

State fire Marshall

STATE OF IOWA
1917

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1917

Annual REPORT OF THE
Iowa. (STATE) FIRE MARSHAL
FOR THE YEAR 1917

OLE O. ROE
STATE FIRE MARSHAL

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Des Moines

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1917

STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Appointed by the Governor. Term, Four Years. Expires July 1, 1919.

Office	Name	Legal Residence	Birthplace
Fire Marshal	Ole O. Roe	Des Moines	Norway
Deputy	J. A. Tracy	Sioux City	Iowa
Assistant	E. J. Frowick	Des Moines	Iowa
Assistant	H. G. Zimmerman	Dows	Iowa
Chief Clerk and Stenographer	Laura M. Pedersen	Des Moines	Illinois

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

Des Moines, February 1, 1918.

HON. W. L. HARDING, *Governor of Iowa.*

Sir: In compliance with the provisions of Section 2468-n, Supplement to the Code, 1913, I have the honor to submit herewith my seventh annual report of my official acts and of the affairs of this office, covering the period beginning January 1, 1917, and ending December 31, 1917, both dates included.

Ole O. Roe

State Fire Marshal.

ROBERT HENDERSON, STATE PRINTER
J. M. JAMIESON, STATE BINDER
1918

Source unknown.

SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT STATE FIRE MARSHAL

For the year 1917, 4,953 fires were reported to this office involving a loss of \$7,216,245. The property involved in these fires was valued at \$31,683,278. Of the loss thus reported, property to the value of \$5,008,371 was covered by insurance, leaving an excess of loss over insurance amounting to \$2,207,874 and involving 1,907 properties. Included in this excess are 613 properties involving a loss of \$343,962 upon which no insurance was carried.

The total fire loss of 1917 exceeded that of 1916 by \$1,225,003.

The average daily fire loss of the year amounted to \$19,771 and the average loss in each fire was \$1,457.

The per capita fire loss in the State of Iowa during the year 1917 was \$3.06.

During the year six fires occurred in each of which the loss exceeded \$100,000 and one fire in which the loss was \$90,000, as follows:

January 8, Estherville	\$ 110,400
January 31, Mason City.....	90,000
July 12, Dubuque	109,162
August 11, Des Moines.....	393,186
October 9, Charles City.....	137,522
November 22, Osceola	159,951
November 29, Storm Lake.....	128,205

Total.....\$1,128,426

The number of dwellings burned was 2,588, and the loss on buildings was \$1,139,683 and on contents \$424,162.

The sound value of these dwellings was reported at \$5,770,871, and that of their contents at \$1,416,781.

The number of barns burned was 465 and the loss on buildings was \$400,611, and on the contents \$285,650.

The sound value of the barns was reported at \$445,450 and that of their contents at \$323,612.

The number of stores burned was 385, and the loss on buildings was \$487,718, and on the contents \$1,162,255.

The sound value of the store buildings was reported at \$2,754,440, and that of their contents at \$4,383,650.

The number of factories burned was 51, and the loss on buildings was \$143,499, and on the contents \$330,197.

The sound value of the factory buildings damaged was reported at \$898,741, and that of their contents at \$1,985,771.

Forty-two (42) deaths were reported to this office as the direct result of fire. Of this number 19 were women and 10 were children. In 19 cases fatal to life, gasoline or coal oil was involved.

Inspections of buildings and premises by myself and regular deputies to the number of 835 were made in 143 different cities and towns in the state, upon the basis of which there were issued 176 orders to remove buildings, 71 to repair buildings, 81 to change, 57 to clean up and repair, and 200 to clean up inflammable conditions.

In addition to the foregoing, 1,659 inspections of grain elevators, mills, factories and food storage plants were made by 69 special conservation inspectors who were appointed by me with the approval of the Executive Council of the State.

These inspections were made in 767 different cities and towns in 94 different counties of the state.

Upon the basis of these inspections, reports of which were made to us, 1,146 orders were issued by this department.

One hundred sixty-six (166) suspicious fires were investigated in 108 different places in 57 different counties of the state.

In addition to the number of indictments pending from previous years, mention of which was made in my last report, 16 arrests and prosecutions were had during the year 1917.

Of the cases that were tried or pleas of guilty entered, seven (7) resulted in convictions, five of which were sentenced to the penitentiary or reformatory and two were granted new trials, one (1) was given a jail sentence, one (1) was sentenced to the industrial school for boys, one (1) was paroled by the court after conviction, one (1) was sent to a hospital for the insane, two (2) made confessions but their cases are still pending, one (1) is under indictment, and two (2) were acquitted.

Appended hereto as a part of this report are five tables which set out in detail the reports of the fires and the work of inspection and investigation done by this office.

Table I shows the number of fires reported, by counties, the value of the buildings and contents involved, the damage to buildings and contents, the total insurance on building and contents, the number of fires partially covered by insurance, the amount of excess of loss over insurance, the number of fires affecting property without any insurance, and the total loss upon property not covered by insurance.

Table II shows the nature and character of the buildings destroyed or damaged, the value of each, the amount of damage thereto, the value of the contents of each and the damage thereto, the kind of material of which each was constructed and whether the loss was total or partial.

Table III contains a summary of the origin and cause of the various fires reported, the number of each and the damage to the buildings and contents, specified by causes.

Table IV contains a list of the cities and towns in which inspections of dilapidated buildings and inflammable conditions were made, the number of places inspected at each point and the number and kind of orders issued, based upon such inspections.

Table V gives a list of the places at which investigations of fires of suspicious origin were made and the date when such investigation was commenced.

EDUCATIONAL WORK.

The value and importance of the educational work in connection with Fire Prevention cannot be over-estimated. I am satisfied that already much good has been accomplished through the instruction in fire causes and fire dangers given in the elementary and graded schools.

I have given much attention to this matter and have again, during the past year, urged upon superintendents and teachers the necessity of giving this subject earnest and thorough attention. In these efforts I have been reinforced by the Department of Public Instruction which in a recent bulletin also urged upon the teachers the duty of complying with the law.

It is my purpose at an early date to issue a fourth revised edition of Bulletin No. 1 prepared by me for use in the public schools of the state in order that such schools wherein the Bulletins have been lost or destroyed, may be supplied with new ones.

I confess that I am not as well informed as I would like to be as to how general the compliance is both as to fire drills and the

giving of instruction in the causes and dangers of fires in our public schools. I have urged upon the Legislature from time to time and also upon the Department of Public Instruction the importance of requiring reports from teachers upon this subject in order that this office, which is charged with the duty of enforcing this law, might be fully informed as to where there is neglect in complying with the same.

I fear that in many places, owing perhaps to the various other subjects that are crowding for attention, this matter is not given the emphasis which its importance demands.

Were I to suggest a change in the courses of study of our grade schools, I would recommend the elimination of all the dead and some of the living languages in order that more time and attention might be given to the practical affairs of our every-day life. To my mind nothing is of more practical importance than the building of homes which are well lighted, well ventilated and reasonably safe from fire.

FIRE PREVENTION WORK.

Realizing that the inspection of buildings and building conditions and the ordering of changes, clean-ups or removals based upon such inspections form the very foundation for efficient Fire Prevention, this department has spent much time in inspection work, and wherever such inspections have been made, we have sought to impress upon the local fire chief and other municipal authorities that the fire marshal law grants to them ample power in this respect.

In many cities and towns we have succeeded in creating or stimulating activity along this line, and it has been our experience that in every city where there is efficient and well directed inspection work under the supervision preferably of the fire department of the city, such city or town has been able to materially reduce its annual fire waste, while in those cities and towns where no systematic effort is made along this line, have occurred our most disastrous fires.

I am pleased to be able to report that the efforts of this office along the line of Greater Care have been more noticeably appreciated among our farmers than in our towns, and in this matter our Farm Mutual Insurance Associations have been most helpful.

While the increase in the fire losses during 1917 over those of the previous years is large (exceeding One Million Dollars), there has not been a corresponding increase in the fire losses upon the farm, but rather a decrease. This is noticeably true of barns, the number of which were destroyed during 1916 amounted to 578 and the damage to buildings and contents aggregated \$802,522, while during the year 1917 only 465 barns were destroyed with an aggregate loss to buildings and contents of \$686,261.

I attribute this encouraging decrease to the greater care exercised in and about barns, to the fact that they are more generally supplied with lightning rods, and also to the fact that greater precautions are taken against spontaneous combustion.

SPECIAL CONSERVATION WORK.

Immediately upon the entry of our country into the world war, it became evident that additional hazards threatened the safety not only of the lives but of the property of our people. This was especially true with regard to grain elevators, mills, factories, and food storage plants of various kinds.

To the end that I might be fully informed as to the conditions of these various industries and also in order that their owners and the people of our state might be placed on their guard, I availed myself of the offer of the National Board of Fire Underwriters of the services of a number of the insurance field men of the state.

With the approval of the Executive Council, I commissioned 77 of these men to do special inspection work. Of the number so commissioned, 69 have done work and reported their doings to this department. As stated elsewhere, this work involved 1,659 inspections, on the basis of which 1,146 orders were issued. These inspections were made in 767 cities and towns in 94 different counties of the state.

I am pleased to be able to report that in the main these inspections were thoroughly and intelligently made, the inspectors well received and with very few exceptions the work has been commended and the orders issued generally complied with.

As a part of this inspection work, we have been and are urging upon our people, especially those who are in charge of stores of grain or food that they exercise the most diligent care in the way of watchmen's service, and I have reason to believe the state as a whole is thoroughly aroused to the importance of this suggestion.

The old decrepit watchman, who for many years has been a joke and a by-word, has been or should be discarded for an active, vigorous and courageous man.

The mayors or others in cities charged with the enforcement of the peace and safety of the community should realize that this is a time when there should be no parsimony in providing such adequate and thorough police protection both to persons and property as will prevent the attempt of the enemy of our government, whether it be alien or native, to destroy the resources in which our splendid state is so rich.

THE WAR HAZARD.

