

FOUR ALARMS.

Brick Building in South End Guttled.

Loss Estimated at \$100,000.

Cummings' Heirs Are Big Losers.

Beverly is Swept by Fierce Flames.

Loss of \$175,000 of Property Due to Incendiary.

Mammoth Shoe Factory Destroyed.

Eight Other Buildings are Naught but Ruins.

The South End was again visited by fire last night, and the big brick structure, the property of the Nathaniel Cummings heirs, which is located at the corner of Sharon and Albany sts., was completely gutted.

The fire department, usually on the alert for second and even third alarms from that locality, which is known to them as the "dangerous district," was not slow to respond to the alarm which was sounded at 8.34, and just 10 minutes later the second alarm was rung in.

The entire loss is estimated at \$100,000. When the department arrived on the scene the flames were shooting from the windows on the third floor, and the building being full of inflammable material, the firemen deemed it necessary to sound the third alarm, which was done at 9 o'clock.

Meantime the fire boat had steamed up to the dock of the paving department off Albany st., and in less time than it takes to tell it, fully 20 streams of water were being thrown to advantage on the burning building.

At first big, black clouds of smoke would shoot out and upwards only to be followed by a perfect cloud of sparks which were carried by the wind into the yard of the city stables.

Thousands of curious sightseers crowded around, eager to catch a glimpse of **The Desperate Battle** that was being waged by the brave firemen, but Lieut. O'Lalor of station 5, with a detachment of police, soon circled the district with ropes.

Fortunately for the firemen, there was a large vacant lot directly in front of the Cummings building, and this gave them a chance to swing around the water tower, which quickly put three streams into the building.

The fire boat did excellent service, and kept six streams pouring in a small river of water into the upper part of the building. It looked as though the Cummings building would not only be completely destroyed, but the big brick block that was only separated from it by a wall, and known as the Smith American organ factory, was also given up by many.

Fire Commissioners Murphy, Fitch and Inness were on the scene, and after a short consultation between Chief Webber and Mr. Murphy, the latter sounded an alarm from box 63 at 9.45, which brought out five more engines.

The electric lights were out in that vicinity, but the streets were as light as day, for the entire three top stories were enveloped in a seething sheet of flame.

Long ladders were run up from Brookline st. onto the Smith building, and a perfect sheet of water was kept running down from the roof.

Two long blocks of cosy dwelling-houses adjoined the Cummings and Smith blocks, and were only separated by an alley about 18 feet wide that ran through from Sharon to Brookline sts. In the rear of the Cummings building the firemen found an excellent place to check the flames, as the yards of both streets gave them an excellent chance to place their ladders and the hose was run through the alley.

All hopes of saving the Cummings building had vanished at 10 o'clock, and the flames could be seen for miles around. To save the Smith building the department turned their attention, and there must have been 50 streams of water pouring in through the windows at one time.

The gas was lit in the Smith building so that the firemen could see their way about. The tenants in the dwellings adjoining **Were Badly Frightened,**

and well they might be, for the heat from the Cummings building was intense. They began to pack up their effects so as to be ready to move should the fire work down into the lower floors.

Directly opposite the Smith building on Albany st. was the stable of the Potter Brothers, which contained about five tons of hay and 18 horses.

The owners were ready to remove the horses at a moment's notice, should the flames succeed in forcing through the brick wall into the Smith building.

That portion of the Cummings building that fronted on Albany st. was burning with a fierceness that is rarely seen and shortly after 10 o'clock several pieces of fire apparatus had to be removed to the other side of Brookline st.

The wind was blowing a moderate gale, and fears were entertained for the safety of the city stables, which were completely enveloped in sparks from the burning building.

The attention of the department was directed to this point, and this was the chief's main reason for ringing in box 63, so as to be able to keep all the apparatus he had working on the building and have the extra machines to protect the adjoining building.

One of the firemen, Timothy C. O'Neil, was injured and carried to the City Hospital, which was near by.

