

Thebarton Fire Brigade



Thebarton Fire Station 2024 Google Maps

1881

Evening Journal (Adelaide, SA : 1869 - 1912), Thursday 31 March 1881, page 3

FIRE AT THEBARTON.

The City Coroner (Mr. T. Ward, J.P.) held an inquest at the Wheatsheaf Hotel, Thebarton, on Wednesday morning, March 30, on a fire which occurred at Southwalk on Sunday morning last, whereby two haystacks, the property of Mr. Jas. Anderson, builder, of Currie-street, were destroyed. Mr. G. M. Dew was foreman of the Jury. Mr. Thomas attended on behalf of the Colonial Insurance Company of New Zealand.

Mr. J. Anderson said the haystacks which were destroyed on Sunday, the 27th inst., were his property ; the place on which they stood was ploughed round. The last season's stack contained about forty-five tons of mixed hay, which he valued at about £3 per ton ; this season's stack contained about 65 tons of mixed hay, worth about £3 a ton. The stacks were insured in the Colonial Insurance Company of New Zealand for £236. One of witness's sons went down every other evening to see that the hay was all right. Robert Stewart, brickmaker, said — On Sunday last he was in Mr. Shearing's brickyard about 11.30 a.m., when he saw three little boys close to the stacks. About ten minutes afterwards saw the north side stack blazing. The boys then ran away. Witness ran after and caught the biggest. He said his name was Frederick Allen. He said he did not know the names of the other boys, but he showed witness where they lived. Witness then took him to them, and asked them what made them set fire to the stack. They said it was Frederick Allen, who admitted that he did it, but said the others told him to put some hay in a tin and set fire to the stack. Allen said a woman gave him three matches, but afterwards contradicted himself. Was taking Allen to the Police Station when he met Police-constable Burchell, and he then handed Allen over to him. Witness did not think the fire could have been extinguished in time to save the stack if water had been available. By Mr. Thomas —No attempt was made to extinguish the fire. [The three boys were here brought before the Coroner and identified by witness as being those who set fire to the stack.] Olive Wooldridge, married woman, said she saw the three little boys on Sunday morning about 500 yards from the haystacks ; there were three

matches on the ground by their feet ; the biggest boy picked them up, and witness told them to strike them and put them out, as they might set fire to something, but she did not see them do it. The children then ran away. Robert Richmond, clerk, said—On Sunday morning, the 27th inst., about 10.30 a.m., saw smoke issuing out of the chimney of an unoccupied shed on the Port-road. Went in and saw three or four bags burning both in the fireplace and on the floor, and witness put them out. Just as he was going into the shed three little boys ran out. Could swear to the two smaller ones in Court, but not to the biggest. One of the smaller boys had a tin in his hand, which he dropped. Asked the smallest boy what he was doing there ?

He said, "The others lit the fire." About an hour afterwards heard an alarm of fire. The Coroner then examined the children, Frederick Allen, Joseph and Malcolm Earl, aged respectively seven, six, and four years old. From their statements it appeared that Malcolm Earl found a match, and they visited the shed referred to by Mr. Richmond and lit some chips and bags. They then put some water on the fire, and when Mr. Richmond came to the shed they started for home. On their way a woman gave them three matches, telling them to strike them and put their foot on them. They then started for the haystacks, and lit a fire with some loose straw about a foot from them, and when it caught the stacks the culprits ran away. Police-constable Burchell, stationed at Thebarton, gave corroborative evidence. The Coroner, in summing up, said it was impossible to think the children had any felonious intention in causing the fire. He commented severely upon the conduct of the parents in allowing children of such tender years to prowl about the place without any restraint. He also said that there was no law which he thought could punish the children. He thought the only punishment they should have was a good thrashing, which the parents had informed him they had already given them. The Jury returned a verdict—"That the fire which occasioned the destruction of Mr. Anderson's haystacks was caused by the wanton mischief of the three boys, Frederick Allen, Joseph and Malcolm Earl, in lighting the fire in such close proximity to the haystacks," and added a rider to the effect that a small fire-reel should be stationed at Thebarton.

1911

Daily Herald (Adelaide, SA : 1910 - 1924), Monday 11 September 1911, page 4

FIRE BRIGADE FOR THEBARTON.

The alterations and additions to the local town hall brought about by the passing of the Places of Public Entertainments Act during the last session of Parliament were much in evidence at the recent mayoral function at Thebarton, and as a result of enquiries and examination of the fire equipment recently purchased by the town council a suggestion has been made and placed before the mayor. This is—"That steps be taken to supplement the work already entered upon by inviting the ratepayers together to discuss the question of establishing a volunteer fire brigade." That something should be done in this direction is evident from the fact that buildings are going up at the rate of 300 to 400 a year, and already 2000 buildings have been erected, and there is a population of over 8000 people.

1914

Daily Herald (Adelaide, SA : 1910 - 1924), Friday 17 July 1914, page 3

FIRE BRIGADE FOR THEBARTON.

A letter from the Fire Brigades Board giving an estimate of the cost of equipment and maintenance of a fire brigade, adequate for the protection of the municipality, was considered by the Thebarton Council on Wednesday night. The estimate provided for motor hose carriage and fire escape, manned by four men, and all the necessary hose equipment. In the event of a serious fire at Thebarton the Adelaide Brigade would assist without extra cost. The Thebarton Brigade would be expected to assist at serious fires in Adelaide. Alderman Menhennett moved and Councillor McHugh seconded a motion that the district council of West Torrens be invited to confer on the question of a permanent fire brigade. The motion was carried.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Thursday 30 July 1914, page 8

PROPOSED THEBARTON FIRE BRIGADE.

Among other matters considered at a meeting of the Thebarton Corporation on Wednesday was one dealing with the proposal to establish a volunteer fire brigade in connection with that corporation and the West Torrens District Council. A letter was read from the executive of the Hindmarsh Fire Brigade inviting members of the corporation to attend a demonstration at the head station of that brigade on Wednesday night next. The invitation was accepted. Another communication from the West Torrens District Council advised "That the present finances and the scattered population of the district do not warrant the council incurring the expenditure which an institution of the character would entail, and they are therefore desirous that they should be not represented at any conference to consider that matter. The letter was received.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Friday 7 August 1914, page 6

PROPOSED. FIRE BRIGADE.

The Thebarton Town Council contemplate the formation of a local Volunteer Fire Brigade, and on Wednesday evening the Mayor (Mr. Thompson Green, M.P.) and other members of the council, paid a visit to the Hindmarsh Volunteer Fire Brigade, which is claimed to be the most up-to-date volunteer brigade in the Commonwealth. A thorough inspection was made, and much interest was taken in the call-out. The visitors were much impressed with the demonstration and with what they had seen inside the station, and expressed their thanks to the Hindmarsh men for their courtesy.

1915

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Thursday 7 October 1915, page 14

THEBARTON PROGRESS.

FIRE BRIGADE AND TOWN HALL.

The questions of providing a new Town Hall and appointing an up-to-date fire brigade for Thebarton were discussed at the meeting of the council on Wednesday night. Alderman Blackwell moved that a public meeting be called to discuss the erection of a new Town Hall on the Henley Beach-road, or alterations to provide for offices, council chamber, dressing-rooms, &c., at the present Town Hall, and suitable protection against fire in the town. He said the relative advantages of erecting a new hall on the Henley Beach-road and rebuilding the present hall should be placed before the people, who should have the opportunity of deciding what should be done. More commodious buildings were required. Property

throughout the town was increasing in value every year. Unless they took some steps to provide more adequately for fire protection they would wake up some morning to find there had been a big fire, with loss of valuable property. The Mayor agreed that the citizens should be given an opportunity to express their opinion with regard to the proposals. At the present time the council were not in a position to undertake the work without some indication of the rate payers' wishes.

Councillor Hill—Do you think another poll will give entire satisfaction? The Mayor said he thought the ratepayers should be given the chance of deciding the questions. It would be a serious matter if a big fire broke out and destroyed valuable property, and more serious still if loss of life occurred.

Councillor Hinder, who seconded the motion, observed that the council should place something definite before the rate-payers. The Mayor replied that that aspect of the question could be decided afterwards.

Councillor Winterbottom—We are out of date, and we want to be more progressive.
Alderman Martin—Where are we out of date? Councillor Winterbottom—Everywhere.
(Laughter.)

Alderman Menhennett supported the motion, and said the ratepayer should be given something definite. Before a poll was held the council should make a rough estimate of the probable cost, and of the rate that might have to be struck. He favored utilising the present buildings. (Hear, hear.)

The motion was carried, and the finance committee was directed to go into details and furnish a report to the council.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Thursday 18 November 1915, page 4

THEBARTON FIRE BRIGADE.

Definite arrangements have now been made for the establishment of a permanent fire brigade within the Thebarton Municipality. At a meeting of the local council on Wednesday evening two communications dealing with the matter were received from the Secretary to the Fire Brigades Board (Mr. H. M. Bristowe). In the first letter Mr. Bristowe extended to the Mayor (Mr. Green, M.P.) and the Town Clerk (Mr. C. E. Wyett) thanks for the courtesy and consideration extended to the Chief Officer and himself on the occasion of their visit of inspection to the proposed fire district, and for the information supplied, which had proved of great value to the board in arriving at their determination. With regard to the cost to the municipality and the West Torrens District Council, this could not be arrived at until such time as the district was proclaimed and the returns were furnished the board, in accordance with the Act. An estimate of the cost of establishment and maintenance had been set out in a letter to the council in July, 1914, and subject to such alterations which might be necessary the expenditure would be divided proportionately between the Thebarton municipality and the West Torrens District Council. The second communication from the Secretary stated:—"I hereby give you notice, in accordance with Section 5 of the Fire Brigades Act of 1913, that the board has recommended the Governor to declare by proclamation that on and after July 1, 1916, the Fire Brigades Act, 1913, shall apply to the Municipality of Thebarton. . . . I further give you notice that, in accordance with section 6 of the Fire Brigades Act, 1913, that it is the intention of the board to constitute a fire district, to be known as the Thebarton Fire

District and consisting of the municipality of Thebarton and portion of the district of West Torrens; and that the date of the commencement of the constitution of such fire district shall be July 1, 1916." Both communications were "received."

1916

Daily Herald (Adelaide, SA : 1910 - 1924), Monday 14 February 1916, page 6

WEST TORRENS RATEPAYERS OBJECT TO FIRE BRIGADE.

A meeting of ratepayers of the Keswick and Hilton Wards of the West Torrens District Council was held in the Richmond Democratic Hall on Friday night to discuss the matter of the Richmond and Hilton Wards being brought under the Fire Brigades Act.

Mr. H. Sherriff, chairman of the council, presided, and said the council as a whole felt that injustice was being done to the district in bringing certain areas into the Fire Brigades Act. The council therefore organised the meeting of ratepayers of the district, so that they could discuss the matter and decide either for or against the proposal.

Councillor H. Watson said that the members of the council thought they were not getting a fair deal, but that the ratepayers might think differently. They were asked to pay one-half of the cost of the maintenance of the brigade, and they had only one-third of the houses in their district in proportion to the Thebarton Corporation. It would seem that the proportionate cost to them was not a fair one, apart from the point as to whether they wanted a fire brigade or not.

Mr. J. McL. Sutherland, a ratepayer, supported the council in the action it had taken. He did not think a fire brigade would be of any use to them. He moved the following resolution, which was seconded by Mr. H. Nolan and carried:—"That this meeting is against the inclusion of this district in the Fire Brigades Act, and favors a petition of protest by the ratepayers on the matter." The motion was carried unanimously.

Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA : 1867 - 1922), Tuesday 15 February 1916, page 2

FIRE STATION NOT WANTED.

On Friday evening a meeting of ratepayers a Hilton and Keswick wards of the West Torrens District Council was held in the Democratic Hall at Richmond. Mr. H. Sherriff (chairman of the council) presided. He explained the action of the Fire Brigades Board in constituting the whole of Hilton and Keswick wards, and the bulk of Brooklyn and Underdale wards, as a fire district in conjunction with Thebarton. This was unjust and unwarranted. Thebarton had moved in the direction indicated, and the West Torrens people would have to bear a greater percentage of the cost and upkeep of the station than the respective rating values warranted. The brigade would be situated at Thebarton, and would start operations on July 1 next. The people of Underdale and Brooklyn wards had vigorously protested against the action of the authorities at a public meeting, and he hoped the present meeting would do likewise. It was unanimously resolved to prepare a memorial for presentation to the Government, expressing the undesirability of bringing Hilton and Keswick into a fire district, and to canvass the district on the subject.

1917

Journal (Adelaide, SA : 1912 - 1923), Saturday 6 January 1917, page 24

A NEW FIRE STATION.

Opened at Thebarton.

On Saturday afternoon the Chief Secretary (Hon. A. W. Styles) performed the ceremony of opening the new Thebarton Fire District Station, at Carlton parade, Torrensville, in the presence of a number of visitors who were present in response to invitations, issued by the Fire Brigades Board. Among those in attendance were Messrs. Chesson and Green (the Parliamentary members for the district), the Mayor (Mr. A. W. Lemon), the Town Clerk (Mr. C. E. Wyett), and members of the Thebarton Town Councils and the members of the Fire Brigades Board—Mr. E. Frinsdorf (Chairman), Ald. Downs, and Messrs. W. H. Cox, V. F. Bogle, and G. C. Hack, H. M. Bristowe (Secretary) and J. E. Dickie (Chief Officer).

—The Building.—

The new station, which is the first to be erected under the Fire Brigades Act of 1914, which gives the board power to proclaim any area a fire district under certain provisions, will serve the whole of the town of Thebarton and a certain portion of the District Council of West Torrens. The building is erected on a corner block, measuring 120 x 200 ft., and is composed of the best picked bricks, which are relieved on the exterior wall by cement bands. The whole of the woodwork is painted white, thus giving the red and white effect which the board adopts for its buildings. The front of the station is plain, but has a pleasing and attractive appearance. The architect (Mr. J. Quinton Bruce) has provided a structure of elegance and solidity without making any attempt at superfluous decorations. The station will be in charge of Station Officer Hopkins, who, has been transferred from Semaphore, and in addition there will be a foreman and two unmarried firemen. Ample provision has been made for the comfort of the staff, and the board has been careful to provide the very best bath and lavatory accommodation for them. The central portion of the building is the fire engine room, which contains the motor reel and ladder appliances. Immediately at the back of this is the quarters for single men, consisting of a bedroom, living room, bath, and lavatory. The eastern side is taken up by accommodation for the station officer. He will have a separate entrance from the eastern verandah, and his suite consists of a sitting room, dining room, two bedrooms, kitchen, bath, and lavatory, and in addition there is a storeroom. On the western side there is a sitting room, bath, and lavatory for the use of the foreman.

—Demonstration by Three Brigades.—

At the invitation of Mr. Frandsorf the Chief Secretary pressed an electric button outside the station, the doors flew open, and the motor reel, with four fire-men, speedily turned out, and from a street hydrant the men quickly had a stream of water flowing. It was an impressive turnout, and the onlookers lustily cheered. Simultaneously with the pressing of the button by the Chief Secretary, a call was sent to the Adelaide and North Adelaide brigades. They were smart in getting to the scene. A motor reel and ladder from the city station came in seven minutes, while four men from North Adelaide arrived with similar appliance three and a half minutes later, after having been held up at a railway level crossing for nearly three minutes. The Chief Secretary explained that the call to the other stations was given so as to demonstrate to the onlookers how readily the local brigade could secure assistance if necessary.



Thebarton Fire Station building location, Carlton Parade, Torrensville. Google Maps 2023.

Monday 8th January 1917 - The Advertiser page 10

NEW FIRE BRIGADE.

THEBARTON STATION OPENED.

SMART DISPLAYS BY FIREMEN.

Thebarton, the oldest suburb of Adelaide, and one of the most progressive municipalities in the metropolitan area, has not, during all the years of its existence, had any kind of organised protection against fire. The town, though the home of many large factories, has had to depend for assistance in quelling fires, upon the good offices of the Hindmarsh Volunteer Fire Brigade, which often left its district unguarded in order to fight a fire across the river, or upon the Metropolitan Fire Brigade, which was under, no obligation at all to go to the western suburb. At last, however, Thebarton is the possessor of a fire station, up-to-date in equipment, and effective in operation. The brigade station is a conspicuous building in Carlton-parade, Torrensville, a fairly central position in the district to be served. The block on which the building stands has a frontage to Carlton-parade of 120 ft. by a depth of 200 ft., and was purchased for £315. Mr. J. Quinton Bruce was the architect of the building, which cost £1,898, the total expenditure on land, building, and incidentals being £2,350. The district served has a population of 15,000. The building has been designed with a motor house in the middle front, flanked by the station-officer's quarters on the left and the foreman's quarters on the right. The rooms occupied by the single men being at the rear. The apartments provided for the station officer and the foreman each comprise two bedrooms, living room, kitchen, store-room, and bathroom, and are commodious and conveniently set out. Externally the building is commanding in appearance, though no expense has been wasted in useless ornamentation. The building is of brick, with cement bands, and as the wood-work is painted white the red and white effect, which the Fire Brigades Board has adopted, is carried out. Station-Officer Hopkins (previously foreman at the Semaphore) is in charge, (and he has a foreman and two single men to make up the staff. The station is equipped with a large and powerful motor reel and ladder. Thebarton is the first new fire district proclaimed since the passing of the 1914 Act.

On Saturday afternoon the establishment was opened by the Chief Secretary (Hon. A. W. Styles) in the presence of a large assemblage, including the chairman of the Fire Brigades Board (Mr. E. Frinsdorf), Alderman Downs, and Messrs. W. F. Bogle and C. G. Hack (members of the board). the Mayor of Thebarton (Mr. A. W. Lemon) and members of the town council and their wives, the town clerk (Mr. C. E. Wyett), and the chief officer of the Metropolitan Fire Brigade (Mr. J. E. Dickie) At the invitation of Mr. Frinsdorf, the Chief Secretary pressed the button of the alarm bell outside the station, and the brigade made a smart turnout in 8 seconds, and after a run along the street for some distance and back again got out a line of hose and had the water on in 1 min. 46 sec. The pressing of the bell simultaneously summoned motor reels from Adelaide and North Adelaide. The reel from the head station arrived in 7 minutes, and had the water on in 7 3/4 minutes. The North Adelaide brigade, however, was held up by the Mile-End railway crossing gates for 2 1/2 minutes, but, nevertheless, reached the Thebarton station in 10 min 30 sec, and took three-quarters-of-a minute more to get the water on. The smart work of the three units was warmly applauded, and the spectators realised that at last Thebarton has adequate protection against fire. The delay at the Mile-End crossing, however, may prove to be a serious matter, and until this obstacle can be overcome the brigade will have to travel to Thebarton by a more circuitous route. The Mile-End-road through the park lands, cannot be used.

Afternoon tea was provided by Messrs. W. H. Bishop & Sons in a marquee at the rear of the station. Mr. Frinsdorf, who presided, submitted the toasts of "The King" and "The Ministry and Parliament." He mentioned that fires in the district in 1914 and 1915 had shown how necessary it was to have a fire station at Thebarton, and therefore the Fire Brigades Board had declared an area of about five square miles from the River Torrens on the north, to Keswick on the south, to be the Thebarton fire district. After seeing most fire stations in the Commonwealth he had no hesitation in saying that there was no better station than that one in Australia. Although there would be a staff of only four men, in case of fire plenty of help would be forthcoming. By the system of backing up from other stations, fires would be kept from getting out of control. He especially thanked Mr. Thompson Green, M.P. (ex-Mayor of Thebarton) and the town clerk (Mr. Wyett), Mr. H. Sherriff (chairman of the West-Torrens District Council), the district clerk (Mr. V. S. Shepherd), and the Under-Secretary (Mr. H. Blinman) for the assistance they had given the board in bringing about "the organisation of this fire district.

The Chief Secretary responded, and proposed the toast of "The Fire Brigades Board. He expressed appreciation of the work done by the board. Messrs. Bogle, Dickie, and F. W. Bristowe (secretary to the board) responded.

"The Thebarton Fire District" was submitted by Mr. T. Green M.P., and a response was given by the Mayor of Thebarton. The architect complimented at the instance of Mr. Cox and Mr. Bruce replied, and proposed the health of the contractor. Mr. Emmett responded. Mr. C. G. Hack was in charge of the toast of "The visitors."

The Advertiser, Thursday 11th January 1917 page 9

ALLEGED BREACH OF COURTESY.

Members of the Hindmarsh Volunteer Fire Brigade feel much hurt at what they term a slight. When the Thebarton Fire Station was opened on Saturday last, no invitation was extended to members of the Hindmarsh Brigade. It is claimed that Superintendent G. J. Plenty has

done much for Thebarton people at fires there. It was thought as a matter of courtesy that he should have received an invitation to the ceremony. Councillor Dring intends to move in the matter at the next council meeting.

Port Adelaide News (SA :1913 - 1933), Friday 12 January 1917, page 6

The Thebarton District Fire Station.



Formally opened on Saturday afternoon by the Hon. A. W. Styles. M.L.C. (Chief Secretary).

1918

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Friday 11 January 1918, page 5

A SMALL FIRE.

About 8.39 a.m. on Thursday the Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call by telephone to 8x Gladstone-road, Mile-End. The house was occupied by Mr. W. J. McGregor, and owned by Messrs. G. Woodwood and W. Leat. A wash-house was slightly damaged by fire. The cause of the outbreak is unknown.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Monday 4 March 1918, page 5

FIRE AT THEBARTON.

The Thebarton Fire Brigade, at about 10.20 p.m. on Saturday, received a call to a fire at a house occupied by Mr. S. G. Supple (and owned by Mr. W. Bright) at Thebarton West. A lighted candle had come into contact with and ignited a window blind. Only slight damage resulted.

Journal (Adelaide, SA : 1912 - 1923), Monday 11 November 1918, page 1

FIRE AT THEBARTON.

At 1.30 p.m. on Saturday the Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call by telephone to a house in Richmond road, Richmond, occupied by Mrs. C. Fitzgerald. A quantity of wearing apparel, which was on the back verandah of the house, was destroyed. The cause of the fire is unknown.

1920

Journal (Adelaide, SA : 1912 - 1923), Monday 19 July 1920, page 1

CASUALTIES.

FIRE AT MILE-END.

At 6.30 a.m. on Saturday the Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call to attend a fire at Messrs. R. Babidge & Sons' extensive cooperage works at Railway terrace, Mile-end. The building holding the gas producer plant was well alight. It is supposed that a spark ignited some shavings in the building. The Brigade quickly extinguished the flames, and damage to the extent of only £30 was caused. The building is insured for £300 in the Ocean Accident Company. Those best able to judge give every credit to the fire brigade for its prompt and efficient save. Large stocks of timber and finished articles were on the premises.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Monday 13 December 1920, page 8

CASUALTIES.

SMALL FIRES.

A series of small fires occurred during the weekend. On Saturday afternoon, at about 5 o'clock, the Thebarton brigade was called to extinguish a blaze at a rubbish tip, situated on the West Thebarton road. At about 11 o'clock on Sunday morning a grass fire occurred in Messrs. Elder, Smith, and Co., Limited's, paddock at Mile-End. A jarrah shed, containing about a ton and a half of wood, the property of Mr. L. K. Ward, of Burnside road, became alight on Sunday afternoon, about 3 o'clock, and both the shed and its contents were destroyed. At about 8.30 o'clock on Sunday evening a small chimney stack of a rubbish destructor at the Adelaide Rope Works, Croydon, caught alight. The Hindmarsh Volunteer Fire Brigade was called out, and the flames were soon extinguished.

1921

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Saturday 22 January 1921, page 9

HAY ON FIRE.

On Friday, at 9.15 p.m., the Thebarton Fire Brigade was called to the property of Mr. W. Keane, Ballantyne-street, West Thebarton, where a fire had broken out. Two and a half tons of hay were burnt. The hay was not insured, and the cause of the fire is unknown.

Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA : 1867 - 1922), Thursday 17 February 1921, page 1

SMALL FIRE AT THEBARTON

The Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call at 5.30 a.m. on Thursday to West Thebarton, where a fire had broken out on premises occupied, by Messrs. G. W. Wright. E. Young, and J. Hallett & Son. Two washhouses and their contents were destroyed. The places were not insured. The cause of the fire is unknown.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Friday 18 February 1921, page 7

CASUALTIES.

A SMALL FIRE.

A dividing fence between the properties of Messrs. G. W. Wright and K. Young, of Taylor road. West Thebarton, and a washhouse, containing tools and other articles, caught alight on Thursday evening. The Thebarton Fire Brigade, which was called to the scene, promptly extinguished the flames. The damage was estimated at £31.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Monday 9 May 1921, page 6

FIRE AT MILE-END.

At about 12.30 on Sunday morning the Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call to the Perry Engineering Works, at Mile-End, and found that the gas-producing plant was on fire. After considerable work, the flames were extinguished. The staging around the gas-producer was considerably damaged by fire.

Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA : 1867 - 1922), Monday 24 October 1921, page 1

MOTOR GARAGE ON FIRE.

The Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call at 2.47 a.m. on Monday to a motor garage at Hughes-street, Mile-End, which is owned by Mrs. Fletcher, of Semaphore road, Semaphore, and occupied by Mr. J. Loftus, poultryman. On arrival it was discovered that a garage, used for the storage of a poultry dealer's appliances, was on fire. The contents were destroyed, and a horse owned by Mr. Loftus was badly singed. The damage is covered by insurance.

Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA : 1867 - 1922), Thursday 17 November 1921, page 1

SMALL FIRES.

Shortly before noon on Thursday the fire brigade received a call to a workshop occupied by Mr. H. W. Langford, French polisher and enameller, Burnett-street, off Currie-street, but the services of the firemen were not required. The shop contained a quantity of furniture ready for polishing, and one article caught fire, and was thrown into the street, where the flames were promptly extinguished.

At about midday on Thursday the Thebarton fire brigade attended a fire that broke out in a heavily grassed paddock near the Adelaide Chemical and Fertiliser Company's works, Torrensville. Some fencing and a shed, besides the grass, were destroyed.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Friday 18 November 1921, page 9

CASUALTIES.

FIVE ALARMS OF FIRE.

The Metropolitan Fire Brigade usually looks for a rush of business whenever the mercury soars high. On Thursday it received five "orders" in the way of alarms, and turned out promptly. In no case, however, did the fires result in much damage. The two first calls, at 11.30 and 11.45 a.m. were to grass fires respectively on the south parklands and at Bellingham street, Thebarton. At the last mentioned time another call from Currie street

took a unit of the brigade to the premises of a French polisher, Mr. H. W. Langford, where slight damage had resulted to some furniture through a blaze consequent on the upsetting of a methylated spirit stove. At 1.12 p.m. a loud explosion and suspicious vapours caused an alarm at the premises of Mr. E. A. Saunders, Arcade, Rundle street. The firemen found on arrival that nothing worse than the bursting of a cylinder of a soda fountain had occurred—a fire-extinguisher itself had there been a blaze that needed attention. A message from Glenelg soon afterwards reported a somewhat similar occurrence at 12.33 p.m. at the chemist's shop of Mr. W. Patterson, Jetty road. In this instance the explosion of some liquids in bottles started a small fire which slightly damaged the dispensary.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Thursday 29 December 1921, page 7

CASUALTIES.

FIRE IN A PUGHOLE.

A first broke out on Tuesday in a pug-hole adjacent to the West Thebarton road. It was soon realized that owing to the hold the blaze had it was impossible to extinguish it. The Thebarton Corporation for a number of years have used a portion of the land for disposing of town refuse, and the other part, which is privately owned, has been utilized for depositing other rubbish from outside the town. As the fire, which was still burning on Wednesday night, is eating its way under the surface of the earth, it is rendering the filled in ground dangerous, and the public are warned by the local municipal authorities of the risk taken in approaching too close to the spot. Late on Wednesday evening it was stated that sparks which were issuing from the hole were threatening some danger to dwellings in the locality, with the result, that the Thebarton Fire Brigade were keeping a watch on the fire.

1922

Daily Herald (Adelaide, SA : 1910 - 1924), Monday 30 January 1922, page 2

GRASS FIRE AT THEBARTON.

The Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call to the Walkerville Brewing Company's premises on Saturday afternoon. A grass fire had been started by children on the banks of the Torrens. It burned its way under the fence of the brewery, and set alight to heaps of rubbish in the yard. The firemen were occupied for two hours in putting out the flames.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Monday 30 January 1922, page 8

FATALITIES AND ACCIDENTS.

FIRE AT SOUTHWARK.

The Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call at about 3 p.m. on Saturday to a fire which was burning among rubbish at the side of the river adjacent to the Walkerville brewery in Southwark. The flames spread to the refuse pit of the brewery, near the engine-house, and the firemen spent two hours in getting the outbreak under control.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Tuesday 7 February 1922, page 6

CASUALTIES.

A TIMELY SPRINKLING.

The Thebarton Fire Brigade reported on Monday night that a fire had broken out at 10.51 p.m. in the Bunyip Soap Factory. The brigade responded to a call from the Winwood street alarm, and found that a quantity of bags in the fat room had been burnt, but that one of the employes living opposite the factory had seen the fire and got to work with a small hose. He had thus stopped what would otherwise have developed into a very big fire.

From the Wikipedia.org site:—

In 1878 Joseph founded the Bunyip Soap factory on 53 acres (21 ha) to the south of Port Pirie. In 1889 the factory moved to the banks of the Torrens on Winwood Street, Southwark, previously occupied by T. Cornish's tannery, where it was managed by J. Milbourne, previously with the Apollo Soapworks then J. Kitchen and Sons. The company was still operating from the same premises, adjacent to F. H. Faulding Ltd., in 1962. The name Bunyip Soap Company was registered in 1898 and from c. 1955 as Crompton Bunyip Soaps Ltd until c. 1991 when the firm went into voluntary liquidation.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Tuesday 4 April 1922, page 8

BLAZE IN A SHOP.

Shortly after midnight on Tuesday morning the Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call to a blaze at Mr. S. T. Pomeroy's grocery shop, which is situated at the corner of Light terrace and Cawthorne street, Thebarton. The stock and fittings were considerably damaged. The brigade, however, effected a save in regard to a dwelling adjoining the shop.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Tuesday 18 April 1922, page 5

WOODSTACK ON FIRE.

At about 10.30 a.m. on Monday the Thebarton Fire Brigade received a summons from Lockleys. A stack of wood, containing two or three tons, was alight, at the rear of the premises of Mr. Robert Fry, of Henley Beach-road. The stables adjoining were in imminent danger, but the brigade succeeded in saving these, although practically the whole of the wood was consumed.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Saturday 29 April 1922, page 9

CASUALTIES.

FIRE AT SOUTHWARK.

At 2.30 a.m. on Thursday the Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call from the Phillips street alarm. It was ascertained that there was an outbreak of fire in the confectionery factory and bakery on the Port road, Southwark, occupied by Mr. J. Rowe, and owned by Mr. Arthur J. Rowe, of Henley Beach. Strenuous efforts were made by the firemen, who were in charge of Station Officer Hopking, and in about half an hour the flames were extinguished. A baker's cart was burnt, and the finishing off and drying rooms were damaged. The property was insured for £1,135 in the Sun Insurance Company.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Saturday 29 April 1922, page 12

FIRE AT SOUTHWARK

A GOOD SAVE.

LOLLIE FACTORY DAMAGED.

Early on Friday morning a fire broke out at Rowe's lollie factory, Port-road, Southwark, and but for prompt action on the part of the Thebarton Fire Brigade, under Station-Officer Hopkins, the whole of the buildings would have been gutted.

The call was received at 2.30 a.m., and when the brigade arrived the bakehouse was well alight and the flames were threatening the remainder of the factory. Lines of hose were immediately run out, and the efforts of the men were directed towards saving the main buildings. After a hard fight the fire was subdued, but not until the bakehouse had been completely gutted and the drying-off and finishing rooms with their contents had been severely damaged. The factory, which was owned by Mr. Arthur John Rowe, was insured with the Sun Insurance office for £1,135.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Saturday 20 May 1922, page 7

SMALL FIRE AT SOUTHWARK.

At 2.15 p.m. on Friday the Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call from the S.A. Linseed Oil Company, Port road, Southwark. It was found that a room in the rear of the premises known as the boiled oilhouse, was on fire. The firemen quickly extinguished the blaze, and little damage was done.

Daily Herald (Adelaide, SA : 1910 - 1924), Friday 16 June 1922, page 3

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

DISTRICT COUNCIL OF WEST TORRENS.

The Fire Brigades Board advised that it had approved of the inclusion of Camden Town and Morphettville and the neighboring townships in the Fire Brigades Area.

Journal (Adelaide, SA : 1912 - 1923), Thursday 24 August 1922, page 3

SMALL FIRE AT THEBARTON.

At 4 o'clock on Wednesday the Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call to a small fire in a stable belonging to Mr. J. Anderson, of Chapel street, Thebarton. The blaze, it is stated, was caused by children playing with matches. It was extinguished before the arrival of the brigade.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Friday 15 September 1922, page 17

A FIRE AT THEBARTON.

At about 230 p.m. on Thursday the Thebarton Fire Brigade was called to the residence of Constable A. A. Hughes, Smith-street, Thebarton, where a fire had started in the back verandah. The verandah, kitchen, and dining-room and contents were badly damaged before the flames were subdued. The house, which is owned by Mrs. D. Roach. of Smith-street, was insured with the London and Lancashire Company.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Tuesday 26 September 1922, page 8

TIMBER FIRE SUBDUED.

The Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call from the timber storage yard occupied by Eclipse, Limited, furniture manufacturers, on the Port road, at 3.53 p.m. on Monday, to extinguish a small fire that had broken out among some lumber. With the use of a chemical apparatus, however, the blaze was suppressed by the time the brigade arrived. Practically no loss resulted.

Mail (Adelaide, SA : 1912 - 1954), Saturday 30 September 1922, page 2

DANGER OF DELAY.

The necessity for keeping a fire extinguisher near at hand in case of outbreak of fire was again demonstrated on Monday afternoon last, when some valuable timber on the premises of Eclipse, Limited, Southwark, became ignited. Smoke and flames were seen coming from a pile of timber to be used for the manufacture of furniture about 3.30, and the alarm was sent to the fire station. In the meantime two people who first noticed the outbreak, and who realised the danger of it spreading to the whole stack, secured a Unicorn chemical fire extinguisher and directed it on the flames, and were successful in putting them out. On the arrival of the brigade its services were therefore not required, and one of the firemen stated that had it not been that an extinguisher was available the flames would have rapidly got a strong hold and resulted in serious damage. The first minute or two after a fire starts — that is the most critical time while the delay in waiting for the brigade, or the lack of water, often causes serious loss of property, and sometimes human life, which could be prevented by prompt action with a chemical extinguisher. Your estate may be fully covered by insurance, but that does not replace the articles which you treasure beyond value of money. A Unicorn fire extinguisher is always ready for use. All that is necessary is to turn it upside down and direct the stream on the base of the flame. In handling fires in flues, chimneys, under floors, between partitions, or in any concealed place a Unicorn fire extinguisher is especially effective. In the equipment of every warehouse, factory, shop, workroom, place of public entertainment, in hotels, restaurants, boarding and private houses, a Unicorn Fire Extinguisher should have a place. These extinguishers can be obtained from Harris, Scarfe, Limited.

1923

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Monday 15 January 1923, page 6

FIRE AT THEBARTON.

At midday on Sunday the Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call from the alarm at the town hall, to the premises of Mr. A. G. Clark. Neville road, Thebarton. It was found that a motor cycle shed and workshop were alight. The contents, including tools to the value of about £80, were destroyed, in addition to the building. It is understood that the building and contents were not insured.

Journal (Adelaide, SA : 1912 - 1923), Tuesday 16 January 1923, page 1

DISASTROUS CAPSIZE

MOTOR CAR BURNED

Episode on Henley Beach Road

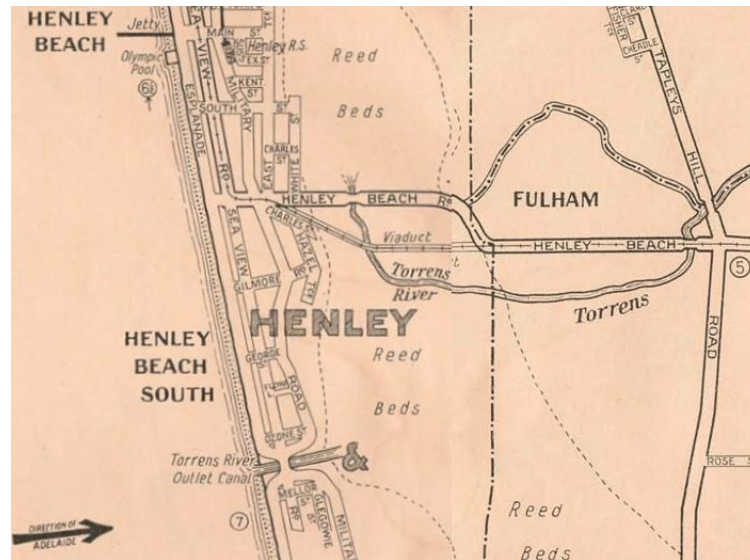
The sharp curve of the Henley Beach road at Fulham adjacent to the tramway viaduct was the scene of a motor accident at a late hour on Monday night. A car was

SA Country Fire Service Promotions Unit

www.fire-brigade.asn.au

11 April 2026

completely overturned, and it burst into flames. An adjacent fence was also kindled, together with the grass in a paddock. A member of The Register staff who was proceeding homewards saw no one in the vicinity. M.C. White, of Henley Beach, was communicated with, and he, with Mr. H. Holland, of the Magnet Motor Garage, proceeded to the spot. The flames were partly extinguished, but little could be done to save the car, which was a Minerva, worth perhaps £1,000. About an hour later a car from a motor stand, (driven by Mr. Rossiter), arrived with the chauffeur of the Minerva, which was owned by Mr. J. T. Mortlock, the west coast pastoralist. The chauffeur, whose name is stated to be Peachman, said that he was turning the corner proceeding on the way to Henley Beach at a moderate rate when the near side rear tyre exploded, and the car turned over on its side and caught fire under the bonnet. He was alone, but Mr. Rossiter was following slowly behind in a Hupmobile. They were unable to right the car or extinguish the flames, and went away to seek the assistance of the fire brigade, but without success. The chauffeur stated that the accident occurred at about 11.30 p.m. The car was insured in the Union Insurance Company of Canton.



Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Monday 5 February 1923, page 6

PALING FENCE BURNT.

A grass fire broke out from an unknown cause about 4 o'clock on Sunday afternoon in a paddock opposite to Mr. W. J. Rawlings's factory, in Rawlings avenue, New Mile-End. A call was immediately given to the Thebarton Fire Brigade. The flames, however, aided by the dry conditions and the dry grass, could not be arrested before they got to a paling fence on the north side, and entirely destroyed it. The firemen had to run out 400 feet of hose before they could do effective work, owing to the recent removal of a fire plug in the vicinity.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Thursday 12 April 1923, page 11

SMALL FIRE AT THEBARTON.

At 5.30 p.m. on Wednesday the Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call to the premises occupied by Mr. P. A. Cook, of Henley Beach road, Thebarton. It was found that a paling fence was alight, the flames having been caused by the boiling over of some fat. The blaze was soon got under control, and little damage resulted.

Express (Adelaide, SA : 1922 - 1923), Thursday 17 May 1923, page 1

FIRE AT THEBARTON.

A Wool Store Burnt.

At 6 a.m. on Thursday morning the Thebarton Fire Brigade, under the charge of Stationmaster Hopkins, answered a call from the Collinside Wool Mills. On arrival it was found that the wool store was alight from end to end. The fire was prevented from spreading to the other mills by playing three deliveries of water on the flames. The machinery in the machine room was left intact. The cause of the fire is unknown. The building and its contents were insured with the London and Lancashire Fire Insurance Company to the amount of £5,000.

Chronicle (Adelaide, SA : 1895 - 1954), Saturday 26 May 1923, page 47

FIRE AT A WOOL STORE

DAMAGE ESTIMATED AT £2,000.

At 6 a.m. on May 17 the Thebarton Fire Brigade, under the charge of Station-master Hopkins, answered a call from the Torrenside Wool Mills, at West Thebarton. On arrival it was found that the wool store was alight from end to end, and that the roof of the carding and spinning room was becoming ignited. The fire was prevented from spreading to the other mills by playing three deliveries of water on the flames, and the firemen were congratulated upon their timely save. The store, measuring about 50 ft. by 50 ft., and containing wool which had been put through various processes in readiness for the spinning department, was completely gutted, the estimated damage being £2,000. The fact that a north wind was blowing was of assistance to the firemen in preventing the spread of the fire. Had it got a firm hold of the carding and spinning room, with its valuable machinery, the damage would probably have been in the region of £30,000. One spinning machine was slightly damaged, and a steam engine in the wool store destroyed. It is believed by the management that the fire was caused by spontaneous combustion due to chemical action being set up in the stored wool. The building and its contents were insured with the London and Lancashire Fire Insurance Company to the extent of £5,000.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Wednesday 31 October 1923, page 12

MOTOR CAR BURNT

On Monday, as Mr. Fred Hamblett was driving in his motor car to Henley Beach, the vehicle stopped opposite Fulham Park gates. Discovering that he was out of petrol, he bought some, and on filling up he gave the handle a turn, when the engine burst into flames. The Thebarton Fire Brigade was communicated with, and extinguished the blaze, but not before the body of the car and fittings were completely destroyed. The back tyres were burnt to cinders, but the engine itself still had a kick left in it. Mr. Hamblett had a bag of money in the vehicle, and he saved it. The car was insured with the London and Globe Insurance Company. The opinion is that the engine backfired.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Wednesday 14 November 1923, page 6

FIRE AREA

West Torrens Extension

West Torrens Council is approaching the Fire Brigade Board for an extension of the fire area in its district. Some years ago portions of the district were placed in the Thebarton fire area, and from time to time extensions have been made. The proposed extensions include Richmond, Marleston, Galway Gardens, Kurralta Park, Glandore, Bideville, Plympton, Hayhurst, Moseley, and Morphettville.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Monday 17 December 1923, page 6

CASUALTIES.

FIRE AT THEBARTON.

About 6.30 o'clock on Sunday evening the Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call to premises owned by Mrs. Allen Whitbread, and occupied by Mr. Charles Whitbread, blacksmith, at 51 Taylor's road, Thebarton. A fire, which started in one of the back bedrooms, destroyed two bedrooms and a portion of the roof.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Wednesday 19 December 1923, page 19

A SMALL FIRE.

The Thebarton Fire Brigade on Tuesday evening received a call to the Union Engineering Works in Winwood-street, but found that the outbreak, which occurred in the carpenters shop, had been got under control by the night watchman (Mr. J. J. Delaney) with the aid of a fire extinguisher.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Wednesday 26 December 1923, page 8

HERE AND THERE

Fire at Thebarton

Members of the Thebarton fire brigade were called to 59 Henley Beach road, Mile End, about 10.50 a.m. today. A fern shed and stable were on fire. The shed was destroyed, and the stable severely damaged. Good work by the brigade prevented an extension of the outbreak. Owned by Mrs. Rosa Phillips, the house is occupied by Mr. Fishell Phillips. The stable was insured for £300.

1924

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Wednesday 16 January 1924, page 10

A GRASS FIRE.

Seven acres of grass, a quantity of fencing and lucern, on the property of Mr. C. Jenkins, of Jenkins-street, Cowandilla, and about five acres of grass on the property of the Hon. A. Poynton, were destroyed by fire on Tuesday. The Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call at 4.59 p.m., and after fighting the fire for an hour and 15 minutes, succeeded in getting it under control. The damage done to Mr. Jenkins' property is estimated at £50.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Wednesday 18 June 1924, page 9

FIRE AT A PAINT FACTORY.

The Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call at 12.30 p.m. on Tuesday, to the premises of the Premier Varnish and Paint Company, Bellingham street, Torrensville, near the Adelaide Chemical Works. A shed used for boiling oil, at the rear of the factory, was ablaze, and the

structure and its contents were considerably dam-aged before the flames could be subdued. The building was insured.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Wednesday 3 December 1924, page 12

FIRE AT A CONFECTIONER'S.

At 10.1 p.m. on Tuesday the Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call to the confectionery shop of Mrs. G. Cameron, at 208D Henley Beach road, Torrensville. The front portion of the premises was well alight when the firemen arrived, but quick work by the brigade saved the spreading of the flames, which were confined to the front of the shop. The front of the shop was severely burned, while at the rear damage was done by smoke and water.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Wednesday 3 December 1924, page 9

Fire at Torrensville

Damage to stock and fittings to the extent of from £170 to £180 was caused by fire at a confectionery shop occupied by Mrs. Gladys Cameron, at 108D, Henley Beach road, Torrensville, at about 10 p.m. on Tuesday. Good work by the Thebarton Fire Brigade prevented the fire from spreading to the adjoining buildings. The fire is reported to have been caused by paper being accidentally set alight by a candle. The building, which was severely damaged, is owned by Mr. P. Haren. It is insured for £800 with the Bankers and Traders Insurance Company. The contents of the shop are insured in the same company for £150.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Monday 8 December 1924, page 4

Washhouse Burned

Fire destroyed a wood and iron shed, used as a washhouse, and its contents yesterday afternoon at the rear of a house occupied by Mr. D. Veitch, of 80a Gouger street, Thebarton. The Thebarton brigade received a call at 3.25 and prevented the flames from spreading. Damage is estimated at about £10. The cause of the fire is unknown.

1925

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Thursday 8 January 1925, page 11

A FIRE AT HILTON.

FLOCK MILL DAMAGED.

Damage estimated at £1,000 was caused by a fire which broke out at 10 o'clock yesterday morning, at a flock mill at Bagot-street, Hilton, owned by Mr. A. J. Pook, of Sussex-street, Glenelg, and Mr. C. K. Hughes, of Hutt-street. Adelaide. The cause is stated to have been a spark from the flock machine igniting the flock upon which it was operating. The stock and plant were not insured, but the building which is a wood and iron structure, owned by Miss Mona Lawson, of Formby-street, Hilton, was covered by a policy of £100 in the Colonial Mutual Insurance Company. The Thebarton fire brigade received a call at 10.14 a.m., and turned out a motor under Station-Officer F. Hopkins. By the time the brigade reached the scene the building was well alight, but the firemen quickly had the flames under control. The building was badly charred, and will probably have to be rebuild. A quantity of flock was destroyed, and the machinery and plant of the mill were badly damaged.

Chronicle (Adelaide, SA : 1895 - 1954), Saturday 10 January 1925, page 50

FIRE AT MILE-END.

MOTOR CYCLE SHED DESTROYED.

A fire broke out in a shed at the rear of the residence of Mr. Henry Goldfinch, Falcon-avenue, Mile-End, about 7 p.m. on New Year's Day. The Thebarton Fire Brigade, in charge of Station-officer Hopkins, quickly responded to the call, and assistance was given by a contingent from the metropolitan brigade. The shed, which was built of wood and iron, was soon destroyed, with three motor cycles which were stored there. An adjoining shed on the premises of Mr. W. R. Maxwell also caught fire and was destroyed. Mr. Goldfinch's loss is estimated at £240, and he was unprotected by insurance. Mr. Wilson was not at home at the time of the fire, and it is not known whether his loss was covered by insurance.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Tuesday 13 January 1925, page 2

FLOUR MILL ALIGHT

DOORS PREVENT SPREAD

Works at Mile-End Damaged

By telephone at 4.10 this morning the Metropolitan Fire Brigade received a message that the City Flour Mills, belonging to William Charlick, Limited, London road, Mile-End, were alight. At the same time the Thebarton Brigade received a call by fire alarm. Three appliances and a motor pump were dispatched by the city brigade. Chiefly owing to the fireproof doors which had been placed at each entrance of each section of the building the outbreak was confined to the smutters' room, on the third floor, where it originated. The building, which is the tallest in the district, is of brick, and is four storeys high. The ground floor is separated from the storeroom of the South Australian Farmers' Co-operative Union by a brick wall, but the other storeys are built farther away from the adjacent property. To obtain a supply of water the brigade had to bring its pump into play. Although there was a water main near the building, water mains through the building, and hoses on the premises, there was little supply, and water had to be obtained from another main. The mill was working when the fire was discovered. The section of the building that was destroyed was insured in the Insurance Company of Australia for £2,500, and the machinery in that portion of the premises was insured for £9,750. The damage done by fire and water to the building and machinery is not yet known. The work of the firemen was commended by several eye-witnesses.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Thursday 15 January 1925, page 8

MOTOR BUS ON FIRE.

At 11.26 a.m. on Wednesday a motor bus, The Grey Hawk, the property of Mr. R. C. Claughton., of Wilton terrace, New Mile-End, back-fired and caught fire in Brooker terrace, Richmond. The Thebarton Fire Brigade was summoned, but when it arrived the bus was well alight, and the engine and body were considerably damaged. There were no passengers on the bus at the time of the fire.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Wednesday 21 January 1925, page 12

RUBBISH DEPOT ON FIRE.

The Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call at about 4.20 p.m. yesterday to the Thebarton Corporation's rubbish depot, in Stirling-street, Thebarton. The outbreak was soon under control, and no damage was done.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Thursday 29 January 1925, page 6

FIRE AT THEBARTON

Motor Bus Burned

Fire destroyed the body of the motor bus, Romantic, and severely damaged the engine at 3.15 o'clock this morning. The bus, which is the property of Mr. G. C. Robertson, of 42 Maria street, Thebarton, was in a shed at that address when the outbreak occurred. The Thebarton Fire Brigade responded to the alarm, but the fire had obtained a good hold when it arrived. The firemen, however, quickly got it under control, and prevented damage to the adjoining properties. The bus, which has been running between Adelaide and Cowandilla, was insured for £250 in the Western Australian Insurance Company, Limited.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Monday 2 February 1925, page 12

FIRE IN A PUGHOLE.

On Saturday morning rubbish in a pug-hole at Thebarton caught alight, and large volumes of smoke rose. At there was no danger to properties in the vicinity the Thebarton fire brigade did not attend.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Thursday 5 February 1925, page 1

Fire in Pughole

Mr. E. T. Isley (mayor of Thebarton) in his report to the council last night stated that material in Hassie's pughole was again alight. The town clerk had informed him that he had got in touch with the Fire Brigade and made an inspection. He stated it would only aggravate the position if they attempted to put it out. He recommended that a notice be served on the owner of the property instructing him that in future no inflammable or insanitary material would be allowed in the pughole. The mayor's recommendation was adopted.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Friday 27 February 1925, page 1

FIRE AT HILTON

Fire and water destroyed a portion of the stock of Mr. J. F. Lademan's tobacconist shop at the Hilton tram terminus shortly before 9 o'clock this morning. Prompt action by the Thebarton Fire Brigade prevented further damage. The stock and fittings were insured in the Union Insurance Company for £200.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Wednesday 11 March 1925, page 13

A MOTOR BUS BURNT.

On Monday evening at 11.20, the Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call from the town hall fire alarm, and proceeded to premises of Mr. H. Martin, motor bus proprietor, in Taylor's-road, West Thebarton. There the brigade found the Chevrolet motor bus, "Tortoise," was on

fire, although there was no danger to the surrounding property. The body was destroyed and the engine was severely damaged. The car was insured for £200 in the Western Australian Insurance Co.

Saturday Journal (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1929), Saturday 11 April 1925, page 3

AMONG THE WEST PARK BOWLERS.

OUTSTANDING PERSONALITIES ON THE MAT.

No Keener Bowler.

There is no keener West Park bowler than my old friend Charley Wyett, or, to give him his full title, C. E. Wyett, J.P., Town Clerk of the Corporation of Thebarton. I remember this quiet mannered and droll young man when he first arrived from Tasmania, about 10 years ago. If I recollect correctly (and I usually do, although my memory is not to be compared with that of Mr. A. T. Saunders for dates) Charles used to play for East Torrens Tennis Club, and as a tennis court tactician there were few who could beat him. He still has a knock up on the asphalt court at the Thebarton Fire Brigade, and was seen in action in the veterans' match at the recent March tournament.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Friday 15 May 1925, page 9

FIRE AT ICEWORKS.

The Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call to the Crystal Ice Company's works at 6.36 p.m. on Thursday. It was found that shavings packed between the ceiling and roof of the storeroom had caught alight. The flames were extinguished before much damage had resulted.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Monday 25 May 1925, page 2

Motor on Fire

Receiving a call at 3 o'clock this morning, the Thebarton Fire Brigade visited Hilton road, Hilton, where a six-cylinder motor, owned by Mr. B. Spangler, was on fire. The body of the car was destroyed, but the engine was not badly damaged. The car was insured for £300 with the Palatine Insurance Company.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Tuesday 26 May 1925, page 11

MOTOR CAR ON FIRE.

The Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call to a fire in Hilton road, Hilton, at about 3 o'clock on Monday morning. On arrival at the scene of the outbreak, a motor taxi owned by Mr. R. Spangler was found to be alight. The engine was slightly damaged, but the body of the car was destroyed. The car was insured in the Palatine Insurance Company for £300. The fire was caused by the engine back-firing.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Saturday 13 June 1925, page 17

FATALITIES AND ACCIDENTS.

FIRE AT TORRENSVILLE.

A fire broke out at the premises of Small's Limited, furniture manufacturers, Myers-street, Torrensville, about 12 o'clock yesterday. The seat of the outbreak was the gas-producing room. The Thebarton Fire Brigade, in charge of Stationkeeper Hopkins was summoned, but before their arrival the blaze had been extinguished by the workmen by means of a chemical extinguisher and a hose on the premises. Damage to the plant and the electric cable amounting to about £50 resulted from the fire. This is covered by a policy in the Colonial Mutual Fire Insurance Company.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Wednesday 5 August 1925, page 1

MIDWINTER BLAZE

Cordial Factory Damaged

Called by telephone to a fire at Cain's cordial factory, Clifford street, Richmond, at 9.30 o'clock last night, the Thebarton Fire Brigade found the premises well alight. By strenuous work the firemen saved portion of the north side of the building, but the main factory, with its contents, was destroyed. The building was insured in the Ocean Accident and Guarantee Corporation for £200, and the contents were covered by the same company for £730. The damage is estimated at several hundred pounds.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Thursday 6 August 1925, page 12

FATALITIES AND ACCIDENTS.

FIRE AT RICHMOND.

The main building of the Progressive Manufacturing Company Clifford-street, Richmond, was gutted by fire on Tuesday evening. At about 9 o'clock, Mr. E. Cain, the manager, who lives near the factory, noticed flames coming from the office. After sending for the fire brigade, Mr. Cain and several helpers pulled the trollies out into safety and liberated the horses. Mr. J. A. Cain opened a small door and attempted to check the fire with a garden hose. When the fire brigade arrived the water pressure was so poor that the fire was not extinguished until the building had been completely destroyed. A number of vats and a large quantity of gallon jars were destroyed, the total damage being roughly estimated at £600. The factory is insured in the Ocean Accident and Guarantee Corporation for £200, and the contents for £750 in the same company.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Monday 14 September 1925, page 13

THEBARTON FIRES.

At 11.30 p.m. on Saturday the Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call from the South-road alarm. They found that a wood and iron shed, the property of Mr. John Sutherland. Richmond-road. Richmond was alight. The shed contained tools, but no one had been working there for some time. The shed and the tools were not insured. The Thebarton Brigade were again called out at about 11 o'clock yesterday morning when they found Mr. R. W. Prettyjohn's garage, Henley Beach-road, full of smoke. A tin of rubbish had caught alight, but no damage was done.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Saturday 3 October 1925, page 4

Fire at Thebarton

The Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call today to a fire at a house at 16a East street, Torrensville. The building is a semi-detached three-roomed cottage, and the fire broke out on the back verandah, burning down the kitchen and destroying the content, and causing damage to the other two rooms. The adjoining cottage was also affected by the smoke. The house is owned by Mr. O. Mulloy, of Upper Sturt, and occupied by Mr. W. G. Payne. The blaze was immediately quelled by the firemen.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Monday 5 October 1925, page 12

NEARLY A TRAGEDY.

At 11.30 on Saturday morning a fire broke out at the home of Mr. William G. Payne, East-street, Torrensville. The Thebarton Fire Brigade was summoned, but before the flames could be extinguished the rear portion of the house was considerable damage, and furniture and effects to the value of £150, were destroyed. The house, which is owned by Mr. O. Mulloy, of Upper Sturt, was insured for £600. Shortly before the outbreak was noticed Mrs. Payne was preparing a meal in the kitchen, where some newly cleaned clothes were hanging before the fire. Finding it necessary to go across the street to her mother's home for a few minutes, Mrs. Payne took her seven months old baby with her. The child had been asleep in the kitchen, and it woke up just as the mother was in the act of going out. When Mrs. Payne returned the kitchen was in flames.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Tuesday 10 November 1925, page 14

FIRE AT SOUTHWARK.

DAMAGE TO FLOCK MILL.