It cannot be denied that the entry of our country into the war created additional fire hazards against which it became the immediate duty to adopt most thorough and stringent precautionary measures. Some of the measures taken by this department have already been referred to under another heading.

While it is true that the overwhelming majority of the citizenship of Iowa is loyal, it cannot be denied that here as well as elsewhere there are the exceptional few whose hearts and sympathies are secretly if not openly against the government, and who would even rejoice in the destruction of American lives and American property.

As "eternal vigilance is the price of liberty" so even more is it the price of safety. To the end that any and every attempt of the sympathizer with our enemies may be thwarted in his evil designs, it becomes the people of the State of Iowa as individuals, municipalities, and communities to redouble their watchfulness, especially in the protection of the property of our people from destruction by fire.

But not only is there danger from the alien sympathizers but there is also the further danger from that element of our population which believes that the world owes it a living without work, and whose natures have become embittered because at some time in their lives the law had placed its heavy though just hand upon them.

In times like these, when many of our homes, farms and business places have given up their best young men to the service of our country—thus reducing the natural home protection, these ghouls of society see an opportunity, which they readily

embrace, of preying upon our people and their property in this the hour of our nation's distress. Too stringent measures cannot be adopted to hold in check and suppress this tendency.

Again in times of strife and stress like these, some persons who, under normal conditions, would be reasonably safe, become unduly excited or unbalanced and do things, especially in the way of setting fires, that in normal times they would not do. This is an added danger which must also be guarded against.

At the same time that these special hazards to which I have briefly alluded have been introduced, we have with us as heretofore the familiar face of the great fire producer, who needs no introduction—**General Carelessness.**

Ever since the establishment of this office, I have in season and out of season preached the doctrine of conservation of life and property, of the elimination of waste, and the exercising of greater care. For more than six years my voice has been "like one crying in the wilderness," and I am therefore exceedingly gratified that this doctrine has now been espoused and has become the gospel of our country, for it is preached today from platforms and pulpits from the President down to the humblest citizen. While the effect of this nation-wide effort may not be instantaneous, it will in time produce good results and results that will endure.

ARRESTS AND PROSECUTIONS

CLINTON TOWNSHIP, WAYNE COUNTY.

Oscar Napier, alias O. K. Wilson, indicted in the Federal Court at Creston September term, 1916, on a charge of conspiracy to defraud an insurance company in case of U. S. vs. Grant Napier, et al.

Oscar Napier was apprehended on Friday, May 11, 1917, entered a plea of guilty on May 12, 1917, and was sentenced by Judge Wade to serve four months in the Warren County jail.

Two others indicted on the same charge are still at large.

This is in connection with one of the most far-reaching cases of conspiracy to defraud brought to our attention. The case was brought by this department in the Federal Court, as the U. S. mails were used in transmitting the fraudulent claims for loss. For a full account of this case, reference should be had to pages 15 and 16 of my report for 1916.

WALNUT TOWNSHIP, DALLAS COUNTY.

On January 4, 1917, three A. M., a fire destroyed the residence property of I. N. Aldrich valued at \$10,000. Soon after the fire, John Michael Fink, eighty years old, was arrested charged with the setting of the fire. Fink was indicted in March, 1917, and tried at the December term 1917. The jury returned a verdict of "not guilty" on account of unsound mind.

Civil action was commenced for damages against Mr. Fink. A compromise was made by the Fink estate paying Aldrich the sum of \$6,250.

NEAR RUNNELLS, POLK COUNTY.

On January 24, 1917, about four A. M., a barn and contents was destroyed on the farm of R. A. Owen which was occupied by Frank J. Heller. After an investigation by this department, Frank J. Heller and C. A. Anson made confessions to the effect that they had removed nine valuable animals and substituted for them nine worthless animals, and by the use of coal oil burned the barn and contents. This was done for the purpose of collecting the insurance.

Heller and Anson were indicted and entered pleas of guilty on April 5, 1917, and each was sentenced to ten years in the penitentiary. Their attorney gave notice of appeal to the supreme court on the grounds of the severity of the sentence. Later both Heller and Anson were paroled by the State Board of Parole on the recommendation of the county attorney and the judge who took their pleas of guilty.

The parole was granted without the knowledge of the state fire marshal.

LODOMILLO TOWNSHIP, CLAYTON COUNTY.

On February 17, 1917, about five A. M., fire destroyed a dwelling and barn owned by Coleman Putnam and occupied by George Briggs. Later George Briggs and James Briggs were indicted on a charge of conspiracy to injure the insurance company. Both George and James Briggs were tried at the October term, 1917, and found guilty as charged. The defendants asked for a new trial, which was granted by the same judge at the January term, 1918.

The defendants are still under indictment on the charge of arson. Both cases are still pending.

NEAR AGENCY, WAPELLO COUNTY.

On March 10, 1917, several stacks of hay were burned on the farm of John Reno. After an investigation by this department, John Meyers was indicted charged with the burning of the hay and meadow. The case is still pending.

IOWA FALLS, HARDIN COUNTY.

On March 29, 1917, W. H. McClure of Iowa Falls confessed to a representative of this department to the setting of eight fires during the past two years which terrorized the citizens of that community. On the strength of the confession, McClure was arrested and arraigned on a

charge of arson and waived to the grand jury. On April 4, 1917, McClure entered a plea of guilty to the county attorney's information and Judge Wright sentenced McClure to serve forty years in the penitentiary on two counts, and on an additional plea of guilty to burn an inhabited building in the night time McClure was sentenced to the penitentiary for life.

KINGSLEY, PLYMOUTH COUNTY.

On May 22, 1917, about two A. M., a fire destroyed the pool hall of Darrel Kindig. During an investigation by this department an alarm clock and wires were found in the ruins. Other evidence was secured showing the fire was set by Kindig for the purpose of collecting the insurance. Kindig was confronted with the evidence and made a written confession to setting the fire by electrical devices. Kindig was arrested and waived to the grand jury, which returned an indictment against him. The case is still pending.

SALIX, WOODBURY COUNTY.

On the night of May 22, 1917, fire destroyed the Salix Mercantile Company's store. On June 7, 1917, during an investigation by this department, Ed. Morris made a confession that he had set the store on fire. A county attorney's information was filed against Morris, to which he entered a plea of guilty and was sentenced to the penitentiary for a period of five years.

DUBUQUE, DUBUQUE COUNTY.

On the night of July 12, 1917, the Cooper Wagon Company's warehouse was destroyed by fire causing a loss of over \$100,000. Previous to the fire, Gus and William Cooper of the Cooper Wagon Company had received blackhand letters demanding large sums of money. Soon after the fire more threatening letters were received containing very vicious language along the line of what would happen if the Coopers did not drop the large sums of money demanded where the same could be found by the author of the letters.

A thorough investigation was made by this office and on September 19, 1917, H. A. Wedemaier was arrested and taken to the police station where he made a full confession to a representative of this department and the chief of police to sending the letters, but he stoutly denied that he had anything to do with the setting of the fire.

Wedemaier entered a plea of guilty to a county attorney's information and was sentenced to the penitentiary for a term of five years.

ALGONA, KOSSUTH COUNTY.

On July 27, 1917, Howard Kanouff, an eleven-year-old boy, confessed to a representative of this department to setting Andrew Benson's residence on fire in three different places on the afternoon of July 23, 1917. Information was filed against the boy, and the case is still pending.

NEVADA, STORY COUNTY.

On September 23, 1917, a fire was discovered in a vacant residence owned by C. C. Harris. After an investigation by this department, Ray Spurling, a fifteen-year-old boy, made a confession that he set the fire with the aid of coal oil. The boy was taken before the court for hearing. The court appointed an attorney to look after defendant's interests. The boy and the boy's father waived time, the evidence was introduced, after which he was sentenced to the reform school at Eldora until he becomes of age. Later the boy was paroled by the court during good behavior.

COON RAPIDS, CARROLL COUNTY.

On September 27, 1917, about twelve P. M., a fire occurred on the outside of the dwelling occupied by Walt Watrus. Suspicion pointed to a neighbor lady, Mrs. Theodore Corey, who had had trouble with Mrs. Watrus. The county attorney took the matter in hand and had Mrs. Corey before the commissioners of insanity, and she was by them adjudged insane and committed to the Clarinda State Hospital.

URBANA, BENTON COUNTY.

On July 18, 1917, a fire destroyed the building and contents of a Racket Store belonging to Harry and Addie Burton. After an investigation by this department, Harry Burton was indicted at the September term, 1917, by the grand jury, and tried at the October term, 1917, and acquitted.

MILFORD, DICKINSON COUNTY.

On December 4, 1917, P. O. Bjornson lost a barn and contents by fire. This fire occurred about nine P. M. There had been a previous attempt made to burn this barn. After an investigation by this department, Leonard Ranney, an eleven-year-old boy, made a confession to setting the barn on fire. The case was reported to County Attorney H. E. Narey who filed information and presented the case to the juvenile judge, after which the boy was committed to the reform school at Eldora.

RECORD OF ARRESTS AND PROSECUTIONS FOR ARSON SINCE THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S LAW WENT INTO EFFECT, JULY 4, 1911.

	Last 6 months of 1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	Total
Confessions on which grand jury failed to indict			2			5		7
Committed to--								
Industrial School, Eldora		1		2	6	2	1	12
Hospital for Inebriates		4				1		5
Hospitals for the Insane	1		2	4	3	3	1	14
Institution for Feeble Minded						1		1
Deported			1					1
Fined	1					3		4
Paroled by Court after sentence			1	2	4	3	1	11
Sentenced to--								
Jail	1	1	1	2		2	1	8
Penitentiary	3	3	5	6	4	4	7	32
Total	6	9	12	16	17	24	11	95
Acquitted, defective indictment			1	1	1			3
Arrested, held to grand jury no indictment			3		3	3		9
Died in jail before final action					1			1
Dismissed by county attorney after indictment	1	3	3	6	2	1		16
Indicted, tried and acquitted	2		1	1	9	3	2	18
Indicted, cases still pending		1		2	5	5	3	16
Total	3	4	8	10	21	12	5	63
Total prosecutions	9	13	20	26	38	36	16	158

It is unnecessary for me to emphasize the importance and difficulty of the duty with which this office is charged by the law, viz., the investigation of suspicious fires and the securing of sufficient evidence to indict and convict where we have reason to believe a person is guilty of the crime of incendiarism.

