

OCT. 9-15

FIRE PREVENTION

WEEK!

FIRE PREVENTION IN THE FACTORY

Every factory, store, warehouse or other institution, great or small is a part of the Nation's assets. If one is destroyed, particularly at this time when Canada needs every ounce of her vitality, her ability to successfully compete with other Nations of the World will be lessened to a proportionate degree.

The destruction of a factory by fire means the City or Town in which it is located, just the same as a Scout or anyone else might be maimed by the loss of an arm, leg, eye or other member. The progress and prosperity of the Province and Nation is effected in proportion to the suffering of the City or Town.

Prevent the fire hazard of everything and safeguard these things accordingly. Crowding of merchandise should be avoided so as to facilitate inspection and insure order and cleanliness.

Openings that are exposed to sparks from foundry cupolas, locomotives, etc., should be screened. Keep sidewalk vault lights and window panes whole. Keep plastering and sheathing in repair so that nothing can be thrown into the opening and spaces.

Prohibit smoking in the premises, except in a fireproof room provided for the purpose.

Fire doors should be kept closed when not actually in use, especially at night and also keep free from all obstructions.

Shipping and Receiving Rooms
Prevent the accumulation of excess packing material and empty boxes.

If excelsior, papers, hay or other combustible materials are used for packing, keep only a day's supply on hand at a time in a tin lined bin or box and provided with a counter-weighted lid or door having a fastible link to insure automatic closing in case of fire.

Machinery and Workshop
Use standard waste cans with self-closing lids as receptacles for oily waste. Rags or oil-soaked material that may cause fire from spontaneous combustion. As this material becomes useless burn it every day in the furnace before closing.

Danger from Linseed Oil
Paint, varnish and oil-fillers

usually contain linseed oil which will oxidize heat and set fire to rags, excelsior or other similar combustibles used for rubbing down or wiping up these materials. Do not let these be neglected for even an hour. All combustible waste material used in manufacturing should be removed from the building daily to a safe place unless it can be burned at once.

Lime
Lime in slaking generates a heat of 800 degrees F. Keep unslaked lime in a dry place, away from leaks in a shed or wherever stored.

Metal Lockers for Clothes
Metal lockers should be provided for employees' clothing to minimize the danger from fire of a hot pipe left in the coat or oily waste in the overalls pocket.

Lubricating Oil
Catch oil drip in metal pans. Don't use sawdust or other combustible material to absorb it.

Manufacturers Dread Fires
No one dreads a fire more than a manufacturer. When his plant is burnt his trained workmen are thrown out of a job, the business which has taken years to build up is dissipated; and the town immediately suffers on account of the circulation of the weekly pay roll being stopped.

While two out of three fires occur in the homes of our people the big losses are caused by fires in Industrial Plants. During 1918 there were 486 fires in Industrial Plants, or only 5 per cent of the total number for the year; but these 486 fires caused a loss of \$7,565,322 or 48 per cent of the total fire waste of the Province.

Automatic Sprinklers
When properly installed in factories, warehouses, stores, etc., with sufficient water supply at proper pressure and the equipment maintained in a constantly operative condition the automatic sprinkler has proved itself to be the most reliable and satisfactory fire extinguishing device in use. In 15,000 fires tabulated by the N. F. P. A., Boston, where sprinkler systems had been installed, eighty five per cent were extinguished by one sprinkler head.

TO PREVENT FREEZING

Use Calcium Chloride.
Where water barrels, pails or hand pumps extinguishers are located in buildings subject to freezing temperatures, calcium chloride should be used to lower the freezing point of the contents. Calcium chloride is recommended in preference to common salt, because the latter rusts metal, such as hoops, etc., and because the salt has a tendency to "Creep" and "Crystallize".

Where it is impossible to secure calcium chloride, one pound of salt to eighteen gallons of water might be used, adding four ounces of salt to the solution for every degree Fahrenheit below thirty. One gallon of water weighs 8.35 lbs.

The salt must be dissolved and should be mixed in a vat before being placed in barrels. Use barrels with wooden hoops. Salt and water solutions will freeze at temperatures below 8 degrees F., and should not be used where lower temperatures are encountered.

Tables showing temperatures at which water will freeze when calcium chloride is added to the proportions stated:

| Temperature of Freezing in degree F. | Pounds of Calcium Chloride per gallon of water | Temperature of Freezing in degree F. | Pounds of Calcium Chloride per gallon of water |
|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--|
| 29 | 1.2 | 34 | 2.2 |
| 27 | 1 | 14 | 3 |
| 25 | 1.14 | 8.11 | 3.2 |
| 23 | 1.12 | 17.19 | 4 |
| 21 | 1.34 | 27.29 | 4.2 |
| 18 | 2 | 39.41 | 5 |
| 14 | 2.14 | 50.54 | 5.2 |

FROZEN WATER PIPES

To thaw water pipes that have frozen, wrap the frozen section with cloth and pour boiling hot water upon it until the ice in the pipe gives way. Rags on the floor at the base of or under the pipe will absorb the water waste. If the freezing is too severe to yield to this treatment send for a plumber.

hundred and fifty gallons of water per minute through a one and one-eighth inch smooth bore nozzle, and to secure this column it requires a pressure of not less than forty-five pounds of the square inch at the base of the nozzle; this will give approximately a reach of sixty-three feet horizontally and about seventy feet vertically.

