

NORTH CAROLINA LOSSES BY FIRE

INCREASE ATTRIBUTED BY COMMISSIONER TO RURAL RISKS.

Raleigh. Figures made public by the state insurance department show a total fire loss in North Carolina during March of \$905,277, with values at risk \$4,893,397. Insurance on the property at risk was \$4,557,970. The number of fires was 397. Fire damage in the state during March, 1924, was \$406,360, with property at risk worth \$2,717,639 and insurance for \$1,786,291. Fires in March, 1924, totaled 204.

Commissioner Wade attributed the increase in losses to rural industrial fires, which totaled \$628,740 last month, while the entire loss in towns and cities, embracing 236 fires was only \$276,537. Of the 30 rural fires, with such an immense damage, Commissioner Wade pointed out, the values at risk were \$875,400, with \$640,000 insurance. "On the other hand, he added, with 236 fires in cities and towns, with values over \$4,000,000 and insurance over \$3,000,000, the loss totaled only \$276,537. The loss from 21 fires totaled \$765,435, leaving for the remaining 245 fires a total loss of \$139,842.

Principal losses for the month included the following:

Cotton mill in Johnston county \$244,000; lumber plant in Halifax county, near Hollister, \$150,000; lumber plant near Littleton, in Halifax county, \$130,000; flour mill and dwelling in Forsyth county, \$83,000; dwelling in Stokes county \$20,000; fertilizer plant in New Bern, \$24,500; dwelling and contents at Greenville, \$17,500; school dormitory at Oxford, \$13,500; dwelling and teacherage at Red Springs, \$13,200; dwelling at Gastonia, \$20,000; church at Greenville, \$12,000; Quartz company at Charlotte, \$15,285; business building at Winston-Salem, \$13,000; store and contents at Randleman, \$12,000.

Shingle roofs and defective flues caused 102 March fires, the causes of 61 were unknown and 12 were attributed to carelessness. Four were reported as of incendiary origin and seven from overhot stoves and furnaces.

There were 160 dwellings burned in North Carolina in March, 13 industrial plants, 11 unstarted automobiles, 4 trucks, 9 garages, 7 stores, 6 churches, 5 business buildings and 4 lumber plants and schools.

The following places were practically fire-free in March: Kinross, Albemarle, Monroe, Concord, Hicory, Wayneville, Louisville, Aberdeen, Littleton, Selma, Elm City, Kernersville, Pinehurst, Zebulon, Bonlee, Pilot, Granite Falls, Jefferson, Huntersville, Middlesex and Fairmont.

Can Consign Perishable Produce.

Commissioner of Agriculture W. Graham announced that perishable farm products can still be consigned in C.O.D. shipments. This policy is said to mean a great deal to fruit and vegetable growers in North Carolina.

A movement was launched with the ranks of the Southern Freight Association to prevent the acceptance of fruits and vegetables when consignees "Order Notify" from to and between points in Southern territory but the movement has been abandoned.

When notified by Commissioner Brown of Georgia, that such a change was being considered, Commissioner Graham immediately brought pressure to bear on the Southern Freight Association to retain the present status for perishable products.

Commissioner Graham said in his telegram to the association:

"Such action would have a tendency to place producers and producers' organizations more at the mercy of ruthless speculators and dishonest commission merchants. The order notify plan makes it possible for producers and producers' organizations to have a voice in the matter of damage, etc."

Appoints Equalizing Board.

Governor A. W. McLean through his secretary, Charles H. England, announced the personnel of the Equalizing Fund Commission, which was given sweeping powers by the 1923 General Assembly in a matter vitally affecting the counties of the State.

The commission is composed of Dr. E. C. Brooks, president of the North Carolina State College; Chas. A. Webb, Asheville; W. C. Feinster, Newton; Mrs. W. J. Jones, Salemburg and E. D. Broadhurst, Greensboro.

The last Legislature increased the equalizing fund from \$1,350,000 to \$1,500,000 annually and provided that approximately \$1,150,000 of the amount should be distributed to 67 of the 100 counties in the State.

