

## Adelaide Fire Brigade 1919

**Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Saturday 11 January 1919, page 9**

CASUALTIES.

A SMALL FIRE.

A fire occurred on Friday morning at a house at Vincent street, Adelaide, occupied by Mrs. Magahran. The Metropolitan Fire Brigade was called, and the outbreak was quickly extinguished. Slight damage was done.

**Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA : 1867 - 1922), Friday 10 January 1919, page 1**

A SMALL FIRE.

A small fire occurred on Friday morning at a house occupied in Vincent-street, Adelaide, by Mrs. Magahran. The brigade was called immediately and extinguished the blaze. The damage done was small. The origin of the outbreak is a mystery, as the tenant of the premises was absent. The property belongs to Mr. Crocker, of Gilles-street.

**Mail (Adelaide, SA : 1912 - 1954), Saturday 11 January 1919, page 2**

FIRE IN PRINTERY

OUTBREAK IN HINDLEY STREET.

The speedy turnout of the Metropolitan Fire Brigade at 9.40 to-night aroused considerable excitement as it dashed along King William Street and thence into Hindley Street as far as Messrs. Sharples Bros.' Printery, to whose premises the brigade had been summoned from a fire alarm close by. On arrival the firemen observed dense volumes of smoke issuing from the basement of the building, which they entered after taking the precaution to equip themselves with respirators. Investigation showed that the outbreak had started in the centre of the basement, to which the fire was confined. The damage was not considerable. Some of the contents, including paper supplies, were destroyed. Mr. Reuben Sharples, a principal of the firm, was communicated with at his home at Blackwood, and he was soon in attendance at the premises. The origin of the fire is unknown. About twelve months ago another fire occurred in the same establishment, but on that occasion the extent of the damage done was much more considerable than that caused to night.

**Daily Herald (Adelaide, SA : 1910 - 1924), Monday 13 January 1919, page 2**

FIRE IN PRINTERY.

The Metropolitan Fire Brigade at 9.40 on Saturday night was called to Messrs. Sharples Bros.' printery in Hindley street. On arrival the firemen observed dense volumes of smoke issuing from the basement of the buildings, which they entered after equipping themselves with respirators. Investigation showed that the outbreak had started in the centre of the basement, to which the fire was confined. The damage was not considerable. Some of the contents, including paper supplies, were destroyed.

**Daily Herald (Adelaide, SA : 1910 - 1924), Friday 17 January 1919, page 6**

DELIVERY MOTOR CATCHES FIRE.

About 4.35 p.m. yesterday the Metropolitan Fire Brigade received a call by telephone to Gawler place, where it was discovered that one of Foy & Gibson's delivery motors had caught alight. Through the quick action of the brigade much damage was prevented. It is thought that the conflagration was caused through the carburetter becoming ignited.

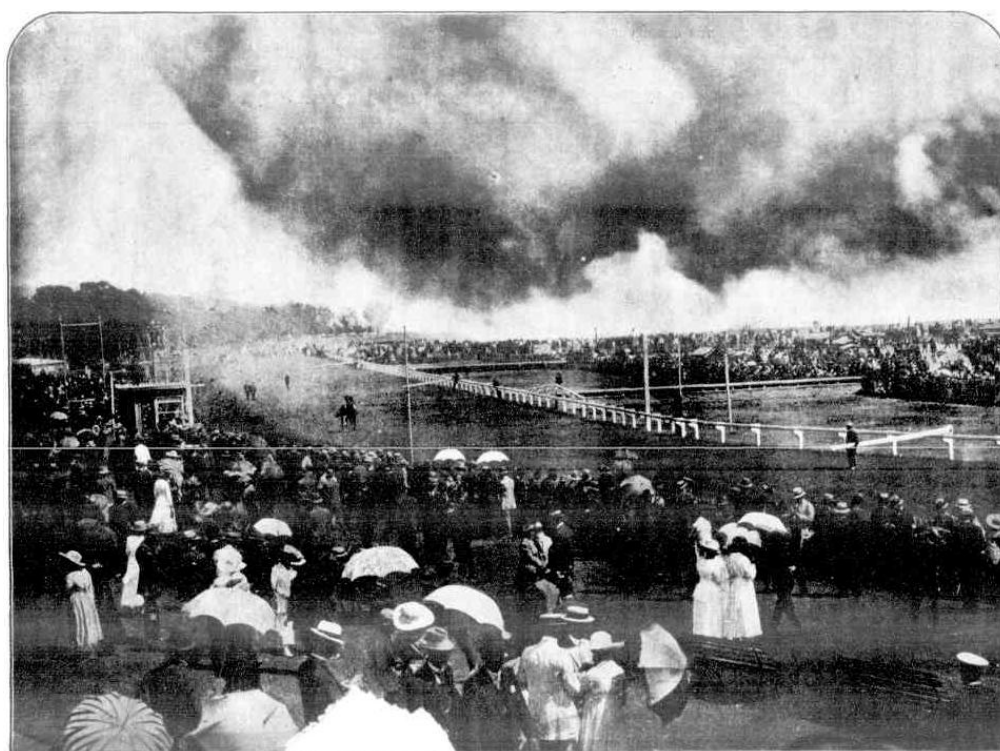
**Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA : 1867 - 1922), Tuesday 28 January 1919, page 2**

### GRASS FIRE AT VICTORIA PARK.

A diversion was caused at the Victoria Park races on Monday by a grass fire, which started during the interval between the Turretfield Stakes and the Tramway Trial. The outbreak originated at the southern end of the flat enclosure, and spread with such rapidity that it was deemed advisable to summon the Fire Brigade. The flames travelled in a south-westerly direction, and the fire-fighters, who were equipped with bags, concentrated their attention first on saving the fence enclosing the steeplechase course. The fire was soon under control, but the course was for some time enveloped in smoke, and the horses in the Tramway Trial were screened from the view of the people in the stand during portion of the race. Minor outbreaks occurred, but they were quickly extinguished.