At 12.24 o'clock this morning the Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call to Stirling street, Southwark, where they found Messrs. Inverarity's flock mills ablaze. A reel was also dispatched from the metropolitan station, and the firemen had the blaze under control before much damage was done.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Tuesday 10 November 1925, page 4

FLOCK ON FIRE

Portion of Mill Destroyed

At 12.24 o'clock this morning the Thebarton and Metropolitan Fire Brigades were called to an outbreak of fire at the flock mill of Mr. J. Inverarity, Stirling street, Southwark. Three streams of water were played on the burning building, but the front portion was badly damaged. The machinery and stock were almost completely destroyed. The full extent of the damage is not yet known, but it is believed that it is covered by insurance. The building, it is understood, was insured for £400, the stock for £400, and the machinery for £600. The motor pump from head station arrived at the mill about six minutes after receipt of the alarm. The debris is still smouldering and a fireman is on duty. The fusing of an electric light wire is thought to have caused the outbreak.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Thursday 12 November 1925, page 12

Thebarton Fires

Thirty-nine calls were answered by the Thebarton Fire Brigade during the year ended September 1. Ten were false, 18 were fires, and 11 were grass or rubbish fires, states Mr. E. T. Isley (Mayor of Thebarton) in his annual report.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Wednesday 25 November 1925, page 8

MOTOR LORRY BURNT.

The Thebarton Fire Brigade was summoned about 10 p.m. on Tuesday to Darebin street, West Adelaide, where a motor lorry owned by Mr. W. H. Stribley, builder, of Buchanan street, Prospect, was alight. The firemen extinguished the blaze, which is said to have been caused by an acetylene lamp on the lorry exploding. The vehicle was insured for £100, and was about to be taken to the owner's home.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Thursday 26 November 1925, page 19

A SMALL FIRE.

The Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call about midday on Wednesday to a small fire at the premises of Messrs. Metters & Co., in Henley Beach-road. A number of tins of paint were destroyed.

Mail (Adelaide, SA : 1912 - 1954), Saturday 28 November 1925, page 4

PHOSPHORUS EXPLOSION

In response to an intimation from the head station the Thebarton Brigade shortly after 9 o'clock attended a blaze at the premises of W. L. Ingerson, brass moulders, at Chatham road, Keswick. It was found that an explosion of phosphorus had occurred, and wooden stampers had become ignited. Practically no damage was done.

1926

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Saturday 2 January 1926, page 11

BLAZE AT HILTON.

At 3.50 on Friday afternoon the Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call to the Hilton railway yards, where an electric light pole on the east side of the yard had caught alight. The outbreak was quickly subdued. The fire was caused by burning rubbish.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Monday 4 January 1926, page 6

Tree Aflame

In the West Parklands a blazing tree crashed near the training room of the Underdale Cricket and Football Clubs, last night about 10.30 o'clock. A telephone message was received by the Thebarton Fire Brigade, which responded promptly. It was considered possible that the tree might crash on the room, but it fell in another direction and set fire to the surrounding grass. Although hampered by water the brigade got sufficient from a small tap in the room and from a horse trough in the vicinity to extinguish the flames.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Monday 18 January 1926, page 7

MOTOR BUS ON FIRE

Body Completely Destroyed

While travelling along Henley Beach road last night at 11.15 o'clock on the way to the city a Reo motor bus, owned by Mr. Harold R. Gibbs, of Magill road Magill, was damaged by fire. Flames were noticed beneath the foot-board when the vehicle reached the corner of Marion road. They quickly spread to the body, which was destroyed. The chassis and engine are reported to be undamaged. The flames were extinguished by the Thebarton Fire Brigade. There were no passengers. The driver was uninjured.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Friday 5 February 1926, page 1

BITUMEN ALIGHT

Fireman Injured

While assisting to extinguish a fire at the Local Government yards at Thebarton at noon today, fireman W. H. Brown was struck with the cap of a fire extinguisher. He received a gash over the right eye, a cut on the nose, and other minor facial injuries. He was taken to Dr. F. H. Beare, on Henley Beach road. Mr. Brown then returned to duty. The fire was still burning at 3 o'clock. It is not known what caused the conflagration. A large vat of bitumen had caught fire, and although the flame was confined it was found difficult to subdue it. Chemicals were used. Fireman Brown unscrewed the cap from one container thinking that all the contents had been used on the fire. Some, however, had not been used. This caused the cap to blow off.

Mail (Adelaide, SA : 1912 - 1954), Saturday 20 February 1926, page 10

Tar and Grass on Fire

The Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call this morning to attend the house of Mrs. L. Bignell, Taylor road, Thebarton, where it was found that tar in a copper had boiled over and ignited. The flames were soon extinguished, and little damage was done. The Brigade was also called to the property of Mr. J. Sellar, Henley Beach road, New Mile-End, where a small area of grass was burned and a paling fence slightly damaged.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Friday 12 March 1926, page 1

EARLY MORNING BLAZE

Shop and Contents Destroyed

FIREMAN RECEIVES SHOCK

At 1.40 o'clock this morning the Thebarton Fire Brigade proceeded to a shop on the Port road, Thebarton, occupied by Mr. Hiram Leslie Stuart. The building was found to be in flames from end to end, and the firemen concentrated their efforts on an adjacent motor garage conducted by Campbell & Worthington. The flames did not reach the latter building, but the shop and contents were totally destroyed. The gutted structure is owned by Campbell & Worthington, and is insured. The contents of the shop and furniture are also covered by insurance. While fighting the flames Fireman C. Naggs, attached to the Thebarton Brigade, received a severe electric shock, which rendered him unconscious for more than half an hour.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Thursday 15 April 1926, page 7

Wireless for Firefighters

To express appreciation of the services rendered by the Thebarton Fire Brigade staff, a number of citizens, including Cr. E. Ryan, has arranged a concert for this evening in the local town hall to raise funds to instal a wireless set at the station. Cr. Ryan will preside. Mr. George Horton, of the Dandies, Miss Hilda Simcock, A.M.U.A., Mesdames C. Plumpton and Keith Stewart, Misses Beatrice Clifton, Elsa Forrester, Florence Brown, Kathleen Graham, L.A.B., Messrs. Bernard von Einem, C. Plumpton, F. S. Robertson, Geoff Walton, W. G. Phillips, and Master Sidney Downie will supply a long programme, which has been arranged by Mr. von Einem.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Monday 17 May 1926, page 1

FIRE AT HENLEY

Damage Estimated at £1,000

BEACH GAMES DESTROYED

Damage estimated at £1,000 was caused by fire at 4 o'clock this morning, when the rabbit and bagatelle games on the Henley Beach foreshore were destroyed. The rabbit game was the property of Messrs. H. H. Hannam and J. W. Wyett, and Mr. J. H. Scarce owned the bagatelle game. It was reported that the Thebarton Fire Brigade was communicated with, and that it refused to go to the scene of the fire. The city brigade was unable to send a reel. Eventually the police got in touch with the Woodville District Volunteer Brigade, which turned out, and was instrumental in saving some of the other structures on the beach. The Fairy Floss stall was slightly damaged, and several of the buildings belonging to the Amusements Devices Company, Limited, were blistered and scorched. The damage caused to the property of Messrs. Hannam and Wyett is estimated at £900. It was insured for £750. The property of Mr. Scarce, on which the fire is said to have originated, was uninsured, and his loss is about £100. The matter was reported to the coroner, who considered that an inquest was unnecessary.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Saturday 19 June 1926, page 1

SOUTHWARK FACTORY DESTROYED

Fire Sweeps Paper Works of Wigg & Son

THOUSANDS OF POUNDS WORTH OF DAMAGE

Shortly before 3 o'clock this afternoon a fire was discovered in the factory of E. S. Wigg & Son, Limited, at the corner of Phillips street and Port road, Southwark. The brick wall facing Port road bulged dangerously owing to the excessive heat. Mr. H. L. Davidson (managing director) said that the chief loss occurred in the ruling and envelope plants. He estimated that £20,000 worth of stock had been irreparably damaged, and that of the machinery valued at £45,000, a third had been put out of action. There were about 150 employes at the works.

Mr. Davidson said that when the factory was closed at noon today everything was in order. He had no idea of the origin of the outbreak. Although the factory and plant were insured he could not say to what extent. The bulk of the machinery was saved, although the machine room was a sea of water. It was one of the oldest established factories in Southwark, and a

large portion was burned out. About 2.45 o'clock Mr. S. Searson, who resides next door to the factory, noticed flames issuing from the roof. Almost simultaneously the fire brigades arrived. Reels from Adelaide and Thebarton were in attendance. The fire apparently broke out at the south-eastern corner of the building among huge stocks of paper and rapidly spread north-ward. The firemen concentrated their attention at this point, where huge flames were leaping many feet into the air. The roof of the building is of the saw-tooth variety. The flames rapidly licked their way along the wooden rafters. By concentrated effort firemen managed to confine the outbreak to the front portion of the building, but some thousands of pounds worth of valuable paper and machinery, which was stored in the old portion of the building at the rear suffered severely through being soaked with water. The foremen had hard work to get under control the flames which ran along the rafters above the machinery. The galvanised iron roof which covered the south-eastern portion of the building collapse and that section was flooded with water. A proper estimate of the damage could not be obtained Mr. J. Clements (manager of the factory) was not present nor had any directors of E. S. Wigg & Son, Limited, arrived up till 4 o'clock. About 150 men, women, and girls are employed in the premises, in which the whole of the manufacturing business of the firm is conducted. The premises extend for about 150 feet along Port road by the same depth along Phillip street. Good work was done by the members of the brigades present. Although the flames had a good hold when the firemen arrived, it was soon under control, and although there were no dividing walls to stop its progress through the stacks of paper and other inflammable material, it was confined to the south-eastern corner of the building. Although the damage by water must also have been great, every care was taken to keep it within the narrowest possible limits.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Tuesday 6 July 1926, page 1

Motor Car Burned

A motor car, the property of Mr. J. Mullins (licensee of the Crown Inn Hotel), which was being driven by Mr. Spier, a boarder, caught fire about 1 o'clock this morning. It was proceeding along Henley Beach road, Lockleys. The Thebarton Fire Brigade was summoned and was instrumental in saving the back wheels and a spare wheel. The car, which was a new one, was insured for £260.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Thursday 8 July 1926, page 3

Fire in Garage

The prompt arrival of the Thebarton Fire Brigade at a fire in a motor garage and workshop belonging to Mr. G. W. Burton, builder, Bean road, Southwark, was responsible for a good save. The call was received at 12.45 o'clock this morning from the head station. On arrival it was found that a one-ton motor lorry (loaded with doors and mantel shelves), which was in the building, was burning. The body of the lorry and a number of doors and shelves were damaged, but the garage and other contents were saved. The building and contents were insured in the New Zealand Insurance Company for £600.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Saturday 10 July 1926, page 9

JUST SO.

The Thebarton Fire Brigade was called out when a motor car took fire the other day, and saved the spare wheel. The owner would now like a spare car to go with it.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Thursday 22 July 1926, page 16

A SMALL FIRE

About 7.20 p.m. on Wednesday the Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call to the garage of Mr. A. Starkey in Craig-street, Hilton. The outbreak was extinguished before any serious damage was done. The fire is believed to have been caused by the explosion of some petrol. The building was insured for £600.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Monday 23 August 1926, page 5

SHOP ON FIRE

Smart Work by Brigade

Shortly after 6 o'clock this morning Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call from an alarm in Elston street. Hastening to the scene, the brigade found the front portion of the grocery and confectionery shop of Mr. J. Armstrong, Henley Beach road, Lockleys, was on fire. The outbreak was confined to the front of the premises, the stock, counter, and fittings being severely damaged. Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong and two children were sleeping in a room next to the shop. Mrs. Armstrong was the first awakened by the dense smoke which filled the room. She quickly roused her husband and children. The stock, fittings, and furniture were insured for £200. The shop is in a block of buildings which is insured for £3,000.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Saturday 28 August 1926, page 17

A SMALL FIRE.

A small fire occurred at the flock mill of Mr J. Inverarity at Stirling-street, Southwark, at 1 o'clock on Friday. The alarm was given by the Reichel fire alarm, and the Thebarton brigade was quickly on the scene. The brigade had no difficulty in subduing the flames. Only slight damage was done.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Friday 24 September 1926, page 8

Thebarton Pughole Fire

C. E. Wyett, Town Clerk of Thebarton:—In reply to "Stifled," who complained of an offensive smell coming from a pughole I wish to state that the fire mentioned is a result of spontaneous combustion. It broke out in several places at once. So soon as it was discovered an inspection was made in company with the chief officer of the Thebarton Fire Brigade. He advised that it would be useless to attempt to extinguish it with water. Road sweepings are being deposited on top of the fire in an endeavor to minimise the nuisance, and arrangements have been made with a city contractor to deposit clay from a cellar with the same object. Previous attempts to put out fires of this nature by the application of water proved a failure.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Saturday 16 October 1926, page 7

DESTRUCTIVE BOYS

Call Out Fire Brigade

Two boys, each about 15 years of age, appeared before Messrs. A. Molloy and G. W. Stacey in Thebarton Magistrates' Court charged with having called out the local fire brigade. It was stated that one of the lads threw a stone, breaking the glass door of a fire alarm in Victoria street, Mile End. His mate was more daring, and turned the handle of the alarm. The lad who broke the glass was fined 10/ with 15/ costs, and the other boy had to pay £1 with 15/ costs, in addition to a fine of 5/ with 15/ costs for having broken trees in Hughes street, Mile-End. Constable. J. W. D. Simpson prosecuted.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Friday 22 October 1926, page 3

Motor Car on Fire

Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call shortly after 10 o'clock this morning to the garage of Mr. H. Lloyd, of Parker street, Mile-End, where a motor car was on fire. The flames were extinguished after only slight damage had been done.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Saturday 13 November 1926, page 1

Grass Burned

At 9.15 o'clock this morning a small grass fire occurred on Thebarton Oval. Thebarton Fire Brigade put the flames out.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Saturday 13 November 1926, page 1

FIREMEN INJURED

Reel Struck Telegraph Pole

TORRENSVILLE ACCIDENT

While returning from a fire at Thebarton Oval this morning the Thebarton motor fire reel crashed into a telegraph pole. Two firemen were injured. The brigade was returning to its station about 9.30 when the steering gear failed and the engine crashed into a telegraph pole at the corner of Carlton parade, near the corner of Danby street, Torrensville. Those hurt were:— Fireman J. Ruston, abdominal injuries. Senior Fireman G. J. Kelly, minor injuries. Fireman Ruston, who was driving, was thrown against the steering column and received abdominal injuries, which rendered him unconscious. He was taken to Adelaide Hospital for treatment. The cranking handle of the motor hit the pole. The radiator was badly damaged and the engine was displaced. The other fireman on the reel was not injured.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Monday 15 November 1926, page 13

TWO FIREMEN INJURED.

Shortly before 10 a.m. on Saturday, while returning from a small grass fire at the Thebarton Oval, a motor vehicle of the Thebarton Brigade, travelling along Carlton-parade, in a westerly direction, swerved, and crashed into a telegraph pole at the corner of the parade and Danby-street, Torrensville. The driver, Fireman Rushton, was jammed between the steering column and the seat, with the result that he sustained abdominal injuries which rendered him unconscious. He was taken to the Adelaide Hospital, where it was found that his injuries were not serious, and he was able to return to the Thebarton station later in the day. Senior Fireman Kelly was thrown off the motor and sustained several bruises. The motor vehicle was damaged.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Monday 29 November 1926, page 11

FOUR GRASS FIRES.

Four grass fires occupied the attention of the Metropolitan Fire Brigade on Sunday. The hot dry winds of the weekend made the grass in the parklands and in vacant suburban allotments susceptible to ignition. The headquarters staff had two calls to the west parklands. Shortly after 10 a.m., they were summoned to a fire near the Observatory, and two hours later to another outbreak in the part adjoining the playground. The Thebarton Brigade was called to a fire in a paddock at Cowandilla about 2.30 p.m., and the Norwood firefighters, about an hour later, had to beat out a grass fire on a vacant block at the corner of Walkerville-road and Sixth-avenue, St. Peters. In each instance strenuous work confined the flames to grass, and no other damage resulted.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Friday 3 December 1926, page 15

FATALITIES AND ACCIDENTS.

GRASS FIRE AT GALWAY GARDENS.

A grass fire, covering several acres, broke out at Galway Gardens off the South-road on Thursday night, but, as the result of the efforts of the Metropolitan and Thebarton fire brigades, a serious outbreak was prevented. The Thebarton brigade was called out about 8.45, and sent one reel to the scene. Another reel was in attendance from the Metropolitan station. The fire spread rapidly in the thick undergrowth, and several soldiers' homes were seriously threatened. Breaks were burnt, and after 2½ hours work by the firemen and volunteer fire fighters, the outbreak was got under control. There was no damage to property.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Wednesday 15 December 1926, page 14

FATALITIES AND ACCIDENTS.

FIRE AT HILTON.

Believed to have been caused by the fusing of electric light wires, a fire occurred in the factory of Miller's Lime, Limited at Hilton early on Tuesday morning. The Thebarton Fire Brigade extinguished the blaze, but a quantity of hemp and [?] was destroyed.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Thursday 16 December 1926, page 15

ENGINEERING WORKS ON FIRE.

SMART WORK BY FIREMEN

POOR WATER PRESSURE.

But for the promptness of the Thebarton Volunteer Fire Brigade and men from the Wakefield-street station, a fire which broke out in the Engineering works of Vrai, Ltd., at Torrensville, last evening, would have resulted in serious damage to stock and buildings. The origin of the fire is not definitely known.

About 6.15 p.m. yesterday, smoke was seen issuing from the engineering works of Messrs. A. J. and P. A. McBride, of Wainhouse-street, Torrensville, who trade under the name of Vrai, Ltd. The Thebarton Volunteer Fire Brigade was called, and found that the fire had a strong

hold of the building, which is of wood and iron. Water was directed on the flames but owing to the poor pressure the stream would not reach the burning roof. The fire continued to make headway, and realising the danger, Senior Fireman Kelly who was in charge of the Thebarton Brigade, communicated with the head station. A reel and Dennis pump were sent from Adelaide, and after half an hour's work, the firemen had the outbreak under control. Station-Officer Sayers, of Adelaide, who directed operations, stated that but for the use of the Dennis pump, the low pressure would probably have resulted in the loss of the building and contents. It is believed that the fire broke out in the store, near the front of the building, possibly as a result of the fusing of an electric wire. There was no one on the premises after 5.30 p.m. Considering the extent of the blaze, the damage was comparatively light. The firm had on hand a large quantity of spare parts for Holt tractors, for which implement the company holds the South Australian agency. The stock, which was valued at £30,000 was practically undamaged. In several places the roof was badly damaged, and the shelves, containing the stock were charred. Several tractors and other machinery escaped the efforts of the fire. Mr. P. A. McBride (junior partner) said the fire had occurred at a particularly inopportune time, owing to the approach of the harvest, and the anxiety of farmers to obtain spare parts. However, as the stock was intact, the service would be continued as usual. Mr. C. A. V. Dover (works manager) stated that on the benches in the store were several drums of oil, which were intact after the fire. There were also two tins of petrol on the premises. The building had been extended recently, since when the license permitted them to keep only four tins of petrol on the works. The petrol was not near the seat of the fire. A tube of oxygen and another of acetylene were at the rear of the shop, but fortunately they were not reached by the fire. Mr. McBride stated that he could not give an estimate of the damage.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Thursday 16 December 1926, page 9

WORKSHOP AFIRE.

A TORRENSVILLE BLAZE.

Damage Mainly to Property.

A fire broke out in the engineering works of Messrs. A. J. and P. A. McBride, trading as Vrei, Limited, at Wainhouse street, Torrensville, just before 7 o'clock on Wednesday night, but the good work of the Thebarton and Adelaide Fire Brigades prevented it from extending and saved a considerable quantity of spare parts stored on the premises. The exact time the fire started is not known, but the brigade, which has its headquarters just around the corner from the works, was called out at about 7 o'clock, when flames had begun to shoot out above the ridge of the roof. The Adelaide reels quickly appeared, and the two gangs of men soon had hose playing on to the roofs from both the inside and the outside. Strenuous work for about three-quarters of an hour prevented a further spread of the flames, and by 8 o'clock all danger had passed. It has been suggested that the blaze originated in the fusing of a wire in the spare parts store. The manager (Mr. W. A. Taplin) was the last to leave the works at 5.30, and everything was then in order. He stated that the men employed in the store were non-smokers.

Parts Intact.

Most of the flames were noticed coming from the second or third of six bays in a store on the south side of the workshop. In each bay are a number of wooden shelves ranging from the floor to the ceiling, and on each are placed numerous wooden bin containing spare parts

for the Holt tractors, for which the firm is agent, and engineering requisites. Three classes of tractors are operated, the 5 ton, T29, and T35, and an examination of the store after the fire showed that the spare parts for the latter type were still intact, while the others were not damaged sufficiently to disorganize the firm's service. In the store also, ranged on a bench, were a number of four-gallon drums containing oil — about 12 gallons in all — but the flames did not reach them. Since the firm extended its premises about two years ago it has discontinued the storage of petrol on the property, and the licence permitted four tins only to be kept on the premises. When the fire broke out on Wednesday only two tins were in the store. The firemen concentrated their work on the blazing roof above the store. The flames had a good hold there, and had begun to travel along the ridge towards the front of the building. The strong north-easterly wind had kept the fire on that side of the building, and consequently the machinery erected near the north wall escaped damage. One aspect, however, which the management cannot understand is the fact that one of the belts on a machine was charred, and it was some yards from the burning woodwork. It has been the custom, too, as is usually done with belting, to saturate the leather with oil.

Damage Not Estimated.

Mr. P. A. McBride arrived at the building shortly after 7.30, and he said it was particularly unfortunate that the fire should have occurred at this time of the year, when farmers were engaged in harvesting and needed their tractors. Happily, however, the company would be able to continue its service. The damage to the works had been mainly confined to the property, and not to any of the material stored there. The works manager (Mr. C. A. V. Dover) said it was as well that the flames did not extend to the rear of the premises, where the blacksmith's shop is situated, as there was then in stock a tube each of oxygen and acetylene. None of the members of the firm could say what was the extent of the damage. In the store were about £30,000 worth of spare parts all told, about £12,000 worth having been imported during the last few weeks. The firm only a few weeks ago transferred its registered office to Waymouth street, city, so that none of the books were damaged. What records were on the property— relating principally to tractors at present in commission— were discovered to be still intact. The Adelaide firemen were in charge of Station Officer Sayers and the Thebarton men were under Senior Fireman E. J. Kelly. When the latter reel arrived and began to play a hose on the front of the building the low pressure of the water would not force a stream to the height of the building, and it was found necessary to pump the water.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Monday 20 December 1926, page 10

FIRE BRIGADES BUSY.

TWO MALICIOUS CALLS.

The Metropolitan Fire Brigade turned out three times on Saturday night, only once for a genuine call. Bedding caught fire at the residence of Mrs. Lewis, Field-street, at about 9.45. Little damage to property was done, but Mrs. Shaw, who was sleeping in the bed, was severely burned and might have been more seriously injured but for the prompt action of Mrs. E. J. O'Brien, who dragged her out of the burning mass. Mrs. Shaw was taken to the Adelaide Hospital. At 10.52 the equipment turned out for a malicious false alarm from the Botanic Park alarm, and at 11.20 a false sprinkler alarm brought them out again. The Norwood Fire Brigade had a malicious false alarm from Rundle-street, Kent Town, at 11.18.

On Sunday about noon a grass fire broke out on the property of Mrs. T. Bates, Henley Beach-road, Torrensville, caused by a rubbish fire getting away. The brigade was summoned and the blaze extinguished, little damage being done. Another grass fire in Cohen-avenue, between South-terrace and Park-terrace, was also dealt with at about 1.10.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Wednesday 22 December 1926, page 15

A WASHHOUSE ALIGHT.

A spark from a copper set the washhouse at the residence of Mr. A. G. Roberts, Danby-street Torrensville alight yesterday. The Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call at 3.45 p.m., and arrived in time to prevent the fire doing more than burn the door and window of the washhouse, which was insured.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Thursday 23 December 1926, page 14

GRASS FIRES.

Several small grass fires occurred yesterday. The fire brigade was called at 2.52 p.m. to the corner of West and North terraces, where a small outbreak was extinguished. A grass fire occurred in a paddock in Park-terrace, Gilberton, shortly after 3 p.m., and was attended by the North Adelaide Brigade. At 3.45 p.m. the Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call to the premises of Mr. R. Tasker, tobacconist, of Hunter-street, Torrensville, where a fire had broken out in the grass in the backyard. The flames were extinguished before any damage was done.

1927

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Friday 7 January 1927, page 15

A MOTOR CAR ON FIRE.

The Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call yesterday to West Thebarton-road, where a single-seater motor car the property of Mrs. E. Martin, of Tolley-street, Torrensville, was on fire. The flames were quickly extinguished, but the car was badly damaged. It was not insured.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Friday 7 January 1927, page 11

GENERAL NEWS.

MOTOR CAR BURNED.

Shortly after 5 p.m. on Thursday the Thebarton Fire Brigade was called to the town hall alarm, West Thebarton road, where a single-seater motor car, owned by Mrs. E. Martin, and driven by Mr. J. Martin, of Tolley street, Torrensville, was on fire. The hood and body of the car were damaged. Back-firing caused the car to catch alight.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Tuesday 11 January 1927, page 4

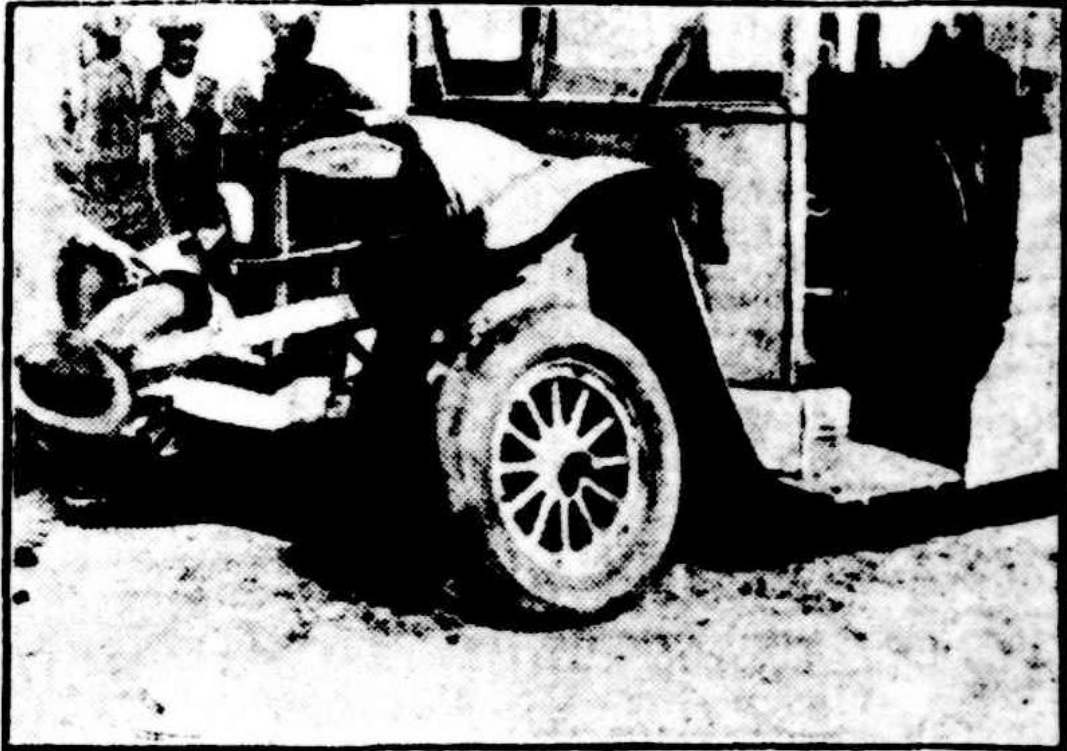
Fire at Thebarton

Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call at 11.10 o'clock yesterday morning to the premises of R. Babidge & Sons, coopers, of Railway terrace, Mile-End. On arrival at the scene it found

that the shaving destructor was alight. The progress of the fire was arrested by the brigade, but the destructor was gutted. Station Officer Hopkins was in charge of operations.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Friday 14 January 1927, page 14

MOTOR BUS STRIKES TELEPHONE POLE.