While we have succeeded in apprehending and securing the punishment of 96 criminals of this class during the past six years, we realize that a great many guilty have escaped. Some of this may be due to our own inefficiency and our lack of men and means to obtain evidence, but much of it, indeed the greater portion of it, is due to the generally slack law enforcement which prevails in our country. Grand juries are slow to indict, trial jurors are loath to convict especially when the criminal is defended by one of the ablest attorneys at the bar, and the prosecution is in charge of some yeung fellow just out of law school.

In some instances it has been almost impossible to interest the prosecuting attorney in a case even where the evidence of guilt

was overwhelming. The same is also true of some of the ministerial officers such as sheriffs, local policemen and detectives. Unless the local official can secure some personal prestige out of the prosecution, he often is not disposed to give any aid or encouragement to the efforts of the state fire marshal.

In many instances the law relative to the punishment of arson and the various degrees of this crime, is inadequate. There is room for radical reform in our whole system of criminal jurisprudence to the end that it may be less difficult for the state to apprehend and convict the guilty.

STATISTICAL INFORMATION.

TABLE I.

The footings of this table have been briefly set out in the introductory portion of this report. By months the fire losses and the number of fires reported to this office for the year 1917 were as follows:

Months	No. Fires	Loss
January	615	\$ 827,665
February	752	716,718
March	537	622,302
April	330	607,604
May	333	366,637
June	205	261,022
July	275	470,211
August	271	804,387
September	238	342,300
October	426	624,693
November	385	673,678
December	586	899,028
Total.....	4,953	\$7,216,245

TABLE II.

This table contains a list of the kinds of structures destroyed or damaged, the value of the buildings, the damage thereto, the value of the contents, the damage thereto, and the character of the buildings destroyed or damaged.

STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Classified by use, the ten highest classes of property affected by fires come in the following order:

Kind of Structure	Number	Loss
Dwellings	2,588	\$1,563,845
Barns	465	686,261
Stores	385	1,649,973
Shops	137	113,317
Garages	106	194,981
Automobiles	82	11,779
Sheds	77	8,350
Restaurants and cafes	76	81,043
Offices and office buildings	63	120,462
School houses	53	198,809
Total.....	4,032	\$4,628,820

Comparing some of the figures in the above table with those pertaining to the same classes of property set out in the report for the year 1916, we observe the following:

There was an increase of 366 in the number of dwellings destroyed or damaged and the aggregate loss is \$355,710 greater than in 1916.

It will also be seen that more than fifty per cent of the total fires in the state affected the homes of our people. The number of barns destroyed or damaged was 113 less and the damage thereto \$116,261 less than in 1916. This is an encouraging feature and is due to a large extent to the added precautionary measures taken by many of our farmers in safeguarding their barns against fires.

The number of stores damaged or destroyed by fire was 18 greater and the loss in said fires was \$156,823 greater than in 1916. When we take into consideration the increase in the value of almost every article of merchandise kept in the stores, this increase is not discouraging.

There were 20 more automobile garages affected by fire resulting in a greater destruction by \$66,899 in 1917 than in 1916.

Unless greater care is exercised in many of these garages in the matter of cleanliness, etc., we may well apprehend that fires in these business places will increase rather than diminish in the future.

The number of offices and office buildings affected by fire was 6 less and the damage thereto \$86,838 less in 1917 than in 1916.

While the number of school houses burned was only 1 greater, the total loss on account of same was \$113,714 greater in 1917 than in 1916.

In my last annual report I referred to the added danger to the larger school buildings by reason of the general introduction of domestic science and should be carefully safeguarded against. I deem it my duty to emphasize this recommendation.

There was an increase of 4 in the number of factories destroyed or damaged by fire but a decrease of \$61,607 from that in 1916 in the amount of the loss.

Four (4) more grain elevators were destroyed or damaged by fire in 1917 than in 1916, and the resultant loss was \$89,206 greater.

During the same time 2 less flouring mills were damaged by fire but the loss was \$13,802 greater.

TABLE III.

This table contains a summary of the causes of the fires reported, the number of properties destroyed or damaged from each cause, and the amount of damage to the buildings and contents. Classified in their order by number, the ten highest classes are as follows:

Cause	Number	Loss
Sparks from flue	1,094	\$ 392,619
Unknown	948	3,061,163
Defective flue	456	572,202
Adjoining fires	359	744,397
Lightning	172	280,933
Spontaneous combustion	130	170,252
Children and matches	95	58,755
Match carelessness	88	34,072
Incendiary and probably incendiary	88	167,171
Defective electric wiring	83	262,007
Total.....	3,513	\$5,743,571

More than twenty (20) per cent of all the fires reported were caused by "sparks from flues" or chimneys. The number of fires from this cause was 270 greater during the year 1917 than the previous year and the resultant loss \$158,923 greater.

Fires from this cause are partially preventable, the principal preventive being the discarding of the old fashioned shingle roof for a roof of more fire resisting material.

In some of our cities (noticeably Davenport) ordinances to this effect have been adopted. Cities and incorporated towns should provide against this menace by adopting ordinances prohibiting a shingle roof in future erections of buildings.

The number of fires originating from defective flues was 108 greater and the resultant damage \$226,401 greater in 1917 than in the previous year.

Every fire from a defective flue is absolutely preventable, for it should be the duty of every house owner to inspect the chimneys and flues carefully and make needed repairs therein at least once a year, before the advent of cold weather. If this duty were enforced, there would be a material reduction in fires from this cause.

The number of adjoining fires reported was 76 less and the loss \$159,472 less in 1917 than during the previous year. These figures speak volumes for the increased efficiency of our various fire departments.

Fires in which spontaneous combustion is the reported cause were 23 less and the resultant loss \$38,901 less in 1917 than in 1916. I attribute this reduction to the greater care exercised by our farmers in the matter of the storage of hay in barns.

The lightning fires were 5 less and the damage therefrom \$9,361 less than during the previous year.

The fires reported as incendiary or probably incendiary were 45 less and the resultant damage \$80,092 less in 1917 than in 1916.

The number of fires of unknown origin still continues to head the list as to the amount of damage. Had they but a voice, what a story of carelessness and crime these fire could unfold!

The midnight incendiary, the cowardly sneak who sells out to some insurance company, the dirty basement and attic, the unsafe and sooty chimney, the improperly installed heating or lighting system, the inflammable oils carelessly stored and handled, the matches and match heads promiscuously scattered about, the smoker and his ubiquitous pipe, cigar or cigarette, each and all contribute to the great **unknown** cause of fires.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

I again deem it necessary to renew recommendations heretofore made for legislation along the following lines:

1. Provision for the inspection both state and local of electric wiring. This is made necessary by reason of the constantly increasing use of electricity not only for light but for heat and power, and the increasing losses resulting from defective electric wiring.

2. The almost universal use of gasoline and the consequent menace both to property and to life resulting from such use necessitates the enactment of a gasoline storage law, or a law making it mandatory upon municipalities to make provision by ordinance for such storage.

3. Standardization of chimneys, flues and roofs in cities and towns, and providing that no shingle roofs be permitted hereafter upon buildings in cities of a certain class.

4. A law regulating moving picture shows, specifying the construction of the booth, the number of exits, width of aisles, seating, etc.

5. Provision for the inspection of gasoline and carbide lighting systems.

6. Inasmuch as fully 90 per cent of the fire alarms in our cities and towns are given by telephone, there is need of a law prescribing the duties and responsibility of telephone companies and operators in the matter of receiving and promptly turning in fire alarms.

I would strongly urge this recommendation for the reason that when fires are reported to this office it is not infrequent that this statement is made by the reporting officer:

"The owner went to the telephone to call the department but was unable to get 'Central' and as a result more damage was done than was necessary had the alarm promptly reached the fire department."

CONCLUSION.

I desire again to acknowledge the hearty co-operation and support accorded the office by chiefs of fire departments, mayors and others with whom we have come into official relationships.

In my conduct of the office I have aimed to make it one of broad, social and economic service rather than one designed to help or promote the financial gain of some particular line of business. To this service, my best endeavors have been dedicated. It is a service demanding intelligence, special skill and courage. I have been and am thoroughly devoted to the idea of the conservation of our resources. My appeal to the citizenship of Iowa is that they conserve from destruction by fire by exercising more care and by placing greater safeguards about their property.

TABLE NO. I.

Showing Number of Fires Reported by Counties and Cities of More Than 10,000, value of Buildings and Contents Involved, Damage to Buildings and Contents, Total Insurance on Buildings and Contents, Number of Fires Partially Covered by Insurance, Amount of Excess of Loss Over Insurance, Number of Fires Affecting Property Without Any Insurance and Total Loss Upon Property Not Covered by Insurance for the Year 1917.