***Chronicle (Adelaide, SA : 1895 - 1954), Saturday 1 February 1919, page 24***

### RACING THROUGH A FIRE.



UNUSUAL EXPERIENCE AT VICTORIA PARK. During the "preliminary" of the Tramways Trial at Victoria Park on Monday a serious fire broke out on the flat, necessitating the attendance of the Fire Brigade. Despite the flames and the smoke, the race was run.

Krischock. photo

***Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA : 1867 - 1922), Monday 3 February 1919, page 2***

### A TREMENDOUS FIRE AT BURFORD'S FACTORY. EXTENSIVE DESTRUCTION.

A vast column of black smoke rolling over the western portion of Adelaide on Sunday afternoon, and a belching of lurid flames to such a height as to be visible for many miles in every direction, denoted that one of the fiercest fires that have occurred in the city for many years was in progress. The premises ablaze were the extensive works of W. H. Burford & Sons, Ltd., in Sturt-street, and for an hour or more it seemed likely that the whole block in which they stand, as well as adjacent properties, were doomed to destruction.

Burford & Sons have long been carrying on a valuable business in that quarter of the city as manufacturers of soaps, candles, and starch, and refiners of glycerine and oil. Once a fire gets a start among such inflammable stock as the factory contained the result is bound to be

disastrous. For more than an hour on Sunday it looked as though the task which confronted the Metropolitan Fire Brigade was well nigh hopeless. So furious was the blaze, and so intense the heat, that many people expressed the opinion that the fire would defy all efforts at control, and must simply be permitted to burn itself out. The whole of the central portion of the establishment was an angry maelstrom of fire, roaring, seething, and spurting. Streams of water from the hoses were instantly converted into steam by the tremendous heat thrown off from the pools of burning fats and oils. The only chance of successfully grappling with the problem was in seeking to confine the fire to the portions already doomed to total destruction. In order to accomplish this duty the firemen worked like a band of Trojans, and in the end they succeeded. It was a magnificent piece of work, in view of the immense difficulties to be faced, and the exceptionally trying and hazardous circumstances.

#### A School Ignited.

The school conducted by the Sisters of St. Joseph, on the western side of Russell-street, became ignited early in the evening, but the firemen, with the aid of civilians, who used buckets, soon quelled the outbreak. The place, however, was considerably damaged by water. Although the smoke travelled directly across Sturt street the houses opposite the factory were not in danger.

#### Fireman's Helmet Crushed.

Fireman Lillyman, of the North Adelaide station, who was on the attack at the glycerine store on the Norman-street side, had a narrow-escape. He was covered with perspiration as the result of a continuous struggle with the flames, and momentarily placed his brass helmet on the ground about a yard away. Almost immediately afterwards a heavy iron glycerine drum fell down at his side and smashed his helmet as flat as a pancake.

#### A Mysterious Outbreak.

The origin of the fire is not known, and no member of the firm or employe spoken to on Sunday could advance any reason which might account for the out-break. It was generally rumoured that the point at which it started was the distillery room. A fireman employed in the factory went on duty in the stokehold at 10 a.m. on Sunday to get up steam for the resumption of operations on Monday. Three men also went to work to repair a Babcock boiler. No one on the premises, however, appears to have been aware of the fire having started until it was noticed by outsiders.

#### Giving the Alarm.

Mr. and Mrs. A. N. Giles, who reside at 30, Norman-street, close to the eastern side of the works, had their attention directed to something being amiss by Ivy Haylock, a little girl residing in the same neighborhood. Mr. Giles went out shortly before 5 p.m. and saw smoke issuing from the ventilators of the distilling-room, and a few moments later flames shot out from a vent near the roof. The fire appeared then to have got a tight hold. He immediately ran to the fire alarm at the corner of Sturt-street, about 50 yards distant, and communicated with the brigade.

#### A RACE WITH DEATH.

#### THREE EMPLOYES' CLOSE CALL.

A graphic account of the marvellous escape of the only three employes on the premises at the time the fire broke out was given by Mr. J. A. Beale, of Stafford-street, Adelaide. He explained that he and Messrs. J. Baker, of Glenelg, and T. McDonald, of Hyde Park, were working inside the Babcock boiler. They had begun to effect repairs to its bridge and wall, on the holiday on the previous Mon-day, and resumed at about 10 o'clock on Sunday morning, in order not to interrupt the general operations of the factory. Everything was in perfect order in the building at that hour, and the men continued until lunch time. When they went back beyond the huge iron gates of the boiler and dampers there was no indication of the

approaching conflagration, and Mr. Beale stated that at about 3 o'clock, when he brought in a barrow-load of sand, nothing was amiss. He said he could not recall whether he had to obtain more mortar or another tool, but at any rate he had to get out of the boiler again later on.