PROTECT YOURSELF

THINK—TALK—ACT

- DO YOU believe in fire protection?
 - DO YOU practice it in your home or place of business?
 - DO YOU make periodical inspections of your premises, to make sure that attic, basement, store-rooms and closets are in good order?
 - DO YOU have a metal receptacle for rubbish and waste?
 - DO YOU have metal receptacles for ashes?
 - DO YOU have your heating plant inspected and the flues and chimneys cleaned at least once a year?
 - DO YOU allow coal oil to be used in kindling fires?
 - DO YOU inspect your gas and electric light fixtures and extension cords occasionally?
 - DO YOU protect your home or place of business with an approved hand extinguisher?
 - DO YOU keep one on your car?
 - DO YOU carry fire insurance? Of course, you do.
- Then you should make an effort to reduce the fire hazard by following the above suggestions.
- Safer buildings and cleaner premises will aid in the prevention of fires and accidents.
- Dominion Fire Commissioner,
Ottawa.

BUSY SCRATCHING MATCHES

It is estimated that fifteen hundred cases of matches are used every day in Canada, each case containing seventy thousand matches, or a grand total of one hundred and five million used by the men, women and children of the Dominion every day of the year, which means that each one of these individuals would scratch more than twelve matches during the twenty-four hours.

Thus we get some conception of the distribution of these little fellows with attractive and well moulded heads, whose only joy in life is to get into a scrape. When these small heads that do no thinking are irritated or scratched, they become excited and burst forth into a frenzied state of explosive inflammability. Their frail bodies are unable to withstand the custom and are consumed by the irritability of the fiery hotheads.

"Familiarity breeds contempt" and as matches are one of the commodities of our daily life with which we are most familiar, this possibly accounts for the great number of fires caused by these innocent looking little sticks of wood.

The average number of match fires for the three years 1918 to 1920 inclusive, has been one thousand and seventeen, with the average yearly loss of \$413,222, out of a total average number of 3,477 fires, aggregating an average yearly loss of \$12,653,063. The total number of fires caused by carelessness with matches and children playing with them in 1920 in Ontario, were 913, and the amount of loss was \$328,231. To this loss charged directly to carelessness with matches, might well be added a large portion of the loss caused by the careless smoker. Fires under this classification during the last three years have averaged 468 in the province entailing an average yearly loss of \$339,269. This means that more than fifteen per cent of the fires occurring in Ontario each year are caused by carelessness with matches and by careless smokers.

The Safety Match
Among the hundred million there is a class or caste of superior aristocrats—numbering about one in ten, known as the "Safety Matches", whose popularity and numbers are growing steadily as the people become better acquainted with their superiority and advantages.

The head of the safety, which is so strongly advocated for general use, is made of chlorate of potash, which furnishes oxygen for burning; and amorphous phosphorous the fire producing ingredient, is painted on the side of the box.

Prevention of After Glow

In manufacturing good matches the first treatment the stick receives is an acid bath to prevent the important phases or inventions of modern match making. From a Fire Prevention standpoint we feel strongly that every match that is made should be impregnated with chemical salts to prevent the dangerous after-glow which no doubt is the cause of many fires when the burning match is carelessly thrown among inflammable material.

Dangerous Matches

Matches, like any other commodity vary in quality, based upon the grade of materials used and the scientific knowledge of the manufacturer; so that in this business, as well as in other lines of industry, poor trashy merchandise is turned out which, while the first cost is perhaps a little less are really the most expensive and by far the most dangerous.

Considering them from an economical standpoint, the waste is excessive, for instead of getting a light from the match the stick is frequently so weak on account of poor lumber being used or cut across the grain, that it lacks sufficient strength to withstand the slight pressure necessary when the head is drawn over the friction surface to light it; or if it happens to break off and fly into curtains or other inflammable material that may be near.

Mice and Matches

Experiments, scientifically conducted by technical experts, show that ingredients are used in the modern match composition, whose odour, fumes and taste are strongly repugnant and obnoxious to rats and mice, and rodents will starve to death before they will attempt to gnaw such chemical compounds.

Not only phosphorus but also the very latest non-poisonous matches with sesqui-sulphide as the igniting compound were used, so that it was conclusively demonstrated that there is no truth in the commonly accepted theory that rats and mice start fire with matches.

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