He was mounting a ladder when it fell to the ground and he was thrown about 30 feet, injuring his right knee joint, which the doctors say may result in a compound fracture.

At 10.30 they had the flames confined to the three top stories of the Cummings block, and the prevailing impression was that not a spark would enter the Smith block.

In the third story of the burning building there must have been stored a lot of oil or varnish, for a bright blaze kept three streams playing through the large windows long after the other parts of the structure were shrouded in darkness.

Not content with fighting the fire from three sides, the firemen entered the Smith building and knocked a hole 3 feet around, through the double brick wall that separ-

ated the two buildings and poured water into the building that was now gutted by the flames.

When the fire was fairly well under control the floors in the three top stories could be seen badly sunken in the middle and a total wreck.

The two bottom or first stories were flooded with water, and it was so deep it ran out through the hole cut through the brick wall.

At 11 o'clock the crowd began to disperse and some of the apparatus was sent home. The flames kept up a cracking sound in the third floor until long after midnight and a number of pieces of apparatus were working on the building at the hour of going to press.

The origin of the fire could not be ascertained. Delano Palmer, night watchman of the Cummings building, first saw the fire in the bell box on the first floor, and claims that almost in an instant the whole floor was ablaze.

LIST OF THE LOSSES.

Detailed Description of the Property Destroyed.

The building in which the fire originated is a five-story brick structure, numbered 615 to 621 Albany st., owned by Mary and Ella Cummings, the heirs of the late Nathaniel Cummings.

Adjoining this building and separated therefrom by a double fire-proof brick wall is another five-story brick structure with a mansard roof, numbered 613 Albany st., which is owned and occupied by Dr. Greene, manufacturer of nervura food.

These two buildings have a combined frontage on Albany st. of 100 feet, and run back on Sharon and Brookline sts. to Thorn st. for a depth of about 80 feet.

The basement and a portion of the first floor of the Cummings building was occupied by C. W. Miller, planer and moulder. The second floor was unoccupied, but contained a considerable quantity of light lumber. Mellish, Field & Co., manufacturers of chairs, occupied the third and fourth floors, while Shales & May, furniture manufacturers, occupied the top floor.

Situated in the basement of this building was an 80-horse power engine and two 150-horse power boilers, which furnished the power for all the above concerns. All the machinery of the building belonged to the Cummings heirs.

The Cummings building, with its machinery, was estimated to be worth about \$70,000, while the damage on Miller's planing mill will certainly reach \$10,000. Miller employed 12 men.

Mellish, Field & Co. employed 20 men, and will suffer a probable damage of \$8,000, while the damage to Shales & May, who employed 30 men, is estimated at \$10,000. This latter firm had some valuable machinery that was completely destroyed.

The Cummings building is believed to be fully insured. It is not known whether the several occupants of this building carried any insurance.

The building at the corner of Albany and Brookline sts. was formerly owned and occupied by the Smith American Organ Company and was purchased by Dr. Greene about four months ago. He told a Globe reporter last evening that he paid about \$25,000 for the building, and that he laid out upon it in the neighborhood of \$10,000 for repairs since the sale was negotiated.

The fire was prevented from entering this building to any extent, but it was heavily drenched with water. Dr. Greene claimed that he had fully \$100,000 worth of stock on hand, and places his damage at about \$5,000. He is only partially insured. His stock consists mainly of roots and herbs, and a valuable lot of printed matter. One hundred persons are employed in this establishment.

The streets of the vicinity and the roofs of the neighboring houses were densely crowded with people, and the police were kept busy keeping back the curious multitude.

Deputy Superintendent of Police Burrill was early on the scene, and was assisted by Chief Inspector Eldridge, Capt. Coulter of station 5, City Messenger Peters and Assistant Messengers Timothy Mooney and Silloway.

Deputy Burrill ordered details from stations 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 after the third alarm was sounded.

BEVERLY FIRE SWEEPED.

Incendiary Causes Loss of Property Valued at \$175,000.