"When I stepped out," he added, "I thought I had come face to face with a bush fire. "The factory was alight from end to end. There was a wall of fire about 40 feet in width, and only eight or ten yards away from where I stood. The flames seemed to be dashing forward from the still-room, containing tallow, over the glycerine shop, towards the machinery, being fanned by a big draught. I instantly thought of my mates, and rushed to the door of the boiler. 'For God's sake, come out and get for your lives,' I yelled. Like me they knew nothing of the inferno raging so near them, for we could hear nothing inside the Babcock, nor did we notice any rise in the temperature, as the walls of the boiler are so thick. Both Baker and McDonald heard me, and we really had a race with death, for when we all got away the flames were within a few feet of us, and were just about to take the glycerine shop."

Mr. Beale, who was suffering from shock as the result of his exciting experience, said that had he and his companions been delayed for another few minutes they might have been suffocated and roasted. Had the boiler occupied the position it did some time ago it would have been almost in the centre of the inferno. Mr. Baker lost some of his clothes, as well as his watch and chain.

Mrs. Beale, whose home is within 100 yards of the factory, said immediately she saw the flames bursting out she sent her son, Stanley, to warn his father, but he had just escaped when the boy arrived at the entrance to the menaced building.

#### The Insurance.

Mr. W. G. Coombs, secretary of the Yorkshire Fire, Insurance Company, stated, that the works were insured for £50,000 with his office.

#### WATCHING THE RUINS.

Firemen were kept employed on the smouldering ruins of Messrs. W. H. Burford & Sons' soap and candle factory during Sunday night and on Monday. There was no recurrence of the outbreak. The high wall, near Russell-street, which was in danger of falling during the conflagration on Sunday evening, remained standing. The firm is making arrangements to carry on its business, but so far it is not known how many of the 150 employes will be thrown out of work.

***Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Tuesday 4 February 1919, page 8***

#### BURFORD'S FACTORY FIRE.

#### WATCHING THE RUINS.

Firemen were kept employed on the smouldering ruins of Messrs. W. H. Burford & Sons' soap and candle factory during Sunday night and on Monday. There was no recurrence of the outbreak. The high wall, near Russell-street, which was in danger of falling during the conflagration on Sunday evening, remained standing. The firm are making arrangements to carry on business, and Mr. F. A. Bowen (managing director) stated that they hoped to be able speedily to find work for the 150 employes at the branch factories. The toilet soap department had not been destroyed, and that would absorb a number of the staff. Mr. Bowen said they would be able to supply candles and soaps as usual through arrangements made with their other works and also the assistance of competitors. He was unable to give an estimate of the damage caused by the outbreak. The factory on Monday was a scene of desolation, and again thousands of people viewed the ruins. The main three-storied building had been completely gutted, and the valuable machinery lay in an unrecognisable mass among the debris. It was noticed that the firemen had saved some tons of paraffin wax and barrels of resin, which had been stored in the basement of the main portion of the factory. No official estimate of the damage could be obtained, but it must have run into many thousands of pounds.

### Should the Factory be Removed?

At the meeting of the Adelaide City Council on Monday Councillor Edwards asked if it was the intention of the Mayor to ask the council to appoint a sub-committee to go into the question of removing the demolished soap factory from the city altogether. He considered it was an opportune time to get rid of "a pest" which they had had in the West-End of the city for years.

The Mayor replied that there would be no harm in doing that, and one of the committees would no doubt recommend the appointment of a sub-committee. The Mayor promised Councillor Edwards that he would obtain a report on the whole question.

***Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA : 1867 - 1922), Wednesday 5 February 1919, page 1***

#### A SMALL FIRE.

A small fire occurred in a room occupied by Mr. T. Barnard, in Globe Chambers, at the corner of Grote and Page streets. A large quantity of waste paper was destroyed. The fire brigade attended.

***Port Adelaide News (SA :1913 - 1933), Friday 7 February 1919, page 2***

#### A TREMENDOUS FIRE.



At W. H. Burford and Son's Soap Factory on Sunday afternoon last, the premises being completely destroyed. Photos show two views of the burning building, which was insured in the Yorkshire Insurance Company for £50,000.

***Chronicle (Adelaide, SA : 1895 - 1954), Saturday 8 February 1919, page 31***

#### A TREMENDOUS FIRE

#### AT BURFORD'S FACTORY EXTENSIVE DESTRUCTION

#### ADJACENT HOUSES ENDANGERED. FINE WORK BY BRIGADE.

A vast column of black smoke rolling over the western portion of Adelaide on Sunday afternoon, February 2, and a belching of lurid flames to such a height as to be visible for many miles in every direction, denoted that one of the fiercest fires that has occurred in the city for many years was in progress. The premises ablaze were the extensive works of W. H. Burford & Sons, Ltd., in Sturt-street, and for an hour or more it seemed likely that the whole

block in which they stand, as well as adjacent properties, were doomed to destruction. Burford & Sons have long been carrying on a valuable business in that quarter of the city as manufacturers of soaps, candles, and starch, and refiners of glycerine and oil. Once a fire gets a start among such inflammable stock as the factory contained the result is bound to be disastrous. For more than an hour on Sunday it looked as though the task which confronted the Metropolitan Fire Brigade was well nigh hopeless. So furious was the blaze, and so intense the heat, that many people expressed the opinion that the fire would defy all efforts at control, and must simply be permitted to burn itself out. The whole of the central portion of the establishment was an angry maelstrom of fire, roaring, seething, and spurting. Streams of water from the hoses were instantly converted into steam by the tremendous heat thrown off from the pools of burning fats and oils. The only chance of successfully grappling with the problem was in seeking to confine the fire to the portions already doomed to total destruction. In order to accomplish this duty the firemen worked like a band of Trojans, and in the end they succeeded. It was a magnificent piece of work, in view of the immense difficulties to be faced, and the exceptionally trying and hazardous circumstances.