Governor Paroles Two.

Governor A. W. McLean paroled two prisoners for the remainder of their terms, paroled another for thirty of the institutions concerned, where days, granted one reprieve and declined the others are carefully preserved, say many of six petitions. All of the actions were taken on the recommendations of H. Hoyle Sink, Commissioner of Prisons, who recently used silver to turn the first Farsons.

Paroles were granted to Will S. Williams, of Rockingham County, who has served five and one-half months of a nine month sentence on the roads, and to Fletcher Womble, of Rowan being too high.

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HUMAN TARGET IS LATEST JOB

New York Man Is Shot at in Demonstrating Bullet-Proof Vest.

New York.—The job of human target is one of the latest on New York's occupational list. In the last six months Alva Jacobson has been shot at least 1,000 times, demonstrating the bullet-proof vest. He thinks no more now of standing up before a gun-state during March, 1924, was \$406,360, with property at risk worth \$2,717,639 and insurance for \$1,786,291. Fires in March, 1924, totaled 204.

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"We have a special rate for policemen—that's all."

"No, I'm not a policeman. I'm in business for myself—the real estate business."

"Look here," says the company's representative. "We have to be careful to whom these vests go. Our name means something, you know. It wouldn't look so well if one of these vests were found floating out beyond the 12-mile limit, would it, now?"

"You'll be all right," is the answer. "I want them for export."

The company's men tells the customer to mail in his order, with his pistol permit number filled in at the bottom. The chances are the man will not be heard from again.

It is against the rule to sell vests to any one who has no pistol permit, but this has not kept them from playing their part in the Chinese tong wars. Herrin, Ill., and the mining towns of West Virginia have furnished much trade for the new vests, and as many as 3,000 have been shipped at one time for army use in some foreign land. A special vest has been devised for bank messengers and those who carry pay-rolls. It has a safety-deposit vault inside and is locked to the messenger's belt, so that his assailants, to get their cut, must stop to cut the metal vest from their victim's form.

Other men in the organization office picked up a revolver. "If I had been deaf and blind I wouldn't have known that he shot," said Jacobson. "I couldn't feel it any more than I would if some one just touched me where the bullet hit."

Jacobson got the job, and ever since he has been getting bullets in the chest. He is hardened in the target armor corporation's office looking for a job as a trained mechanic. He was told to slip on the vest. A man in the office picked up a revolver. "If I had been deaf and blind I wouldn't have known that he shot," said Jacobson. "I couldn't feel it any more than I would if some one just touched me where the bullet hit."

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Gold Miners Set Record

Ottawa, Ont.—Gold production of Canada shattered all previous records last year, exceeding the peak output of 1923 by 360,000 ounces, according to a report issued by the Dominion bureau of statistics.

The total 1924 production was 1,525,000 ounces, valued at \$31,522,000.

Donald MacMillan to Head Expedition to Map Vast Frozen Expanse.

Washington.—Naval aircraft will attempt this summer to bridge the vast expanse that has so far shut out human knowledge great regions of the Arctic, where a predicted continent has long lured the tollsome effort of man by sledge without an answer to his guess.

In an expedition headed by Donald MacMillan, seasoned wayfarer of the northland, who is returning there on his ninth voyage of exploration next June, naval pilots will bring their aid to the furthering of man's struggle to map the mysteries of an area of more than a million square miles lying between Alaska and the North pole.

Indorsed by Coolidge

Although not a government project, the plan has been approved by Secretary Wilbur and indorsed by President Coolidge, and also will have both the financial and scientific backing of the National Geographic society.

As it is a private project and differs in this respect from the scheme abandoned last year for a polar expedition with the dirigible Shenandoah, the naval pilots who will accompany the expedition will have an extended leave for the purpose.

Vertical Lines

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NEWEST FAD



The painted ear is the newest fad from France. The model is shown applying a coat of rouge in compliance with the latest hints from Parisian beauty parlors.