BEVERLY, Nov. 1.—An incendiary caused the destruction of property valued at \$175,000 in this town today.

Shortly before 2 p. m., Officer Choate discovered a fire in George H. Allen's three-story box factory, 81 Federal st. He at once pulled in an alarm from box 28, and although the department responded promptly the structure was a mass of flames before the firemen arrived.

Dense clouds of smoke poured from the building and were driven by a vigorous north west wind into the eyes of the firemen. For a time it appeared as if nothing could be done so blinding and suffocating was the smoke. The firemen succeeded in forcing their way through the cloud bank, however, and attached their hose to the hydrants, but at once encountered a very serious obstacle in not being able to secure but a light head of water.

By this time the wind had fanned the flames into a veritable volcano, and sparks were flying over the thickly settled section of the town.

The chief engineer, a few minutes after the first alarm, realizing that he had a stupendous job on hand, rung in a second alarm, and summoned the entire local department, which includes three steamers, one hook and ladder truck, two hose wagons and four hand reels.

Fifteen minutes after the first alarm was sounded Woodbury Brothers' mammoth shoe factory at 71 Federal st. was on fire, and the flames were being driven toward Dodge & Scott's seven-story grain elevator and several of the largest shoe factories in town.

Chief Engineer Goodhue at once telegraphed to Salem, Marblehead, Peabody, Gloucester and Lynn for help, Salem sending two steamers and Peabody one. Steamers were in readiness in Lynn and Gloucester, but were not sent out, owing to subsequent orders that enough help had been obtained.

Before 3 o'clock Woodbury's factory was destroyed, also the 2 1/2-story house at 122 River st., owned by George Roundy, and occupied by John M. Murney and Jacob Burkhardt. Both families lost all of their household effects, some of the occupants barely having time to escape.

The large storehouse on River st. occupied by Woodbury Brothers was **The Next to Go.**

and in turn the car shed of the Boston & Maine railroad, which contained four parlor and two passenger cars, besides a large number of car stoves and furniture, and five freight cars on a side track.

Dodge & Scott's elevator caught fire, but the flames were extinguished before much damage was done.

At 3.30 it looked as if the town was doomed, Solon Lovett's large factory at 63 Federal st. being on fire, while the roofs of 20 or more buildings were ablaze.

The citizens immediately rendered efficient service with hand hose and succeeded in saving all of the houses and barns east of Park st., with the exception of a barn at 40 Federal st. owned by the W. A. Cleaves estate, which was consumed. The Cleaves house adjoining the barn was saved, although all of the furniture was badly damaged by breakage and water.

The roof of H. F. Walker's house at 35 Federal st. was badly burned, also the adjoining house, owned by H. S. Smith.

Slate roofs on the shoe factories in the immediate vicinity of the conflagration doubtless saved thousands of dollars of property, as the sparks fell thick and fast for more than an hour, yet were quickly swept away by the wind.

While the citizens were busily fighting the flames at their homes six steamers were pouring a deluge of water into the ruins of Woodbury Brothers' factory and other buildings, and finally got the fire under control at 4 p. m.

