Arm Still of Big Importance

Ability to throw far and accurately, once a vital feature of outfield play, no longer is given the consideration that it deserves, observes Ross Youngs, outfielder of the New York Giants.

The lively ball seems to have created the impression among outfielders that they are no longer expected to throw men out at the different bases.

This is an unfortunate mistake.

I take great pride in my throwing, always have, and still believe there is a big opportunity for the outfielder who can throw accurately and with judgment.

I am in accord with Hughie Jennings, who says more ball games are lost by outfielders throwing the ball to the wrong place than on dropped fly balls. Don't get into a rut.

Diamond Notes

Jess Petty, left hander, with Indianapolis, leads the pitchers of the league.

The only time that Brooklyn is easy to defeat is when it plays New York.

There are 28 baseball leagues in the National Association of Minor Leagues. Players number 5,400.

The Sox have a catcher named Grabowski and all the fans hope he lives up to his first syllable.

David Bancroft, the Boston shortstop in 1922, accepted 984 chances, which is a major league record.

Lee Mallory, brother of "Memphis Bill" Mallory, the Yale catcher and fullback, like his elder, is a baseball and football player.

Lincoln has obtained Pitcher Nick Carter from Birmingham of the Southern league. Outfielder Caffey has been turned back to Denver.

Catcher Manley, former McGill university athlete, who had a trial in the International league, has been signed by the Montreal Royals.

The coal region around Scranton, Pa., is declared to have produced more major league baseball stars than any other section of the United States.

Minneapolis has 27 public playgrounds, nearly all of them completely equipped with baseball diamonds and tennis, roque and horseshoe courts.

Paul Musser, spitball pitcher, balked when ordered to report to Wichita Falls of the Texas league by Wichita of the Western league, and the deal was called off.

Pick, an outfielder-infielder, owned by the Cincinnati Reds, is displaying good form with St. Petersburg. The Saints obtained him from Chattanooga of the Southern league.

Daddy's Evening Fairy Tale
BY MARY GRAHAM BONNER
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FRED'S FRIENDS

Fred had made friends with Mr. and Mrs. Robin. Mr. Robin was very fond of a good dinner and so was Mrs. Robin and the little robins had appetites as well.



Mr. and Mrs. Robin.

"I shall get a delicious worm," said Mr. Robin as he stuck his beak down into the soft lawn, for it had rained very recently.

"And I shall get one, too," said Mrs. Robin.

"We shall try and see what we can do," said the little robins, for now they were big enough to do some work themselves.

Their mother let them do a good deal of marketing but she always let them eat what they got.

"I'm so practical," said Mr. Robin, "that I think of worms as well as of singing."

"And I'm so practical," said Mrs. Robin, "that I think of worms as well as of listening to your beautiful singing."

"We're so practical," said the little robins, who didn't know what practical meant, being sensible about attending to plain, necessary things, but thought practical meant simply the joy of eating, "that we, too, gather worms."

Fred had another friend, a beautiful goldfinch, and the goldfinch sang for Fred.

You see, Fred was out camping for the summer and so he had a chance to make many out-of-door friends.

A chipmunk was also a friend of Fred's and Fred fed him nuts.

A katydid was another friend and became really quite tame.

A frog was another friend of Fred's and the frog took up his abode near the tent where Fred slept, as there was a little pond nearby and the frog found the pond was a splendid pond in which to live and eat and see what was going on about him.

There were a good many fruit trees around but it seemed to Fred as though many of his bird friends enjoyed the bugs and worms and insects and only took a little fruit now and again as though by way of dessert or candy.

A wren was a great friend of Fred's and this wren was very fond of grasshopper salad.

"I don't bother about any fancy salad dressing," the wren seemed to tell Fred.

"I enjoy my grasshopper salad plain."

But every night the frog seemed to be talking to Fred and this was what Fred thought he said:

"Goog-a-room, goog-a-room, nice pond this. How can you live in a tent when there is a pond nearby?"

"Goog-a-room, goog-a-room, goog-a-room, that is beyond my frog understanding."

"Here in the pond there are so many good things to eat. It is cool here and pleasant and I enjoy myself a great deal."

"I should not care about sleeping in a tent. Goog-a-room, goog-a-room, I do not need blankets with which to cover myself up."

"I would not care about sleeping in a cot. No, that is something I would not care about."

"Goog-a-room, goog-a-room, what silly creatures people are."

"They come to the country and they sleep in cots. Why don't they come to the country and camp out in a pond?"

"That is something I can't understand."

Fred thought to himself that the frog was a very interesting frog and he liked his out-of-door friends.

He enjoyed them all and they became quite tame as Fred watched them without frightening them and gave them good things to eat.

But Fred knew he would not like to live in a pond or in a tree. No, the cot felt very comfortable every night, and the blankets good and warm!

She Missed Her Mother
Jean had spent a fortnight in the country and was accounting the many, many pleasures she had experienced during her visit.

Suddenly she gazed up into her mother's face and earnestly assured her, "But I missed you, mother, more than I was happy."

Mary Was Puzzled
Mary was visiting in the country and witnessed the operation of milking. After watching the proceedings she inspected the cow minutely and then asked, "Grandma, where do they put the milk in?"

PE-RU-NA FOR STOMACH CATARRH

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