Early on Thursday morning this motor bus struck a telephone pole on the South-road at Galway Gardens. The front of the bus was damaged, and the driver, Mr. George Backhouse, of Creslin-terrace, Camden, was slightly injured. A high-tension wire, connected to the pole, with which the bus collided, fell over the fence of Mr. H. Kimber's house, and grass in the garden caught fire, but the blaze was promptly extinguished by the Thebarton Fire Brigade. After treatment by Dr. J. O'Brien, Mr. Backhouse went home

F. M. Gray. photo.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Thursday 20 January 1927, page 1

BRIGADES BUSY

Grass Fires Prevalent

Thebarton brigade was called to a small padlock in Stirling street, Thebarton, shortly after 11 o'clock to extinguish a grass fire. No damage was sustained to fences or property.

Mail (Adelaide, SA : 1912 - 1954), Saturday 29 January 1927, page 4

FIRE AT SOUTHWARK

Shed and Room Damaged

Smart work by the Thebarton Fire Brigade this afternoon prevented a serious fire at the confectionery factory of Mr. A. J. Rowe, Port road, Southwark. The Thebarton fire station

SA Country Fire Service Promotions Unit

www.fire-brigade.asn.au

11 April 2026

received a call to the factory of Mr. A. J. Rowe, at 2.34 this afternoon, and when the brigade arrived at the factory a shed and a room used for packing was well alight. The shed, in which was stored 18 casks of glucose, three crates of glasses, and two bales of paper, was destroyed, but the packing room and contents were saved after some damage had been done. The brigade quickly had the fire under control and prevented its spread to the main building. It is understood that the damaged property is covered by insurance.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Saturday 29 January 1927, page 14

PUGHOLE FIRES.

The Thebarton Fire Brigade received two calls to fires in pugholes shortly before 6 p.m. on Friday. A quantity of rubbish was burned at the Corporation pughole, West Thebarton-road, but no damage was done. At Simpson's pug-hole, at Sterling-street, Southwark, a similar fire was subdued.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Monday 14 February 1927, page 10

Motor Car on Fire

As Mr. Charles Barnes, of Young street, Parkside, was proceeding along Nottingham avenue, Keswick, last night in his motor car he discovered that the radiator was without water. He left the car on a side of the road while he went into an adjacent house to secure water, and during his absence the vehicle burst into flames. Thebarton Fire Brigade extinguished the blaze. Damage was done to the upholstery, hood, electrical wiring, and body.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Monday 14 February 1927, page 11

SMALL FIRES.

On Saturday afternoon the Fire Brigade received a call to a shop in the Arcade occupied by Mr. J. T. Hearne, jeweller. The outbreak had been extinguished when the men arrived. A gas jet had been left burning and the flame had ignited an apron hanging near by. An occupant of the room above the shop noticed the smoke and put out the fire before any damage was done. Two calls were received on Sunday evening to small outbreaks. The first was at 8.24, when the Thebarton Brigade was summoned to the South-road alarm. A Chevrolet motor car was alight, and before the fire was extinguished considerable damage was done to the car. Its owner's name was not ascertained. Three minutes later the headquarters and Thebarton Brigades turned out to a small fire at the Thebarton Corporation bituminous plant. The outbreak was extinguished before serious damage was done.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Saturday 19 February 1927, page 7

Fire at Mile-End Coopery

Receiving a call at 3.44 o'clock this morning, Thebarton Fire Brigade, under Station Officer F. F. Hopkins, turned out to Railway terrace, Mile-End, where a fire was reported at the premises of R. Babidge & Sons, coopers. It was discovered that a shaving destructor was alight. The prompt arrival of the brigade enabled the flames to be placed under control before much damage was done. The fire was confined to the destructor, which was insured.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Wednesday 23 February 1927, page 15

FIRE IN A RUBBISH TIP.

At 1.32 p.m. on Tuesday, the Thebarton Fire Brigade was summoned to May-terrace, Lockleys, where a portion of the West Torrens Corporation rubbish tip was alight. A number of posts along May-terrace were destroyed.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Wednesday 2 March 1927, page 9

SOUTHWARK FIRE.

Confectionery Works Gutted.

At about seven o'clock on Tuesday evening, the Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call from a fire alarm at Phillips street, Southwark, to the confectionery works of Mr. A. J. Rowe, Port road, Southwark. Flames were issuing through the roof of the main portion of the confectionery department of the factory, when the brigade arrived. Adjoining this department of the building were the machine room and the refrigerating plant, while a bake-house was situated at the rear of the burning building, which was built of brick, and occupied only one story. When the brigade arrived the flames had secured a good hold, and with a view to preventing them from spreading to other parts of the factory the services of a motor pump were secured from the head station in Adelaide. The firemen, working under the direction of Senior Fireman Kelly, did great work in keeping the flames confined to one portion of the factory. The fire apparently started in the confectionery department, where a quantity of partially prepared sweets were stored, and all of these, together with a quantity of valuable machinery, were totally destroyed. The confectionery department was gutted, while the bakehouse and other buildings received a fair amount of damage through heat and water. The origin of the outbreak is unknown.

Damage About £4,000.

Mr. A. J. Rowe said the premises were insured for £12,000 with the Sun Insurance Office of London. He estimated the damage to the confectionery plant to be between £3,000 and £4,000.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Monday 7 March 1927, page 15

FIRE AT RICHMOND.

The Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call shortly after 1 a.m. on Sunday to a house occupied by Mr. A. B. Bean, at Richmond Road, Richmond. A showman joy wheel, which belonged to Mr. E. E. Craig, was destroyed.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Wednesday 9 March 1927, page 12

FIRE AT COWANDILLA

Two Shops Slightly Damaged

Shortly after midnight Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call to an outbreak in a row of buildings in Cowandilla road, Cowandilla. A fruit shop occupied by Mr. P. Nielson and a laundry tenanted by Mr. C. A. Possingham were slightly damaged by fire. In the fruit shop two doors were damaged and 36 fruit cases destroyed, and the laundry sustained a burned window and a damaged washing trough. Both premises were insured. The cause of the outbreak is unknown.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Wednesday 16 March 1927, page 14

FIRE AT TORRENSVILLE.

POLISH FACTORY GUTTED.

The manufacturing portion of the Everlasting Polish Company's premises in Torrensville was gutted by fire on Tuesday afternoon. Shortly before 4 p.m. on Tuesday, a phenyl tank on the premises of the Everlasting Boot Polish Company, at the corner of Danby and Northcote streets and North-Parade, Torrensville, caught alight, and in a short time the flames had spread over the whole building and were leaping high above the roof. They were accompanied by dense clouds of black smoke. The building, which was a wood and iron structure, contained a large quantity of inflammable material. The Thebarton Fire Brigade, consisting of one reel and a pump from the Adelaide station, were quickly on the spot. Altogether 1,100 feet of hose was used. The firemen had a difficult task, but in less than an hour they had the blaze extinguished. The water playing on the polishes reduced them to a thick black mixture, and this covered the floor of the building, and ran out into the gutters. The building, which was used for manufacturing polishes, was reduced to ruins. A large part of it collapsed, and the interior was a heap of blackened debris. Houses in the vicinity were not endangered. The offices and laboratories are in the rear, and are separated by a right of way. The factory and plant are owned by Mr. Julius Cohn, leather merchant, of Leigh-street, Adelaide. The manager of the works. (Mr. F. H. Summers) was in the laboratory when a man told him that a tank containing phenyl, a liquid disinfectant consisting largely of oil, was alight. He saw that the fire was extending too rapidly to be extinguished without the assistance of the brigade, and he advised them of the fire immediately.

The portion of the works destroyed, measuring 100 feet by 40 feet, contained a plant of grinders and mixers, and the finished products stored beneath the factory pending their removal to the city office in Leigh-street. The building in which the raw materials are stored, and the office were saved. The damage to the machinery and factory, which were insured with the United Insurance Company, could not be ascertained. Phenyl was being heated in the iron tank where the fire occurred, to make a brew, when the flames leapt up inside the tank. In spite of the efforts of the men to subdue it with fire extinguishers the fire rapidly gained in intensity and spread to the building. Mr. Julius Cohn said it was impossible to ascertain the damage, though it was extensive. Sufficient supplies of polish were stored at Adelaide and Torrensville to carry on until the plant and factory, where ten men were employed, had been reconstructed.

Mr. P. G. Grigg, an electrician, of Read Park, said he was driving along North-parade, when he saw flames issuing from the windows. He went to Taylors-road, and gave the alarm. When he returned the building was well alight. He pulled three or four sheets of iron from the side of the building facing Northcote-street. The flames were going up 20 to 30 feet, and dense clouds of smoke, like those from burning tar, were rising. He noticed that live wires, carrying about 400 volts, were making contact with the iron roof. He disconnected them.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Wednesday 16 March 1927, page 14

FIRE AT A TORRENSVILLE FACTORY.



*The plant and the factory of the Everlasting Polish Company, at North-parade, Torrensville, were destroyed by fire on Tuesday afternoon.
Krischock, photo.*

Mail (Adelaide, SA : 1912 - 1954), Saturday 26 March 1927, page 10

TANNERY DESTROYED

Fire at Thebarton

Damage estimated at £20,000 was caused this morning when the two-story premises at Thebarton of Peacock & Co., Limited were completely gutted by fire. The outbreak was first noticed at 4.45 o'clock, and the flames were so fierce that an hour later the factory was a mass of smoking ruins.

Buildings, machinery, finished leather goods, and hides were totally destroyed, also the major portion of 300 tons of bark valued at more than £10 a ton. The premises were partly insured with the New Zealand Insurance Company. A youth, Laurie Quinn, who lives in a cottage about 50 yards from the premises, saw the whole factory alight, and rushed to the nearest fire alarm. Thebarton Fire Brigade was quickly on the scene, and was followed shortly afterward by Adelaide and North Adelaide brigades. In spite of the efforts of the brigades the flames mounted higher and higher, and the roof and floors began to fall. At the time the brigades reached the spot the whole tannery was a mass of flames, the leather within making excellent fuel. Before an hour had elapsed from the time the outbreak was seen the place was gutted.

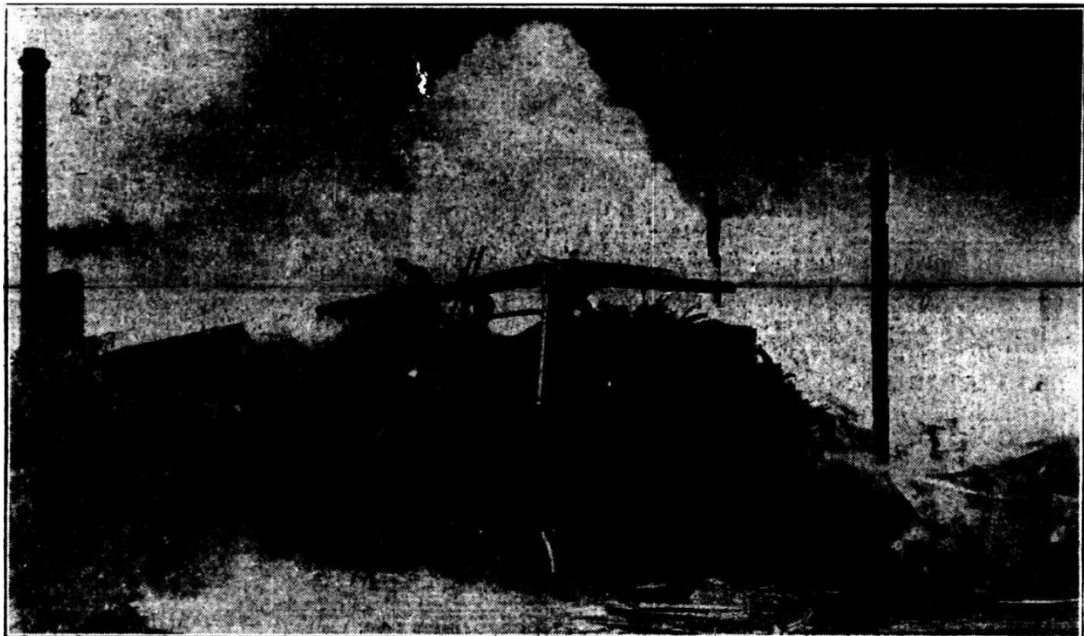
BOILER FIRES DRAWN

Mr. R. A. Howes, who was in charge of the boilers at the factory, said that it was the practice on Friday nights to withdraw the fire from under the boilers, as no steam was required on Saturday morning. Before he left the works yesterday afternoon he satisfied himself that that had been done. He was certain that the fire had not started in the boilerhouse.

MODERATE INSURANCE

The damage was estimated at £20,000, but the works were moderately insured, according to Mr. G. D. Basnett, managing director of the company. Only about 20 men were employed there, and although they were large premises business had not been conducted on a big scale. He could not say whether the place would be rebuilt until his board of directors had met and decided what would be done. It would take some time probably to establish a similar concern. The only portion of the building untouched by flames was the lime room, where hides are treated. This portion is right on the bank of the Torrens and has little inflammable material in it. There was an estimated number of 4,000 hides in the pits. A few of those on the top will probably be damaged, but it is thought that those underneath will not be affected. Sewing machines for bootmaking and other machinery for the tanning of leather were destroyed with the building. The electric wires connected with the works fell as a result of the fire, and these were still alive when a small crowd of spectators gathered this morning to see the ruins.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Saturday 26 March 1927, page 1



FIRE RAGING AT THEBARTON TANNERY OF PEACOCK & CO., LIMITED THIS MORNING

Damage estimated at £20,000 resulted. Buildings, machinery, leather goods, and more than 300 tons of wattle bark were destroyed.

Police Seek Information

It is stated that a milkman rang the bell outside Thebarton Fire Station this morning, and someone also rang up Hindmarsh Fire Brigade notifying the outbreak. Thebarton police would be pleased if those persons would communicate with the station.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Tuesday 29 March 1927, page 13

A FIRE AT THEBARTON.

The Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call at 6 p.m. on Monday to the Mexico Cereal Company, Stirling-street, West Thebarton, where they found a shed containing about 300 bags of pollard and barley on fire. The brigade quickly extinguished the flames, but the contents of the shed were severely damaged by fire and water. The pollard and barley were insured with the Queensland Insurance Company. Mr. W. F. J. Pierce, manager of the Cereal Company, said the loss was not yet ascertained.

Chronicle (Adelaide, SA : 1895 - 1954), Saturday 2 April 1927, page 53

A TANNERY DESTROYED.

BIG FIRE AT THEBARTON.

DAMAGE ESTIMATE AT £20,000

A serious fire occurred at Thebarton on Saturday morning, when the old-established tannery of Messrs. Peacock and Co. at West Thebarton-road, Thebarton, was almost burned to the ground. The outbreak was noticed first about 4.15 a.m., and all that remained of the two-storeyed building at 7 o'clock were parts of the brick wall, the chimney stack, and corners of the bark mill and the currying plant. Of the raw material in the building all that was saved were a few tons of wattle bark, and that was damaged by water and smoke. The machinery, of which there was a good deal, was ruined, all that was left being a few agitators in the currying plant and several vats in the tanning mill. Messrs. Peacock & Co.'s property comprises several acres bounded by the River Torrens, which there takes an acute turn, on the eastern and northern sides, by Taylor's-road on the southern boundary, and McGregor's wool-scouring works to the west. The building in which the firm carry on the business of tanners, curriers, and bark merchants, is near the western fence. On the eastern frontage, which is about 300 ft. long, the building was of brick, on the ground floor, with the upper floor of wood and galvanized iron. There were the fancy leather and sole leather rooms, and the office, next to which was a narrow lane. On the top floor was the finishing department, in which were a number of sewing machines, a rolling machine, parts of machinery belonging to the Enterprise Shoe Company, and partly finished leatherware. There were also six machines in the sole leather room. The engineroom, which was entirely of brick, was at the south-western corner of the block, which is about 150 ft. deep. On the southern side was the galvanized iron bark mill. Work ceased at the works about 5 p.m. on Friday, and the fires under the engine room boilers were drawn. The outbreak seems to have been noticed first a few minutes after 4 o'clock on Saturday morning. Flames were then coming from near the engineroom. One of the first men on the scene said for some time there appeared to be a bright glow inside the building. Then suddenly the flames burst from the roof, shooting high in the air and causing a glare that could be seen for long distances. Within a few minutes the building was alight from end to end.

Work of the Brigades.

It was ten minutes to 5 when the Thebarton Fire Brigade received the first call, and within a few minutes an appliance was on the spot in charge of Station Officer F. F. Hopkins. A motor was also sent from the North Adelaide station, and two motor pumps were dispatched from the head station in Wakefield-street. The water pressure at first was poor, but when the

pumps got to work it improved considerably. One of the difficulties the firemen had to contend with was the distance of the building from a hydrant, the nearest being considerably more than 160 yards away. When the motors from headquarters arrived at the tannery in charge of Deputy G. P. Cooper, the building was well alight. The western portion of the roof had fallen in and before they could get to work the remainder had disappeared in the flames. Four lines of hose were run out, three from Taylor-road, and one from the West Thebarton-road, and efforts were concentrated on the western side, where there was a chance of saving part of the bark mill, and the currying plant. It was at that quarter, too, that there was greatest danger of the fire spreading, as McGregor's wool scouring plant, a galvanized building in which there was stored £20,000 worth of wool, was separated from the tannery by about no more than 30 ft. The dividing fence was on fire at one stage, but the spread of the flames ceased when the brigades got to work, and within a few minutes danger to surrounding property disappeared. By 6.30 o'clock the outbreak was well under control, although flames were still rising from the tangled mass of iron and machinery in the middle of the building. The fierce heat coupled with the action of the water on the walls rendered the standing brickwork unstable, and for a time fears were entertained about the 100 ft. chimney stack at the corner of the engine-room. Wattle bark was stacked to a height of about 15 feet in the bark mill, and part of it which caught alight glowed fiercely for hours. By the continued use of the hoses the firemen were able to save a few tons on the southern corner.

Extensive Damage.

There was 300 tons, of bark, valued about £10 a ton. in the bark mill, and as most of it was destroyed the loss to this respect alone was over £2,000. It is estimated that taking the destruction of the building and its contents into account the total loss will be about £20,000. The premises were partly covered with the New Zealand Insurance Company. The lime room, where hides are treated, was the only part of the property that was not affected. That is on the bank of the river, and it is estimated that there were about 4,000 hides in the pits. The managing director of the Peacock Company is Mr. G. D. Bassnet, of North Adelaide. Neighbors Alarmed. Mr. P. Quinn, whose home in Peacock-avenue adjoins the tannery, said she was awakened by the blowing of the fire whistle, and immediately saw the glare of the fire through the window. Her neighbor, Mr. Fletcher, told them the factory was on fire, and one of her sons ran to Taylor's-road and broke the alarm. That was almost 4.30 o'clock. A mound of wood shavings against the fence which divides Mrs. Quinn's house from the factory yard gave the occupants of the house concern for some time. They feared that the shavings, which were used in connection with the work of the factory, would catch fire, in which case the danger to their house would have been greatly increased. Nobody seems to have noticed the fire before the flames had secured a good hold on the building. Had the brigade arrived a little later a large stack of ground wattle bark on the southern extremity of the tannery building would have been burned. The eastern bank of the River Torrens, during the early stages of the fire, was lined with spectators in all stages of undress. The 19 employes at the factory, although as a result of the fire they will lose their employment, saw some humor in the situation. A small group of them stood near the stables, watching the smouldering ruins. "And I brought my lunch, too," drily commented one, after surveying the flames which were still licking the woodwork of the finishing department. Some of the men have been continually in the employ of the firm for over 30 years, and one, Mr. C. Daley, has been in the firm's service for over 40 years. When the foreman of the works (Mr. E.

Whittaker) entered the gate of the tannery yard he was staggered by the sight. He had received no intimation of the fire, and he came running up the yard, greatly surprised. He said he had no idea that anything untoward had happened until he had seen the fire pump at the tannery gate and the crowd round the entrance. He had, as was his custom, inspected the whole of the premises on the previous night before locking up, and had seen nothing unusual. He could not understand how the fire had originated. The opinion among the workmen during the earlier stages of the fire was that shavings in the engine-room had become ignited, but later, when the flames had subsided a little, one of them ventured closer and found that the shavings mentioned had just then caught alight, disposing of the suggestion that the outbreak had originated there. The manager (Mr. L. Scheidow) did not know of the fire until Mr. Whittaker telephoned him about 7 o'clock. He came post haste to the scene. He inspected the ruins with the foreman, and when questioned said he had no statement to make.

Brought From Grenfell-street

Mr. A. E. Knightly, of Taylor's-road, said he had entered the employ of Peacock's tannery 44 years ago, when the business was first removed from its original site in Grenfell-street, opposite the Woodman's Hotel (now the Producers' Club). "I was here," he said, "before there was a brick on the place. The old wooden shed that they used as a stable in recent years was the pulling-room. Later they built the cottages surrounding for the workmen. I was a lad of 16 at the time, and well remember old Caleb Peacock—the 'big man' we used to call him. He weighed 26 stone" Mr. Knightly is now employed at the Torrenside Woollen Mills, and when he heard the whistles blowing at about 4.30, like many other people, he believed that the mills were on fire.

£20,000 Worth of Wool Saved.

Mr. P. Nevill, who works at Messrs. McGregor & Sons' wool-scouring works, between the mill and the tannery, was also apprehensive regarding his employment when the alarm was given. "When I heard the whistles I said to the wife, 'There goes my bunce,' " he said When he reached the spot the wooden portion of the dividing fence was well alight, the flames shooting through the holes in the iron. About thirty feet away was a large galvanized iron store shed containing about £20,000 worth of greasy wool in bales, waiting to be scoured.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Thursday 28 April 1927, page 1

FIRE AT TANNERY

About five tons of wattle bark and a wood-and-iron shed were destroyed by fire at the tannery of Mr. John Leonard, Dave street, Thebarton, this morning. The outbreak was believed to have been caused by shavings near the furnace becoming ignited. Adelaide and Thebarton brigades were summoned and prevented the fire from spreading. The shed and bark were only partly insured. The bark was valued at between £40 and £50.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Monday 30 May 1927, page 7

SHOP GUTTED.

Henley Road Fire.

A fire which broke out in a ham and beef shop on Henley Beach road, Torrensville, early on Sunday morning, wrought damage to the extent of about £1,000. The Thebarton Fire Brigade was advised by telephone at 3.18 a.m. from the head station, and on proceeding to the ham and beef shop of Mrs. Elizabeth Murphy, 185 Henley Beach road, Torrensville, they found that flames had secured a good hold. An adjacent supply of water with ample pressure prevented the outbreak from extending to the residential portion behind the shop, which was practically gutted. The living room suffered slightly from the effects of water, and the premises adjoining, occupied by Mr. Richard King, were similarly affected. The damaged portion of the shop, comprising fittings, furniture, and stock, which were totally destroyed, were insured. The properties are owned by Mr. Joseph Poole, butcher, of Henley Beach road.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Monday 30 May 1927, page 11

FIRE AT TORRENSVILLE.

HAM SHOP DESTROYED.

Damage amounting to about £1,000 was done early on Sunday morning, when fire broke out in a ham shop at Torrensville. At 3.18 the Thebarton Fire Brigade received a telephone message from the head station, and proceeded to Mrs. Murphy's ham shop and cafeteria on the Henley Beach-road. They found the establishment well alight. There was a good pressure of water, and this and the prompt attention of the brigade was responsible for the saving of the residential portion of the building, which, however, received slight damage by water, as was also the case with the adjoining premises occupied by Mr. Richard King, dentist. Mrs. Murphy's establishment, which was elaborately fitted as a cafeteria, was totally destroyed, together with all stock and fittings. Mrs. Murphy was unable to state the amount of her loss, but it is heavy. It is partly covered by insurance in the Commercial Union Insurance Company. The shop and residence occupied by Mrs. Murphy, which are owned by Mr. Richard Poole, butcher, Henley Beach-road, Torrensville, are insured with the Lonwon and Lancashire Company for £950, and the adjoining property, of which Mr. King is the occupant, is insured in the same company for £300. This is also owned by Mr. Poole, who last night was unable to estimate his loss.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Thursday 9 June 1927, page 1

FIRE AT HILTON

Five Lorries Burned

GARAGE DAMAGED

Early this morning a fire broke out in the garage of J. Condon & Sons, carriers and contractors, at Rowland road, Hilton. Five motor lorries and two tractors were badly burned. It is thought the damage amounts to between £3,000 and £4,000. At 5.30 o'clock a mechanic was using an electric light extension to enable him to work on one of the lorries. Mr. P. J. Condon (one of the proprietors) believes that a fusing caused the electric wiring to catch alight. Flames rapidly ran along the woodwork of the ceiling, and in a few moments almost every wooden part of the structure and fittings was ablaze. Forty tins of petrol in the garage failed to explode. Adelaide and Thebarton Fire Brigades quickly quelled the outbreak. Firemen had to work with doors closed. They feared that air would fan the flames and cause the petrol to ignite.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Saturday 25 June 1927, page 1

Small Fire at Richmond

Damage was caused to a spare room of the home of Mr. W. Hoppo at the corner of South road and Railway terrace, Richmond, this morning, as a result of a candle setting fire to the contents. A quantity of clothing and furniture in the room was burned. Thebarton Fire Brigade was quickly on the scene, and prevented the outbreak from spreading. The house and contents were insured.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Friday 5 August 1927, page 15

A FIRE AT THEBARTON.

Shortly after 9 o'clock last night two alarms of fire were received at the Thebarton Fire Station. One came from near the tramways bridge at Mile-End, and the other from West-street, Torrensville. Leaving the Mile-End call to the Adelaide station, which was advised by telephone, the local brigade attended the Torrensville alarm, and found a shed alight in West-street, near the corner of Carlton-parade, on the property of Mr. A. J. Standish, a greengrocer. The shed was near the house, and Mr. Standish, who had just gone to bed, was at a loss to know what could have caused the outbreak. It was a large shed with a dividing wall. In one compartment there was a two-horse trolley loaded with fruit and vegetables, and in the other a buggy. A good save was effected by the brigade under Senior Fireman E. J. Kelly, the main damage being confined to one side of the shed and the roof. The trolley and contents suffered severely, and two sets of harness were also burnt. The roof was badly damaged. The stables, which were nearby, and in which there were two horses, were saved. The building was insured, but the contents were not. When the Adelaide Brigade reached Mile-End it was discovered that there was no fire, a line fault having caused the alarm shutter to drop.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Thursday 15 September 1927, page 1

Fire at Torrensville

A fire occurred in a shed on the property of Mrs. M. F. Mines in Danby street, Torrensville, this morning. The outbreak spread to a sleeping-out room and about £50 worth of property was destroyed. Slight damage was done to a motor car and shed belonging to Mr. A. W. Abbott on adjoining premises. Thebarton Fire Brigade quelled the fire. The damage is partially covered by insurance.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Friday 16 September 1927, page 15

FIRE AT TORRENSVILLE.

At 2.55 a.m. on Thursday the Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call to the property of Mr. C. Mines, Danby-street, Torrensville. They found a shed alight, and the fire spread to a sleeping-out room, which was severely damaged, the contents being destroyed. An adjoining shed belonging to Mr. A. W. Abbott, was damaged, as was a motor car it contained. The sleeping-out room was insured with the Colonial Mutual Company for £25.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Wednesday 26 October 1927, page 5

Fire at Torrensville

Shortly after 4.30 o'clock this morning Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call to the boot factory of Mr. J. J. Pilbeam, Henley Beach road, Torrensville, where it was found that a wood-and-iron shed was well alight. The structure, which contained a number of tools, was destroyed.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Thursday 3 November 1927, page 17

EARLY MORNING FIRE

Hundred Chickens Destroyed

Contents of a chicken shed, which included buggy and harness, incubator, chicken brooder, and 100 chickens, were destroyed by fire about 12.45 o'clock this morning on the premises of Mr. Thomas Best, dairyman, of Litsett avenue, Brooklyn Park. Thebarton Fire Brigade responded to the call. It is believed that the fire was caused by the lamp in the chicken brooder exploding. The premises are owned by Mrs. J. Heddle, Seaview road, Henley Beach. The contents of the shed were not insured.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Thursday 10 November 1927, page 10

Thebarton Fire Brigade

In its report to the Thebarton Town Council, the local fire brigade stated that during the past 12 months it had attended 61 calls. Grass fires were responsible for 28, and what is described as "actual fires" 21. There was one fire in a chimney and there were 11 false alarms.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Wednesday 16 November 1927, page 15

GRASS FIRES.

At 11.50 p.m. yesterday the Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call to a grass fire at Simpson's rubbish tip, Holland-street, Southwark. The tip adjoins Inverarity's flock mill, and with the assistance of hose from that property the brigade was able to extinguish the outbreak before damage was done to the fences.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Thursday 24 November 1927, page 15

A MOTOR BUS DAMAGED BY FIRE.