Counties and Cities of 10,000 and Over	No. of fires	Value of buildings and contents	Damage to buildings and contents	Total insurance on buildings and contents	No. of fires partially covered by insurance	Excess of loss over insurance	No. of fires without insurance	Loss
Adair	16	47,985	26,952	25,975	5	9,220	3	1,210
Adams	13	40,493	12,787	11,593	7	7,370	2	1,920
Allamakee	13	26,150	11,382	15,370	7	3,935	2	505
Appanoose	57	169,674	39,624	92,975	21	14,450	7	6,087
Audubon	10	25,570	8,407	11,373	6	4,997	1	2,900
Benton	38	147,290	59,202	78,120	19	27,327	5	3,900
Black Hawk								
Waterloo	131	846,725	63,681	542,635	33	9,928	13	1,074
Bal. Black Hawk Co.	33	103,850	46,470	61,205	19	14,105	4	1,040
Boone	39	163,520	9,504	84,350	15	5,165	10	5,030
Bal. Boone Co.	14	47,956	41,401	30,173	12	14,663	1	40
Bremer	17	70,015	10,411	34,140	8	2,568	2	775
Buchanan	17	91,760	23,941	56,025	6	4,130	2	1,025
Buena Vista	45	257,429	141,782	123,865	24	54,474	9	3,690
Butler	18	60,225	30,353	35,473	14	12,240	3	565
Calhoun	20	48,782	27,967	25,600	10	15,282	4	6,200
Cerrill	35	124,880	25,637	61,034	16	12,001	5	2,950
Cass	35	181,595	123,431	101,355	23	49,170	3	1,025
Cedar	26	78,850	42,989	37,167	21	17,343	4	3,125
Cerro Gordo								
Mason City	48	371,650	101,458	291,250	9	835	7	625
Bal. Cerro Gordo Co.	19	37,490	20,203	20,240	10	8,300	3	1,965
Cherokee	15	70,290	6,900	52,570	5	2,220	1	80
Chickasaw	14	45,935	25,085	25,925	11	8,065	2	170
Clarke	29	272,986	198,441	141,000	21	78,516	4	1,555
Clay	16	99,760	54,529	58,385	9	11,700	1	10
Clayton	35	156,010	80,960	104,080	23	25,780	1	335
Clinton	80	372,560	28,072	258,530	11	1,610	7	335
Bal. Clinton Co.	23	49,020	28,681	31,555	14	13,415	3	2,090
Crawford	26	68,790	26,672	42,710	17	8,915	2	85
Dallas	44	150,896	73,231	95,066	19	31,245	4	985
Davis	34	95,811	53,554	50,590	19	21,689	8	4,003
DeCATUR	39	146,324	98,875	92,940	28	33,010	5	2,875
Delaware	24	59,390	21,486	33,270	11	11,030	1	10
Des Moines								
Burlington	55	661,940	50,678	387,708	6	10,153	2	625
Bal. Des Moines Co.	15	33,138	23,651	37,275	11	9,425	1	200
Dickinson	14	72,140	43,301	34,865	12	9,900	1	75
Dubuque	84	2,022,497	342,950	1,347,072	18	111,566	6	4,185
Balance Dubuque Co.	92	84,750	57,305	47,549	14	21,101	3	5,600
Emmet	22	265,210	120,650	172,785	9	32,760	2	140
Fayette	59	315,920	69,636	171,982	25	27,175	3	1,700
Floyd	27	628,446	185,927	192,178	18	21,602	3	1,210
Franklin	22	127,335	74,777	66,170	16	31,380	3	815
Fremont	25	60,090	52,280	36,000	18	18,850	3	2,000
Greene	26	94,282	63,872	40,652	17	34,515	7	1,425

TABLE NO. 1—Continued

Counties and Cities of 10,000 and Over	No. of fires	Value of buildings and contents	Damage to buildings and contents	Total insurance on buildings and contents	No. of fires partially covered by insurance	Excess of loss over insurance	No. of fires without insurance	Loss
Grundy	28	87,425	53,451	40,970	12	27,310	7	2,850
Guthrie	27	76,685	30,211	36,459	16	9,645	1	50
Hamilton	36	162,050	45,516	80,400	21	21,164	2	825
Hancock	13	60,985	15,791	18,532	8	5,103	1	210
Hardin	43	135,150	45,370	57,370	25	21,097	11	4,537
Harrison	31	87,180	37,057	52,000	15	10,672	6	3,877
Henry	36	117,812	34,606	83,721	21	10,885	3	170
Howard	19	57,805	45,356	37,908	14	13,772	1	300
Humboldt	8	37,425	39,725	38,300	6	7,325	1	125
Ida	16	80,929	21,042	45,825	9	10,771	3	285
Iowa	11	23,925	10,638	6,775	8	5,927	4	1,852
Jackson	31	135,703	65,803	85,166	13	16,937	1	100
Jasper	67	258,090	107,241	123,493	33	43,595	4	4,110
Jefferson	39	136,262	32,822	61,819	26	12,165	10	2,600
Johnson								
Iowa City	47	335,225	46,087	192,500	3	725	2	275
Bal. Johnson Co.	11	29,157	26,990	16,312	9	11,440		
Jones	19	61,650	40,003	29,300	14	20,543	2	3,183
Keokuk	44	262,411	54,542	120,140	25	22,796	8	6,756
Kossuth	43	133,187	33,601	74,164	18	11,895	4	1,750
Lee—Ft. Madison	33	37,673	9,644	58,082	9	1,999	5	323
Keokuk	80	608,500	69,343	434,348	9	1,420	7	835
Bal. Lee Co.	12	43,375	14,365	25,630	9	5,735	1	1,050
Linn								
Cedar Rapids	163	1,457,925	50,955	987,250	26	3,330	28	2,330
Bal. Linn Co.	37	129,665	66,657	71,539	20	25,161	5	1,080
Louisa	24	61,385	31,003	28,799	13	15,000	5	1,455
Lucas	53	182,018	68,723	126,385	22	19,210	8	2,095
Lyon	13	117,880	11,060	17,085	7	5,670	1	475
Madison	29	96,755	67,739	53,148	19	35,007	3	1,685
Mahaska								
Oskaloosa	21	95,120	17,722	53,600	2	2,630	2	230
Bal. Mahaska Co.	30	98,544	40,530	37,785	17	15,500	3	2,451
Marion	50	131,345	51,514	60,687	21	31,803	5	1,970
Marshall								
Marshalltown	42	306,160	66,794	160,175	12	23,430	7	6,805
Bal. Marshall Co.	22	41,400	23,934	25,330	10	8,545	2	650
Mills	19	114,650	63,435	65,275	14	22,400	1	100
Mitchell	23	98,550	54,140	53,500	16	19,690	3	1,565
Monona	19	76,332	59,233	36,485	16	26,955	7	1,865
Monroe	37	109,087	38,855	67,290	17	16,288	3	775
Montgomery	35	110,450	23,829	61,115	13	4,235	1	40
Muscatine								
Muscatine	69	379,481	130,552	235,740	21	16,231	9	1,410
Bal. Muscatine Co.	22	90,377	74,861	28,905	15	55,210	5	42,465
O'Brien	21	125,500	38,531	55,506	8	21,146	4	1,272
Oscola	11	41,775	8,450	22,455	4	2,370	1	450
Page	39	170,145	85,311	81,834	18	29,129	6	829
Palo Alto	13	40,610	4,407	16,150	4	2,245	2	95
Plymouth	30	133,456	35,630	52,674	12	15,292	6	10,762
Pocahontas	9	42,775	12,845	27,550	3	3,250		
Polk—Des Moines	624	7,758,249	1,015,618	4,685,257	112	132,833	80	58,811
Bal. Polk Co.	41	123,370	69,269	85,870	25	26,130	5	495
Pottawattamie								
Council Bluffs	112	643,640	150,579	383,710	35	22,400	22	2,115
Bal. Pottawattamie Co.	41	126,052	75,890	74,833	28	30,454	3	975
Poweshiek	36	148,500	38,303	82,035	17	15,430	11	2,615
Ringgold	29	79,275	52,876	45,490	16	23,935	4	2,540
Sac	24	56,250	23,285	27,050	10	11,305	8	5,445
Scott—Davenport	240	1,332,720	105,244	943,376	26	2,794	19	1,471
Bal. Scott Co.	23	36,795	25,120	19,943	12	14,565	7	7,025

TABLE NO. 1—Continued

Counties and Cities of 10,000 and Over	No. of fires	Value of buildings and contents	Damage to buildings and contents	Total insurance on buildings and contents	No. of fires partially covered by insurance	Excess of loss over insurance	No. of fires without insurance	Loss
Shelby	25	52,730	29,099	25,006	17	14,733	6	3,785
Sioux	32	80,265	27,569	43,050	21	10,490	7	1,690
Story	70	299,775	106,019	150,380	34	40,358	11	5,235
Tama	27	126,565	77,918	77,015	12	25,085	2	415
Taylor	24	70,380	38,887	44,720	13	12,576	2	806
Union	70	327,574	79,752	22,200	35	20,240	4	1,455
Van Buren	17	40,983	26,714	22,600	8	13,738	1	1,250
Wapello—Ottumwa	79	309,285	34,097	208,625	4	2,100	1	1,200
Bal. Wapello Co.	23	44,368	34,218	22,500	19	15,433	6	2,733
Warren	34	90,650	53,309	47,165	20	25,920	1	100
Washington	25	53,725	16,017	35,690	14	5,895	2	223
Wayne	15	34,170	16,533	16,200	11	7,874	5	655
Webster—Ft. Dodge	57	708,725	50,579	468,900	14	27,400	5	12,200
Bal. Webster Co.	19	47,536	45,021	20,870	17	16,210	2	2,500
Winnebago	22	202,025	53,921	106,900	13	23,536	2	5,000
Winneshiek	17	90,411	53,303	42,950	11			
Woodbury								
Sioux City	251	2,332,375	100,201	2,112,685	44	5,860	25	1,345
Bal. Woodbury Co.	18	115,505	99,051	66,369	11	38,771	1	2,500
Worth	8	12,500	6,411	4,920	6	5,585	1	1,200
Wright	31	148,532	63,285	66,485	15	37,550	5	23,245
Totals	4,953	\$31,683,278	\$ 7,216,245	\$10,559,617	1,907	\$ 2,207,874	613	\$343,962

TABLE NO. 11.

Showing the Nature and Character of the Buildings or Properties Destroyed or Damaged, the Value of Each, the Damage Thereto, the Value of the Contents of Each and the Damage Thereto, the Kind of Material of Which Each was Constructed and Whether the Loss was Total or Partial, for the year 1917.