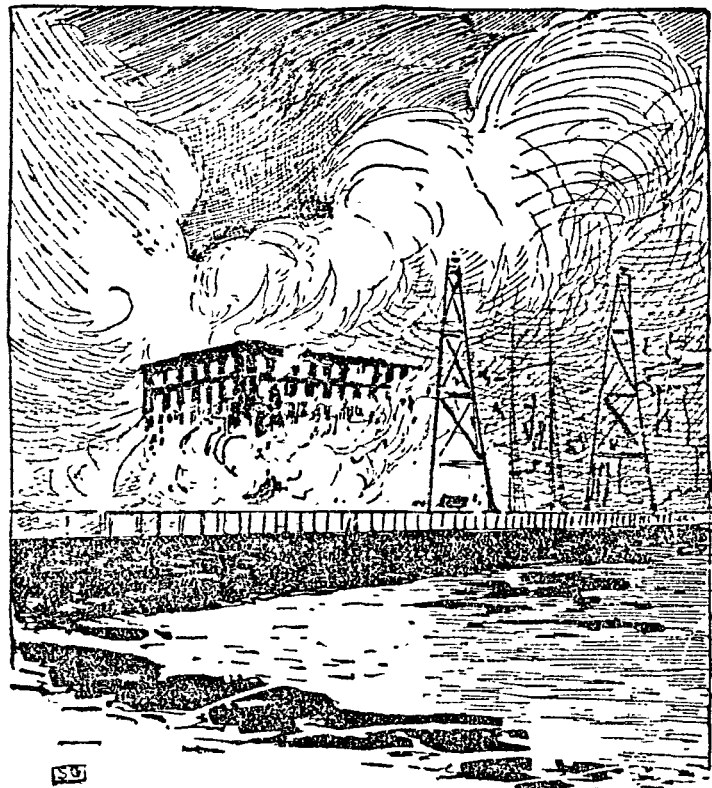
Nine buildings were totally destroyed, viz.: Allen's box factory, three stories, 75 feet long and 75 feet wide with two-story addition; Woodbury Brothers' four-story factory, 125 feet long and 60 feet wide, the floor surface being 20,000 square feet; George Roundy's two and one-half story tenement house; Boston & Maine railroad car shed, 350 feet long; Woodbury Brothers' storehouse; two barns owned by George Roundy; flag station and yard master's office, owned by the Boston & Maine railroad; Cleaves' barn.

Woodbury Brothers were the largest shoe manufacturers in town, the product when running on full time being 6000 pairs of turned slippers and buskins per day. Of late they have employed 200 hands, which is 75 less than their regular quota.

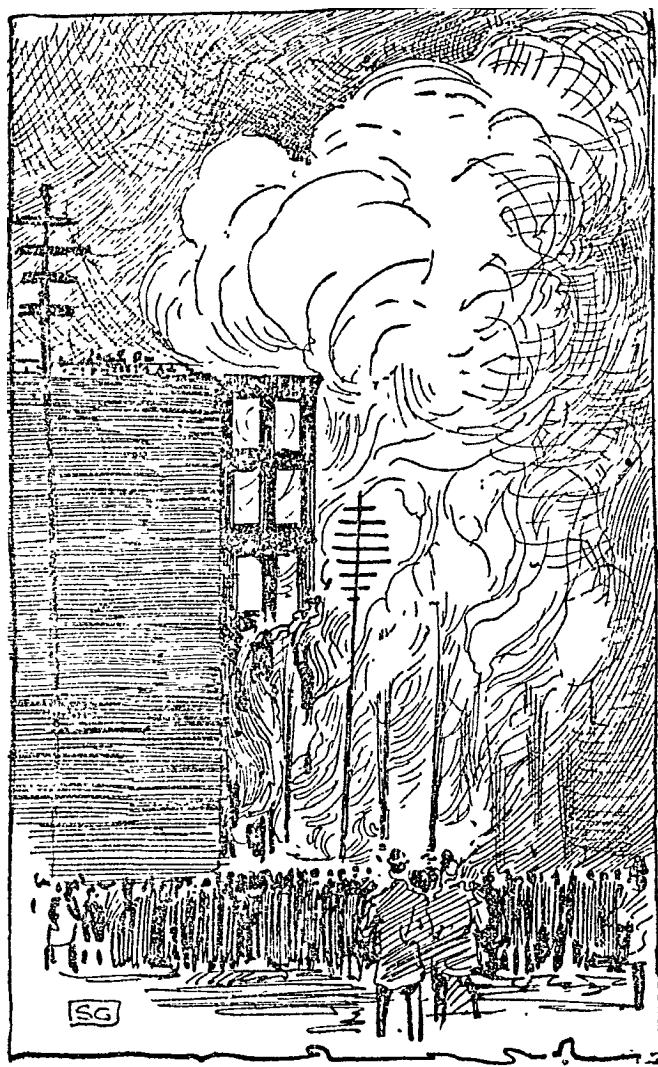
George H. Allen employed upward of 30 hands in the different departments of his factory.

