

# FLAMES SWEEP QUARTER MILE

## Buildings in Brighton Stock Yards Ruined.

## Four Alarms Rung—Hard Fight to Save Dwelling Houses.

## Animals Are Released— Loss About \$5000.

Fire ran through the Brighton Stockyards yesterday afternoon, destroying the large oxbarn, a portion of the main cowbarn, the scalehouse and office, half a dozen small cowsheds and the fencing around 25 or more open cattle yards. Four alarms were sounded and the firemen had a hard struggle for two hours to prevent the flames spreading to dwelling houses on one side and the paint shop of the Boston & Albany on the other.

A strong wind fanned the fire. Sparks and embers were borne in a southerly direction and started fresh fires. The tall grass and trees bordering on the yards were ignited and it was only a few minutes before the blaze had extended over a quarter of a mile.

The blaze started in the oxbarn nearest the railroad tracks. It is presumed it resulted from locomotive sparks. The first alarm was sounded from box 812 at 3:35 p. m. Patrolman Stillman G. Hall of Station 14 saw the flames and sent an alarm from box 826. District Chief Madison immediately ordered a second alarm and then a third. Chief Mullen responded on the third alarm and the fourth was sent in at 4 o'clock.

Had it been sales day the barns and yards would have been filled with livestock. Yesterday there were only about 30 head of sheep and two or three head of cattle on the place. They were turned into Dummy Field and scattered over the neighborhood, but were found after the fire.

John Noonan, James Conroy, Michael Carey, John Flaherty, Peter Harrington and Michael McCarthy, who work in the yards, with conductors William F. Alexander and George Smyrle of the Boston Elevated and Joseph Hayes, manned the hose lines in the main cowbarn but the hose was useless as the coupling would not fit the standpipe nozzles. The men remained so long that their lives were endangered.

Employees in the Boston & Albany paint shop soon had a line on the fire.

The fire took a course down toward Dummy Field and the scale house, a two-story frame structure, was quickly a mass of flames. The fire was only checked when it reached the fence surrounding the big sheep barn at the end of the yard.

Occupants of houses that back in from Hichborn st climbed to the roofs and stood ready with buckets of water to put out fires. Men and boys with brooms and other implements fought the fire in the grass.

On the third alarm Chief George H. Johnson of the Brookline Department, Chief Walter B. Randlett of Newton and Chief Sewall M. Rich of Somerville responded.

Owing to the long distance from hydrants the Fire Department lines lacked their full capacity. The damage is estimated at \$5000. Most of the buildings were cheaply constructed. The property is owned by the N. Y. C. & H. R. R. and is leased by the Brighton Stockyard Company, Frederick W. Hollis, president, with many sublessees.

Two boys fell into a blind well and received a ducking. They were hauled out by the firemen.