The Thebarton Fire Brigade at 6.50 p.m. on Wednesday, was called to William street, Hiltonia, where they found a Brockway motor bus alight. The body of the bus was considerably damaged. The vehicle, which is owned by Mr. W. J. Duggan, is insured with the Alliance Assurance Company for £600. The cause of the fire is not known.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Monday 26 December 1927, page 13

CASUALTIES.

GRASS FIRE AT HILTON.

The Thebarton Fire Brigade was summoned at 4.45 p.m. on Saturday to a fire on the Property of Mr. L. Skinner, in Roland road, Hilton. Grass was burning and fences and fowlhouses were damaged, but the brigade soon had the blaze in hand.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Tuesday 27 December 1927, page 6

SUBURBAN FIRES.

Several fires were dealt with by various suburban brigades on Monday, most of them being not of a serious nature.

The North Adelaide brigade were called to a house in Sussex-street in the morning, where gas escaping from a meter in the front garden had ignited, causing a certain amount of alarm at the time. The flames were out before the brigade reached the spot, however, and no damage was done.

The Norwood Brigade were summoned at about noon to the residence of Dr. E. W. Morris in Grant-avenue, Toorak, where they found a paling fence and a shed alight. They dealt with the fire in a short time, the damage being slight.

The Thebarton Fire Brigade received a summons by telephone at 2.32 p.m. to Mr. A. J. Boake's flock mills on the West Thebarton-road. A shed and a dozen bales of flock were well alight when the brigade arrived, and all that could be done was to prevent the fire from spreading to the machinery, a task which was accomplished after about two hours' work. The wood and galvanized iron shed in which the bales were stored was destroyed as well as the bales. No information could be obtained as to the sum represented by the damage.

Observer (Adelaide, SA : 1905 - 1931), Saturday 31 December 1927, page 17

TORRENSVILLE FIRE.

Considerable Damage Done.

The dressmaking and millinery shop, occupied by Miss Violet James, on the Henley Beach road, Torrensville, was gutted by fire in the early hours of Sunday morning, and the entire stock and fittings were destroyed.

The shop is owned by Mrs. M. A. Rankin, of Stewart road, Toorak Gardens, and was insured for £1,000 with the Mercantile Mutual Insurance Company, Limited. While the stock was covered by the United Insurance Company, Limited, for £330.

The brigade was called by alarm just after 2 o'clock, and making the best use of a good pressure of water, prevented the fire from spreading to the private rooms.

A confectionery shop next door, kept by Mr. A. J. Smyth, however, suffered considerably. The plateglass window was broken, and the front was slightly damaged, while the contents were much affected by smoke and fire. These were insured for £100.

1928

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Tuesday 3 January 1928, page 9

MOTOR GARAGE FIRE.

On Monday evening the Thebarton Fire Brigade answered a call to Mr. Henry Sherrass's residence, Marion road, New Mile-End, and found a wood and iron motor garage well alight. In the garage was a six-cylinder Sedan car, recently purchased. Mr. Sherrass had just returned in the car from Port Gawler, and had hardly entered his house, after garaging the car, when the alarm of fire was given. He turned a garden hose on to the blaze, but the fire had already gained such a hold that his efforts were useless. The car was destroyed, and the garage badly damaged.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Tuesday 3 January 1928, page 13

A MOTOR CAR DESTROYED.

The Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call by telephone at 5.20 p.m. on Monday to the premises of Mr. Henry Sheriff, of Marion-road, New Mile-End. They found his motor garage well alight, and a new sedan motor car, which it contained, was destroyed. Mr. Sheriff had returned that afternoon from Port Gawler, and when he left the car in the garage everything appeared in order. The car was insured with the Automobile Association for £500, and the garage, which was of stone and iron, was insured with the New Zealand Insurance Company. It was considerably damaged.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Thursday 5 January 1928, page 1

FIRE AT MILE-END

ESTIMATED DAMAGE £300

Carpenter's Shop Demolished

Damage estimated at £300 was caused by fire at the carpenter's shop of Mr. E. E. Craig, Cuming street, Mile-End, this morning. At 1.37 o'clock Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call by telephone from the head station to the fire. On arrival it was found that the shop, which was built of wood and iron, was well alight. The premises, which were owned by Mr. Craig, contained furniture and tools belonging to him, and a violin, the property of his son. The violin was made in the year 1710 and was valued at £100. Mr. Craig's son used it for playing in an orchestra at a theatre. The loss of the instrument is a severe one for him. For some time Mr. Craig had been engaged in making his furniture, and this was stacked in the demolished building.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Monday 9 January 1928, page 1

Kitchen and Shed Damaged

At 11.15 o'clock this morning Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call to a house at 48 Ashley street, Torrensville, occupied by Mr. L. Johns. A fire had broken out in a shed attached to the back verandah. The building, which was used as a washhouse, was well alight. Before the flames were subdued the shed had been destroyed and the verandah and kitchen were severely damaged. The dwelling, which is of four rooms and built of brick is owned by Mr. Johns. It is insured with the Colonial Mutual Fire Insurance Company, Limited, for £700.

Motor Car Burned

Yesterday morning Thebarton Brigade was called to Rosetta street to extinguish a fire which had broken out in a motor car owned by Mr. F. Adkins, of Marion road, Ethelton. Mr. Adkins and a passenger escaped safely, but the motor car was destroyed. It was insured for £100.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Saturday 14 January 1928, page 17

FIRE AT MILE-END.

A fire started at the side of Deviation-road, Mile-End, last night. The Thebarton Fire Brigade attended and prevented the outbreak from spreading. A hedge and some grass was destroyed.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Thursday 9 February 1928, page 1

BLAZE AT LOCKLEYS

Boot Shop Destroyed

A bootshop, belonging to Mr. John Denton, Henley Beach road, Lockleys, was totally destroyed by fire early this morning. At 4 o'clock Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call to the premises, and on arrival discovered that the shop was well alight. Despite all efforts, the shop and contents were consumed by the flames, and a front room of an attached dwelling was severely damaged. The premises were insured with the Scottish Union and National Insurance Company for £350, stock and machinery for £250, and furniture for £100. The fire was first noticed by Mr. H. M. Ridgway, who lives nearby.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Friday 10 February 1928, page 16

DESTRUCTIVE FIRES.

AN EARLY MORNING BLAZE.

SHOP DESTROYED AT LOCKLEYS.

Damage estimated between £350 and £400 was done by a fire at the shop and dwelling occupied by Mr. John J. Denton, bootmaker, of Henley Beach-road, Lockleys, shortly after 4 a.m. on Thursday. The cause of the outbreak is unknown. Mr. K. Ridgway, who lives opposite the shop, was awakened by a noise. On looking through his front window he noticed flames leaping from the front portion of the roof. He immediately telephoned the Thebarton Fire Brigade. Mr. Denton and his wife and family occupy three rooms at the rear of the shop. Mrs. Denton has been away in the country with her children, and is expected to return to-day. On the arrival of the fire brigade Mr. Denton was discovered sleeping alone in a back room. It is thought that the fire started in the front of the shop near the electric light switchboard. When the ceiling caught alight the flames forced their way through the roof. The fire quickly travelled over the shop and entered the dining-room, adjoining the shop. The ceiling over the room caved in, and one corner fell out. Most of the contents were severely damaged by fire and water. Nothing was left of the shop except the walls. Stock valued at £90, and machinery valued at about £300, was destroyed. A number of boots and shoes left by customers for repairs were burned. The stock and machinery were insured with the Scottish Union and National Insurance Company for £250. The premises, which were only erected five years ago, are owned by Mr. Thomas Jury, of Clifford-street, Torrensville.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Tuesday 6 March 1928, page 13

Grassfire on Port Road

A grass fire occurred on a vacant allotment between the premises of Mr. A. J. Rowe, confectioner, and E. S. Wigg and Son, Limited, on the Port road, at 1.42 o'clock this morning. Thebarton Fire Brigade extinguished the flames. No damage was done.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Thursday 12 April 1928, page 1

FIRE IN STREET

Electric Light Pole Damaged

At 11.58 o'clock this morning an electric light pole in Henley Beach road, Torrensville, caught alight. Thebarton Fire Brigade, under Senior Fireman E. J. Kelly, quelled the flames with

chemical extinguishers. The pole was burned through 4 ft. from the top, releasing the crosstrees and a high-tension wire. Firemen warned shopkeepers and pedestrians of the dangerous position of the wire, and later a repair gang arrived from Adelaide Electric Supply Company, Limited. The fire was caused by the fusing of an 11,000-volt high-tension wire.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Saturday 14 April 1928, page 3

Fire at Mile-End

Thebarton Fire Brigade answered a call by telephone at 8.16 o'clock this morning to the premises of Mrs. B. Rowe, at King street, Mile-End, where a washhouse had caught fire. The contents of the building were destroyed, and the washhouse was much damaged.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Saturday 21 April 1928, page 1

STOP PRESS

FIRE AT MILE-END

Shortly after 1.30 o'clock this afternoon a furniture factory at Henley street, New Mile-End, caught fire. Thebarton Fire Brigade, under Station Officer F. F. Hopkins, was summoned, and had the fire under control within an hour. The factory and contents, including furniture and machinery, were destroyed.

Mail (Adelaide, SA : 1912 - 1954), Saturday 21 April 1928, page 1

PIGEONS BURNED

Fire at Thebarton

When a carpenter's shop at the back of the home of Mr. John Paull, 16 Henley street, New Mile-End, was burned early this afternoon, pigeons in a nearby house, valued at £400, were destroyed. The pigeons belonged to Mr. E. A. Both, who boards with Mr. Paull. Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call at 1.25 this afternoon. Proceeding to the residence of Mr. Paull they found the shop well alight. It was impossible to save the burning, but the brigade prevented the blaze from spreading to nearby dwellings. The building, which was destroyed, is rented from Mr. Paull by the firm of Wright & Meeks, cabinetmakers. Mr. Paull left his home this morning for Yorke's Peninsula, and the only person present when the fire started was Mr. Both, who was watering the garden. In the absence of Mr. Paull it is not known what damage was done to the shop, but Mr. Both values the pigeons lost at £400. Some of the birds are said to have been worth £25 each.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Tuesday 1 May 1928, page 13

CASUALTIES

MOTOR CAR ON FIRE.

While repairing a motor car at Ashley street, Torrensville, on Monday night, Mr. John F. Rawson, of Jervois street, Torrensville, sustained slight injuries when the car caught on fire. It appears that the fusing of the house electric service resulted in a candle being used. The candle also failed, and then Mr. L. C. Watson, who owned the car, while standing a few feet away from the rear of the car, struck a match, and the car burst into flames. Mr. Rawson, who was nearest to the car, was burned on the arms. The car was considerably damaged.

The Thebarton Fire Brigade extinguished the blaze. Constable Ryan of Thebarton will furnish a report to the Coroner.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Monday 22 October 1928, page 28

FIRE AT TORRENSVILLE.

MOTOR CARS AND FURNITURE FITTINGS DESTROYED.

At 3.15 on Sunday morning a fire occurred in a large shed used as a store and motor garage by Smalls Limited, cabinetmakers and furniture manufacturers, at the north end of West-street, Torrensville. The Thebarton Fire Brigade was promptly on the scene, but the whole building and contents were destroyed, and an adjoining dwelling was damaged. There were two motor cars in the garage, a seven-seater Fiat, and a two-seater Citroen. Mr G. W. Small, the managing director, stated on Sunday that the loss caused by the fire was estimated at £1,200. The Fiat car was insured for £500 with the Colonial Mutual Assurance Company, and the Citroen for £125, with the Mercantile Mutual Company He did not know how the fire originated. The Fiat car was placed in the garage at midnight on Saturday, and everything then was apparently in order. The business of the company will not be seriously affected by the fire, as the factory and offices are on the opposite side of the street, and were not damaged.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Monday 12 November 1928, page 5

THEBARTON BLAZE.

Flock Mill on Fire.

Considerable damage was sustained to a flock mill owned by Messrs. Pook and Hughes, in West Thebarton road, West Thebarton, on Sunday evening.

Between 15 and 20 tons of flock, in bales ready for delivery, were stored in a wood-and-iron shed alongside the teasing machinery and an electric motor. The Thebarton Fire Brigade, under Station Officer Hopkins, turned out with a motor hose carriage and pump, and a similar appliance was sent from the head station in Adelaide. The water pressure from an 8-in. main, however, was good, and two lines of hose was run out. There was no need to use the pumps. The firemen quickly had the blaze under control, and three men were left playing the hose on the pile of debris, which appeared as though it might smoulder for some time. It is not known how the fire originated.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Wednesday 28 November 1928, page 19

FIRE IN A HAYSTACK.

The Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call soon after 1 a.m. on Tuesday to the property of Messrs. Barnes & Kitchen, lucern growers, of Burbidge-road, Thebarton, a stack containing about 12 tons of hay, standing about six feet from the fence, was on fire. Five tons were destroyed by the flames and a further five tons by water. The origin of the outbreak is not known.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Saturday 1 December 1928, page 15

SUBURBAN GRASS FIRES.

The Thebarton, Unley and Prospect fire brigades each attended a grass fire on vacant allotments yesterday. No damage was done at any of the outbreaks.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Monday 3 December 1928, page 11

SMOKE AND SMELL

Thebarton Rubbish Tip Alight

UNPLEASANT EXPERIENCE

Residents of Filsell and Dove streets, Thebarton, had a trying experience yesterday, when the corporation rubbish tip in Dove street caught alight. Nothing of an inflammable nature is allowed by the corporation to be deposited in the tip, which was formerly a pughole. The fire, which broke out early in the morning, blazed furiously at times. A steep bank, facing the back yards of houses in Filsell street, was alight for about 100 yards. A quantity of grass near back fences was cleared by occupants and willing workers as quickly as possible to prevent the possibility of the fire spreading. One resident in Dove street said that the smoke was so thick in her home that at times it was difficult to distinguish articles in the rooms. The odor was intolerable. At 2.30 o'clock in the afternoon she said the houses in the vicinity could not be seen for smoke. It was disgraceful, she said, and it was time that something was done to prevent a recurrence. There was a likelihood of the residents arranging a deputation to the council to consider the matter. Two invalids in the vicinity of the fire, which is likely to smoulder for some time, had their ailments aggravated by the smoke. The fire was seen from Belair at 7.30 o'clock in the evening.

Thebarton Fire Brigade extinguished the flames. The outbreak will probably again direct the attention of the council to the need of a destructor. This matter has been before the council. but there are many things to be considered before a definite plan can be made.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Monday 10 December 1928, page 21

GRASS FIRES.

The City, Norwood, Unley, Thebarton, and North Adelaide Fire Brigades attended grass fires on Sunday afternoon. No damage was done at any of the outbreaks. A large grass fire at Glen Osmond late last night made a fine reflection over the city. Residents attempted to put the fire out, but it continued for over an hour. A large quantity of grass was destroyed, but no other damage was done.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Friday 21 December 1928, page 15

Fire in Shed.

Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call yesterday afternoon at 1.33 o'clock to a fire in a wood-and-iron shed at 59 Fisher terrace, Mile-End. The shed, which is 20 ft. by 20 fl., is one of three similar structures under one roof on the premises, and is used by Mr. H. Penhall. Four bales of straw were damaged by fire and water. Little damage was done to the shed. It was fortunate that the fire was discovered early, as in one of the sheds was a motor car and in the other a horse.

1929

Register News-Pictorial (Adelaide, SA : 1929 - 1931), Saturday 12 January 1929, page 13

FIRE AT MILE-END COOPERAGE

Brigade Makes Good Save

The Thebarton Fire Brigade made a good save at the factory of R. Babidge and Sons, coopers and vat builders, at Mile-End last night, when the engine room caught fire.

The suburban brigade was called by telephone shortly after 7 o'clock, and when it arrived, the engine shed which adjoins the rest of the wooden building was blazing fiercely. Within quarter of an hour the flames were under control, but in the meantime the shed and contents were destroyed. A reel was sent from Adelaide, but its services were not required. The fire is believed to have originated from a spark from the gas producing engine.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Wednesday 6 February 1929, page 11

Fire at Railway Shed

Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call at 2.30 o'clock this morning to a fire at Mile-End railway locomotive sheds. An electric light pole was on fire. Slight damage was done to the shed, the main switch, and pole.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Thursday 7 February 1929, page 17

THEBARTON DISTRICT FIRES

Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call at 4.58 o'clock this morning to the premises of Mr. R. A. Docherty, 4 Stephens avenue, Torrensville, where a wood and iron garage, 20 ft. by 10, and a motor car had been destroyed by fire. The car was insured with Lloyds, and the garage with the Queensland Insurance Company, Limited. At 7.15 o'clock the brigade was called to a grass fire in Weaver avenue, Cowandilla.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Saturday 9 February 1929, page 1

Fire in Brickyards

Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call early this afternoon to Hallett's Brickyards, West Thebarton road. A wooden shed containing about five tons of timber had caught fire from the heat of the brick kiln, which was close by. There was an excellent pressure of water, and the fire was extinguished. Little damage was done.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Friday 15 February 1929, page 15

A SHED DESTROYED.

The Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call yesterday to the residence of Mrs. M. A. Brown. Mile-End, where a shed was on fire. The flames had a good hold when the brigade arrived. The shed and contents were destroyed.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Saturday 2 March 1929, page 13

PETROL ALIGHT.

While the petrol tank of a motor car in Elston-street, Brooklyn Park, was being refilled last night the petrol was ignited by an oil lamp which was serving as a rear light for the car. The Thebarton Fire Brigade were called, but the flames were put out before their arrival. Badly blistered paint on the petrol tank was the only damage.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Monday 8 April 1929, page 11

FIRE AT THEBARTON.

A fire occurred at the Yarrowonga Supply Stores, Light-terrace, Thebarton, on Sunday night. Mr. H. Figgert conducts the business. The front portion of the shop was severely damaged by fire, and the contents were destroyed. The Thebarton Fire Brigade extinguished the blaze. A spark from the fire caused an outbreak on the roof of a house occupied by Mr. Schottelows. Slight damage was done.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Thursday 11 April 1929, page 18

FIRE AT THEBARTON

Thebarton Fire Brigade was called to a small fire on the premises of the Austral Sheet Metal Works, Maria street, Thebarton, at 9.44 o'clock last night. An oxywelding machine was destroyed and two benches were damaged. The cause of the fire is unknown.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Tuesday 21 May 1929, page 1

PAINT WORKS BURNED

Disastrous Fire at Torrensille

PETROL TANKS SAVED BY BRIGADES

Damage estimated at several thousand pounds was caused this morning by a fire on the premises of the Premier Varnish and Paint Company at the corner of Bellingham street and Ashwin parade, Torrensille. Dense black clouds of smoke, which could be seen for several miles, attracted a large crowd of spectators. Drums and tins of varnish, turpentine, and other inflammable oils used in the manufacture of paint exploded.

Frequently there were sounds of muffled explosions as the flames, forced by a westerly wind toward Bellingham street, travelled from one lot of inflammable material to another. The fire was first noticed about 9.15 o'clock by two brothers, Messrs. R. and E. Wright, who were employed on the premises. They went on to the verandah when they saw a small blaze. Immediately they secured two fire extinguishers and played the contents of these on the flames, but were unsuccessful in subduing them. They leaped from the verandah into the packing shed adjoining, and in a few seconds the place was well alight. This was attributed to fumes of turpentine and varnish being highly inflammable having ignited. Noticing that the fire had got beyond his control, Mr. R. Wright telephoned for Thebarton Fire Brigade, which was on the spot within two minutes. Six lines of hose were run out, and this was augmented by a supply pumped by a fire engine from the swimming baths of Adelaide Chemical and Fertiliser, Limited, whose premises were nearby. Two pumps were also sent from headquarters, and they greatly assisted the work of subduing the flames.

PETROL TANKS SAVED

One of the outstanding features was the excellent work of the firemen who in the face of grave danger saved two large tanks containing petrol which were in the heart of the fire. In Bellingham street, facing the scene of the outbreak, are several pairs of attached houses. The inmates were at first alarmed, because the wind was blowing the smoke into their homes. Their fears were allayed by the presence of the brigade. Another wood and iron

structure containing machinery for the manufacture of ink, as well as inflammable material in close proximity, was saved by the firemen. The portion of the premises destroyed included the packing shed, storehouse, varnish room, grinding and churning mills, built of wood and iron, under the one roof. Charred wood, twisted tins and iron, a ruined bicycle owned by one of the employes, and the remains of some machinery with the exception of the petrol tanks, were all that remained of the building affected. Nearby were the large coppers used for the manufacture of the varnish, also two other store sheds. These were not touched by the fire.

SERIOUS LOSSES

The most serious loss occurred in the machinery department. There the grinding mills, electric motors, churns, and other machinery used for the manufacture of paint were destroyed. The office, which was situated in the front portion of the building facing Bellingham street, was also gutted. An electric light pole in Bellingham street caught alight, and the flames had to be extinguished by firemen. As there was a danger from falling live wires, employes of the Adelaide Electric Supply Company, Limited, ascended the pole on the other side of the street, and cut the wires. The proprietors of the Premier Varnish and Paint Company are Messrs. A. H. H. Buring and A. W. Abbott. Four employes were engaged at the works. Constable Simpson had a busy task keeping the spectators from encroaching too close to the blaze.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Tuesday 21 May 1929, page 1



FIERCE BLAZE AT VARNISH AND PAINT WORKS AND PAINT WORKS AT TORRENSVILLE THIS MORNING An outbreak of fire at the premises of the Premier Varnish and Paint Company resulted in the loss of much property. Two large petrol tanks were saved by members of Thebarton Fire Brigade. Had the tanks exploded serious injuries might have been sustained by the firemen.

Chronicle (Adelaide, SA : 1895 - 1954), Thursday 23 May 1929, page 53

PAINT WORKS DESTROYED



CHARRED WRECKAGE OF FACTORY AT TORRENSVILLE

A fire which broke out on Tuesday at the Premier Paint and Varnish Works, Bellingham-street, Torrensville, quickly ignited inflammable oils in the premises and destroyed the wood and iron building with its contents. The photograph shows all that is left of the factory.

Krischock photo.

FIERCE FIRE AT TORRENSVILLE SPECTACULAR BLAZE

Flames quickly enveloped a wood and iron structure comprising the main factory and offices of the Premier Paint and Varnish Co., of Bellingham-street, Torrensville, when the premises caught alight about 9.30 a.m. on Tuesday. It is stated that when one of the employes was drawing petrol from a drum the vapor from the liquid was ignited by the flame of a blow torch, which was being used by another man about 30 feet away. An attempt was made to extinguish the blaze with a chemical appliance, but this proved ineffective, and the Thebarton fire station was notified. When the brigade arrived the flames had a good hold of the building, and drums of inflammable paint and oil were exploding constantly and adding fuel to the flames. Dense clouds of smoke were emitted.

Spread Prevented

The Thebarton reel arrived on the scene within two minutes of notification, and was supplemented shortly afterwards by two pump appliances from the central station. Nothing could be done to save the main building, and efforts were concentrated on the smaller portion of the factory and the store room, which were within a few feet of the main structure. The woodwork on the outside of this shed was charred, but the flames were prevented from getting a hold. A length of hose was extended to an underground tank of large capacity, owned by the Adelaide Chemical and Fertiliser Co., and the augmented supply enabled the firemen to keep the blaze from spreading. The one-storey wood and iron building comprising the main factory was, however, reduced to a ruin of twisted iron, with only the charred stumps of the wooden uprights left standing. The paintmaking machinery housed in the building was destroyed. The upper half of a pole carrying telephone wires standing in front of the burning premises was caught by the flames, which rose to a considerable height, and the wires were cut before the top of the pole was burned away. Building and Plant Insured The proprietors, Messrs. A. H. H. Buring and A. W. Abbott, could give no estimate of the damage. The buildings and plant were insured with the Standard Insurance Co. for £2,115. The larger and most valuable portion was destroyed. Two large drums of petrol were saved by the brigade in the face of grave danger. They were in the

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11 April 2026

heart of the burning building, but were removed before they were exploded by the flames. When the heat had subsided the safe was removed from the wreckage. Together with the contents it was severely damaged. Though the papers it contained were soaked with water, they were not incinerated.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Monday 27 May 1929, page 11

GAS METER ALIGHT

A gas meter, on the property of Mr. J. P. Wilson, Wainhouse-street, Torrensville, caught alight shortly after midday on Sunday. The flames were extinguished by the Thebarton Fire Brigade before they had a chance to spread.

Mail (Adelaide, SA : 1912 - 1954), Saturday 7 December 1929, page 1

FIREMEN IN DANGER

£12,000 Damage at Furniture Factory

Small's Torrensville Works Destroyed

Damage estimated at £12,000 was done when a fire gutted Small's Limited, furniture manufacturing establishment, at the corner of Meyer and Hutchinson streets, Torrensville, early this afternoon. The building and contents were insured for £10,000. For about half an hour firemen fought desperately to save the home of Mr. J. Chant, which abuts on the premises in Hutchinson street. Little damage was done to the house apart from a broken window and that caused by smoke.

There was a tense moment during the fire when a hose was being played through a window on the south-eastern side of the premises. An explosion was followed by a spurt of flame which leaped about 20 ft. into the roadway. Fireman E. Godfrey from head station sustained a burned right hand. Firemen A. Westall and R. Paul, who were nearby, were not injured. Mr. C. J. Small, a member of the firm, stated that recently the firm installed a large quantity of new machinery. This had been destroyed.

Flames were first seen issuing from the north-western corner of the premises shortly before 1. o'clock. Thebarton Fire Brigade received calls almost simultaneously by telephone and from an alarm at Ashley street, Torrensville. A reel and four men from Thebarton and another reel and five men under Station Officer M. Griffin from Adelaide Station were quickly on the scene. With a strong wind blowing from the north the firemen realised that quick work was necessary to prevent the blaze from spreading to the home of Mr. Chant, which is separated by a right-of-way from the southern side of the factory. For half an hour they fought the flames and confined them to the factory. Mrs. Chant was at home when the alarm of fire was given by a tradesman. As soon as it was realised that the home was in danger several willing workers removed the furniture to the next house. Portion of a paling fence was pulled down to allow the furniture to be more easily transferred. Three poles in Hutchinson street carrying high-tension wires caught alight, and it was feared that they would collapse. An electrician was perched precariously on the top of one pole pouring water on it. The sheet of flame which leaped from the fire is believed to have come from a drum of lubricating oil. The premises were composed of brick and iron. About 40 men may be out of work as a result of the fire. Thebarton Police are preparing a report for Dr Ramsay Smith (City Coroner).

Chronicle (Adelaide, SA : 1895 - 1954), Thursday 12 December 1929, page 68

FACTORY FIRE

BUILDING GUTTED

FURNITURE TIMBER DESTROYED

Fanned by a strong wind, a blaze, which broke out in Smalls furniture factory, Torrensville, at midday on Saturday, soon gutted the building.

The factory was owned by Smalls, Limited, and the managing director of the company, Mr George William Small, who resides on the opposite side of the road, said on Saturday that he could not then estimate the amount of the damage, although it is considered it will run into thousands of pounds. He and his family had just begun their midday meal, after the factory had been closed, with the intention of renewing operations in the afternoon in an effort to complete orders for Christmas, when the alarm was given. When the building was closed there was no sign of anything that would indicate how the fire started. It had been suggested that it might have been caused by a lighted match carelessly thrown by a smoker, but that could not be the case, as smoking on the premises was absolutely prohibited.

Cottage Catches Fire

The building, which was situated in Myers-street, and was 100 feet by 90 ft. in extent, had walls of brick, with an iron roof, and contained a large quantity of timber ready for use in the construction of furniture. There were no finished articles in the building, those being housed in a building on the other side of the road. The Thebarton and metropolitan fire brigades were summoned, but by the time of their arrival the position as regards the main building was hopeless. A cottage close to one side of the building, which was also used for storing timber, ignited, but the firemen succeeded in saving that building. Mrs. J. Chant, wife of a railway employe, who lives in a cottage on another side, was playing the phonograph before lunch when the greengrocer, who called for orders, informed her that the building next door was on fire. Neighbors hurriedly helped to remove the furniture, as it was felt certain that the cottage would also catch fire. The firemen, however, made a good save, the only damage being to a side window, the glass of which was broken through the heat. Mrs. Chant comforted herself with the reflection that it might have been worse, had the outbreak occurred in the middle of the night instead of the middle of the day.

Established Ten Years

The factory has been established about ten years, and Mr. Small stated that between £3,000 and £4,000 worth of furniture had been supplied to the furniture warehouses each month. As the result of the fire about 15 men would be out of work. It was particularly unfortunate that there should have been such a happening, as at present the factory was busier than usual with Christmas orders. There was an insurance policy with the Colonial Mutual office, but he could not say what the amount was until Monday, as the papers were in the bank.

