

# Fire Prevention

Essay Written by Maurine Moore, of La Grande High School.

When you enter a burning house, can you possibly forget it? Even though the fire was extinguished before any damage was done, you remember the excitement and fear.

You never have been in a burning house, or you see it? This is not true. You may have seen fires and you may have been in a burning house, and also the flames that spread and destroyed everything within reach. You may have noticed people who escaped, great attention to the way these flames, great books and lectures of all sorts.

In order that such a terrible thing may never happen through your carelessness, let us try to learn some things about fire, and especially about the things that may be kept from becoming dangerous.

A fire may be kept from becoming dangerous if you are careful of the things that are around you. You may prevent a fire from starting by being careful of the things that are around you. You may prevent a fire from starting by being careful of the things that are around you.

Christmas time is the time for a great celebration. In way of celebrating we go in the mountains and bring down a nice sized tree and bring it home for the "kiddies" to enjoy. Of course, the tree will not be complete enough with just the safe decorations, so we put on these some very pretty colored lights. Very often these pretty little candles are the cause of great disasters.

Learn Nearest Alarm Box.

Some things are very handy in times of need, and such is the case of some general rules in case of fire. Every night before you go to bed look all around the house and find out which would be the best way in which you could get out if a fire should break out. Another thing, make the furniture if necessary, so that you could get out of the house as quickly as possible without falling all over the furniture. Some people do not know how to turn in a fire alarm. Learn to fight away where the nearest alarm box is, and be sure to understand what to do when you reach the box.

Now suppose that the house was on fire. Would you open the door to your room first, or would you open it cautiously? The latter, of course, would be what you should do. Then, if there are any flames in the hall they will not rush right in and you will have time to shut the door quickly and then plan what next to do. If the fire is in the hall so as not to allow you to get that way, tear the sheet in strips, tie it together and proceed to slide down. However, before jumping throw the mattress out so as to have a soft landing place. If, however, the hall is just filled with smoke and no flames, remember that the smoke is thickest close to the floor, so you may crawl on your hands and knees. Also remember to close the doors of other rooms as you pass them, in order to check the progress of the fire this way.

Heavy Loss by Fires.

In 1914, the insurance companies reported a total loss of \$1,145,181 from the cause, expenditures in direct use of matches and this did not include the great damage caused by careless smokers.

The total annual loss of material worth of the nation amounts to \$485,000,000. This approximately comes to \$1,370,000 in daily loss. Besides this, about forty-eight lives are lost daily in fires. In Oregon, from 1915 to 1920, there was fire

perhaps the strongest statement of all was made in an address by Mr. Charles Whiting Baker. "The buildings consumed, if placed on both sides of the street extending from New York to Chicago. A person journeying along this street of desolation would pass in every 1000 feet a ruin from which an injured person was taken. At every three-quarters of a mile in this journey he would encounter the charred remains of a human being who had been burned to death."

America Leads in Fires.

In 1911, the year before the outbreak of the war, the average fire loss for each man, woman, and child in France was forty-nine cents; in England, it was 36c; in Germany 25 cents; in Austria, 25 cents; in Italy, 25 cents; in Switzerland, 15 cents; and in Holland only 11 cents, while in the United States for the same year the average fire loss was \$2.10 and the highest loss was \$12.00.

The reason for there being more fires in America than in Europe is that there are more wooden buildings in this country than there are in Europe. It will take years to remove this condition, but the most serious cause of fires could be removed at once, if all the people would heed this cause of carelessness.

The National Board of Fire Underwriters makes a study of hundreds of thousands of fires, and has prepared tables which show that in 1915, 25.9 per cent of all American fires came from strictly preventable causes, while 47.8 per cent were partly preventable, and 22.3 per cent came from unknown causes, which probably were largely preventable.

This shows that the United States, with all its advantages, is a nation of careless people. This, certainly, is not a thing to be proud of, because it shows in many habits of carelessness, wastefulness and untidiness.

Suggestions to Prevent Fires.

Since this is true, we must learn how to prevent fires. We will first take fire prevention up in the home. What kind of matches do you use in your home? Are they "safety" matches or "bullet" matches? Safety matches are those that cannot be lighted unless struck on the box in which they come. Bullet matches can be lighted anywhere. It is very easily seen which kind is the best to use. "Oh," but you say, "It is such a nuisance to stop every time you want a match, and strike it on the box. Yes, it is a nuisance, but what are they compared with the nuisance of a fire? A fire is, surely, a great big nuisance. However, if you do have safety matches, do not let them get around your house unless you are keeping them safe. Keep your matches in a match box and place this box out of the reach of the children.

Here are some suggestions in regard to matches. Do not throw away a match which is burning or even glowing. Always strike a match away from you so if it should accidentally break off it would not fly against your clothing. If the matches are spilled stop immediately and pick every one of them up.

One mistake many people make is putting ashes in wooden barrels or boxes. This is a very dangerous thing to do, because the ashes may be a little warm when put in this kind of receptacle, and if so, may start a fire. Some other things which are very important but which need no special explanation are as follows: do not dry clothing too close to stove. Have a screen before the fireplace. Put out gas fire before going to bed. Do not thaw frozen pipes with kerosene but do it with hot water. Take precautions with bonfires. Carry rubbish out of the attic. Bake up the dry horses and bury them instead of burning them. Wash clean baby clothes. Use up old papers and sell them. Never use public conveniences.

Remember! Remember! Remember! To clean the stove, use a safe compound. It is the best. The best way to clean the stove is to use a safe compound. The best way to clean the stove is to use a safe compound. The best way to clean the stove is to use a safe compound.