#### Dense Crowd of Spectators.

The alarm was given about 5 o'clock from several different sources, but it is beyond question that the flames had got well under way before they were noticed. The first notification received at the Fire Brigade headquarters was by telephone. An alarm at the corner of Norman and Sturt streets was broken a few moments later. The brigade responded without delay, and the auxiliaries with their appliances from the North Adelaide, Norwood, and Unley stations, also hurried to the scene. A dense crowd of people gathered within a few minutes. Many thousands congregated immediately opposite the blazing premises in Sturt-street, until the heat and sparks caused them to spread out east and west along that thoroughfare for hundreds of yards. There was also an immense assemblage in Wright-street. People were prevented by the police from concentrating in large numbers in Norman and Russell streets. Roof tops all round the neighborhood were used as vantage points from which to watch the fire and the efforts of the brigade to fight it. It was an awe-inspiring spectacle viewed from any part of the metropolitan area. The smoke rose in a terrifying mass, and the volcanic glare of the flames was reflected in the rain clouds suspended over the city.

#### Enveloped in Flames.

When the brigade arrived the soap and candle factory, a three-storied building, abutting Russell-street, was enveloped from end to end in flame. Fire was issuing from the roof and every one of the many windows. On the eastern side of the block flames were coming also from the windows of the distilling room, and the tallow store room was well alight. At short intervals muffled explosions were audible to the on lookers in the streets. Various theories were advanced to account for these. One was that containers of caustic soda had burst, but this suggestion was refuted by members of the firm questioned on the subject. Another belief was that the sounds were caused by falling walls and floors. As a result of one of those explosions shortly before 6 p.m., the fury of the fire was greatly increased, and it was believed that a large drum of glycerine or oil had burst.

#### A Most Dangerous Stage.

At this time the fire appeared to be at its worst and most dangerous stage, particularly in the possibility of a spread to the dwellings near by. Between 5 p.m. and 5.45 there was a strong breeze from the south-west, but suddenly it swerved to due south, and the flames threatened to leap from the soap and candle factory across an intervening gap of forty feet to the chemical store, a two-storied stone structure, farther north in Russell-street. Water was streamed on to the roof and walls with great energy. It is stated that the building did become ignited. The efforts made to save it, however, were entirely successful. The offices, fronting Sturt-street, were also in the direct line of the fire, and the firms books and documents were removed as a precaution. A squad of firemen, to whom had been entrusted the task of saving the chemical store, were in a most unenviable position. The heat was so fierce that they

improvised screens out of pieces of bag, and a good-natured citizen held a lady's umbrella in front of one man's face as he directed a hose. The heat was so intense at this time that to stand on the northern footpath in Sturt-street, several chains from the front entrance to the offices, was decidedly un-comfortable. A number of the fireman were in the yard close to the soap and candle factory, but they stuck to their posts gallantly.

#### The Russell-street Side.

The fire was particularly aggressive on the Russell-street side, where the casing woks and soap and candle store were situated. A large section of the wall separating the factory from the front part of the building collapsed and gave the fire-men a better opportunity of tackling the flames. In the soap and candle store the blaze was fed by a large quantity of highly inflammable material, and it raged with great fierceness. With the exception of the strong wooden supports which remained blazing with the fats the inside portion of this department has been levelled with the ground. The firemen were unable to do much in this locality, and their work was largely confined to preventing the conflagration from spreading at the northern and southern ends. Although they kept numerous jets of water pouring into the burning mass the flames seemed to grow in intensity until they had consumed practically everything possible. The boundary walls in Russell-street were of gable design, each of the two compartments having 15 windows. This masonry had to withstand tremendous heat, and it was thought by most of the spectators that it would crash to the ground. This wall was looked upon by the firemen also as being a source of danger, for it was seen to rock to and fro when the outbreak was at its height. Had the front and central retaining walls not remained intact there is no doubt that it would have collapsed. At the southern end, where the firm's trollies were loaded from the store, the masonry was not strong enough to withstand the fire. It comprised several brick pillars, and but few of them remained standing. At this point the firemen were compelled to adopt specially strenuous measures with a view to saving the adjacent properties, which were seriously menaced. A large quantity of Brunswick black and axle grease had been stored there in tins, and the heat soon burst these open. The contents increased the flames to a great degree.