	No. of fires	Buildings		Contents		Character of Buildings Affected							
		Value	Damage	Value	Damage	Wood	Brick	Cement or stone	Loss on Buildings		Loss on Contents		
									Total	Partial	Total	Partial	
Armories	1	3,500	600					1		1			
Automobiles	82	73,185	11,663	116	116	82			5	77	1		
Bakeries	17	63,990	6,459	26,850	5,384	8	9			16			13
Banks	12	730,850	25,091	66,100	4,284	1	10	1	1	10			7
Barns	465	445,450	400,611	323,612	285,650	459	5	1	358	106	312		81
Boats	1	175	175	325	325	1	1		1	1			
Boat houses	2	225	60	575	500	2			1	2	1		1
Bottling works	1	7,000	1,744	5,500	1,600		1			1			1
Brickyards, kilns and tile factories	7	267,000	99,057	249,000	77,144	3	4			6			7
Bridges	2	5,500	85							2			
Cart—Box cars	17	21,175	2,265	2,345	1,440	17			2	13	1		5
Bunk cars	5	1,580	896	250	225	5			2	3			1
Coal cars	2	4,000	30			2				2			
Freight cars	2	2,100	40	1,200	433	2				2			2
Passenger cars	2	6,935	225			2				2			
Poultry cars	1	500	50	2,500	250	1				1			1
Refrigerator cars	7	16,580	1,121	10,600	5,245	7				7			4
Stock cars	2	6,000	350	125	125	2				2	1		
Street cars	7	27,500	6,260			7				7			
Cable box	1	2	2			1			1				
Cement construction material	2			454	222	2					1		1
Churches	31	359,400	113,503	39,625	23,309	20	9	2	11	20	7		9
City and township halls	3	125,800	935	18,000	750	1	1	1		3			1
Cleaning and dyeing establishments	13	37,755	1,014	60,625	2,639	6	5	2		9			11
Coal bins and storage	12	9,340	3,550	19,150	6,095	6			2	4			9
Coal mines	2	2,650	685	3,000	1,525	2			1	1			2
Colleges and college dormitories	8	251,500	46,975	33,300	17,255	2	6		1	7	2		5
Court houses	2	95,000	175	7,000	400		1	1		2			1
Creameries	13	31,460	8,910	18,376	4,244	9	2	2	4	9	3		5

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Dams	1	3,000	1,000	1,100	1,000	1			2	1			1
Dairies or milk houses	3	500	430	6,440	4,439	12		2	4	10	2		4
Depots	14	29,695	11,525	140,903	95,972	19			12	6	4		12
Elevators	19	123,000	84,825	400	400	3	5		1	7	1		1
Engines and boiler rooms	8	35,189	1,500	5,000	125	2	1			3			1
Express offices	3	16,000	200	1,500	10	1				1			1
Factories—Asphalt plant	1	10,000	25	12,300	900	1	1			2			1
Auto parts factory	1	21,500	315	20,000	3,680	1	1			1			1
Auto tire factory	2	17,000	3,079	10,000	50	1			1				1
Bale and tie factory	1			4,600	4,372	1							
Box factory	1	2,500	2,500										
Bridge and iron products factory	1	35,000	469	150,000	4,539	1		2		1			1
Broom factory	2	4,500	2,700	9,500	7,000	1				1			1
Butter renovating factory	1	11,000	8,000	45,000	32,000	1	1			1			1
Button cutting plant	2	200	50	340	129	1	2			2			1
Candy factory	1	37,500	198	10,000	80	1	1			1			1
Canning factory	1	26,426	20,654	45,354	34,262	1	1			3			1
Carriage and auto factory	1	14,500	8,758	16,800	10,804	2		1		1			1
Cement products factory	3	5,500	40	1,500	2,500	1				1			1
Chiropactic table factory	1	2,500	2,500	3,000	1,000	1	2			1			1
Cigar factory	1	10,000	25	9,500	2,300	1				1			3
Collar factory	1	3,000	1,748	24,000	2,300				1	2			
Furnace factory	1	2,000	5					3					1
Furniture factory	3	103,500	1,486	215,000	2,090								
Galvanized iron products factory	1	3,000	50	16,000	2,024				1	1			1
Gasoline engine and tractor factory	1	100,000	150	20,000	1,062			1		1			1
Glove factory	1	30,000	100	4,000	110			1		1			1
Ice cream factory	1	3,500	500	15,000	436			2		1			1
Implement factory	2	7,000	25	30,500	28,000			1		1			2
Incubator factory	1	9,500	9,500	30,000	25			2					
Lock factory	1	10,000	25	6,000	830			1		1			
Mattress factory	2		5					1		1			
Mining tools	1	12,000	5					1		1			1
Optical goods factory	1	25,000	62					1		1			1
Pharmaceutical factory	1	90,000	18,000	39,828	16,000			1		1			1
Rat trap factory	1	18,000	5,000	500,000	46,542			1		1			1
Sash and door factory	1	100,000	37,522	156,099	100,000			1		1			2
Shell or munitions factory	1	37,522	100	75,000	1,200			2		1			
Shoe factory	1	20,000	500	4,750	2,325		1	1		1			2
Stock remedies factory	1	2,950	50	10,000				1		2			1
Stump puller factory	3	6,500	50	500,000	25,826			1		1			1
Thresher and tractor factory	2	114,643	19,353	2,000				1		1			
Trunk factory	1							1					

STATE FIRE MARSHAL

TABLE NO. II—Continued

	No. of fires	Buildings		Contents		Character of Buildings Affected								
		Value	Damage	Value	Damage	Wood	Brick	Cement or stone	Loss on Buildings		Loss on Contents			
									Total	Partial	Total	Partial		
Typewriter factory	1													
Fence posts	1			00	50									
Fish nets	1			37	30									
Flagman's station	1			15	15									
Foundries	3	800	235										1	
Freight houses	9	114,000	12,845	108,000	12,903							1	1	
Garages	3	2,445	456	250	250				1	2				
Gas plants	106	345,950	61,746	410,775	133,235					9			5	
Grain doors	5	21,500	6,432	51,000	8,902				2	1		2		
Granaries and corn cribs	1			2,130	1,400				74	26	6	34	67	32
Greenhouses	23	17,815	13,726	31,892	28,095					5			5	1
Hay, grain and straw stacks	1	3,300	1,000	300	300							15		13
Hen houses	32			8,145	5,884								1	8
Hog houses	24	2,143	1,620	920	758									
Home for blind	12	5,250	4,950	1,580	1,580								25	7
Hospitals	1	8,000	10											4
Hotels	8	77,000	1,565	35,300	27,095									
Houses—Apartment	53	2,102,600	63,266	281,425	29,501									
Boarding	35	435,700	18,585	94,100	29,392									3
Children's play houses	6	18,150	523	5,700	227									34
Dwellings	2	58	58											17
Flats	2,588	5,770,871	1,139,683	1,416,781	424,162									4
Rooming	18	170,500	4,666	18,300	2,810	2,480								
Summer cottages	29	171,950	13,212	29,750	5,046								2,049	219
Summer kitchens	2	1,500	1,500	525	525									13
Ice houses	19	6,382	1,897	1,505	1,275									17
Jails	8	28,180	9,170	29,000	16,665									
Laundries	2	50	50	2,065	15									4
Lawn swing	17	55,200	6,002	87,700	6,043									2
Libraries	1	10	5											1
Light and power plants	3	37,500	241											11
Livery and feed barns	12	42,200	19,565	85,100	21,872									
Locomotive cab	14	44,750	39,875	33,800	24,350									7
Lodge halls and club houses	1	200												6
	24	279,636	58,856	40,300	20,317									10

Lumber—pile of	1			500	20										1
Lumber sheds	1	405	405	900	900										
Lumber yards	9	37,300	28,505	254,100	176,299										5
Machine sheds	7	2,400	2,075	7,550	6,750										1
Meadows, grass and pastures	6			1,535	1,535										
Mills—Miscellaneous	5	28,670	21,500	41,700	12,900										1
Flour mills	4	68,500	52,680	88,000	21,322										2
Planing and saw mills	3	15,500	3,695												
Mill work plant	1	3,000	100	5,000	25										1
Monastery	1	6,000	20												
Motion picture theaters	15	164,500	13,638	40,200	7,441										13
Neal liquor cure	1	8,000	20												
News stands	1			11,600	1,762										1
Nurse's Home	1	3,800	105												
Offices and office buildings	63	641,250	68,284	163,900	57,178										24
Oil filling stations	2	6,500	510	1,000	300										1
Oil houses	5	1,135	430	4,550	2,510										3
Oil warehouses	3	13,500	2,897	80,000	56,857										1
Outhouses	3	40	35												
Packing houses	2	28,000	110												
Pest house	1	15	15												
Photograph galleries	6	44,300	10,156	19,900	8,820										5
Platform	1	150	50												
Police station	1	3,500	15												
Pool halls and bowling alleys	28	183,800	21,906	62,925	18,210										12
Poor farms	2	20,800	3,100	3,100	3,100										2
Pop corn and peanut stands	3	600	640	50	22										1
Post offices	5	1,800	1,800	31,250	810										2
Printing and publishing plants	12	129,300	7,133	284,500	13,119										8
Pumping stations	4	2,975	377	2,300	180										2
Railroad ties—pile of	3			1,985	235										1
Restaurants and cafes	76	248,900	38,286	97,637	42,757										46
Round houses	7	42,125	30,698	19,830	14,415										3
Sand houses	1	100	50												
Scale houses	1	10	10												
School houses	53	556,540	177,191	51,015	21,618										10
Serum laboratories	4	67,000	27,535	32,500	27,500										1
Sheds	77	12,585	6,183	4,999	2,167										19
Shops—Auto repair	3	19,000	45	5,000	100										1
Barber	83	38,700	10,502	16,600	7,780										17
Bicycle and motorcycle	2	700	50	3,600	423										2
Blacksmith	24	21,700	10,344	32,550	20,006										12
Boat building	1	5,000	80												
Carpenter	7	7,300	3,293	10,000	4,294										4
Carpet weaving	1	125	125												
Cobbler	8	4,675	677	3,450	960										5
Cooper	2	1,300	15												