1930

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Wednesday 8 January 1930, page 17

SHED DESTROYED BY FIRE

A shed and contents, comprising a petrol engine, saw bench, carpenters' tools and situated in the western portion of the premises of Horwood Bagshaw, Limited, Mile-End, were destroyed by fire early on Tuesday morning. The Thebarton Fire Brigade was called, and an appliance was sent from headquarters, Wakefield-street. Damage estimated at £200 was done to the shed and stock. Only the stock was insured. An inquest has been deemed unnecessary.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Monday 27 January 1930, page 11

FIREWOOD ALIGHT

About 50 to 60 tons of firewood stacked near the premises of the Torrensville Brick Company in Meyer-street, caught fire shortly after midday on Sunday. The Thebarton Fire Brigade was called to the scene about 1.45, and found the flames were in dangerous proximity to the brick company's buildings. The brigade was able to subdue the outbreak within five minutes, and the damage was confined to the wood pile.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Wednesday 12 February 1930, page 18

SULPHUR HOUSE DESTROYED

A sulphur house, situated at the rear of the premises of the Torrenside Woollen Mills, Thebarton, was destroyed by fire on Tuesday night. The house was in the centre or a row of five weatherboard structures used for the bleaching of blankets, but prompt action by the Thebarton Fire Brigade prevented further damage except to an adjoining structure, which was slightly affected. The damage is estimated at £175. Constable J. Thoroughgood, of Thebarton, is preparing a report for the Coroner.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Tuesday 18 February 1930, page 1

£3000 BLAZE AT SOUTHWARK

Outbreak Attributed to Safeblowers

OFFICES OF J. KITCHEN & SONS DESTROYED

Damage estimated at more than £3,000 was caused early this morning by a fire which destroyed the offices and one of the storerooms of J. Kitchen & Sons, Limited, soap manufacturers, at the corner of Winwood and Holland streets, Southwark. The outbreak is believed to have been started by safeblowers, who unsuccessfully attempted to force open a safe. Effective work by firemen prevented the fire from spreading to other buildings.

The premises are of brick, with the exception of the rear part of the storeroom, which is immediately at the back of the offices and attached to them. Thebarton Fire Brigade received the call at 3.1 o'clock this morning. The firemen were under Superintendent F. F. Hopkins. Assistance was sought from Adelaide and North Adelaide brigades because of the many factories in the locality containing inflammable material. The outbreak started in a corner where a safe is built in the brickwork. Everything in the office was burned and practically every article in the storeroom destroyed or damaged. A long storeroom at the south-western end of the premises and about 20 yards from the offices was saved, in addition to hundreds of cases in the yard. Mr. H. C. Nankervis (manager of J. Kitchen & Sons, Limited) said that when Thebarton Fire Brigade arrived the offices were well alight. According to Mr. Nankervis burglars who entered the office and tried to blow open the safe

caused the fire. They evidently had been disturbed by the night watchman about 2 o'clock, and left a fuse smouldering. An expert who examined the safe said there was no doubt that an attempt had been made to force it open by explosives. It was the third unsuccessful attempt. Bags had been used as packing to deaden the sound. It was those that had probably caught fire.



INSPECTING SAFE AT KITCHEN & SONS, SOUTHWARK—It is believed that a fire on the premises early this morning was caused by thieves who attempted to rifle the safe. In the photograph are (left to right) :—Messrs. G. Paterson (safe expert), H. C. Nankervis (manager of J. Kitchen & Sons, Limited), F. B. Anderson (Union Assurance Society), and Supt. F. F. Hopkins (Thebarton Fire Brigade).

Register News-Pictorial (Adelaide, SA : 1929 - 1931), Wednesday 19 February 1930, page 28



BRINGING ORDER OUT OF CHAOS: Employees of J. Kitchen & Sons, soap manufacturers, of Southwark, cleaning up the debris after the fire which destroyed the offices and one of the storerooms. The estimated damage was more than £3,000.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Thursday 27 February 1930, page 7

FIRE IN BOILER ROOM

The Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call on Wednesday evening to the works and laboratories of Messrs. F. H. Faulding & Co. at Torrenside, where a fire had broken out in the boiler room. Before the blaze was subdued slight damage had been caused to the boiler room and an adjoining room.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Wednesday 23 April 1930, page 2

FIRE IN HILTON SHOP

Fittings and Stock Damaged

Fittings and stock were damaged by fire, early this morning at a ham and beef shop conducted by Roy Kelso at 23a South road, Hilton. Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call by telephone at 4.29 o'clock. When the firemen, under Station-Officer F. F. Hopkins, arrived there was a dense volume of smoke in the shop. A line of hose was quickly run out, and the fire, which had broken out near the counter, was extinguished. The property was owned by John Henry Giles, of 23 South road, Hilton. The building was insured for £950 in the London Guarantee and Accident Company, Limited, and the contents for £200 in the Atlas Insurance Company, Limited. No damage was done to the dwelling attached to the shop.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Saturday 10 May 1930, page 15

DWELLING DESTROYED

FIRE AT KURRALTA PARK

Mother and Child on Holiday

A four-roomed wood-and-iron house at Kurralta Park was destroyed by fire last night during the absence of the family. Hundreds of people from the Richmond district and many other parts of the metropolitan area were attracted by the spectacular blaze which broke out soon after 8 o'clock in the residence of Mr. J. A. Cain, at Clifford-street. A neighbor, Mr. Mowbray, of Stirling street, Galway Gardens, first noticed the fire, which appeared to have started in the southern portion of the house. He gave the alarm, and informed the Richmond police. The brigade from Thebarton was on the scene within a few minutes, and shortly afterwards other reels from Adelaide and Glenelg arrived, but there was no hope of saving the house or furniture.

Seen from Foothills

Only a few minutes after the fire was first seen the whole building was well alight, and flames were rising about 30 feet above the roof. So fierce was the fire that it could be seen from the foothills. Water was poured on to the blazing structure, but within a short time the interior was gutted, and portions of the wall collapsed, revealing inside a chaotic mass of tangled iron and burnt wood.

Husband at Picture Show

Mr. Cain said he was at a picture show in the city at the time of the fire. He had been "batching" at home, as his wife and old child were away in a fortnight's holiday at Port Noarlunga. He had cooked his evening meal, and some time after seven o'clock had left in his car for the city. He heard the attendant at the picture show asking for Mr. Cain, and, when he replied, was informed that he was wanted at the office. Someone spoke to him there over the phone, and said there was bad news for him. "Naturally, I thought at once of my wife and child," said Mr. Cain, "but my fears in that direction were set at rest by the news that my house was on fire. I then thought that a joke was being played upon me, but when I learned that Mrs. Gray, a neighbor, was speaking, I knew that it could not be a joke."

Partly Insured

Mr. Cain drove to his home to find the charred remains. He was unable to account for the fire in any way. The furniture and building were only partly insured. Mr. Cain conducts a small cordial factory next to his residence, having lived on the site for many years. He left by car last night to inform his wife of the fire.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Wednesday 18 June 1930, page 17

FIRE IN WASH-HOUSE

Yesterday afternoon the Thebarton Fire Brigade received a telephone call to a fire in the house of Mr. C. R. Wenner, of West Thebarton-road. The fire, which is believed to have been caused by a spark from the copper, broke out in the wash-house and destroyed its contents.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Tuesday 5 August 1930, page 1

FIRE AT HENLEY

RAILWAY OFFICE BURNED

Narrow Escape of Constable

Henley Beach railway ticket office and parcels room, built of wood and iron, were destroyed by fire early this morning. The rooms were attached, the ticket office being about 10 ft. by 15, and the parcels room about 10 ft. square. Tickets and papers were burned, and a quantity of eggs, a sewing machine, and several other articles for transport were also destroyed. The safe containing the books was not seriously damaged. Constable A. G. Chilman, of Henley Beach, had a narrow escape from being burned as he forced open the door of the ticket office. He had been called at 2.40 o'clock by Mr. C. H. West, who was walking home when he saw smoke rising from the building.

As Constable Chilman forced the door flames burst out, compelling him to retreat. Thebarton Brigade, under Station-officer Hopkins, attended. Railway employes were busy a few hours later arranging temporary accommodation. A gang of men transferred a wood and iron shed from Mile-End for use as a booking office. It is not known what caused the outbreak. There is no brigade at Henley. The local carnival committee has an amount in hand which was raised two or three years ago to provide residents with protection from fire.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Monday 20 October 1930, page 1

STOP PRESS HOUSE BURNED DOWN

A four-roomed stone cottage at 73 Ashley street, Torrensville, owned by Mr. James Knowles, was destroyed by fire early this morning. The owner was away, but a son, Edwin, was sleeping in a room off the washhouse. It was some time before he was awakened. The house was well alight when Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call at 3.44 o'clock. The cottage was insured for £400, but the furniture was not covered.

Register News-Pictorial (Adelaide, SA : 1929 - 1931), Tuesday 21 October 1930, page 4

HOUSE BLAZES WHILE INMATE SLEEPS

Wakes To See Fireman In Control

Mr. Clifford Knowles, of Torrensville, slept so soundly on Sunday night in his father's house at the corner of Clifford and Ashley streets, that it was almost demolished by fire before he awoke. By that time the fire brigade had the blaze almost extinguished. Damage is estimated at about £550. There is an insurance cover.

Clifford Knowles was the only occupant of the premises, the other members of the family having visited Mannum, and been delayed by the storm. They returned yesterday to find their home almost destroyed. The fire was first noticed by Mr. E. J. Glanville, who lives opposite. He knocked on the door and concluded that there was nobody home before he notified the brigade.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Wednesday 22 October 1930, page 1

MILE-END FIRE

TWO SHEDS DESTROYED

Bicycles and Furniture Lost

Damage estimated at more than £120 was caused by fire at Mile-End early this morning. Two sheds and contents were destroyed. Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call from Mile-End crossing alarm at 1.43 o'clock. The fire was confined to two sheds at the rear of attached cottages occupied by Mrs. Maria Tieste, boarding-house keeper, and Mr. Leo Peter Barnden, piano tuner, of Henley Beach road, Mile-End. In Mrs. Tieste's shed were stored two bicycles, tools, and furniture, which were not insured. The other shed contained a motor cycle and sidecar, piano, player-piano, benches, and tools. They were insured with the Alliance Assurance Company, Limited, for £80. The premises, which were owned by Mr. George Gray, of West terrace, Kensington Gardens, were insured with the New Zealand Insurance Company for £1,700.

Register News-Pictorial (Adelaide, SA : 1929 - 1931), Monday 3 November 1930, page 27

FIRE DESTROYS SHOP AT HENLEY

Four Billiard Tables Ruined In Morning Blaze

SOON after 1 a.m. to day fire burned out the shop of Mr. H. S. Brown, at Henley Beach road, Henley. The Thebarton Fire Brigade attended, but by then the fire had a good hold of the shop and a portion of the billiard saloon next door, which is also owned by Mr. Brown, were burning. A large portion of the billiard saloon was destroyed. Four new tables, recently installed, were ruined. The private residence of Mr. Brown at the rear of the shop was also destroyed. Mr. Brown was at Mt. Lofty on a holiday. Three fire appliances attended, but the fire had too good a hold to enable them to save much of the property. No estimate of the damage had been made when this edition went to press.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Saturday 13 December 1930, page 1

HOME DAMAGED BY FIRE

Gas Stove Ignites Paper

Fire caused by a gas stove igniting some paper nearby, damaged fittings and a ceiling in the home of Mr. V. McMEnamin, at the corner of Rosslyn street and South road, Hilton, this morning. Neighbors went to the assistance of Mr. McMEnamin, and almost extinguished the flames by throwing buckets of water on them. When Thebarton Fire Brigade arrived it found it unnecessary to use a hose. Insurance was effected with the Ocean Accident and Guarantee Corporation, Limited.

1931

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Thursday 15 January 1931, page 10

Thebarton Fire District

Thebarton Council has been advised by the Fire Brigades Board that owing to financial stringency the board is unable to give favorable consideration to the extension of the Thebarton fire district. When the policy of Henley and Grange Council regarding fire protection was known the information would be of material assistance and would enable the board to reopen consideration of the request of Thebarton Council for extension, the letter stated.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Monday 19 January 1931, page 2

ELECTRIC MOTOR DAMAGED

Due to the overheating of an electric motor, Thebarton Fire Brigade late on Saturday afternoon was called to the premises of Mr C. Cooter, butcher, 47 Henley Beach road, Mile-End. No damage was done to the building, but the electric motor was severely damaged. The owner of the premises is Mr. M. Moran, of Falcon avenue, West Adelaide.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Tuesday 27 January 1931, page 1

Fire at Hilton

Shortly after 11 o'clock this morning a wood-and-iron washhouse and contents on premises owned and occupied by Mr. E. C. Barrett, Davenport terrace, Hilton, was destroyed by fire. Smart work by Thebarton Fire Brigade prevented the flames from spreading to a dwelling and outhouses nearby.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Saturday 4 April 1931, page 1

Brooklyn Park Fire

Early this morning fire practically destroyed an unoccupied wood and iron house in May terrace, Brooklyn Park Extension. The building, which had been unoccupied for about six weeks, belonged to Mrs. L. Ellis, of Lipsett terrace, Brooklyn Park. The fire was observed by the police patrol shortly after 2 o'clock. Thebarton Fire Brigade was called.

Advertiser and Register (Adelaide, SA : 1931), Thursday 9 April 1931, page 10

NEWS IN BRIEF

Fire at Mile-End.—A washhouse behind Mrs. Teresa Jane McCann's house at Tarragon-street, Mile-End, was destroyed by a fire yesterday afternoon. The house also caught fire at a window, but the Thebarton Fire Brigade prevented further damage.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Monday 13 April 1931, page 1

RICHMOND FIRE

Unoccupied House Destroyed

Fire destroyed an unoccupied wood-and-iron house early this morning. Shortly after 2 o'clock Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call from the head station to South road, Richmond, where a house of seven rooms, belonging to Mrs Bertha G. Mathews, of South terrace, Adelaide, was ablaze. The firemen had no chance of saving the building. The cause of the outbreak is unknown.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Monday 27 April 1931, page 8

Firemen Save Shop

Prompt action on the part of members of Thebarton Fire Brigade prevented extensive damage to the smallgoods shop of Mr. C. R. Hearse, 104 Taylor's road, West Thebarton. Early this morning Mr. Hearse was awakened by the sound of burning timber, and found his shop filled with smoke. He immediately summoned the brigade. Six rooms are attached to the shop, but they were not damaged. Only slight damage was caused to the contents of the

shop. Cause of the outbreak is unknown. The building and contents were covered by insurance.

Advertiser and Register (Adelaide, SA : 1931), Tuesday 28 April 1931, page 9

FIRE BRIGADE FUNERAL

Death of Station-Officer Hopkins

Station-Officer Frank F. Hopkins, in charge of Thebarton Fire Brigade, who died suddenly on Sunday, was buried with full fire brigade honors yesterday. The body was conveyed on a motor fire engine. The coffin was draped in a Union Jack, and on the top of it the deceased officer's tunic, helmet, and axe were placed. Two other appliances formed part of the procession, and a ladder was draped from end to end with floral tributes. Forty two officers and men from metropolitan stations followed the remains to the West-terrace Cemetery. The late Mr. Hopkins was a zealous officer, and had a large circle of friends in the district. He was born at Port Adelaide in 1865, and entered the Fire Brigade service in January, 1891. During his long term in the brigade he occupied the positions of officer-in-charge at Semaphore, Port Pirie, Port Augusta, Moonta, Gawler, and was appointed station officer at Thebarton in January, 1916. He left a widow, one son—Mr. Barton Hopkins (Torrensville), a member of the Adelaide Rowing Club—and one daughter—Mrs. V. S. Sullivan (Glen Osmond).

Advertiser and Register (Adelaide, SA : 1931), Tuesday 28 April 1931, page 16



WITH FULL FIRE BRIGADE HONORS, Station Officer Frank F. Hopkins, of Thebarton, was buried at West-terrace yesterday. He died on Sunday. A service reel was used as a hearse, and a large number of firemen attended in uniform.

Advertiser and Register (Adelaide, SA : 1931), Monday 31 August 1931, page 7

Fire in Newsagent's Shop

The contents of the newsagent's and tobacconist's shop of Mr. William H. Beresford, 49, Henley Beach-road, Mile-End, were destroyed by fire early on Sunday morning. The Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call at 3.35, and made a good save, confining the blaze to

the contents and the woodwork of the shop. Mr. Beresford's house, which is attached, was not damaged. The shop was locked up at 8 o'clock on Saturday night, and Mr. Beresford cannot explain how the fire originated.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Tuesday 29 December 1931, page 5

Fire At Brickyard

A grass fire spread to a shed at King and Sons' brickyards, Meyer street, Thebarton, last night, and burnt portion of the shed, brickmaking machinery, and a horse-trolley. The blaze was quickly got under control by the Thebarton Fire Brigade.

Shed Destroyed

Called to the home of Mr. J. Steele, at the corner of First avenue and Norman street, Forestville, yesterday afternoon, the Thebarton Fire Brigade found a shed at the rear of the house, used as a washhouse, tool shed, and storeroom, blazing fiercely. Mr. Steele was away at Blackwood. The shed is close to the dwelling, which was in danger of catching alight. The brigade soon had the fire under control. Damage to the shed, which was covered by insurance, was estimated at £100.

1932

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Friday 5 February 1932, page 11

The Brigade Came, But It Wasn't Wanted

Summoned by telephone late last night, the Thebarton Fire Brigade went to a house in North parade, Torrensville. But it was not needed. Alarmed by the fusing of an electric light wire, which threatened to set the house on fire, the occupants called the brigade, but, apart from a few charred rafters in the roof, no damage was done. Mr. W. G. Pengelly is the occupier of the house.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Thursday 11 February 1932, page 11

Started by the overheating of a furnace a fire broke out at the works of Adelaide Chemical and Fertiliser Co., Ltd., New Thebarton. Thebarton Fire Brigade quickly subdued it. Damage was only slight.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Thursday 25 February 1932, page 10

Tailor's Workroom Damaged by Fire

Believed to have been caused by an overheated iron, which had been left switched on, fire broke out in the workroom of Mr. S. F. Moore, tailor, of Taylor's road, Torrensville, last night. Summoned by telephone at 9.40 p.m., the Thebarton Fire Brigade arrived to find the blaze had a good grip on the front part of the building, which is in the backyard of Mr. Moore's home. The brigade quickly subdued the fire. The front of the workroom, which is of wood, iron, and asbestos, was severely damaged by the fire, and three power driven sewing machines were affected by water.

West Coast Recorder (Port Lincoln, SA : 1909 - 1942), Thursday 12 May 1932, page 2

LATEST NEWS IN BRIEF.

THEBARTON TRAGEDY.

Two Men Lost in Main Sewer.

Bodies Believed Under River.

All Night Search.

Two men testing a main sewer pipe on Taylor's Road, Thebarton, yesterday afternoon disappeared. It is believed they were overcome by sewer gas and slipped down the incline into the main sewer, which travels under the River Torrens. A big party of Waterworks officials and Fire Brigade officers searched for the bodies late into the night. Grappling irons were used, and although a heavy object was brought to within ten feet of the opening at one stage, it was washed away again. The missing men are Mr L. Ingram Cox, 24, of Gilberton, Assistant Surveyor in the Sewers Department, and Mr Alfred Nagel, 53, laborer, of West Street, Torrensville.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Friday 10 June 1932, page 7

Shed Catches Fire at Torrensville

A fire which broke out in a wood-and-iron shed at the rear of the house of Richard W. Brown, Haywood street, Torrensville today caused damage amounting to about £20. The cause of the outbreak is unknown. Thebarton Fire Brigade, which received a call about 1 a.m., arrived in time to prevent the roof from collapsing. The shed itself was badly damaged, and the contents, including tools, a lawnmower, clothes, paint, and a wooden bench, were totally destroyed. The contents were valued at £35. Constable Ridley, of Thebarton, is preparing a report for the coroner. The contents were not insured.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Saturday 20 August 1932, page 7

Fire Alongside Gasometer

A small fire occurred at the South Australian Gas Company's gasometer station at the corner of Maria street and East terrace, Southwark early yesterday morning. The Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call at 5.15 and found that the fire, which started in a small wood and iron room, had spread to the rafters of an adjoining building. The damage was estimated at £25. The fire started in the vaporising plant, caused by the breaking of a pressure gauge. Alongside the blazing shed was the immense gasometer containing several hundred thousand feet of gas, but experts stated that there was no danger of an explosion.



State Library of South Australia - Item 14: Aerial view of Austral Sheet Metal Works. [BRG 397/2/5/14], Aerial view looking south east showing the SAGASCO Thebarton gas holder in the top left corner. Wheatsheaf Hotel on the corner of George Street and Albert Street (bottom right hand corner of image). Austral Sheet Metal on the corner of George and Admella Streets. Approximately 1930-1937. Photographer Smith, D. Darian

Mail (Adelaide, SA : 1912 - 1954), Saturday 3 December 1932, page 1

Fire Threatens Petrol Store

A big bulk storage petrol tank at Mile-End, containing thousands of gallons, was threatened by one of several serious grass fires which broke out in the suburbs late this afternoon.

The fire was in a vacant allotment next to the railway locomotive sheds, and just across the road from the Vacuum Oil Co.'s bulk storage plant. There was serious danger of fumes catching alight. "There is always a fair amount of petrol vapor which cannot be prevented," said an official of the company tonight. "The petrol is all kept in a sealed tank under the ground. There is a vast amount of oil in the drums there, too," he said, "but we have efficient fire-fighting equipment."

HOUSES THREATENED

The Thebarton Fire Brigade rushed to the scene and quickly had the flames under control.

At Blyth street, Parkside, the grass in a vacant block caught alight, and in a few minutes the flames were sweeping towards a paling fence adjoining some houses. But the Unley Brigade soon arrived and extinguished the outbreak.

Next to some children's playgrounds soon after 6 p.m. about an acre of grass was burnt in the East Parklands.

A cricket pitch was surrounded with flames and stopped a match which was in progress. This, too, was quickly put out when the North Adelaide Brigade arrived.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Monday 12 December 1932, page 15

FIRES in SUBURBS

£150 Damage At Beverley

Although no calls were received yesterday small fires, chiefly of grass, kept metropolitan fire brigades busy on Saturday. The largest blaze was at Beverley, where damage estimated at £150 was done when a large stable and its contents were destroyed. A man was injured in rescuing a horse and cart. The stables, which were the property of Mr. A. D. Tonkin, of William street, Beverley, contained wheat and chaff, furniture, and three trolleys. Stubble was being burnt off in a paddock at the rear of Mr. Tonkin's property, and it is thought that a spark may have set alight a small shed adjoining the stables. A neighbor, Mr. Albert Smith, rushed to rescue a horse and cart he had in the larger building, and received severe burns on his hands. He was treated at the Adelaide Hospital. Mr. Tonkin spoke appreciatively of the work of the Woodville Fire Brigade. It had the fire under control within about 15 minutes of its arrival.

Vines and almond trees in Crozier avenue, Mitcham Park, were badly scorched when about 15 acres of grass was destroyed. The North Adelaide and Thebarton brigades were called to fires on vacant allotments, and the Glenelg brigade attended a small grass fire near the Bronze Wing Poultry Farm, Camden. North Adelaide brigade was called to a small fire in the parklands.

Permit Needed To Burn Grass

Attention was drawn by the Deputy Chief Officer of the Fire Brigade (Mr. G. P. Cooper) on Saturday to the danger of allowing dry grass to remain near fences and buildings. He said it would be advisable for householders to get rid of dry grass and weeds in their backyards. A permit, however was necessary before anyone could burn grass off. This could be obtained from the corporation of the district.

1933

Mail (Adelaide, SA : 1912 - 1954), Saturday 11 February 1933, page 7

£1,000 DAMAGE IN THEBARTON FURNITURE FIRE

Damage estimated at £1,000 was caused by a fire which broke out at the store of the Supreme Furnishers at Henley Beach road, Thebarton, today.

The fire was burning fiercely when it was first seen at 1.45 a.m., and before the Thebarton Fire Brigade could reach the store most of the furniture had been destroyed and flames were licking the roof. The brigade soon controlled the blaze. Only the linoleum and furniture in the windows were saved. The rest of the stock was burned. The store occupies part of the Thebarton Town Hall buildings. None of the other shops in the block were affected by the fire. The proprietor of the emporium, Mr. L. P. Dooland, left the premises at 9.15 last night, and at 1.45 a.m. Mr. William Chadwick, of Taylor's road, Torrensville, saw the fire. The cause of the outbreak is unknown. The loss is nearly all covered by insurance. The fire was the climax to a series of unfortunate happenings for Mr. Dooland. Four times in the last two years his premises and stock have been damaged by floodwaters, damage to the extent of £80 being caused once. Water last invaded the shop after the heavy storm on January 19, and Mr. Dooland had only half-completed varnishing his floor again.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Monday 13 February 1933, page 3

PRAISE FOR THEBARTON FIRE BRIGADE

On behalf of the committee and trustees of the Thebarton Institute, the secretary (Mr H. W. Ford) today thanked the Thebarton Fire Brigade for the splendid efforts of the officers and men in controlling the fire which occurred in the institute buildings on Saturday morning. Had it not been for the prompt and efficient action of the brigade, said Mr. Ford, the flames would have spread to the adjoining shops and the institute, library, and reading rooms, which comprised the rest of the block.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Saturday 4 March 1933, page 15

Fencing And Hoarding Destroyed

At 1.46 p.m. a grass fire broke out in a vacant allotment adjoining the Walkerville Brewery, Southwark. The Thebarton Fire Brigade was called, but before its arrival 150 ft. of three-railed galvanized fencing and 50 ft. of hoarding were destroyed.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Thursday 11 May 1933, page 7

A bitumen heating plant in the Thebarton Corporation yards caught fire about 10.15 a.m. today. The flames were quickly extinguished by chemicals by the Thebarton Fire Brigade. The shed was slightly damaged.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Tuesday 16 May 1933, page 3

FIREMEN'S TRIBUTE TO DEAD COLLEAGUE

Colleagues of the late Station-Officer E. J. Kelly, of the Thebarton Fire Bri-



Station-Officer Kelly

gade, will pay their last respects to him tomorrow afternoon, when his remains will be buried with fire brigade honors in the Cheltenham Cemetery. Brigade headquarters and Suburban stations will be represented at the graveside. Firemen will march in uniform. Mr. Kelly, who was in the fire brigade for 42 years, was at Thebarton for 17 years. He was in

charge there during the past two years. He was 64, and was born in England. He served in the Norwood, Semaphore, Port Adelaide, and Kapunda Stations before being transferred to Thebarton. He has left a widow, formerly Miss Mary Ann Perks, of Semaphore.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Tuesday 16 May 1933, page 7

Death Of Thebarton Fire Brigade Officer

Station Officer E. J. Kelly, who had charge of the Thebarton Fire Station, died in a private hospital at Adelaide yesterday after a brief illness. He will be buried with fire brigade honors at the Cheltenham Cemetery tomorrow. Mr. Kelly had been stationed at Thebarton for 12 years, and had been in charge for two years. He was born at Clapton, England, 65 years ago, and after having served 11 years at sea, arrived at Port Adelaide on the ship Eden Home about 1870. He joined the Fire Brigade at the Adelaide head station in 1893, and served at Norwood, Semaphore, Port Adelaide, Kapunda, North Adelaide, and Thebarton. He was a keen tennis player, and wood-working was his main hobby. He left a wife (formerly Miss Annie Kelly, of Semaphore), one son. Mr. E. Kelly (Edwardstown), and five daughters, Mesdames F. Arthur (Western Australia), F. Halliday (Brighton), A. Dearman (Peterborough), A. David (Kadina), and Miss Hilda Kelly (Thebarton).