#### Houses Endangered.

As the flames leapt skywards and threw off glowing embers in all directions, the people residing in the vicinity of the works realised that their homes were imperilled and precautions were quickly taken to protect the property in the danger zone. Willing helpers went to the assistance of the residents who decided to remove their furniture and effects into the streets. In Norman and Gilbert streets much furniture was to be seen, some houses having been completely emptied of their contents. With the exception of the south-western corner, the firemen had managed to keep the flames well in hand near the boundary walls on those sides, and there was little fear of the houses becoming ignited, as their roofs were lined with spectators who extinguished any burning matter which came their way. The Bell Inn, the licensee of which is Mr. F. Evans, occupies the south-western corner of the block on which Burford's factory stood, and was in danger for a couple of hours. Much credit is due to the firemen operating in that quarter for the valiant way in which they battled against the flames without respite, and prevented them reaching the hotel property. That they were fighting against great odds was apparent, as the fire seemed to grow fiercer each minute, while it continued to consume highly in-flammable matter stored in the building. Meanwhile a large quantity of furniture, including a piano, had been removed from the hotel. While it was perhaps a wise course for the adjacent householders to take steps to save their goods from destruction, it was unfortunate that they had not been able to replace them in their homes before a heavy shower of rain fell. The Draper Memorial Church is within a stone-throw of Burford's, and because of the fire it was decided to dispense with the evening service. The intending worshippers helped to swell the vast concourse of spectators. Viewed from the standpoint of the people living in Russell-street the fire was a menace from the beginning until well into the night. The flames burnt much more fiercely on that side than on any other part. Looking through the laneway at the northern end of Norman-street and the doorways leading

from that thoroughfare into the factory, one saw huge sheets of flame, which were wrapped in heavy folds of smoke, but all that could be seen through the thirty windows looking out on to Russell-street was the clear, red glow of a devastating blaze, which travelled high above the lofty gabled boundary walls. From this huge furnace pieces of burning wood and other material were thrown, and the neighboring properties had to be carefully watched for fear of the fire spreading to them.

#### A School Ignited.

The school conducted by the Sisters of St. Joseph, on the western side of Russell-street, became ignited early in the evening, but the firemen, with the aid of civilians, who used buckets, soon quelled the outbreak. The place, however, was considerably damaged by water. Although the smoke travelled directly across Sturt street the houses opposite the factory were not in danger.

#### Three Employes Close call.

A graphic account of the marvellous escape of the only three employee on the premises at the time the fire broke out was given by Mr. J. A. Beale, of Stafford-street, Adelaide. He explained that he and Messrs. J. Baker, of Glenelg, and T. McDonald, of Hyde Park, were working inside the Babcock Boiler. They had begun to effect repairs to its bridge and wall, on the holiday on the previous Mon-day, and resumed at about 10 o'clock on Sunday morning, in order not to interrupt the general operations of the factory. Everything was in perfect order in the building at that hour, and the men continued until lunch time. When they went back beyond the huge iron gates of the boiler and dampers there was no indication of the approaching conflagration, and Mr. Beale stated that at about 3 o'clock, when he brought in a barrow-load of sand, nothing was amiss. He said he could not recall whether he had to obtain more mortar or another tool, but at any rate he had to get out of the boiler again later on. "When I stepped out," he added "I thought I had come face to face with a bush fire. The factory was alight from end to end. There was a wall of fire about 40 feet in width, and only eight or ten yards away from where I stood. The flames seemed to be dashing forward from the still-room, containing tallow, over the glycerine shop, towards the machinery, being fanned by a big draught. I instantly thought of my mates, and rushed to the door of the boiler. "For God's sake, come out and get for your lives," I yelled. Like me, they knew nothing of the inferno raging so near them, for we could hear nothing inside the Babcock, nor did we notice any rise in the temperature, as the walls of the boiler are so thick. Both Baker and McDonald heard me, and we really had a race with death, for when we all got away the flames were within a few feet of us, and were just about to take the glycerine shop." Mr. Beale, who was suffering from shock as the result of his exciting experience, said that had he and his companions been delayed for another few minutes they might have been suffocated and roasted. Had the boiler occupied the position it did some time ago it would have been almost in the centre of the inferno. Mr. Baker lost some of his clothes, as well as his watch and chain. Mrs. Beale, whose home is within 100 yards of the factory, said immediately she saw the flames bursting out she sent her son, Stanley, to warn his father, but he had just escaped when the boy arrived at the entrance to the menaced building.



*State Library of South Australia - Firemen fighting a fire [PRG 280/1/19/199], Firemen fighting a fire at an unidentified South Australian location; buildings are engulfed in flame and smoke. 1920. Part of Searcy Collection  
[The location of the picture match the fire at Burfords, Apr 22 1919. Taken from the Gilbert Street and Norman Street corner]*



*State Library of South Australia - Firemen fighting a fire at Port Adelaide [PRG 280/1/23/255], Firemen fighting a fire with water hoses at Port Adelaide. 1921. Part of Searcy Collection  
[The location of the picture match the fire at Burfords, Apr 22 1919. Taken from the Gilbert Street and Norman Street corner]*



*State Library of South Australia - Russell Street, Adelaide [B 3916], [General description] The view along Russell Street shows the three storey high stone wall of the factory building. A man is pedalling up the street on a tricycle with a large carrying compartment in front. Burford and Sons manufactured soap, candles, starch, blue, black lead, soda crystals, blacking, Brunswick black and lubricating oils. [On back of photograph] 'Acre 611 and 556 / Russell Street, east side / Remains of Burford's factory. (Burned out about 7 years previously) / Nov. 24, 1926. / Near side of high wall is 50.5 yards north of Gilbert Street'. 1926. Photographer, State Library of South Australia. Part of Acre 611 Collection.*

***Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA : 1867 - 1922), Monday 10 February 1919, page 1***

**A SMALL FIRE.**

The Fire Brigade received a call to the "Register" office, in Grenfell-street, at about 2.20 a.m. on Monday, a fire having broken out in a small motor house on the roof. The motor-house and contents were slightly damaged. The fire is believed to have been caused by the fusing of electric wires.