TABLE NO. II—Continued

	No. of fires	Buildings		Contents		Character of Buildings Affected								
		Value	Damage	Value	Damage	Wood	Brick	Cement or stone	Loss on Buildings		Loss on Contents			
									Total	Partial	Total	Partial		
Dressmaker's	1													
Electrical repair	3	25,000	500	800	200									
Harness	8	45,000	277	3,000	523									
Junk	8	15,400	5,590	43,500	16,975	1	1				1			1
Machines	8	22,900	3,529	4,720	1,013	6	2				3			1
Paint	3	35,560	1,810	59,300	2,520	4	4				5		2	6
Plumbing	8	400	25	500	25	6	2				2		1	4
Shoe shining	1	63,150	4,410	11,699	6,516	3					4			7
Tailor	9	22,300	72	500	26	5	3				2			1
Tin	5	10,000	920	10,400	2,830		1				6			5
Umbrella	1	10,000	1,760	9,400	4,240	4	5				1			1
Woodworking	1	10,000	469	1,100	368	4	1				3		1	6
Smoke houses	6	5,000	25			1	1				1		2	1
Stock chute	1	365	135	434	359	1					1			1
Stock yards	3	50	25			5	1				1			1
Stone crusher	1	500	116	300	300	1					3			1
Storage houses	1	1,000	50			3					1			
Stores—Art	45	115,910	17,829	162,300	28,081	1					1			
Auto salesrooms	1	1,200	10	1,500	500	40	5				21			
Book	9	207,500	2,362	49,500	743	1					13			21
Butter and egg houses	2	10,000	15	24,000	1,000	1	8				7			5
China	1	600	250	150	30		2				1			1
Clothing	1	38,700	21,460	98,000	60,319	1					1			1
Confectionery	23	352,300	12,922	364,000	28,444						1			1
Drug	10	74,000	9,629	48,000	11,275						2			19
Dry goods	33	230,665	90,501	276,770	114,677	2	21				15		1	7
Electrical supply	16	60,500	8,287	1,132,600	102,602	7	8				6		2	19
Flour and feed	3	6,500	1,316	11,400	4,919	1	15				11		7	19
Furniture	6	13,325	5,725	8,048	6,028	1	2				1		1	14
General merchandise	25	470,700	11,290	335,775	53,591	6					3		2	3
Grocery	50	157,650	59,566	295,306	139,897	3					3		3	3
Grocery—Wholesale	81	308,650	70,879	197,791	67,716	29	19	3			2		18	20
Hardware	1			350,000	400	46	18	3			24		17	24
Hardware—wholesale	14	150,100	11,393	142,600	34,761	7	34	1			11		62	62
	1	96,000	65,000	361,000	311,000	1	7				4		9	10

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Ice cream parlors	2	30,000	9,365	20,500	9,680		2				2			2
Implement	11	43,700	5,535	58,000	31,095	9	2				6		3	5
Jewelry	9	29,700	2,740	37,050	9,745	3	6				5			7
Ladies' furnishing	3	44,000	842	49,000	17,764	3					3			3
Marble and monument	1	1,500	300	900	150	1					1			1
Meat markets	24	93,400	9,080	32,489	7,385	11	12	1			3		21	18
Men's furnishing	1			9,000	440		1							1
Millinery	10	14,200	1,683	13,850	5,960	6	4				2		4	9
Music	1			8,000	2,400		1							1
Notion	5	28,000	6,450	17,500	11,200	2	3				1		4	3
Piano	2	47,000	410	40,300	178	1	1						2	2
Poultry and produce	10	33,650	32,700	29,950	28,950	9	1				9		1	1
Second hand	4	1,200	25	6,200	1,378	1	3				1			3
Sewing machine	1	3,000	3,000	3,000	1,200	1					1			1
Shoe	8	51,000	3,928	143,100	42,946	1	7				7			8
Tea and coffee	1	600	150	1,500	692	1					1			1
Tea, coffee and spices—wholesale	1	43,000	3,390	151,871	13,796		1				1			1
Ten cent	1	30,000	26,000	32,000	20,000		1				1			1
Wallpaper	5	41,000	4,100	33,000	19,400		5				3		1	4
Vacant	8	41,100	7,415			4	4				2		6	
Street sprinklers	1	5,000	20			1					1			
Tannery	1			2,000	10		1							1
Telephone & telegraph poles	2	1,000	50	50	50	2					1		1	
Temp bars	3	1,700	900	1,400	1,400	3					2		2	
Tents and awnings	4	275	145	300	90						1		2	3
Theaters	12	226,000	67,579	71,500	50,125	1	7	4			2		9	3
Threshing machines	1	600	600	940	940	1					1			1
Tool houses	9	2,510	676	5,900	1,960	9					3		5	5
U. S. Biological Station	1	30,012	30,012	10,090	8,958	1					1			1
Voting house	1	800	10			1					1			1
Vulcanizing plant	1	22,000	5	3,000	25	1					1			1
Wagons	3	265	33			3					3			
Warehouses	26	133,627	24,813	110,931	54,599	20	6				8		16	15
Water tanks	4	1,900	235			4					4		4	
Wood—pile of	1			60	60	1							1	
Y. M. C. A. buildings	2	110,000	175	21,000	95		2				2			2
Totals	4,963	\$19,576,141	\$3,665,447	\$12,107,137	\$3,550,798	4,103	740	65	1,301	3,332	921		2,237	

*Canvas.

STATE FIRE MARSHAL

TABLE NO. III.

Containing a Summary of the Origin and Cause of the Various Fires Reported, the Number of Each, and the Damage to the Buildings and Contents Specified by Causes, for the Year 1917.

Origin	Number of fires	Loss
Acetylene pipe leak	1	12
Acetylene welding machine	1	700
Adjoining fires	359	744,397
Alcohol explosion	2	55
Alcohol lamp	1	25
Ashes against wood	27	7,043
Ashes in basement	4	2,385
Ashes in wooden receptacle	5	6,390
Asphalt tank overflowing	1	35
Automobile or motorcycle backfire	34	10,563
Automobile wreck	1	115
Baby carriage or crib against stove	2	199
Bed too near stove	7	603
Blacksmith forge	10	95,746
Blow torch	10	11,548
Boiler explosion	2	5,600
Bonfires	35	26,750
Boring in gasoline tank with electric drill	1	1,530
Burning brush and leaves	11	2,592
Burning insects in hen house	3	60
Burning meadows or grass	11	3,102
Burning rubbish	26	11,215
Burning straw stacks	1	1,000
Candle carelessness	11	2,062
Canvas blown against salamander	1	150
Car heater carelessness	2	1,215
Charcoal fires	2	4,515
Chemical explosions	2	2,866
Children and matches	95	58,755
Children playing with fire	3	325
Children playing with powder	1	1,500
Children playing with shotgun	1	125
Christmas trees and decorations	2	40
Cleaning with benzine	1	15
Clothing near gas or gasoline stove	3	1,520
Clothes chute too near furnace pipe	1	25
Clothing on hot air register	1	552
Clothing on steam radiator	2	200
Clothing, rags or bedding near stove or stove pipe	30	13,572
Coffee urn in restaurant	3	705
Curtains blowing into flame	8	728
Defective boiler	2	510
Defective electric wiring	83	202,007
Defective electric wiring in street car	2	45
Defective fireplace	31	11,199
Defective flues	456	572,202
Defective furnaces	12	13,328
Defective gasoline lighting system	4	14,535
Defective hot air pipes	9	26,393
Defective oil heater	7	785
Defective oil or gasoline stove	25	8,491
Defective oven in bakery	3	816
Defective stove	7	1,690
Defective stovepipe	14	9,022
Defective tail light on auto	1	50
Defective valve in oil forge	1	50
Drawing gasoline by lamp or lantern light	7	10,675
Drunkard's carelessness	1	10

TABLE NO. III—Continued

Origin	Number of fires	Loss
Electric heater carelessness	4	4,693
Electric iron carelessness	17	12,389
Electric light in bed	1	14
Explosion of auto engine	2	200
Explosion of crude oil furnaces	2	21,750
Explosion of dust in mill	2	53,042
Explosion of gas stove	2	252
Explosion of gas water heater	1	10
Explosion of gasoline stove	27	114,769
Explosion of hot water coils in range	2	145
Explosion of kerosene oil stove	18	10,527
Explosion of oil heater	5	4,685
Explosion of soot in flue	2	32,600
Explosion of steel converter	1	840
Explosion of turpentine and varnish	1	275
Filling auto gasoline tank by lantern light	11	22,130
Fireworks	10	4,634
Flame under water heater of steamer auto	1	20
Friction of machinery	5	10,400
Fumigation	5	1,935
Furnace explosion or blow out	1	10
Furnace or furnace pipes too near wood	11	12,091
Furniture too close to fireplace	1	1,043
Gas explosion	3	2,121
Gas or electric heater near woodwork	2	1,225
Gas or gasoline jet flame	6	1,567
Gas or gasoline iron carelessness	4	1,091
Gas heater vent pipe too near roof	1	10
Gas leak	9	9,971
Gas stove carelessness	2	260
Gasoline carelessness	12	25,887
Gasoline—cleaning with	5	2,025
Gasoline engine backfire	6	8,408
Gasoline explosion	16	32,855
Gasoline lamp explosion	2	25,010
Gasoline leak	5	600
Gasoline or oil stove carelessness	51	19,821
Grease in hotel kitchen ventilator	2	2,150
Grease on stove	1	153
Heating tar on stove	3	280
Hot box	2	1,647
Hot iron against wood	1	2,463
Hot irons in bed	2	525
Incendiary and probably incendiary	2	56
Incubator	88	167,171
Jack-o'-lantern	10	9,758
Kerosene engine explosion	1	65
Kerosene in pan on stove	1	550
Kindling or wood near stove or furnace	11	10
Lamp or lantern carelessness	15	2,880
Lamp or lantern explosion	14	8,743
Lamp or lantern upset	8	19,946
Lard kettle boiling over	1	15,585
Leak in Presto lite tube	1	50
Leaky gas tank in auto	1	550
Lighted match or torch near gasoline	1	60
Lightning	1	75
Lightning running in on wiring	172	280,933
	1	2,205