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Intelligent Deer

Mrs. Delia Austin, postmaster at Fort Kent Mills, Maine, has a pet deer which she has had since it was a fawn and it has become thoroughly domesticated. Not only that, but it shows marked housekeeping abilities. A little outhouse has been provided for the deer, and it has an electric light which may be turned on with a string. The door is kept latched to keep out intruders, but when the Austin deer feels the need of food or shelter it will nose up the hasp, enter, pull on the electric light and proceed contentedly to munch the supply of Arrostook potatoes which are kept in a box, says the Boston Globe.

Remarkable, If True

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New Uses for Castor Oil

Railway chemical engineers have produced a special lubricant from castor oil, which is now being used with great success on the Chinese Eastern railway. It is said to be efficient and economical as a car lubricant. Castor oil is coming into extensive use for technical and medicinal purposes. In China it is also used as a food.—Popular Science Monthly.

Two-Headed Snake

Oakland, Cal.—A milk snake with two distinct heads was caught on Mount Diablo by a cattle herder recently. The reptile is on exhibition at the University of California museum.

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Fort That Has Figured in American History

Fort Michillmackinac, invariably clipped to "Mackinac," resulted from Father Marquette's mission established in 1673 on Point St. Ignace, and La Salle's visit there two years later. The first defense, as found by La Salle, was a palisade, and the garrison consisted of Indians. La Salle did much to strengthen this post. La Motte Cadillac also was there and further added to the strength of the fort. Then Detroit swung into the lead as a fur and trading center, and in 1712 the settlement was moved to the south side of the strait, where Mackinaw City stands. There the second Fort Mackinac was built. It was this fort Charlevoix describes in Vol. II of "A Journal of a Voyage to North America." This fort was surrendered to the English when France lost out. It was captured by Pontiac's Chippewas and Ottawas on King George's Birthday (June 4), 1763. It was without a garrison for four years. At the beginning of the Revolution it was strengthened and heavily garrisoned. The English commander, fearing capture, moved his forces to the island of Mackinac in November, 1779, where the third fort of that name was built. It was occupied by the British until July, 1780, but did not figure in the war. It was turned over to the United States in 1796. A description of the last Fort Mackinac, as it was in 1889, is found in Uralh Tracy's report on it to Samuel Dexter, secretary of war. It had a garrison of 57 men at the outbreak of the War of 1812. It was captured by an overwhelming British force of soldiers and Indians, and its capture brought many tribes to the British standard. The blockhouse on the hill back of the old fort was built by the British during the war. It was surrendered to the United States in July, 1818.

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NEXT WEEK

Put in a New Set of Champions

Next week, more than 95,000 equipment dealers will assist you toward greater motoring economy with a special Champion Spark Plug week.

Begin now, with a new set of Champions, to give your engine a real chance to deliver its full power, pick-up and efficiency.



Champion X for Fords is 60 cents. Blue Box for all others, 75 cents.

Champion Spark Plug Company
Toledo, Ohio

CHAMPION

Dependable for Every Engine

The heart of the giver makes the gift dear and precious.—Luther.

Blows Its Own Horn.

For 78 years Hanford's Balsam of Myrril has been the friend of rich and poor. Loved that long on its own merits. 3 sizes.—Adv.

Many a good man has strayed into the crooked path by following the direction of a corkscrew.

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THE WORLD'S GREATEST BAKING POWDER



35 years of unflinching service on bake-day has made CALUMET the world's greatest baking powder.

Retains its great leavening strength in every climate to the very last spoonful. Always dependable and pure.



Sales 2 1/2 times those of any other brand

BEST BY TEST

Shake into your Shoes

And Sprinkle in the Foot-Bath

ALLEN'S FOOT-EASE

The Antiseptic, Healing Powder for tired, swollen, smarting, sweating feet. It takes the friction from the shoe, prevents blisters and sore spots and takes the sting out of corns and bunions. Always use Allen's Foot-Ease to break in new shoes. Sold everywhere. Trial package Free. Address ALLEN'S FOOT-EASE, Le Roy, N. Y.

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There's quick, positive relief in

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At all Drugists—Money-back Guarantee