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Wednesday 17 May 1933, page 5

BURIED WITH FIRE BRIGADE HONORS

Firemen from headquarters and from all suburban fire brigades were present at the Cheltenham Cemetery late this afternoon to pay their last respects to the late Station-Officer E. J. Kelly, of Thebarton. Mr. Kelly's remains were buried with fire brigade honors. The coffin was carried on a fire-hose carriage, which was followed by a motor pump and crew. The pallbearers were Station-Officers H. T. Sayers (headquarters), W. L. Robertson (Prospect), W. Tyson (Norwood), J. Koskee (Unley), H. C. Woods (Semaphore), and E. Cornish (Port Adelaide). Chief-Officer J. E. Dickie, Deputy Chief-Officer G. P. Cooper, and members of the Fire Brigades Board attended.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Thursday 18 May 1933, page 10

Funeral Of Fire Brigade Officer

The body of Station Officer E. J. Kelly, of Thebarton, was buried with fire brigade honors at the Cheltenham cemetery yesterday afternoon. The funeral was headed by a fire hose reel carrying the casket covered with a Union Jack and floral tributes. Then followed a motor pump and crew and motor cars. The pall-bearers were Station Officers H. T. Sayers (headquarters), W. L. Robertson (Prospect), W. Tyson (Norwood), J. Koskee (Unley), H. C. Woods (Semaphore), and E. Cornish (Port Adelaide). Chief Officer J. E. Dickie and Deputy Chief Officer G. Cooper attended, and the Thebarton Corporation, the Thebarton Boy Scouts, and the firemen's section of the Australian Government Workers' Association were represented. A daughter (Mrs. F. Arthur) flew from Western Australia, and arrived from Parafield in a fast motor car in time for the funeral.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Thursday 18 May 1933, page 22

The Advertiser THURSDAY, MAY 18, 1933.



WITH FULL fire brigade honors, the late Station-Officer E. J. Kelly, of Thebarton, was buried in the Cheltenham Cemetery yesterday. A section of the funeral procession.

Recorder (Port Pirie, SA : 1919 - 1954), Thursday 25 May 1933, page 1

SERIOUS ACCIDENT AT PETROL PUMP

Motorcyclist in Flames; Terribly Burned

ADELAIDE, Wednesday.

RUNNING screaming across Henley Beach road, Torrensville, at 8 o'clock tonight enveloped in flames, Kenneth McMurdo (23) a motorcyclist, of McEwen Ave, Plympton, was terribly burned on body, legs, arms, and head, and was admitted to Adelaide Hospital in a critical condition.

If the injured man survives, he will owe his life to Alexander C. Blair, a youth, who with great presence of mind extinguished the flames. Mr. McMurdo, who had a young lady riding pillion, pulled up at Whiting's service station to have his tank replenished. He halted between a double row of petrol pumps.

Mr. Walter Whiting had the spirit running into the cycle tank when suddenly there was a flash, and a flame shot many feet into the air. He swung the nozzle of the hose, and in a second Mr. McMurdo was enveloped in flames. Mr. Whiting managed to turn off the tap at the pump, preventing what would have been a catastrophe.

CLOTHING ON FIRE

The motorcyclist rushed blindly across the road, screaming in agony, with the girl in pursuit. The unfortunate man resembled a torch, the light from his burning clothing casting a glow over a wide area. Mr. Blair, who was on the opposite side of the road, rushed straight at the burning man, and tore his coat off. Beating out the burning garment in the roadway, he used its remains to extinguish the flames on the stricken man.

Thebarton Fire Brigade was quickly on the scene. The firemen rendered first aid, and the sufferer was treated at a nearby surgery. He was then taken in a St. John's ambulance to Adelaide Hospital and admitted in a critical condition. He received terrible burns. The girl was only slightly burned, and the motorcycle was damaged by the flames.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Thursday 25 May 1933, page 9

ENVELOPED IN BLAZING PETROL

Motor Cyclist's Ordeal At Service Station

CASUAL RESCUER

With his clothing ablaze with petrol, which had ignited as the tank of his motor cycle was being filled at a service station, Kenneth McMurdo (23), of McEwen avenue, Plympton, was badly burnt on the hands, arms and legs, last night. He was admitted to the Adelaide Hospital. The incident took place on the Henley Beach road about 8 pm. McMurdo was sitting on his machine while the tank was being filled from a pump hose. When the petrol burst into flame he was terrified, and, with his clothing ablaze, ran across the road screaming. Alexander Colin Blair (19), of Holbrook's road, Torrensvllle, who was passing, tore off the man's burning coat, stamped on it, and then used the remains of the garment to beat out the flames on McMurdo's legs. McMurdo men received first aid treatment, and was taken in a St. John Ambulance to the hospital. After having coolly given assistance, which will probably save McMurdo's life, Blair returned home, and went to bed without having mentioned the happening to his family. Walter Whiting who was in charge of the service station in the absence of his brother, Mr. Arthur Whiting, said that before beginning to fill the tank, he snuffed out the acetylene lamp of the motor cycle. "As soon as I turned on the tap and let the petrol run out of the hose, there was a flash of flame about 15 feet high." he said. "It enveloped McMurdo and the front of the motor cycle. The motor cycle fell over between the two rows of pumps, and the rider ran screaming across the road, followed by the girl who was on the pillion seat—Miss Lorna Cocks, of Hardy's road, Torrensville." When the flash occurred the motor cycle was facing west between the petrol pumps. A strong easterly wind apparently blew the flames on to McMurdo. Miss Cocks jumped back and was only slightly burnt. Mr. Whiting said that he did not know how he escaped being burned. He swung the blazing hose nozzle away from the motor cycle, and turned off the tap. The Thebarton Fire Brigade extinguished the fire and gave first aid to McMurdo until a doctor arrived. Only the front of the motor cycle was burned.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Monday 7 August 1933, page 9

£8,000 FIRE AT FLOUR MILLS

Midnight Blaze At Mile End

30 THROWN IDLE

Damage estimated at from £8,000 to £10,000 was caused by a fire which broke out at the flour mills of William Charlick, Ltd., at Mile-End at about 11.30 p.m. on Saturday. The fire was confined to the wheat cleaning section of the plant, which is separated from the main flour milling section, which is valued at about £50,000, by a 12 in. brick partition and fire-proof doors. Firemen fought for nearly two hours before they got the fire under control, but at 1.30 a.m. it broke out again. By 2 a.m., however, it had been extinguished.

The general manager of the company (Mr. C. S. Charlick) said last night that the flour mill would have to be closed down for several months while the wheat cleaning machinery was being repaired. This would throw about thirty men out of work temporarily, but some men would still be employed in the store, which was not damaged. As there were about 2,000 tons of flour, bran and pollard in stock, the sales department of the mill would be open as usual for business today.

Five Floors Damaged

All five floors of the plant were damaged. The greatest damage, how-ever, occurred on the top and first floors. An area about 20 feet square of the roofing was destroyed. Fire Brigade officers said that the fire might have begun on the ground floor, the flames being drawn upwards through the elevators. There was also a possibility that the top floor might have caught fire first, and some burning material dropped down the elevators. A little damage was done to the ground floor, but the flames practically missed the second and third floors before spreading to the fourth floor. The alarm was given by an employe at the Mile-End railway yards, who saw flames breaking through the roof. Two pumps from the Adelaide and Thebarton Fire Brigades were rushed to the mill, but the blaze had a firm hold. Firemen hacked away portion of the iron roof, and played their hoses directly on to the fire. There was a danger of the fire spreading to the oil depots of the Shell Co. and the Vacuum Oil Co., which are only a short distance from the mill. The firemen, however, succeeded in confining the fire to the plants. None of the stock was damaged. The S.A. Farmers' Co-operative Union has premises adjoining the mill, but they were not damaged. Several trucks loaded with wheat were standing on rails at the rear of the mill. An engine was quickly brought into commission, and the trucks were taken out of the danger zone. Mr. Charlick believes that the necessary new machinery parts can be obtained in Australia. He expects that carpenters and millwrights will be at work within a week repairing the plant. The damaged plant is insured with the Insurance Office of Australia, Ltd.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Tuesday 17 October 1933, page 3

FIRE DESTROYS SHED

A brick and galvanised iron shed, the property of the Mile-End Church of Christ, Danby street, Torrensville, was destroyed by fire today. The shed was used by Mount Compass settlers to store produce, and was insured for £20. About £20 worth of wheat, bran, and pollard was also destroyed. Members of the Thebarton Fire Brigade extinguished the flames.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Wednesday 1 November 1933, page 21

Shed Burnt At Thebarton

Believed to have been caused by a spark setting alight some waste paper, a fire broke out in wood and galvanized iron shed at the rear of the home of Mr. R. Toombs, Ebor avenue, Mile-End, about 10.30 a.m. yesterday. The Thebarton Fire Brigade was called, and, though some fencing was burnt and the shed totally destroyed, the fire was prevented from spreading.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Monday 6 November 1933, page 16

Furniture On Delivery Van Burnt

When he discovered on Saturday that the furniture on one of Myer's delivery trollies was on fire, the driver immediately stopped the vehicle, and endeavored to unload as much of it as he could. The majority of the furniture, and some of the woodwork of the truck was destroyed. The occurrence which took place in Cowandilla road, Cowandilla, was attended by the Thebarton Fire Brigade. It is believed that the fire was caused through a cigarette or some lighted substance having been thrown on to the truck thus setting alight to the hessian packing.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Thursday 16 November 1933, page 16

MAN OVERCOME IN BURNING HOUSE

Rescue By Chance Passer By

An elderly Assyrian, Abraham A. Najer, of George street, Thebarton, had a narrow escape from suffocation and burning at his home in the early hours of yesterday morning. The timely alarm of a passer by probably saved his life. While he was passing Najer's shop at George street, Thebarton, at 4.10 a.m. yesterday, Alfred R. Goldfinch, of Maria street, Thebarton, saw smoke issuing from the front of the shop. He hammered at the door, and a few minutes later Najer opened it, and collapsed at his feet. Goldfinch got Najer out of the shop, and immediately rang a fire alarm. The Thebarton Fire Brigade responded, and extinguished the fire, but not before about £250 worth of damage was done to the shop and stock. The cause of the fire is unknown. The building, stock and fittings were insured for £1,500. Najer said that he retired at 9 p.m., and as far as he could see everything was in order. He woke up almost suffocated with smoke. He struggled out of the bedroom, and collapsed when he reached the dining room. At that minute he heard someone hammering at the front door. He crawled to the door and opened it, and Goldfinch assisted him outside. A report is being prepared for the coroner by the Thebarton police.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Wednesday 13 December 1933, page 1

Small Outbreaks Extinguished In Three Other Districts

Two boys playing with matches were responsible for a grass fire on the property of Mr. M. Dawkins, a gardener of Lockleys. The Thebarton Brigade extinguished the outbreak. Only a small area of grass was burnt.

The contents of a toolshed at the Kooyonga Golf Club's premises were severely damaged by a fire yesterday afternoon. There was a fear that the fire might spread and do extensive damage, but the Thebarton Fire Brigade kept it in check. The damage was covered by insurance.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Thursday 14 December 1933, page 5

Thebarton Brigade Attend Two Fires

Two small fires were extinguished by the Thebarton Fire Brigade yesterday. The first was a grass fire on the property of Mr. Dawkins, gardener, Lockleys. Only a small area of grass was burnt. The second fire severely damaged a tool shed at the Kooyonga Golf Club's premises. The damage was covered by insurance.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Saturday 30 December 1933, page 10

Hedges Burnt In Suburbs

Boxthorn hedges and small plots of grass were burnt in a number of suburbs yesterday. The Thebarton fire brigade received two calls during the day, the first being to extinguish a fire in the hedge surrounding a vacant block of land leased by Mr. W. Simpson on the Marion road, Twickenham. The second call was received about 8 p.m. to a similar fire on the property of Mr. E. Bartholomew, Richmond road, South Richmond. In each case the damage caused was slight, the fence posts being charred and the hedges scorched. A fire in a pine hedge on the property of Mr. J. Skalberg, of Swift avenue, Dulwich, was extinguished by a machine from the Norwood station before it could cause any damage.

1934

Mail (Adelaide, SA : 1912 - 1954), Saturday 3 February 1934, page 2

House Alight At Thebarton

The back portion of a house in Bellingham street, New Thebarton, which included the kitchen and bathroom, was completely destroyed by fire this afternoon. The dining room and adjoining bedrooms were severely damaged by flames and water from the fire hoses. The house, which is insured, is owned and occupied by Mr. A. G. Inkley, a signwriter. It was unoccupied when the fire broke out, and its origin is a mystery. Mr. Inkley was at a local cricket match and Mrs. Inkley and her daughter had left to do some shopping. When Mrs. Inkley returned she noticed smoke rising from the back portion of the house. Within a few minutes flames were shooting up from the roof and through the kitchen chimney. The Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call from the Adelaide Chemical works alarm nearby and were quickly on the scene. Senior Fireman Godfrey and two men extinguished the flames after a 10 minutes' fight.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Friday 9 February 1934, page 22

NEWS IN BRIEF

Wood Fire Near Church. —Motor car cases, stacked near the Mile-End Church of Christ, caught fire about 4.30 p.m. yesterday. Before the blaze was extinguished by the Thebarton brigade much of the timber, which was intended for use in shacks at the Mount Compass settlement, was destroyed, and a fence on the church property was damaged.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Thursday 28 June 1934, page 12

Auxiliary Firemen At Town Halls

A suggested regulation providing for council employes who could pass the requisite examination to act as auxiliary firemen at picture shows and other entertainments in town halls was submitted to the Thebarton Council last night by the Picture Proprietors' Association. It was pointed out that auxiliary firemen who received 8 a night for their services were not regular members of fire brigades. The council resolved to support the regulation.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Monday 17 September 1934, page 8

£50 Damage by Fire At Lockleys

Damage estimated at £50 was done by a fire which destroyed the stock and fittings in a shop at Henley Beach road, Lockleys, last night. The building was also slightly damaged. The outbreak was noticed about 7.15 p.m., and the Thebarton Fire Brigade was called. The shop, which was one of a row owned by the Co-operative Building Society of South Australia, was occupied by Mr. P. W. F. Paterson, who carried on a mixed business there. The cause of the fire, which started inside the shop, is unknown. Constable Dick, of Lockleys, and Detective Bourke, are preparing a report for the City Coroner (Mr. Blackburn).

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Tuesday 25 September 1934, page 16

Fatalities And Accidents

Child Playing With Matches

SA Country Fire Service Promotions Unit
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11 April 2026

As the result of her three-year-old son playing with matches, a bed and bedclothes and portion of the front verandah of the house of Mrs. Phyllis Sylvia Hill, of Jervois street, Torrensville, was damaged by fire yesterday. The Thebarton Fire Brigade extinguished the blaze. The damage was not extensive. Constable Ridley, of Thebarton, is preparing a report for the Coroner.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Saturday 29 September 1934, page 5

£1,000 FIRE AT THEBARTON

Police Patrol Gives Alarm

DAMAGE estimated at more than £1,000 was caused by a fire which broke out early this morning at the wool drying and scouring factory of J. W. McGregor & Sons Ltd., Thebarton. The fire was confined to the main works room, which was destroyed. The contents, including machinery and about 60 bales of wool were burned. A policeman on bicycle patrol noticed the fire and called the Thebarton Fire Brigade, which prevented the flames from spreading to the remaining portion of the building. A pump from the Adelaide Fire Brigade headquarters was later called. The works room was situated at one end of the building. This part of the premises was of only one story, but much greater damage would have resulted if the fire had spread to the remainder of the building, which is of two stories. The adjacent premises of Torrenside Woollen Mills Ltd. were not damaged. Both factories are situated near Taylor's road, New Thebarton. Constable Stocks, of Thebarton, is preparing a report for the City Coroner (Mr. Blackburn).

Mail (Adelaide, SA : 1912 - 1954), Saturday 29 September 1934, page 4

£1,000 Fire at Factory



A GENERAL VIEW of the damage caused by the fire at the factory of J. W. McGregor & Sons, Ltd., Thebarton. Damage was estimated at £1,000.

Machinery and about 60 bales of wool were burned when a fire broke out this morning at the wool drying and scouring factory of J. W. McGregor and Sons, Ltd., Thebarton. The damage is estimated at more than £1.000. The fire was noticed by a policeman on bicycle patrol, who called the Thebarton Fire Brigade. The fire was confined to the main workroom, which was destroyed. The brigade prevented the flames from spreading to the remaining portion of the building. The adjacent premises of the Torrenside Woollen Mills Ltd. were not damaged.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Monday 1 October 1934, page 9

FIRE AT WOOL SCOURING WORKS

Expensive Machinery Damaged

Damage estimated at nearly £4,000 was done to the wool scouring works of Messrs. J. W. McGregor and Sons. Limited, at Ware street, West Thebarton, early on Saturday morning.

The Thebarton Fire Brigade, under Station Officer Goddard, and a motor pump from the Adelaide head station, under Station Officer Sayers, made a good save and confined the blaze to one end of the building. There was no damage to the Torrenside Woollen Mills adjoining. The Thebarton brigade received the call from a Thebarton police officer who saw the blaze while on bicycle patrol, just after 2 a.m. When the brigade arrived, the fire had a good hold on the west side of the building. One wall and portion of the roof were destroyed, but the greatest damage was the destruction of valuable wool scouring machinery and a large quantity of cleaned wool. The origin of the fire is unknown. Constable Stocks, of Thebarton, is preparing a report for the coroner.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Tuesday 2 October 1934, page 10

Two Small Fires In Suburbs

The Thebarton Fire Brigade attended a fire early today at the premises of Burford & Oaks, soap manufacturers, of Dalgleish street, West Thebarton. Firewood and coal used to heat a boiler for the manufacture of soap had caught alight, but the blaze was soon extinguished.

Some clothes were destroyed by fire in the room of a house in Bolingbroke grove, Toorak Gardens, last night. The owner of the house. Mr. W. Sykes, used the room for photographic purposes.

An inquest has been deemed unnecessary into the fire on Saturday at the Thebarton premises of J. W. McGregor and Sons. Ltd., woolbrokers. The damage, which was covered by insurance, is estimated at £4,000.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Wednesday 3 October 1934, page 20

Fire At Thebarton Soap Factory

A fire occurred at the soap factory of J. C. Burford & Oaks, Dalgliesh street, West Thebarton, early yesterday morning. The damage was confined mostly to a heap of wood and coal and the rafters of the boiler house. The fire was first noticed by an employe of W. H. Burford & Sons on the opposite side of the River Torrens at 2.15 a.m. He telephoned the Thebarton Fire Brigade, whose prompt arrival prevented the fire from spreading. Constable Fleming, of Thebarton is preparing a report for the coroner.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Saturday 6 October 1934, page 5

Car Burnt in Garage At Richmond

A wood and iron motor garage containing a motor car, a carpenter's bench, and tools, was destroyed by fire today at the home of Mr. R. P. Wheeler, Argyle avenue, Richmond. The Thebarton Fire Brigade attended, the outbreak, the cause of which is unknown. The damage is estimated at £100.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Monday 8 October 1934, page 7

Fire Damages Asbestos Boards

A quantity of asbestos boards, an electric generator, and a burner used to heat a pregation tank for the manufacture of asbestos boards were damaged by fire at Ausbestos Ltd., South road, Hilton, last night. The building was also slightly damaged. The damage is estimated at £30. The fire is believed to have been caused by the oil pipe leaking and some oil dropping

on to the burner. The oil is used to heat the tank. The building is owned by Mrs. E. Gohl, and all the property was insured. The Thebarton Fire Brigade extinguished the blaze.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Saturday 27 October 1934, page 2

Room Damaged When Tin Of Petrol Catches Alight

A room at the rear of a house in Nottingham avenue, Keswick, owned by Mrs. L. Jones, was slightly damaged by fire this morning. The fire began while Mrs. Jones' small son was playing with matches near a tin of petrol that was to be used for cleaning purposes. The Thebarton Fire Brigade extinguished the blaze.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Monday 29 October 1934, page 16

Boy Ignites Petrol

While playing with matches on Saturday morning at the back of a house in Nottingham avenue, Keswick, the small son of Mrs. L. Jones set fire to a tin of petrol. It was immediately noticed by two youths next door who threw some sawdust on the blaze, which was extinguished before the arrival of the Thebarton Fire Brigade. No damage was done, apart from the destruction of the petrol.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Friday 14 December 1934, page 5

Car Catches Alight While Towing Another

While towing another motor car, which had broken down, a motor car, owned by Mr. G. M. Jeffries, of Fisher terrace, Hilton, caught alight early today near Bakewell Bridge, Hilton. The fire is believed to have been caused through the car backfiring. The Thebarton Fire Brigade was summoned, but Mr. Jeffries had put the fire out by the time it arrived.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Saturday 29 December 1934, page 5

Fire Burns Lorry, Bowser And Petrol Station

A motor lorry, a petrol bowser, and the front portion of a petrol station, on Henley Beach road, Torrensville, were damaged by fire about 10.30 a.m. today. Mr. R. G. Owen, of Shierlaw street, Richmond, the owner of the lorry, pulled up at Mr. A. Webster's station on Henley Beach road for petrol, and the spirit caught alight while the tank was being filled. It is believed that the fire was caused through a spark from the engine of the lorry. All Mr. Webster's property was insured, but the lorry was not covered. The Thebarton Fire Brigade extinguished the blaze.

1935

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Tuesday 22 January 1935, page 7

A wood and iron shed at the rear of a house in East street, Torrensville, owned by Misses B. and M. O'Brien, was slightly damaged by fire today. The Thebarton Fire Brigade attended.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Monday 10 June 1935, page 16

Small Fire At Thebarton

A small fire occurred at the Corporation bitumen plant, Taylors road, Thebarton, about 1.40 p.m. on Saturday, when some tar boiled over while being heated, and set fire to a shed. The

blaze was promptly put out by the Thebarton Fire Brigade, which was called by a corporation employe. Slight damage was done to the shed, several drums of bitumen were burst open by the heat, and a quantity of firewood was burnt.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Friday 21 June 1935, page 3

37 False Fire Alarms At Thebarton Reported

Of 37 false alarms given to the Thebarton Fire Station in 18 months, 19 were malicious, according to a report supplied to the Thebarton Council by the Fire Brigades Board. In all there were 65 calls, of which 23 were for fires.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Tuesday 17 September 1935, page 4

Slight damage to the wood and iron building and contents of the tinsmith shop at the works of Colton, Palmer, and Preston, at Southwark, was done by fire about 4.50 a.m. today. The flames were extinguished by the Thebarton Fire Brigade.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Monday 2 December 1935, page 16

Grass Fires In Suburbs

Brigades were called to three grass fires yesterday, but in each case the outbreak was extinguished before any serious damage was done.

The first call received was by the Unley Brigade at 10.18 a.m. to Kyre avenue, Kingswood. About 20 minutes later the City Brigade went to an outbreak at Montpelier street, Parkside. A wood and iron building, which was surrounded by burning grass, was saved from damage. About 3 p.m. the Thebarton Brigade attended a fire at Cross street, Lockleys. Some fencing was damaged.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Tuesday 10 December 1935, page 23

Fire Explodes Gun Cotton In Factory

A loud explosion at 4.15 a.m. yesterday startled people living near Bellingham avenue, Torrensville. A quantity of inflammable oil and gun cotton stored in a brick shed at the premises of the Premier Paint and Varnish Company, was destroyed by fire. The damage is estimated at £100. Edgar Wright, an employe living next door to the factory, was the first on the scene. He saw a case of gun cotton blown through the iron roof of the building, and ran to the main building for a chemical fire extinguisher, but in the meantime the Thebarton Fire Brigade had arrived, and quickly had the flames under control. The cause of the fire is unknown. The buildings were covered by insurance.

1936

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Thursday 2 January 1936, page 5

A motor truck, the property of the West Torrens District Council, was slightly damaged when it caught fire today in South road, Hilton. The Thebarton Fire Brigade was called, but the blaze was extinguished before its arrival. The brigade also attended a grass fire in Davenport road, Hilton.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Wednesday 22 January 1936, page 3

£25,000 Fire Razes Cooperage

WAREHOUSE ESCAPES

Flames Leap 100 Ft. in Air

CAN CARRY ON

DAMAGE estimated at £25,000 was caused by a spectacular fire which destroyed the barrel-making plant and offices of R. Babidge & Sons, coopers, at Railway terrace, Mile-End, about 3 a.m. today. The buildings were gutted, columns of flames leaping from stacks of staves piled in the firm's yard. Mr. L. Babidge, a partner in the firm, said today that the fire would not interfere greatly with the firm's activities. They hoped to re-employ the full staff within a day or two, and stocks in hand, which had been stored in a warehouse next door to the gutted factory, had escaped unscathed. This stock would be sufficient for an immediate demand. Mr. Babidge said that none of the firm's employes would be put out of work through the fire. Mr. Babidge said the property and plant were fully covered by insurance. The fire had probably started from some connections of the electric motors in the main building. At the height of the blaze flames leapt 100 ft from the stacks of staves. These stacks, which had been piled for the convenience of the workers, encouraged the flames because of the draught which they created.

GIANT GAS FLARE

The task of the firemen was lessened by a chance giant gas flare. When a main gas pipe burst the pipe twisted into the air about 15 ft., and burnt like a giant torch, lighting the whole scene like day. Employes of the firm, many of whom lived near by, stood round in groups watching the destruction of the factory with dismay. Between 40 and 50 are employed. The electric cables passing near the front of the buildings had to be cut. An employe of the firm pointed ruefully to a pile of twisted machinery. "That's where I work," he said. "I never dreamt when I went home at 5 o'clock that I wouldn't be there as usual today."

SOON UNDER CONTROL

A street alarm gave the fire brigade the first notification of the outbreak. Within half an hour the flames were under control, although sheets of red hot iron lay in twisted heaps, and sparks leapt skywards. The blaze was fought by 15 men from the fire headquarters and the Thebarton Brigade. They were under Chief Officer Cooper and Deputy Chief Officer Cook, with Station Officer Goddard, of Thebarton. Five lines of hose were used. When the firemen arrived, the fire was blazing over a wide area, and spreading rapidly through the wood and iron building, and stacks of timber. Good work was done in protecting homes and motor garages separated from the burning premises only by a narrow lane. A strong water pressure was available, but the firemen used their pumps to increase the pressure. After a fight of 2½ hours the appliances and most of the men returned to their stations, but one crew remained on guard. Piles of timber were still blazing at noon, and six firemen were playing hoses on the flames and endeavoring to clear up the mass of tangled iron, steel, and other debris which the blaze left behind.

At 2.25 a.m. Constables J. Reynolds and E. Macintosh, who were patrolling on bicycles near the Port road, heard a noise which may have been the explosion of the petrol pump near the offices and then they saw flames shooting upward. When they arrived at the scene they

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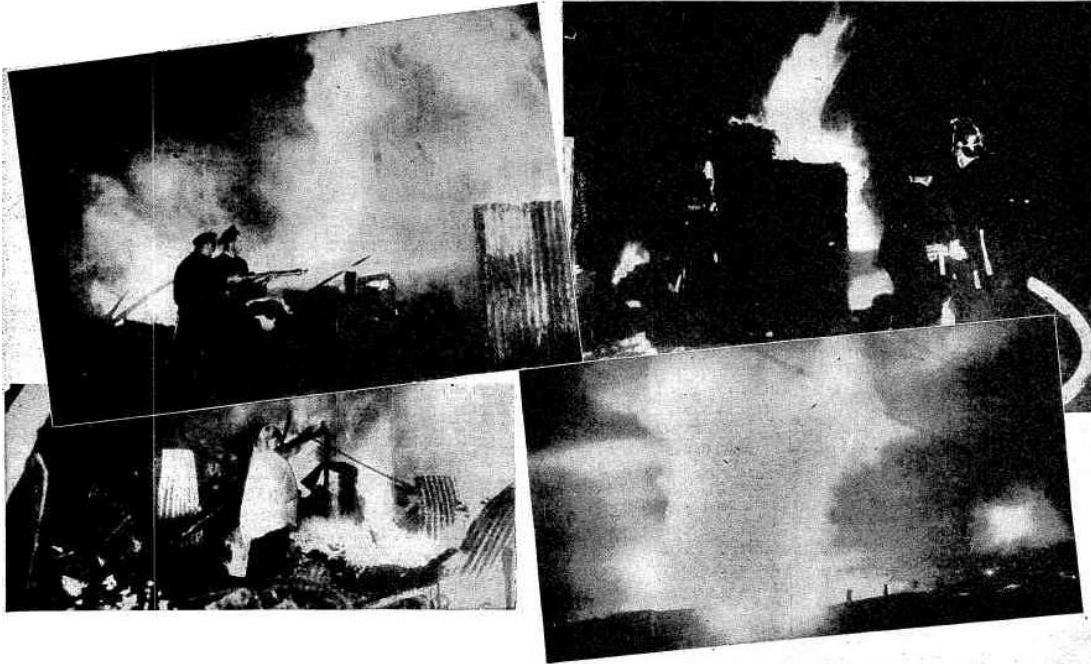
11 April 2026

heard a squealing in the stables. They dashed in and released two horses who were terrified by the smoke and flames. Insurance was carried with the National Insurance Co. of New Zealand Ltd.