TABLE NO. III—Continued

Origin	Number of fires	Loss
Lime carelessness	1	275
Live coal carelessness	1	85
Live coals dropping from grate or stove	9	6,495
Live wire	1	250
Looking for gas leak with matches or torch	1	17
Match carelessness	83	34,072
Motion picture films	7	2,081
Oil heating stove carelessness	17	11,299
Oily rag or mop carelessness	6	3,065
Oil stove near wall or woodwork	2	45
Overheated bearings in auto	2	2,400
Overheated boiler	3	75
Overheated coffee roaster	1	400
Overheated electric motor or dynamo	8	651
Overheated exhaust	1	4,000
Overheated feed cooker	3	2,185
Overheated flue	18	31,345
Overheated furnace	46	106,530
Overheated hot air pipes	12	15,149
Overheated kiln	1	1,500
Overheated oil heater	2	345
Overheated oven in lock factory	1	50
Overheated pulleys	1	400
Overheated steam pipes and radiators	1	646
Overheated stove	74	65,851
Overheated stovepipe	13	9,470
Paper box on exhaust pipe of auto	1	5
Paper or rags in flue hole	5	2,711
Papers on or near stove	3	370
Prairie fire	1	25
Rain on lime car	1	125
Rendering lard	1	25
Rubbish in basement	7	1,905
Rubbish in or near building	2	1,444
Rubbish near stove or furnace	11	9,543
Seed tester	1	8,882
Short circuit in automobile wiring	17	846
Smoke house fires	9	3,128
Smoker's carelessness	78	22,384
Smoking out bees	1	275
Sparks from boiler fire	1	10
Sparks from cupola	6	268
Sparks from exhaust pipe	2	10,685
Sparks from fire place	1	15
Sparks from flue	1,004	392,619
Sparks from flue hole in chimney	7	2,093
Sparks from gas heater	1	157
Sparks from gasoline engine	2	6,055
Sparks from locomotive	55	117,394
Sparks from stationary engine	1	650
Sparks from stove or furnace	18	6,623
Sparks from traction engine	11	21,112
Sparrows nest near chimney	1	15
Spontaneous combustion	130	170,252
Starting fire with coal oil	9	2,158
Starting fire with gasoline instead of coal oil	5	1,710
Static electricity	2	675
Steam pipes too near wood	1	3,178
Stove blow out or explosion	8	21,000
Stove too near unprotected wood or wall	39	19,209
Stovepipe too near unprotected wood	11	10,235

TABLE NO. III—Continued

Origin	Number of fires	Loss
Stove in barn	1	210
Stove upset	2	225
Stovepipe through wall or roof	49	19,546
Sun's rays through window	2	990
Supposed mice and matches	15	13,267
Switch in electric car not turned off	1	900
Tar kettle boiling over	1	1,700
Tarring fish nets over fire	1	15
Thawing frozen water pipes	47	27,083
Torch carelessness	4	1,325
Tramps	9	25,267
Unknown	948	3,061,163
Vulcanizing machine	6	16,928
Warming auto engine with fire	2	3,106
Wood shed against kiln	1	350
Total	4,953	\$ 7,216,245

TABLE NO. IV.

Giving the Cities and Towns in Which Inspections of Dilapidated Buildings and Inflammable Conditions Have Been Made During the Year 1917, the Number of Places Inspected at Each Point and the Number and Kind of Orders Issued in Connection Therewith.

City	Date	Number inspections	Remove	Repair	Change	Cleanup and repair	Cleanup
Ackley	July 9	40		2	3	1	7
Adel	Jan. 8	2	1	1			
Albia	March 3	1					
Alden	March 30	1			1		
Alta	Dec. 8	1			1		
Ames	Oct. 9	23			1		21
Anamosa	Feb. 8	6	6				
Anamosa	March 9	10		2	2	2	1
Anamosa	Dec. 17	1		1			
Arlington	June 18	4	2		1		
Atlantic	Feb. 10	36			1	4	19
Atlantic	Sept. 1	3	1			2	
Avoca	March 26	1			1		
Avoca	Sept. 1	2					
Bayard	Dec. 20	15	1	1			1
Bonaparte	July 16	2	1				
Boone	Feb. 28	1			1		
Brighton	April 11	1			1		
Burlington	Aug. 7	6			3		2
Carson	Oct. 13	2			1		1
Cedar Rapids	March 19	3	3				
Central City	March 8	2					
Chariton	March 6	1					1
Chariton	July 9	1					1
Charles City	Aug. 28	5	1				2
Clinton	June 19	5	5				
Coon Rapids	Dec. 20	4		1	1	1	1
Corning	Aug. 23	1			1		
Council Bluffs	March 26	3	3				
Creston	Jan. 18	4	1	1		1	
Curlew	March 9	8			1		2
Curlew	Nov. 30	1			1		
Cylinder	Nov. 27	2		1	1		
Danbury	July 18	12					2
Davenport	Sept. 12	4	3				
Decorah	March 21	2		2			
Delta	Sept. 11	14	4	1		3	2
Denver	March 15	1			1		
Des Moines	Feb. 12	1					
Des Moines	Feb. 21	1		1			
Des Moines	Feb. 23	2				2	
Des Moines	Feb. 24	2		1			
Des Moines	Feb. 28	1					1
Des Moines	March 1	1					1
Des Moines	March 2	1		1			
Des Moines	March 16	1		1			
Des Moines	April 16	2	2				
Des Moines	May 28	1		1			
Des Moines	May 31	1					1
Des Moines	June 5	1	1				
Des Moines	June 23	1	1				
Des Moines	June 26	22		9	1	2	
Des Moines	June 27	7			6		
Des Moines	July 14	1					
Des Moines	July 16	1			1		

TABLE NO. IV--Continued

City	Date	Number inspections	Remove	Repair	Change	Cleanup and repair	Cleanup
Des Moines	July 31	3		1		1	3
Des Moines	Nov. 6	10					1
Des Moines	Nov. 15	1					1
Des Moines	Nov. 23	1					
Des Moines	Dec. 10	1		1			1
Des Moines	Dec. 17	1					1
Des Moines	Dec. 26	1					7
Des Moines	Dec. 10	17		5	1	1	1
Dike	July 10	1					
Dubuque	June 19	1					
Dubuque	July 18	1		1			
Dumont	Jan. 4	1					
Dunlap	May 18	6	5		1		
Eagle Grove	June 25	4		2		1	3
Eagle Grove	Nov. 28	6	1		1	1	14
Eldon	March 9	30	1				
Eldora	Oct. 22	2			2		
Elkader	March 24	4	1			1	2
Elliott	May 15	1	1				
Estherville	Sept. 24	1				1	
Estherville	Sept. 6	1		1			
Exline	Nov. 6	1					
Fairbank	Dec. 28	1					
Fairfield	Feb. 21	5	2		2	1	
Fairfield	Sept. 13	3		1			
Fairfield	July 16	2		2			
Farmington	Aug. 1	1				1	
Fenton	June 16	1					5
Fonda	Aug. 20	7			2		
Fonda	Aug. 20	3					
Fort Dodge	Aug. 20	3					
Garden Grove	April 4	7			1	1	2
Gladbrook	March 9	1					
Gladbrook	March 9	6	1		1	2	2
Glenwood	May 19	1					
Glenwood	July 26	35			2	2	14
Glenwood	Jan. 26	4	2				
Glidden	Jan. 26	3					1
Gowrie	June 4	4					
Grand River	March 6	1					
Grand River	March 6	1					1
Grimes	Aug. 4	1					
Grimes	Aug. 4	2			1	1	
Grundy Center	March 7	2					
Harlan	Oct. 5	1					
Harlan	May 15	6				1	
Hartford	March 14	6				1	
Harvey	Nov. 27	1				1	
Hawarden	Nov. 17	1					
Hayesville	Dec. 17	1					
Henderson	April 26	1					1
Henderson	April 26	1					
Holy Cross	Oct. 24	1	1				
Hopeville	March 7	1	1				
Hopkinton	May 4	1	1				
Humboldt	Nov. 3	9	6			2	
Humboldt	Dec. 12	1					
Humboldt	Dec. 12	1					
Indianola	Aug. 10	10	2				1
Indianola	Aug. 10	10	2				7
Jewell	May 24	8	1		2		1
Kalona	Oct. 27	1				1	
Kamrar	May 16	9					1
Kamrar	May 16	1				1	
Kellogg	Oct. 20	1					
Kellogg	March 6	6	1		1		
Kensett	March 6	2	2				
Keota	June 20	1	1				
Keota	July 30	1	1				
Keota	July 30	1	1				
Kingsley	May 24	1	1				
Knoxville	March 14	1	1				

