

FIRE SWEEPS GREAT AREA

East Boston Lumber Yards And Factories Burned.

Flames Drive Back Firemen Called on Five Alarms.

Lieut Clougherty Hurt --- Dwellings Ablaze --- Loss \$100,000.

A great area, 500 feet long and from 200 to 400 feet wide, between Border st, East Boston, and the water front, was swept by flames between 12:20 and 2 o'clock this morning.

In it were lumber yards and mills, a power house, stables and lesser structures, with big piles of lumber, much of it hard pine and oak, and where the fire burned, it burned flat. The total loss may approach \$100,000.

Across Border st and in the block between it and Meridian st, along West Eagle, Falcon and Condor sts, are scores of two and three family wooden houses. A strong wind from the harbor carried clouds of sparks over them, and a general conflagration was only prevented by the tireless work of the firemen.

Fire Officer Critically Injured.

Lieut C E. Clougherty of Engine 7, early in the fight with the flames, fell through a skylight from the roof of the Duncan foundry to the first floor, 20 feet below, and was severely injured. Hoseman George F. Moore of Engine 7 seized Lieut Clougherty as he fell and was almost carried down with him.

Continued on the Fifth Page.

FIRE SWEEPS

GREAT AREA

Continued From the First Page.

At the risk of their lives hoseman Moore and other men of Engine 7's crew went into the building and carried Lieut Clougherty out. He was taken to the East Boston Relief Hospital on Porter st where it was found that he was suffering from severe injuries to his hips, arms and legs and possible internal injuries. He was on the operating table at 2:30 this morning.

Six Alarms Sounded.

To bring firemen enough five alarms were sounded in quick succession. The first alarm was sounded at 12:24; Dist Chief Godbold, jumping the second, ordered a third at 12:30 and a fourth at 12:35. The arrival of Chief McDonough brought the fifth alarm at 12:55, and meanwhile a single alarm from another box had called other apparatus to watch the spark flies.

On the south, toward the North Ferry, the fire was bounded by the wharf and yard of the Boston Towboat Company. On the north, close to the Meridian-st Bridge leading to Chelsea, the retail lumber yard of William T. Beath was the last burned.

Between these limits on Border st and from it to the water were the yard, mill, boiler room and stable of George McQuesten Company, wholesale dealers in hard pine and oak lumber, the box factory of Abbott L. Snow, with its lumber yard, the turning shop of John W. Drake, and the brass foundry of William Duncan.

Forty Horses Rescued.

The buildings of all these companies were destroyed, except the offices and shops of the Boston Tow Boat Company at the foot of the wharf. These were saved by the fire boats, Engines 31 and 47, which also saved the lumber piles nearest the water front and checked the flames as they worked back across the yard.

The start of the fire, so far as is known, was in a little vacant one-story building, formerly occupied by Charles A. West, dealer in second-hand lumber.

When it was discovered, however, it had spread to the two-story building used jointly by Abbott L. Snow and John W. Drake, and was sweeping through Snow's lumber yard.

The discovery was made by John Johnson, watchman at the Boston Tow Boat Company wharf. With patrolman Patrick F. Doherty, who gave the alarm from box 615, Johnson and several others broke into the McQuesten stable and run out the 40 horses in it, so that none were lost.

Firemen Repeatedly Driven Back.

Fanned by the wind, the flames made their way so quickly in all directions that the first companies to arrive were unable to do anything. The firemen were driven back from their successive stands, and not until the fire had eaten across the McQuesten yard were they able to begin to stop it. Even then, they could not save the Heath property.

On the other side, to the south, they made a better showing. Engine 47 nosed its way up to the Boston Tow Boat Company Wharf, and the fireboat's big streams stopped the flames short after they had destroyed the storehouse, 2½ stories high, on the Border-st side of the property, opposite White st.

The other fireboat, Engine 31, fought the flames first in front of the McQuesten

ten Wharf, and although it was work at long range, did more than a dozen steamers to save the lumber piles.

Residents in a Panic.

The excitement, though, was not all on the water side of Border st. The shower of sparks started so many roof fires that the residents of the neighborhood were in a panic, and with streams of water and chemicals the firemen were kept busy in putting out the little blazes and soaking the houses down.

The firemen were hampered, too, by the difficulty in getting sufficient apparatus across the harbor in quick time. When the later alarms called engines from the mainland, they came pressing down to the ferries, or else chose the long detour through Charlestown and Chelsea.

The boat on the North Ferry at 1:05 carried four steamers and half a dozen other pieces of apparatus, all huddled together, and subsequently the ferry made several special trips to take the engines across.

Help Called From Chelsea.

The fire was close to the Chelsea line, and an alarm from box 52 in that city brought three engines under Chief David L. Hudson, which joined in the work toward the Meridian-st bridge.

Call 150 Officers to Hold Crowd.

A further difficulty came from the great crowds of spectators that filled the streets, pressing close to the very edge of the burned territory, getting in the firemen's way and blocking their efforts.

The holiday had kept people up late, and the burst of flames on the water front, visible from far away, and the great red glow that lighted the sky brought spectators by the thousands. The East Boston district seemed all awake, and other crowds came from Charlestown and the North and West Ends of Boston.