280. This sum is enough to build about 2075 \$5000 houses or 6225 \$1000 houses.

Forest Fires Costly.

The forest fires are a different proposition from that which has been discussed. Oregon timber industry loses about \$25,000,000 a year from the state. Consequently after much of the timber has been destroyed by fire part of this amount will never reach the state treasury. Another thing, this lumber industry consists largely of labor. If the timber is gone so is the laborer's occupation. The money brought into Oregon by lumbering is the greatest source of revenue to the laborer, farmer, merchant, and professional man. The present forestry law provides for appointment of a state forester to carry on an annual investigation and to report on the condition and to make suggestions for fire prevention and to make a survey of the timber land. In 1910, timber, to the value of about two and one-half million dollars was killed or destroyed by fire, and in 1917 eight thousand dollars worth of timber was destroyed.

United States Forest Service, and state spent \$88,000 in buying men to patrol forests, \$114,000 in fighting forest fires. Fully 600 men paid by these agencies patrolled timbered districts of the state during the dry season. These men put out or avoided in putting out \$42 forest fires.

Most forest fires are preventable. Of 342 fires reported for the year 1921 only two hundred and twenty-five or 27% were caused unavoidably. Others were resulting in consequences of carelessness, campfires, bonfires or smokers.

Schools Can Aid.

School children can do more than any other class in helping aid to protect the forests. However, in teaching this subject, especially primary grades, great care should be used so as not to frighten the children.

When in the timber regions, never throw away matches or tobacco because they might lead to the damage of much timber. Never light a camp fire where it may spread or where you can not be sure it is out. Always scrape toward the fire, a strip clear around your camp fire, digging down to the dirt and leaving no sticks, roots, or routine wood to serve as a bridge by which the fire can cross this strip. Never leave a fire until it is out.

If every one would try to handle that great evil, carelessness, there would be less fires than there have ever been.

WOMEN SEEKING CONGRESS SEAT

Twenty-One Women in Race for Congressional Seats; Congresswoman Fighting to Keep Place.

(By Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, Oct. 21.—Twenty-one women have thrown their names into the ring and will stand up against men in the fight for seats in the house of representatives next month. Reports today by party headquarters here indicated their percentage of victories would be minimal.

Representative Alice Robertson of Oklahoma, the only woman in the house, is fighting to come back from a district which, up to the time of her election two years ago, was regarded as normally Democratic. Mrs. Robertson (Mrs. Warren), defeated Representative Mottola, republican incumbent, in New Mexico, and like Mrs. Robertson, has the backing of the party organization.

Mrs. Winifred Mason (Frank) is the republican nominee for representative at large from Illinois for the next term, as the candidate to fill the vacancy caused by the death of her father, Representative Wm. H. Mason. In the first Nebraska district Mrs. Mason (Mrs. Johnson) is seeking the membership for the short term from December to March.

After a cautious service of 12 years Representative Woodman, democrat, of the 16th North Carolina district, the only conservative member in the house, is striving to keep Mrs. Lucy H. Patterson, republican, from capturing his seat. Mrs. Patterson had announced that if elected she will fight to have women appointed to the regular service. Arizona, which has only one member, will elect Representative Gustavus Demarest, or give the place to Mrs. H. A. Guild, republican.

Of the 21 candidates, five are republicans, six democrats, six socialists, two prohibitionists and two single-taxers.

The democratic nominees who are making a straight fight against republicans are: Edna Danna Fevry, second Pennsylvania; Jane E. Leary, and 27th Pennsylvania; Martha Hill, third Wisconsin; Esther K. O'Keefe, Minnesota, and Mrs. M. Clair Moss, 12th Indiana; Lillian C. Gaulk, third eighth Missouri.

There are two woman candidates for the senate—Mrs. Miriam Olson, Minnesota, and Mrs. Jessie Hooper, Wisconsin.

# GOLDEN BEARS ARE TOUTED

BERKELEY, Oct. 20.—Strength displayed by the 15-year-old California football team in its early season games, especially against the Mare Island Marines, has caused many formerly pessimistic followers of the Bears to change their beliefs and speculate the 1922 California eleven as another "wonderful team."

Fighting against the Marines the California offensive worked like a machine and put up eight points. On the defensive the Bear line was unbreakable and the soldiers of the sea failed to score a point. California, in the Marine game, played without several of its stars, including Brick Mulier, its all-American end, and Captain Charley Krs, quarterback.

Captain Andy Smith has developed two excellent sets of backfield players, with substitutes for each. One combination—the first combination—would be Eds at quarter, Nichols and Spaulding, halfbacks, and Neeson at full. On the other backfield would be Evans at quarter, Dunn and Burgess, halfbacks and Morrison at fullback.

Burgess, one of the "ends" of the season, is expected to develop into one of California's greatest forward passers. Mulier, of course, is expected. Burgess, who knows little of the other duties of a halfback. He is learning rapidly, however.

Begin the day with a bath. Buy both needs here. Newlin Drug Company. 10-19-22

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been appointed by the county court of Union County, Oregon, as administrator of the estate of Bethel A. Davis, deceased, and that all persons having claims against said estate are required to present the same to the undersigned at 1420 W. avenue in La Grande, Oregon, within six months after this date for adjustment.

Dated at La Grande, Oregon, this 22nd day of September, 1922.

BERT DAVIS, Administrator.

Dly Sept. 23-30, Oct. 7-14-21

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