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TABLE NO. IV—Continued

City	Date	Number inspections	Remove	Repair	Change	Cleanup and repair	Cleanup
Lake Park	Jan. 3	2		2			
Lake Park	March 8	1		1			
Lamoni	July 10	2				1	
Laurel	July 30	1	1				
Logan	Oct. 6	7			1		5
Lynnville	March 6	2		1	1		
Malvern	May 19	3					
Manilla	Nov. 9	1			1		
Manning	Jan. 27	15	2				6
Manning	March 22	3		1		1	1
Marcus	Oct. 5	1	1				
Marengo	March 6	2		1			
Marshalltown	Sept. 27	25	10	1	1	5	7
Marshalltown	Oct. 18	6	4				2
Marshalltown	Nov. 16	3	2				
Marshalltown	Dec. 5	1	1				
Martelle	March 14	1	1				
Mason City	March 6	1	1				
Mason City	May 14	4	2				1
Mason City	Oct. 9	4	1				
Mason City	Dec. 6	1	1				
Mason City	Dec. 31	6		1	3		
Menlo	March 16	1			1		
Mondamin	Feb. 9	2	1		1		
Montezuma	July 5	1			1		
Monticello	Feb. 8	1	1				
Morrison	Nov. 9	1	1				
Muscatine	Sept. 12	7	4	1	1		1
New Sharon	Jan. 31	1	1				
Newton	March 5	3	2				1
Newton	July 5	1	1				
Newton	Nov. 10	1					1
Nichols	Oct. 19	1		1			
Oelwein	June 18	4	1		2		1
Oelwein	Dec. 28	5	1				
Onawa	June 14	3	1			2	
Onawa	Aug. 21	4					4
Osceola	March 23	4		2		2	
Osceola	Oct. 12	2	1		1		
Cskaloosa	Jan. 31	1					
Cskaloosa	Feb. 23	2	2				
Oskaloosa	Sept. 14	4					
Ossian	March 21	2	1			1	
Ottumwa	March 26	2	2				
Ottumwa	Sept. 13	3	1		1	1	
Ottumwa	Oct. 3	2	1				
Paton	Aug. 6	11			1		
Pomeroy	Feb. 14	1		1			
Postville	Oct. 10	1			1		
Quimby	Aug. 21	1			1		
Red Oak	July 27	1				1	
Reinbeck	March 7	3			2		1
Rippey	July 13	5	4			1	
Riverton	Dec. 3	1	1				
Rockwell City	May 22	6					2
Rowan	Nov. 17	1	1				
Saint Anthony	May 14	6			1	1	1
Searsboro	March 6	4	1				3
Shelby	Dec. 13	3	1		1		
Sheldon	Sept. 10	1					1
Shenandoah	July 24	3	1				1

TABLE NO. IV—Continued

City	Date	Number inspections	Remove	Repair	Change	Cleanup and repair	Cleanup
Sidney	July 25	3					
Sioux Rapids	Sept. 10	1	1				
Spirit Lake	May 14	16	3	2	1	1	9
Stanwood	Jan. 10	3	1	1	1		
Steamboat Rock	March 7	4	2	1			
Storm Lake	Dec. 3	7	6			1	
Stratford	March 17	6	5				
Stratford	Aug. 13	1	1				
Stratford	Feb. 22	1			1		
Stuart	March 17	8	5				3
Tama	Nov. 27	1		1			
Titonka	Nov. 27	5	2		1	2	
Truro	June 23	5					
Union	March 28	3		1			1
Valley Junction	Aug. 25	4			1	2	1
Villisca	March 24	7		2	1		4
Washington	Jan. 5	11	8				3
Waterloo	July 10	5	2	1			
Waterloo	Oct. 11	1	1				
Waterloo	Jan. 8	1			1		
Wauke	Nov. 17	5					5
Wellsburg	June 18	3	3				
West Union	Sept. 10	1	1				
Williams	Sept. 10	1					1
Williamsburg	Feb. 16	10	7	2			1
Winterset	Aug. 10	6					
Woden	March 7	6					
Totals		885	176	71	81	57	200

TABLE NO. V.

Giving Places at Which Investigations of Fires of Suspicious Origin Have Been Made During the Year 1917, and the Date When Such Investigation began.

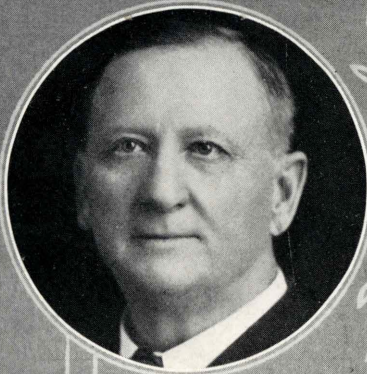
County	Place	Date Commencing Investigation
Adams	Corning	August 10
Appanoose	Exline (near)	August 6
Benton	Urbana	July 25
Black Hawk	Waterloo	January 18
Buena Vista	Sioux Rapids	November 23
	Storm Lake	January 24
Calhoun	Rockwell City (3 fires)	February 13
Carroll	Coon Rapids (3 fires)	December 21
	Coon Rapids (3 fires)	December 26
Cass	Griswold (3 fires)	April 25
Cerro Gordo	Mason City	March 6
	Rockwell	March 5
Cherokee	Washta	November 2
Chickasaw	New Hampton	December 29
Clarke	Murray (near) (3 fires)	April 23
	Osceola	March 1
	Osceola	November 26
Clayton	Littleport (near)	March 21
	Marion Township	October 18
Dallas	Redfield	April 18
	Scandia	March 9
	Waukee (near)	January 8
Davis	Union Township	March 23
Decatur	Grand River	January 13
	Grand River	April 2
	Grand River Township	March 6
	Leon	April 4
Des Moines	Burlington	August 6
Dickinson	Lake Park (near)	January 3
	Milford	December 21
Dubuque	Dubuque (2 fires)	February 9
	Dubuque (2 fires)	July 16
Floyd	Charles City	August 27
Fremont	Sidney (near)	July 25
Greene	Jefferson	March 29
Grundy	Washington Township	January 3
Guthrie	Guthrie Center	January 31
Hamilton	Kamrar	May 16
	Liberty Township	June 21
	Stratford	October 23

TABLE NO. V—Continued

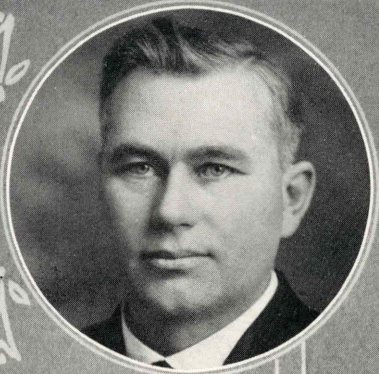
County	Place	Date Commencing Investigation
Hardin	Alden	March 30
	Alden (near)	March 30
	Iowa Falls	March 29
	Union Township	March 28
Harrison	River Sioux	October 23
Howard	Chester	October 9
Iowa	Marengo	October 13
Jasper	Kellogg	September 28
	Newton (near)	July 5
	Newton	November 6
Jefferson	Abingdon	May 15
	Batavia (near)	January 10
	Glasgow (near)	April 26
	Pleasant Plain	February 24
Keokuk	Delta	September 10
	Keswick (3 fires)	November 2
Kossuth	Algona	July 27
Lee	Keokuk	November 26
Linn	Cedar Rapids	December 26
Louisa	Elm Grove Township	January 9
	Wapello	October 1
Lucas	Benton Township	March 5
Mahaska	Oskaloosa	January 29
	Rose Hill (near)	October 13
Marshall	Albion	December 7
	Ferguson	August 23
	Le Grand	May 28
Mills	Henderson	April 26
Monona	Onawa	June 13
	Onawa	August 21
Monroe	Albia	March 3
	Albia	March 12
	Hocking	October 11
	Hocking (near)	December 7
	Moravia (near)	December 5
Montgomery	Red Oak (near)	July 27
	Villisca	January 24
Muscatine	Atalissa (2 fires)	April 24
Page	Shenandoah	July 24
Plymouth	Elkhorn Township	February 8
	Hancock Township	May 16
	Kingsley	May 23
	Le Mars	August 21
Polk	Altoona (near)	May 2
	Bloomfield Township	November 12
	Crocker	April 23
	Des Moines	February 22
	Des Moines (2 fires)	March 3
	Des Moines	April 2

TABLE NO. V—Continued

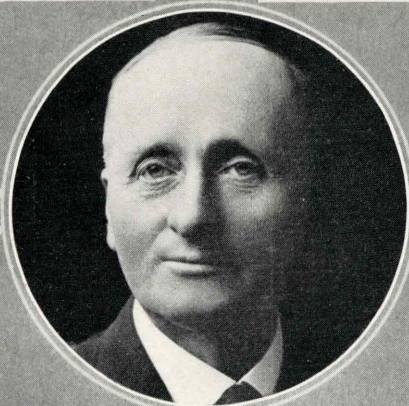
County	Place	Date Commencing Investigation
	Des Moines -----	April 17
	Des Moines -----	May 5
	Des Moines -----	May 10
	Des Moines -----	May 22
	Des Moines -----	May 24
	Des Moines -----	May 29
	Des Moines -----	June 1
	Des Moines -----	August 14
	Des Moines -----	August 15
	Des Moines -----	October 30
	Des Moines -----	November 20
	Des Moines -----	December 18
	Grimes -----	August 4
	Oralabor -----	January 20
	Runnells (near) -----	February 7
	Ryder -----	March 9
	Walnut Township -----	April 27
	Walnut Township -----	December
Pottawattamie -----	Council Bluffs (2 fires) -----	January 25
	Council Bluffs -----	June 7
	Council Bluffs -----	June 8
	Neola -----	February 8
Poweshiek -----	Malcom Township -----	March 21
Story -----	Ames -----	June 19
	Ames -----	October 9
	Kelley (near) -----	May 18
	Nevada -----	September 24
	Nevada -----	October 1
Taylor -----	Conway -----	July 23
Union -----	Afton -----	October 1
	Creston (2 fires) -----	January 17
	Creston -----	January 23
	Creston -----	April 18
	Lorimor -----	September 5
	Shannon City -----	February 19
Wapello -----	Agency -----	November 6
	Agency City (near) (2 fires) -----	May 16
	Ottumwa (2 fires) -----	October 3
Webster -----	Fort Dodge (3 fires) -----	August 20
	Fort Dodge -----	August 27
	Otho -----	September 4
Winneshiek -----	Decorah -----	March 20
Woodbury -----	Danbury -----	July 17
	Leads -----	February 9
	Salix -----	June 4
	Sioux City (3 fires) -----	February 9
	Sioux City -----	March 21
	Sioux City (2 fires) -----	May 17
	Sioux City (2 fires) -----	June 5
	Sioux City -----	October 25
Wright -----	Clarion -----	April 16



J. A. TRACY,
Deputy State Fire Marshal.



E. J. FROWICK,
Assistant State Fire Marshal.



OLE O. ROE,
State Fire Marshal.



H. G. ZIMMERMAN,
Assistant State Fire Marshal.



MISS LAURA M. PEDERSEN,
Chief Clerk and Stenographer.