At first the police were overwhelmed by the press of numbers, but more and more officers were called, until at last Lieut John Clark of the East Boston Station, with 150 officers, had the lines made tight and the streets about the fire cleared.

Priests Fight Fire and Save House.

Just across Border st from the heart of the fire is the Blaney estate, a big double house occupied on one side by Mrs. Florence Murray and on the other by the Xaverian Brothers, a religious order. Sparks set fire to the fence in the rear of the house, and the flames had run across the yard and were licking at the house when the occupants were aroused.

Mrs. Murray's lodgers and the members of the brotherhood joined hands and put out the fire.

While the continuous wetting-down which the firemen gave the houses in the threatened district undoubtedly saved them from destruction, it also caused much water damage.

Some of the houses thus soaked, all of which with many others had little roof fires before the streams were played on them, were:

Those at 426 Meridian st, occupied by Sergt. A. E. S. Albert of the Metropolitan Park Police, with his wife and two children, Capt. A. C. Small of the City Ferry and his wife, Mrs. E. L. Sturtevant and Mrs. P. S. Ellis, at 428 Meridian st, with Mrs. R. C. Strong and two children, D. J. McMullin and four children and Miss G. L. Gardner, and at 430 Meridian st, with Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Goldinger and five children.

Many Families Driven Out of Homes.

Four houses on West Eagle st were likewise drenched. On the corner lie the families of A. P. Keller and G. H. Peters, with Miss Grace Laundry; next to them are Mr. and Mrs. Schuller and A. G. Burns; the third house is occupied by William H. Snow and F. N. Pinkham, and at 8 West Eagle st are T. H. Gannon and seven children and Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Patterson with Kenneth Smith and Angus McGinnis.

The work of the firemen was led by

Chief McDonough and Deputy Chief Tabor, and was watched by Fire Commissioner Grady. The men practically had the fire in hand by 1:30, and by 2:15 it had about burned itself out.

The loss on the Snow Building is set at \$5000 and on the McQuesten power house at \$10,000, with \$5000 more for the mill.

The other buildings and the piles of lumber may bring the total to \$100,000, but not until today can a definite appraisal of the loss be made. The amount of insurance is not known. The greater part of the burned area is owned by the Pratt estate, Edmund T. and Moreland L. Pratt, trustees.

TWO INJURED AT FIRE.

Mrs. Broski Trampled and Willcott Overcome in South Boston—Bottling Company Loses 11 Horses.

A fire that threatened dwelling houses and business blocks in the Bay View section of South Boston started shortly before 9 o'clock last night and burned more than two hours.

The crowd that gathered was so dense that a woman was injured.

During the fire an alarm was given that a man was breaking into a building on Springer st. The police, after a chase and firing three shots, captured a suspect.

The fire was confined to the stable of the Bay State Bottling Company at 13 Hamlin st and caused a loss of \$10,000. Eleven horses were killed.

William O'Connor sent an alarm from box 131 and Frank Nerney sent one from box 135. District Chief Shallow ordered a second alarm from box 131.

The large amount of apparatus was needed, for the stable is in the midst of many houses. It extends from Hamlin st to Douglas st. A heavy wind was blowing.

A two-story warehouse at 1 Hamlin st caught fire, but the flames were soon put out. A double three-flat house at 8 and 10 Douglas st caught fire and was burning briskly when several lines of hose put out the flames.

The fire started in the hayloft of the Bay State stable, supposedly from spontaneous combustion. Frank Willcott, assistant stableman, ran from his house at 17 Hamlin st and brought out three horses. Again he returned.

Henry J. Schreiner, one of the proprietors, who lives over the store on East 8th st, got out of bed. He was told Willcott was in the stable. Schreiner went in, groped around and soon found Willcott, whom he forced out of the stable. Willcott collapsed but recovered. Schreiner was taken to his home.

Three other horses were saved by others, but two were so badly burned that they had to be shot. One horse got part way out when it was shot. These were eight horses burned in the fire, one was shot at the threshold and two were shot outside, making a total of 11.

The stable property is owned by Emil Vullmiener of 15 Hamlin st, and he estimates his loss at \$45,000.

Between 9:45 and 11 o'clock last night South Boston had six bell alarms, but the fire at the Bay View Bottling Company's stables was the only serious one. John Lecht and Henry J. Schreiner are the owners of the bottling company.

The alarms attracted thousands of people and the police had more than they could cope with. The crowds broke down the ropes. At one time a crowd of several hundred surged forward and there were cries and groans, especially from the women in the crowd. Many were trampled.

Mrs. Deborah Broski, aged 60, of 561 East 8th st, was forced downward and trampled upon. Finally several men picked her up and took her, in a semi-conscious condition, to the house of William Prohoski, 472 East 8th st. A physician found she had a scalp wound.

At 8 Douglas st Mrs. John H. Johanson was recovering from a recent illness. She was in bed and from her window she could see the flames threatening her home. She became hysterical and required the services of a physician.

A cry went through the crowd that some one was breaking into a house on Springer st and patrolmen Al Ryder and Carew investigated. Ryder saw a suspect run for the crowd. Ryder fired three shots over the heads of the crowd and commanded the fleeing man to stop, which he did. He gave the name James Cassidy.