The Fierceness of the Fire when at its height can be imagined from it is known that the flames streamed from Woodbury's factory across the railroad tracks to Dodge's elevator, 275 feet distant. The firemen worked at great disadvantage at times, as the smoke was blinding and the

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AS SEEN FROM SHARON STREET.



VIEW FROM ALBANY STREET

FOUR ALARMS.

Continued from the First Page.

impossibility of getting on the western side of Allen's factory, owing to the river, the building being right at the bank of the stream.

Trains on the Boston & Maine railroad were stalled for over four hours, as all of the hose was run across the tracks.

The scene along the tracks will never be forgotten by the thousands of spectators, as the road was cluttered with burning debris and cars. Several telegraph poles were burned, letting the wires on to the ground.

The fire was without question of incendiary origin, as Allen's factory was heated by steam supplied from Woodbury's boiler house. The building was lighted by gas, but no jet had been burning since yesterday noon.

The police have one man shadowed, but up to 7 o'clock had made no arrest.

The sentiment of the citizens against the fire is very bitter, and if caught he will fare hard unless unusual precautions are taken by the police.

The total loss is estimated by conservative judges at \$175,000, while others say that \$200,000 will not make good the amount burned.

Woodbury Brothers' loss will amount to \$105,000. The firm is insured in the Manufacturers' Mutual Company of Boston for \$115,000, divided as follows: Factory and machinery, \$10,000; stock in factory, \$50,000; stock in storehouse, \$15,000.

George H. Allen loses on building and stock \$25,000, on which there is an insurance of \$15,875, held by Charles F. Lee's agency and divided as follows: Liverpool and London and Globe, \$3000; Commercial Union, \$1275; Providence, Washington, \$1100; Insurance Company of North America, \$1000; Neptune, \$1000; Etna, \$1000; Royal, \$4000; Pennsylvania, \$1500; Spring Garden, \$1000; Home, \$2000.

John Wilson, shoe manufacturer in Solon Lovett's factory, was considerably damaged by water, which is covered by insurance in C. F. Lee's agency.

The loss on George Roundy's tenement house is \$2500; insured.

The storehouse occupied by Woodbury Brothers was owned by the Salem Five Cents Savings Bank and was valued at \$1000.

The Cleaves estate is about \$500.

The loss to the Boston & Maine railroad is

Estimated at \$10,000,

which is covered by insurance. Four of the cars burned cost \$5000 each when built, and the two passenger coaches \$3500 each.

The freight cars with contents, buildings, etc., will make up the balance of the loss.

Quite a number of houses on Park, Federal and other streets are damaged by fire which will cost \$3000 or \$4000 to repair.

The local police was augmented by 14 patrolmen from Salem. The population was increased several thousand inside of an hour after the fire broke out, Salem, Peabody, Danvers and other towns being well represented.

Several of the shoe manufacturers on Park st. had stock and machinery moved to places of safety.

Dodge & Scott lose about \$2000, the damage being occasioned by water, which was poured into the building and saturated the floor and grain.

Quite a number of families who moved their goods will lose considerable by breakage, as but very little care was taken by the people who rendered assistance.

The fire was the most disastrous in the history of the town.

Rufus R. Wade, chief of the Massachusetts district police, called the following officers: Joseph H. Whitney, Joseph Halstrick, Joseph A. Moore, Frederick A. Roads, A. J. Cheney, J. W. Conn and E. D. Eldredge, who rendered valuable assistance to the local police.

Woodbury Brothers were unable to state this afternoon whether they would rebuild or not. If they do not it will be a serious loss to the town, as they employ a large number of people nearly the year round. The firm have a large factory in Dover, N. H.

Ex-Chief Engineer Osborne and Frank Cousins of Salem saved a dwelling-house on Home st. by pouring water on the roof.