***Mail (Adelaide, SA : 1912 - 1954), Saturday 1 March 1919, page 2***

**SMALL FIRE.**

Constable A. M. Kinlay reported to the Watchhouse that at 2 o'clock this morning a fire broke out in an unoccupied store-room at 207 Grenfell Street east. The fire brigade was called and extinguished the blaze. Only slight damage was done.

***Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Monday 3 March 1919, page 11***

**A SMALL FIRE.**

Constable A. M. Findlay called the fire brigade at 2 a.m. on Saturday to extinguish a blaze which occurred in an upstairs room at an empty shop in Grenfell-street east, which was erected by Mr. H. Winter, fruiterer. The floor and the mantelpiece were slightly damaged.

***Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Monday 24 March 1919, page 6***

**FIRE AT KESWICK.**

At 12.27 on Saturday morning the Metropolitan Fire Brigade responded to a call to the premises of Mr. A. Mase, hairdresser, Keswick. The fire was extinguished before any considerable damage had been done to the shop and contents.

***Journal (Adelaide, SA : 1912 - 1923), Thursday 3 April 1919, page 1***

FIRE BRIGADES ACTIVE.

At 3.40 a.m. on Thursday morning the Unley Fire Brigade received a telephone call to the house occupied by Mr. Patrick Greely, adjacent to the public school, Lower Mitcham. A wood-and-iron shed, with contents, was destroyed, and an adjacent wood-and-iron shed, with contents, belonging to the public school, was also burned. The supposed cause of the fire was hot ashes from the rubbish destructor.

At 7 minutes past 9 this morning the Adelaide Fire Brigade received a malicious false alarm from near the railways carriage sheds.

***Journal (Adelaide, SA : 1912 - 1923), Saturday 12 April 1919, page 2***

A SMALL FIRE.

A small fire occurred at the City Cash Stores, at the corner of Stephens place and Rundle street, Adelaide, shortly after 5 o'clock on Saturday afternoon. The Metropolitan Fire Brigade was summoned, and the outbreak, which resulted in the charring of several cases of merchandise, was promptly extinguished.

***Journal (Adelaide, SA : 1912 - 1923), Saturday 12 April 1919, page 14***

RUNDLE STREET FIRE.

The Metropolitan Fire Brigade received a call to a fire at the Napier Cycle Works on Friday evening at 8.45 o'clock. An upper room, which contained rubber tires and tubes, was found to be alight, and before the flames were extinguished, considerable damage to the stock and the room was done. The cause of the outbreak was unknown.

***Daily Herald (Adelaide, SA : 1910 - 1924), Saturday 12 April 1919, page 4***

RUNDLE STREET FIRE

DAMAGE, £500.

About 8.45 on Friday a fire broke out in the storeroom of the Napier cycle works, Rundle street east. The fire brigade was summoned, and soon had the flames under control. The proprietor of the establishment (Mr. L. Day) stated afterwards that he visited the storeroom early in the evening, and then found everything was in perfect order. About an hour later he heard a noise, and on going upstairs to investigate found the room a mass of flames. He could in no way account for the outbreak. The room contained mostly motor and cycle accessories. It was estimated that the damage done amounted to nearly £500. The contents of the room were insured for £600.

***Daily Herald (Adelaide, SA : 1910 - 1924), Thursday 17 April 1919, page 3***

FIRE IN HOTEL.

On Wednesday afternoon the Metropolitan Fire Brigade received a call to the Oriental Hotel, Gawler place, where a fire occurred in a chimney. No serious damage was done.

***Journal (Adelaide, SA : 1912 - 1923), Saturday 19 April 1919, page 14***

A CITY FIRE.

At 1.55 a.m. on Friday the Metropolitan Brigade received a call to a fire at the rooms of Messrs. Holland & Wilson, opticians, in Barlow Building, Rundle street. The apartments and

contents were severely damaged by the flames. The origin of the fire is unknown. Mr. Holland stated on Friday night that it was impossible then to estimate the amount of the loss.

***Journal (Adelaide, SA : 1912 - 1923), Monday 2 June 1919, page 1***

FIRE IN PACKING CASES.

At about 10 o'clock on Sunday night, the Metropolitan Fire Brigade received a call to a small fire at the rear of the premises of Messrs. Davis, Browne, and Co., Hindley street, Adelaide. A number of packing cases and rubbish were destroyed, and two doors leading into the storerooms damaged by the blaze.

***Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Thursday 5 June 1919, page 6***

FALSE FIRE ALARMS.

The Metropolitan Fire Brigade was the object of two senseless practical jokes on Wednesday evening. At 6.15 o'clock they were called on a fool's errand to Morphett street, and about an hour later they were turned out on a similar mission to Gray street. People who derive pleasure from the inconvenience they cause the firemen by raising false alarms should bear in mind the fact that the law prescribes a severe penalty for persons detected at that kind of "amusement."