The smoke from the fire was carried several miles and hung in a heavy bank over Salem bay, between the Willows and Baker's island.

PRINCE'S HOUSE ON FIRE.

Flames in Sandringham Hall Do £20,000 Damage.

LONDON, Nov. 1.—Sandringham Hall, the residence of the Prince of Wales, was partly destroyed by fire this morning. A postman crossing the park saw the smoke issuing from the roof.

The local volunteer fire brigade was

quickly on the scene, and a brigade was also summoned from the town of Lynn-Regis.

Hundreds of people volunteered to assist in extinguishing the flames, for the Prince of Wales is very popular on his estate. The roof and much of the valuable furniture were destroyed and the rooms below greatly damaged by water before the fire was extinguished. The damage amounts to £20,000.

A spark from a heating flue appears to have caused the fire. The Prince of Wales is on the continent, and his wife and two of his daughters are with the Czar and the Czarina, their aunt.

ELEVEN COWS BURNED.

Incendiary Fire in West Springfield Causes a Loss of \$2500.

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Nov. 1.—Shortly after midnight Sunday morning the two barns in West Springfield owned by Aaron Bagg were discovered ablaze. The fire was combated by the abket brigade, but the barns with their contents were consumed. Eleven cows perished. The fire was of incendiary origin. Loss about \$2500.

Rockport Dwelling Destroyed.

ROCKPORT, Nov. 1.—At 2 o'clock this morning fire destroyed a dwelling on Main st. belonging to the Low estate, nearly ruined the Whipple homestead adjoining the south side, and badly damaged the Driver homestead on the north side. The insurance was light on all the buildings, which were wooden, and the fire resisted the efforts of the fire department, being gotten under control only after three hours' hard fighting.

\$60,000 Fire in Ellwood City, Penn.

CLEVELAND, O., Nov. 1.—A special from Ellwood City, Penn., states that Blatt's hardware store, Weiss Brothers' meat market, Cunningham's grocery, Eldridge's grocery, the post office, Star restaurant and a new building not completed were burned today. Loss, \$60,000.

Forest Fires in Missouri.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Nov. 1.—Extensive forest fires are raging a few miles west of Glencoe, St. Louis county, and a great deal of valuable timber and other property have been burned. In many instances the farmers have ploughed up their crops to check the flames and save their homes.

Escaped in Night Clothes.

LOWELL, Mass., Nov. 1.—The house and barn of William Travesty, situated on Cumberland road, were burned just before midnight. The house was gutted, and 13 people escaped in their night clothes. The barn, with a lot of hay, was totally destroyed. Loss about \$3000; insurance, \$1000.

Fire Among Dry Goods.

CEDAR RAPIDS, Ia., Nov. 1.—At noon today fire started in the dry goods store of Denecke & Yetter, and in a few minutes the entire structure was gutted. Loss, \$50,000, fully insured.

Only a Fire in Dry Grass.

The alarm from 546 at 2:03 o'clock Sunday afternoon was for a grass fire in an open lot at the corner of Garden and Spring sts., Jamaica Plain. No damage.

\$50,000 Damage to Cotton Mill.

MONTREAL, Nov. 1.—Fire this morning damaged Hochell cotton mills \$50,000; covered by insurance.

Locomotive Firemen's Convention.

ALBANY, N. Y., Nov. 1.—There were about 2000 people present at the Locomotive Firemen's convention today in the Albany Theatre. Members of the organization were present from all parts of the country. Grand Master Sargent spoke at length of the benefits derived from the organization and the readiness in settling difficulties between employe and employer.

Killed His Mother-in-Law.

BUFFALO, N. Y., Nov. 1.—Oscar Erich, after a quarrel with his wife here today, shot and killed his mother-in-law, Mrs. Amelia Heinz.

—Charles W. Kavanaugh, 29 years of age, living at 38 Leverett st., got into a dispute with an American man at the American House, Sunday, and had his jaw dislocated. He is at the City Hospital.