***Daily Herald (Adelaide, SA : 1910 - 1924), Monday 16 June 1919, page 1***

FIRE IN A BEDROOM.

At about 1.30 a.m. yesterday the Metropolitan Fire Brigade received a call to the residence of Mrs. Abell, 68 Grote street, city. The fire was confined to a bedroom, a pair of curtains and portion of bedding being destroyed. Mrs. Abell explained that a lighted candle had been left near the curtains, which caught alight. Constable McCann, who noticed the outbreak, gave the alarm.

***Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Saturday 16 August 1919, page 10***

FIRE AT CHEMIST'S SHOP.

At 9.57 on Friday night the Metropolitan Fire Brigade received a call to Birks' the chemists, in Rundle street. On the arrival of the reel it was found that nothing serious had occurred. A tray of mosquito cones in the upstairs department had caught fire, but the blaze was quickly extinguished by means of fire extinguishers.

***Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Saturday 6 September 1919, page 11***

A NEW FIRE INDICATOR.

A public demonstration of the Eclipse automatic fire alarm apparatus will be given at the Adelaide Fire Station on Monday afternoon. Mr. William J. W. Strong (managing director) and Mr. Moloney (engineer), of the Eclipse Thermostat Company Proprietary, will come from Melbourne to superintend the demonstration. The object of the "Eclipse alarm" is automatically to detect an outbreak of fire, pass on the information, and simultaneously automatically telegraph to the fire brigade, notifying the building, time of day, floor, and room in which the outbreak occurs. A distinctive signal as transmitted from each building, and the firemen know the exact spot. In Victoria, many large buildings are now being installed with the system, including the State Government cool storage building, and softgoods warehouses. The Commonwealth Government are arranging to instal it in the postal buildings, Sydney. The apparatus will be in Adelaide for a week.

***Daily Herald (Adelaide, SA : 1910 - 1924), Tuesday 9 September 1919, page 2***

NEW FIRE ALARM.

A demonstration of the Maloney fire indicator was given at the Metropolitan Fire Brigade centre on Monday afternoon. The points of the invention were eloquently described by the inventor, Mr. Maloney, and his arguments were backed up by the knowledge and experience of Mr. W. J. Strong (the managing director of the Eclipse Thermostat Co.). The invention, which is circular and disclike in form, is well designed and strongly built, and can be fitted to any room—usually the ceiling—in a few minutes. It can also be fitted up in portable form, and can be put in such places as children's bedrooms, and, if a rise in temperature takes place it immediately alarms the household, and before any damage is done it summons assistance, and the children have a chance to escape. It can also be used in cold stores to indicate temperatures. The display was convincing.

***Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Tuesday 9 September 1919, page 8***

#### MALONEY FIRE INDICATOR.

Successful tests of the Maloney Indicator, a New Zealand invention for giving instant warning of fires in buildings or on board ships were made at the Adelaide Fire Brigade station, Wakefield-street, on Monday afternoon. The demonstration was given by Mr. M. Maloney, engineer of the Eclipse Thermostat Company Proprietary, Melbourne, and Sydney, and Mr. W. J. Strong (managing director) at the invitation of Mr E. Frinsdorf (chairman of the Fire Brigade Board), who had seen the indicator tested in Melbourne. Among those present were several members of Parliament and of the Adelaide City Council, and a number of representative business men. It was explained that the instrument, since improved in several respects, had been adopted by the New Zealand Government after a board of experts had spent six months in testing every known fire alarm. Mr Maloney was also the inventor of the transmitter for long distance telephones. The Commonwealth Government had approved of the fire indicator, and were installing it in the postal stores in Sydney. The Victorian Government were adopting it for cool stores covering between two and three acres in Melbourne, as it would show variation of temperature as well as serve as a fire alarm. The thermostat can be fixed to any ceiling, and connected in the same manner as an electric light point, direct into an annunciator in the basement. The fire station is instantaneously notified by a message flashed along a wire already present on the poles. It sets an alarm going, and shows on a tape printed in Morse code the building and the exact floor and room where the outbreak is. The time is also registered at the fire station. The indicator will work at any temperature at which it is set, but is not affected by climatic variations, and is stated to be thoroughly proof against false alarms. Mr. Maloney said the purpose of the indicator was to prevent fires, wherever located, from getting beyond control before the fire brigade could become aware of them. The system was the cheapest known, and when the cost of wiring, &c, got back to normal the installation would not be much more costly than an ordinary point of electric light. He quoted an instance where there was an outbreak in the Farmers' Co-operative Stores in Christchurch, New Zealand and although a caretaker and a night watchman were on duty, neither of them knew that a fire had started until the brigade had arrived and was putting it out. One indicator for every 400 square feet would afford protection to a warehouse. The demonstration of the principle under which the thermostat worked was most interesting, and those who witnessed it commented upon the simplicity and effectiveness of the mechanism.

***Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Saturday 4 October 1919, page 10***

#### A SMALL FIRE.

A small fire occurred on Friday evening at Mr. K. Hill's, chaff merchant, Solomon-street, city. The Fire Brigade attended. Little damage was done.

***Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Saturday 4 October 1919, page 10***

#### STRAW ON FIRE.

At about 9.45 on Friday the fire brigade received a call by telephone to the rear of the premises occupied by Messrs. Clutterbuck Brothers, in Hindley street. It was found that a large heap of bales of straw, the property of Mr. Robert Hill, of Currie street, had caught alight. The area affected was partly enclosed by a shed, and was close to the rear of the Paper Bag Company's premises and Newton, McLaren, Limited. The fire was well ablaze by the time the brigade arrived, despite the efforts of the various employes, led by Mr. G. Venus, of Clutterbucks'. The flames were eventually extinguished, after a considerable quantity of straw had been damaged. Shortly before the outbreak an explosion in a blacksmith's forge at the rear of Clutterbuck Brothers' occurred, and it was supposed to have been due to an unexploded detonator in the coal. Embers were scattered in all directions.

**Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Monday 20 October 1919, page 6**

SMALL FIRE.

Early on Sunday morning the Metropolitan Fire Brigade received a call to the jewellery establishment of S. Schlank and Co., in Chesser street, Adelaide, where an electric switchboard and a swing door were damaged by fire.

**Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Saturday 25 October 1919, page 9**

PETROL LAMP FIRE.

On Friday evening the Metropolitan Fire Brigade was called to premises occupied by Mr. G. A. Cook, pastryman, in Rundle street. A petrol lamp had been dropped, but the flames were extinguished immediately after the "call." No material damage was done.

**Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Monday 10 November 1919, page 7**

MOTOR CAR IN FLAMES.

The Metropolitan Fire Brigade received a call from Brown street, Adelaide, shortly before 11 o'clock on Sunday night. A motor car on the Bay road was subsequently found to be in flames. The brigade extinguished the blaze. The car, which was owned by Mr. J. Jennings, of Toowong avenue, Beulah Park, was, however, dam-aged beyond repair.

**Daily Herald (Adelaide, SA : 1910 - 1924), Saturday 15 November 1919, page 7**

SMALL FIRE.

On Friday morning the fire brigade receives a call to the paint and paperhanging establishment of Mr. F. Stone, Hanson street. The shop and fittings were partly destroyed by fire.

**Chronicle (Adelaide, SA : 1895 - 1954), Saturday 15 November 1919, page 35**

BURFORD'S FACTORY.

Some months ago, following the which destroyed the soap and candle factory of Messrs. W. H. Burford. & Sons in Sturt and Norman streets, representations were made to the City Council from various quarters that the reconstruction of the works should not be permitted on that site. At a meeting of the City Council on Monday a report received from the works and highways committee recommending that a plan- submitted for the reinstatement of the factory in galvanized iron for Messrs. Burford & Sons, Sturt and Norman streets, not be approved.

**Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Monday 24 November 1919, page 6**

SMALL GRASS FIRE.

On Sunday morning the Metropolitan Fire Brigade received a call to the west parklands, near to Grote street. It was found that dry grass had become ignited, but the flames were extinguished before any damage was done.

**Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Thursday 27 November 1919, page 9**

FIRE AT KENT TOWN.

The Metropolitan Fire Brigade received on Wednesday morning a call to premises occupied by Mrs. Kleeman, at Dequetteville terrace, Kent Town. A shed and contents and a shadehouse and fence were partly destroyed. The cause of the outbreak is unknown.

**Daily Herald (Adelaide, SA : 1910 - 1924), Friday 28 November 1919, page 5**

FIRE AT GOODWOOD.

At 9.56 a.m. on Thursday the Fire Brigade received a call to the house occupied by Mr. Pryor, of Musgrave street, Goodwood. On arrival it was found that a fire had started, and the flames had got a good hold. Before they could be subdued the roof was severely damaged, two rooms and its contents were destroyed, while the other rooms were slightly damaged. The cause of the conflagration is unknown.

**Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Monday 1 December 1919, page 8**

HOUSE ON FIRE.

The Metropolitan Fire Brigade was called shortly before 1 o'clock on Sunday morning to Park street, Hackney, where a dwelling, owned and occupied by Mr. Charles Wilson Goldsworthy, was alight. Four of the six rooms were destroyed totally. The roofs of two others were damaged. The cause of the fire is unknown, and the dwelling was not insured.

**Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Thursday 18 December 1919, page 9**

JAM FACTORY FIRE.

BRIGADE'S EFFECTIVE WORK.

A fire which appeared likely to assume big proportions occurred on Wednesday evening at the jam factory of Messrs. Robert McEwin & Co., Payneham-road, East Adelaide. The outbreak started in the boiler shed, a galvanized iron structure at the rear of the main stone building, and it was first noticed at 10.15 o'clock. The flames quickly forced their way through the roof and within a few minutes they were rising nearly as high as the top of the chimney. When the brigade arrived the fire had a good hold and spread to the cooking department. Effective work was done by the brigade, and once a full pressure of water was available the fire was soon extinguished. Surprisingly small damage was done, and Mr. H. J. Doman, one of the directors of the firm, stated that he thought they would be able to continue operations this morning. He added that when he left the premises at about 7 o'clock everything appeared to be secure, and he could not account for the outbreak. It was fortunate that the fire was prevented from reaching the interior of the main building, where there is a large stock of jam and much valuable machinery. Only recently extensive additions had been made to the factory.

**Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Wednesday 31 December 1919, page 10**

STRAYED from Fire Station, City, Irish Terrier Bitch, collar with two brigade buttons on. Reward.