(Pictures on Back Page)

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Wednesday 22 January 1936, page 12

Spectacular £25,000 Fire at Mile-End



THESE STRIKING PICTURES were taken by a staff photographer of "The News" shortly after 3 a.m. today at the height of the fire which totally destroyed the cooperage of R. Babidge & Son, Railway terrace, Mile-End. Flames leapt as high as 100 ft. from the stack of staves near the cooperage. The damage was estimated at £25,000. (Story on Page 3.)

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Saturday 25 January 1936, page 5

Dramatic Rescue in Mile-End £12,000 Fire

STOREMAN COLLAPSES DRAGGED TO SAFETY

Government Supply Store Burned to Ground

WATER PRESSURE WEAK

Damage estimated at nearly £12,000 was caused by a fire which destroyed the Mile-End store of the Government Supply and Tender Board about 7.30 a.m. today.

Just before the fire reached its peak Mr. Albert Ehrenberg, an employe, dramatically rescued his chief, Mr. C. E. Riley, officer in charge of the stores. Mr. Riley had been almost overcome by smoke and fumes, when Mr. Ehrenberg, dashed into the building and dragged him to safety. Mr. Riley was taken to his home suffering from burns to the hands and face.

IN two hours charred uprights and twisted girders and sheets of galvanised iron were all that remained of the building, and the contents, which included many inflammable articles, were

burning fiercely. Shortly before 7.30 a.m. employes were sitting on a trucking platform at the side of the building, waiting until it was time to begin work. Hearing a noise inside the building, one man remarked that evidently someone was early at work. About this time the flames were noticed by Mr. J. A. Wilson, a railway ganger, whose cottage is within 50 yards of the store. He gave the alarm, and the employes raced round the building, attempting to find an entrance. All the doors, however, were securely locked, and it could be seen then that the inside of the building was ablaze.

Heard Man Fall

"Mr. Riley was standing on the eastern platform of the store," said Mr. Ehrenberg, of Blight street, Croydon, describing how he had gone to his rescue. "He called out to me that he was going inside to try and get the keys of two lorries. "I rushed over and he told me to come in and get him if he called out. Then he went inside and I waited at the door. "I heard him call out 'Help!' and I immediately called to the other men, and then rushed inside, I heard him fall against a door; that was how I knew where he was. I grabbed him and pulled him outside. "I was gasping for air, and I had been in the store only half as long as he had. If I had not heard him collapse against the door, it would have been hard to locate him." Mr. Riley was then taken to his home in Monmouth street, Westbourne Park. Mr. Ehrenberg said that this happened shortly before 8 o'clock. Earlier he had given the alarm to the Fire Brigade after being told of the fire-by another man. He had also run to the railway signal box nearby, and asked them to have the crossing gates open ready for the brigade.

Collapse of Roof

Mr. L. D. Spence, of Rose street, Mile-End, who was among the early arrivals at the fire, said that within half an hour of his arrival the roof had fallen in, and the northern wall of the store was collapsing. "There were great clouds of black smoke, but the flames were not spectacular until the fire reached what appeared to be a quantity of sulphur. Then yellow-tinged flames and smoke leaped up, and the heat became intense." Mr. Spence said that the firemen appeared to be working under difficulties at the start, through lack of water pressure. Even after the pumps were started the men on the hose at the south end of the store called for more water. Two leads of hose were brought across the railway tracks, holding up light engine operations in the yard. There are dwellings fairly near the big store, and, although the wind was blowing the flames away from them several of the householders sprayed their fences with garden hoses.

Poor Water Pressure

The fire is believed to have started in the south-western corner of the building which is within 300 yards of the cooperage of R. Babidge and Son, which was the scene of a £25,000 fire early on Wednesday morning. Flames shooting through a window on the western angle were the first seen. The Thebarton Fire Brigade attended and found the water pressure on the east side of the building so poor that the firemen had to connect their hoses to the mains in Railway terrace, on the westside, and take them across railway lines led from the locomotive sheds. Several locomotives coming from the sheds to the city were delayed, and it was found necessary to drive them round through Keswick so that the firemen would not be hampered in their work. Appliances from the city headquarters were also rushed to the fire, and four mounted policemen, six motor traffic constables, and two uniformed constables under Sgt. F. Homes were quickly on the scene and kept the crowd back.

A street fire alarm and numerous telephone calls gave the alarm to Thebarton and Adelaide Fire Brigades, the first call being received at 7.32 a.m. The fire was confined to the store although one side wall of a small dining room used by employes was badly damaged. A bowser, containing about 150 gallons of petrol, which was in the yard about 50 ft. from a corner of the burning building was not affected. The damage is covered by insurance under the Government's own insurance scheme.

Supplies for Hospital

The contents of the store included crockery, sheeting, flannelettes, cotton wool, cotton waste, piping, and general hardware, buckets, steel bins, clothing material, chemicals, soaps, and, it was said, a quantity of yacca gum. Dense black smoke was still rising from portions of the burning building two hours after the fire was first discovered. It was stated authoritatively after the fire that the hospitals and other institutions which were supplied from the store, will not be affected by the loss of the supplies, as practically all of them can be easily replaced by purchases from city merchants. The building was of iron, and when the sheets of iron fell from the walls, stacks of crockery, rising in some cases to six and eight feet, crashed to the ground. A gas meter on the north-western corner of the buildings was fortunately attached to the three-foot high reinforced concrete foundation, and was not affected by the flames. At some risk of being struck by falling beams, a man turned the supply off. Massive steel girders, which had supported the roof, were bent almost double by the terrific heat, and all that was left in position of the roof and walls were a few sheets of iron.

No Inquest Into Produce Store Fire

An inquest will not be held into the fire at the Government Produce Depot, Light square, on Thursday night. It was learned today that the fire destroyed the results of the six months' task—completed only a few hours before the blaze—of renewing ammonia pipes and other fittings in the freezing block. Produce, mostly meat and fruit, in 21 chambers, was damaged by smoke and water. The goods belonged to 50 owners, including the Government Produce Department, firms, and individuals. Only eight of these owners, including the department, had their produce insured. Plainclothes Constable E. J. Davis prepared a report for the City Coroner (Mr. Blackburn).





THESE REMARKABLE PICTURES were taken shortly after the outbreak of fire at 7.30 a.m. today, which destroyed the Mile-End store of the Government Supply and Tender Board. Damage has been estimated at Between £11,000 and £12,000. It was the second big fire in Mile-End this week.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Wednesday 3 June 1936, page 21

FIRE DESTROYS BLOCK OF SHOPS

Blaze At Henley Beach

ADJOINING PREMISES SAVED

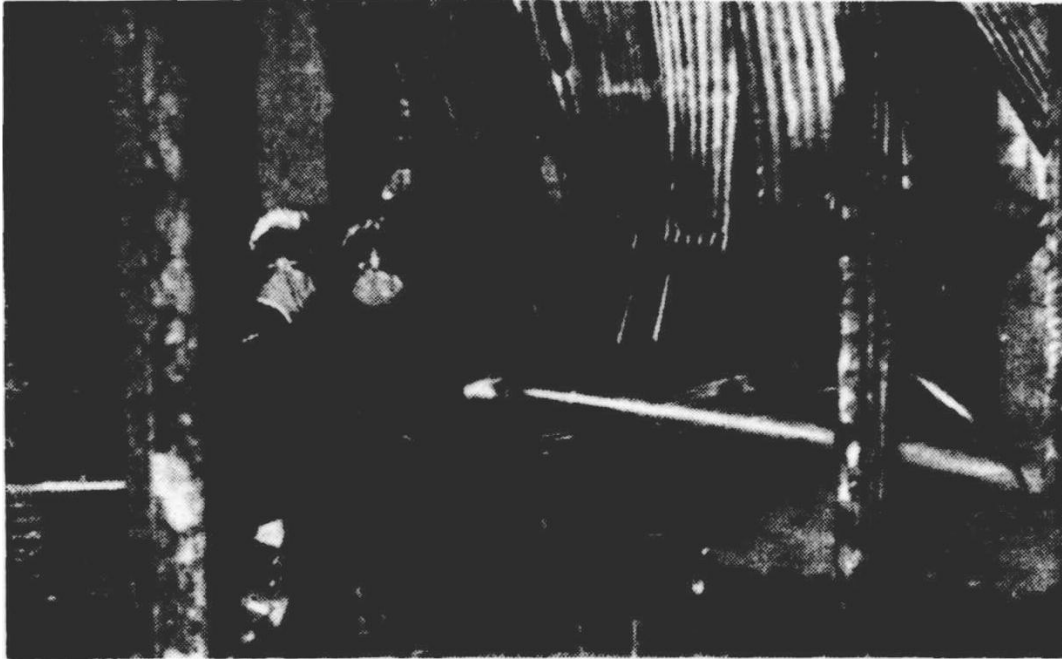
District Unprotected

Three shops were destroyed and a large adjoining block of business premises and dwellings was seriously endangered in a spectacular fire in Sea View road, Henley Beach, about 8.30 p.m. yesterday. The Henley Beach district is at present without any official fire protection organisation, but phone calls to the South Australian Fire Brigade for help were promptly answered by the dispatch of two appliances, one from Thebarton and the other from the metropolitan station. Directed by Deputy Chief Officer Cook (city) and Station Officer Goddard (Thebarton), firemen saved adjoining buildings. "According to the report of my officers, the large adjoining block would undoubtedly have been destroyed had it not been for the brigade's prompt action," the Chief Officer (Mr. J. J. Whyte) said later. The three shops destroyed were occupied by:— Miss M. H. Gray, book exchange. Mr. Purcell, poultry business, and Mr. J. Latz, milk bar. Each of these shops was closed at the time. The destroyed

single-storey block was controlled by the Executor Trustee Co. on behalf of the estate of a Mr. Sansom (deceased).

30-Foot Flames

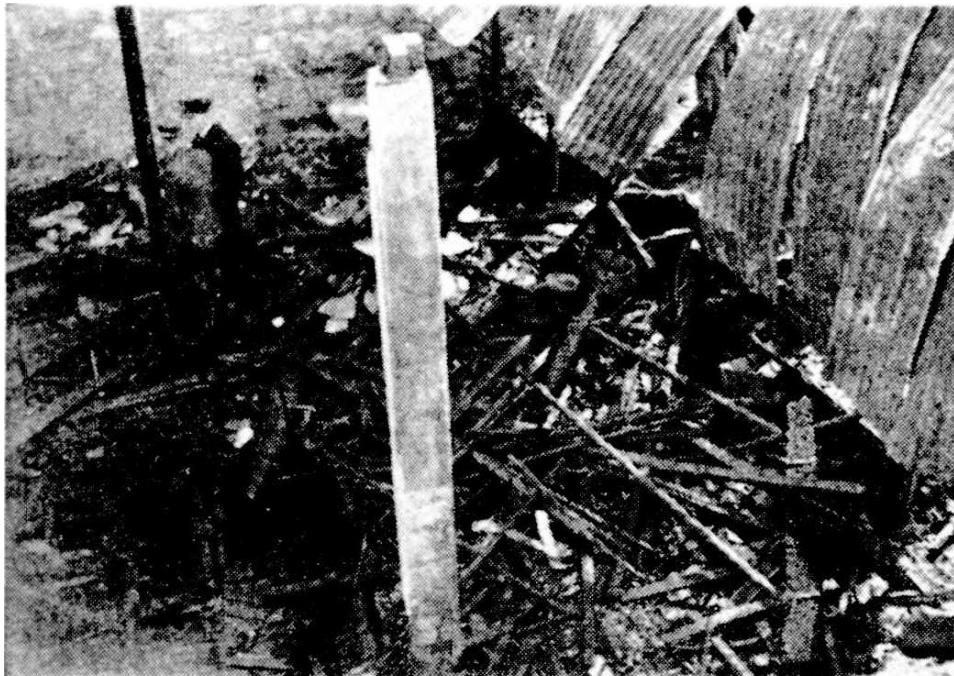
Terrified by 30 foot flames which soon made the old block containing the three shops, separated by light partitions, a huge bonfire, families hurriedly moved their belongings from adjoining two-storey premises. Hurrying from an upstairs flat situated next to the fire, Mrs. M. Oldfield, who had been ill in bed, had her foot cut by broken glass at the front door "Thick smoke was pouring into our place as we hurried out with what clothing and other things we could seize quickly," said Mrs. Oldfield. "My daughter Joan noticed the blaze next door as she was going out with a young man. They rushed back to tell us, and phoned the brigade." The fire did not damage Mrs. Oldfield's flat or any of the other shops and dwellings extending from the north side of the blaze to the corner of Main street, opposite the Ramsgate Hotel. Known as the "Tramway Block," this area included four brick shops and dwellings. Among the occupants of these premises are:—W. G. Watkins, fruiterer; S. L. Thredgold, hairdresser and tobacconist: the Home Service Grocery Store, and R. E. Jolly, chemist. Penetrating through an upstairs window on the south side, flames caused slight damage to furniture in a dining room above a cake shop occupied by Mr. H. N. Drewer. Using chemical extinguishers, firemen soon put out the fire in Mr. Drewer's dining room. Only about 15 ft. separated the rear of Miss Farquhar's home from the fire. Evidently the whole of the old single storey block of three shops that was destroyed was ablaze within a few minutes, and none of the early eye-witnesses could tell in which shop the fire originated. Working on four sides of the blazing block, the firemen had the fire under control in about 20 minutes. Mr. J. Latz, whose milk bar was destroyed, usually keeps his shop open until late at night. Last night, however, having decided to go to the circus, he locked up the shop and went out at 6.30 p.m. Mayor's Explanation Commenting on the fact that the Henley Beach district is at present without any official fire protection, the mayor (Mr. E. W. Mitton) said:—"For some time the council had paid £20 a year for the services of the Woodville Volunteer Fire Brigade. This was discontinued about a year ago. Opinion has been divided in the council during recent discussions on the question of forming a local fire brigade. At present about £400 (raised by carnivals) is available for this purpose. It has been suggested that if a Henley Beach fire brigade were established, it might combine in an association with the Woodville and Hindmarsh volunteer brigades. Conferences have been held in this connection, and the matter is still under consideration. This is the first serious fire for years in the district, which, having no factories, is not considered to be greatly liable to fire risks." When the alarm was received by phone, an appliance was sent from the Thebarton station and an appliance from headquarters was sent to stand by at Thebarton. In response to a further call, this was also dispatched to the fire, and another machine from headquarters stood by at Thebarton.



THE RUINS of three shops which were destroyed by fire in Seaview road, Henley Beach, about 8.30 p.m. yesterday. Adjoining buildings were endangered for some time, but were saved by the quick work of the Fire Brigade in getting the fire under control in 20 minutes. This picture was taken shortly after the fire was extinguished.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Wednesday 3 June 1936, page 14

Henley Beach Fire



A SECTION OF THE RUINS of three shops destroyed by an outbreak of fire in Sea View road, Henley Beach, last night. Business premises and dwellings adjoining were endangered by the outbreak, but were saved by the quick work of the fire brigade.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Saturday 20 June 1936, page 10

Fires At Thebarton.—In a report to the Thebarton Corporation, the officer in charge of the Thebarton Fire Brigade states that during the past year the brigade attended 20 fires in buildings, and nine grass and rubbish fires. There were 64 calls, of which 13 were false alarms caused by water sprinklers, and 20 were malicious.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Wednesday 12 August 1936, page 19

BIG FIRE AT WOOLLEN MILL

Heavy Damage At Thebarton

FLAMES LEAP TO FIFTY FEET

Narrow Escape Of Employes

Ignition of raw artificial silk fibre by an electric light globe is believed to have been responsible for a spectacular fire, which caused several thousand pounds worth of damage at the Torrenside Woollen Mills between 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. yesterday. The mill is situated in Taylor's road, Thebarton.

Flames leapt about 50 feet, and a column of thick grey smoke drifted over Henley Beach road. Three workmen, one of whom had been burned about the arms, had to run through a gap of about two yards between a blazing bin of raw silk and a rear door. Owners of the plant and insurance officials highly praised the work of the brigade in confining the damage to the section where the fire originated.

C. Grunert (section foreman), Frederick Male and Lindsay Ogden were processing raw artificial silk through a teasing machine when they smelt fire. Walking about 20 ft. to the other end of the machine, Male entered a large enclosed bin, about 10 ft. square, to investigate. His shirt caught alight when he picked up some of the blazing silk in an effort to put out the fire. Within a few seconds, this teasing and blending section of the big plant was ablaze.

Dash To Escape

Grunert and Ogden were assisting Male to beat out the flames around his arms, when all three had to run for their lives through the rear door. They had not time even to pick up their coats, so swiftly did the flames flash through the inflammable raw silk and stacks of oiled wool in the room. Only a few minutes before, a fourth man, Harold Martin, had left the section to enquire the time. Male was able to go home after treatment at the Adelaide Hospital.

Within a few minutes, four pumps and 22 firemen were on the scene and Chief Officer J. J. Whyte was directing his first big fire fight in Adelaide since his appointment five months ago. He was assisted by Deputy Chief Cook and Station Officer Giles.

Poor Water Pressure At First

At first, poor water pressure handicapped the firemen, but the brigade was greatly aided by the heavy fire-proof metal doors, separating the blazing section from the remainder of the building. Only a few yards separated the adjoining big wool-scouring works of J. W. McGregor & Sons from the other side of the blaze. Realising that this was the danger point, the firemen here operated two hoses, boosted by pumps. Another hose, also boosted, was directed through the fireproof doors in the Torrenside mill. Within a few minutes the

firemen also ran a fourth hose line 1,300 ft. from a six-inch main. With a pump in the middle, this line gave good pressure. Waterworks Department turncocks also soon furnished better pressure on the other lines.

Wool Impregnated With Oil

The burned section measured about 80 ft. by 50 ft. Only two brick walls and a mass of burned and sodden wool were left. Known as the "batching" plant, this section of the mill contained machinery for teasing and shaking fibre. It was chiefly used for processing wool, but raw silk was being dealt with yesterday. In this room also wools are blended and impregnated with neatsfoot oil in preparation for carding. It was estimated that about 100 bales of wool, which had been treated in this manner, were stacked here or in an adjoining store, which was also burned. Some of the bales of wool were moved to safety. The mill is insured with the London and Lancashire Company.

Save Appreciated

"We consider that the Fire Brigade made an excellent save," said Mr. C. S. Bertram, secretary of Goode, Durrant and Murray Ltd., who own the Torrenside Mills. The possibility of its spreading were very great. The way the firemen confined the blaze completely to the section where it originated was very satisfactory, both from our point of view and that of McGregor's.

"The damage will run into some thousands," added Mr. Bertram, "but I cannot give a more exact estimate yet. The mill manager (Mr. W. H. Taylor), who has been visiting Melbourne will return to Adelaide today. It is hoped that some of the stacked wool, damaged by heat and water, will be salvaged." Night shift was worked in other sections of the mills last night. Mr Bertram added that it was hoped that few, if any, of the hundred or more employes would be thrown out of work, even temporarily. It is many years since a fire occurred in the Torrenside Mills, but about a couple of years ago, an early morning fire caused several thousand pounds' damage at McGregor's adjoining plant.



PLAYING ON RUINS of the teasing and blending section of the Torrenside woollen mills at Thebarton destroyed by fire yesterday. The chief officer of the fire brigade headquarters (Mr. Whyte) is on the extreme right of the picture.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Wednesday 12 August 1936, page 4

£5,000 DAMAGE ESTIMATED

Blaze at Torrenside Woollen Mills

WORK AS USUAL

PULLING apart smouldering heaps and bales of wool, two firemen were still on duty today at the Torrenside Woollen Mills, Taylor's road, Thebarton, where a spectacular blaze occurred late yesterday afternoon. The damage caused by the fire which started in the "batching" section while artificial silk was being processed, is said to be in the vicinity of £5,000. Although this is one of the key sections of the factory it is anticipated that little if any unemployment will result from the fire. All other sections of the factory were working at top pressure today and already arrangements are in hand to obtain machinery to carry on in the damaged portion. The feature of the outbreak was the splendid save in the efficiency of the fire brigade. The brigade was helped by the fact that the factory was equipped with automatically closing fire-proof doors. Officials of the company today re-iterated their praise of the fire brigade, and Chief Officer Whyte, who was in charge of operations, said that he was greatly pleased with the efficiency of the men.

NEW BRIGADE SYSTEM

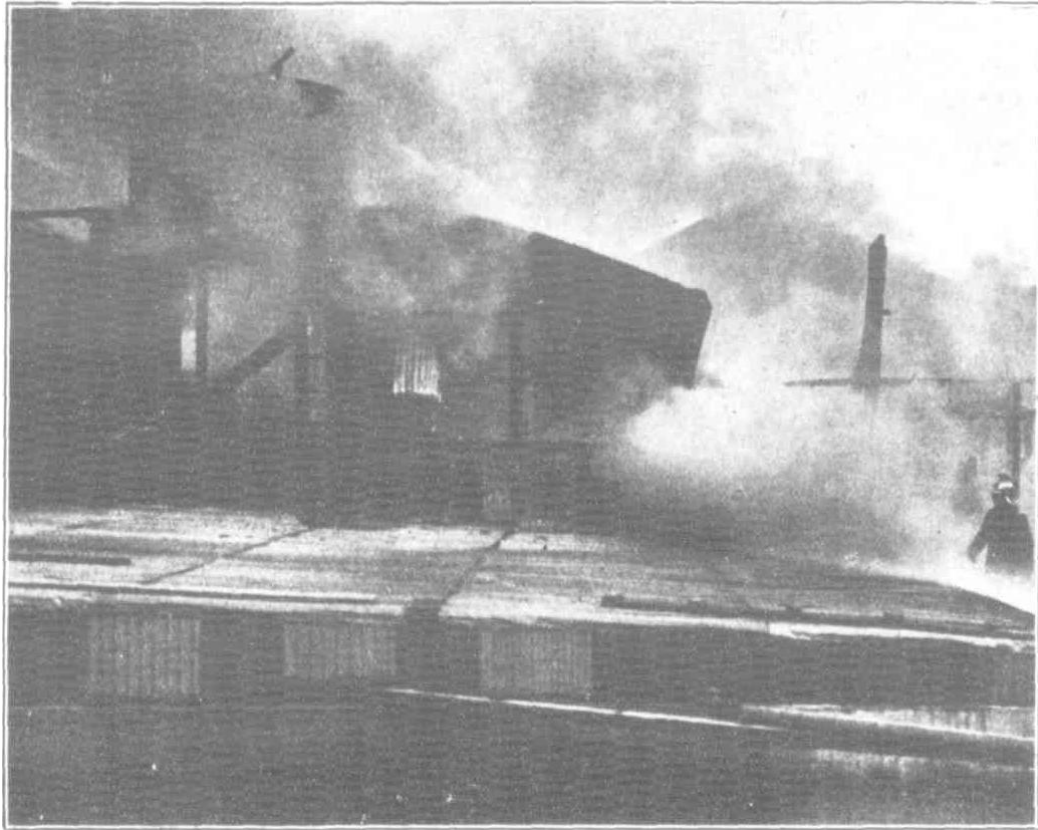
Under the new system operating at brigade headquarters immediately an outstation notifies headquarters of an outbreak in its district, a pump and Chief Officer Whyte leave immediately for the scene. This happened yesterday, and when he was half-way there Mr. Whyte saw the extent of the blaze by the smoke and immediately communicated with headquarters for two more pumps. As a result within 10 minutes of the first alarm there were four pumps at the mills. Mr. Whyte said today that although in one place they had to run out 1,300 ft. of hose, they were able by putting a pump in the middle, to push up the pressure. "Not one of my men was injured," he added. "I was very gratified with their splendid work and efficiency, which, especially on the pumps, was equal to that of the Melbourne brigade."

Frederick Male, who was burned when the outbreak occurred and was treated at the Adelaide Hospital, returned there today for further treatment. He is making satisfactory progress. Constable Geary, of Thebarton, is preparing a report for the coroner, and will submit it, probably tomorrow.



State Library of South Australia - Item 06: Torrensides Woollen Mills, Thebarton. [BRG 397/2/119/6], Aerial photograph of Thebarton, looking north east. South Road and the Torrensides Woollen Mills are in the foreground. The River Torrens runs from the left of the image through the centre of the view. Hindmarsh is in the background. 1938. Photographer, Smith, D. Darian. Part of D. Darian Smith and Thebarton Collection.

Chronicle (Adelaide, SA : 1895 - 1954), Thursday 20 August 1936, page 34



WOOLLEN MILLS DAMAGED. Damage to the extent of several thousand pounds was done to the Torrenside Woollen Mills at Thebarton last week, when a fire broke out at the factory. Several employees were injured, and had to dash for safety, but the fire brigade made an excellent "save."— Krischock.

Mail (Adelaide, SA : 1912 - 1954), Saturday 12 September 1936, page 1

Shed Burnt In Keswick Fire

Damage estimated at between £200 and £300 was caused by a fire which broke out on the property of Mr. Charles Joy, at Ashford road, Keswick, shortly after 9 o'clock tonight. A shed containing furniture, including a piano, was burnt. The property was insured. Good work by the Thebarton Fire Brigade, which was summoned from a street fire alarm, prevented the fire from spreading to adjoining property. A shed owned by Mr. John Taylor was in danger. The occupants of the house on the property where the fire broke out have been away from home for several days. The cause of the fire is unknown.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Wednesday 30 September 1936, page 7

KEROSENE BOTTLE EXPLODES

Woman's Narrow Escape

A woman escaped serious injury this afternoon when a bottle of kerosene exploded while she was attending a fire in the kitchen of her home. The woman, Mrs. D. V. Webb, of Elston street, Lockleys, who has been in ill-health for some time, collapsed with shock, and had to receive medical attention. Her brother, Mr. O. V. Kelf, who was next door, heard her scream, and rushed into the house. He found the mantelpiece and adjoining shelves alight, and beat

them out with a bag just before the arrival of a fire machine from the Thebarton Brigade and a pump from city headquarters.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Thursday 22 October 1936, page 22

Obnoxious Smells From Pughole Fire

A complaint that noxious odors and smoke had been rising from a rubbish tip in a pughole at Holland street, Southwark, was made by Councillor Phelps at the Thebarton Council meeting last night. He said that heavy smoke had been hanging over the portion of the town between Taylors road and Port road, and the council should take steps to prevent rubbish being brought into the town from other municipalities. He moved that the owners of the tip, A. Simpson & Son, should be requested to erect a 5 foot galvanised iron fence around the pughole to prevent people from entering it, or that they be requested to cease dumping rubbish there. The motion was carried.

Councillor Phelps then moved that three residents in the vicinity of the pughole should be empowered to telephone the town clerk immediately a fire breaks out, so that the fire brigade could be called. He said that the brigade had told the residents previously that the firemen would not turn out for pughole fires. This motion was also adopted.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Wednesday 11 November 1936, page 7

CHILD SETS FIRE TO VERANDAH

Spirit Tin Explodes

A five-year-old boy had a lucky escape this afternoon after he had set fire, with a box of matches, to paper and sawdust soaked in kerosene in the enclosed rear verandah of a house in Bean's road, Thebarton. A tin containing four gallons of methylated spirits and a 13-gallon drum of kerosene standing on the verandah exploded shortly after the boy had dashed outside. The fire occurred at the home of Mr. Cyril John Sheppard, to which a shop is attached. Mrs. Sheppard went from the rear of the premises to the shop to serve a customer, and when she returned the verandah, which is used as a storeroom, was ablaze. The boy, John Douglas Sheppard was found outside with the box of matches. As it was feared that the fire might spread to the inside of the house. some furniture was removed.

Prompt action by the Thebarton Fire Brigade and a unit from city headquarters, however, quickly had the blaze under control. Chief Station-Officer, Mr. J. J. White, attended. The verandah and contents, which included in addition to the kerosene and methylated spirits, cases of apples, tins of paint, and household clothing, were destroyed. The kitchen was slightly damaged, a window being destroyed and a door being severely charred.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Tuesday 24 November 1936, page 1

Two Hurt In Fire at Thebarton

The works manager (Mr. R. Wright) and the foreman (Mr. Edgar Wright) were slightly burned by a fire at the Premier Varnish and Paint Co., Bellingham street, Thebarton, about 11.20 a.m. today. A flash from a kettle used for boiling oil and gum in the manufacture of varnish set fire to the contents of adjoining kettles, and the flames charred the woodwork of a shed 40 ft. by 9 ft.

Chemical extinguishers kept the flames in check until the arrival of the Thebarton Fire Brigade and two units from city headquarters under Deputy Chief Officer Cook. The intense heat of the flames scorched the face of Mr. R. Wright, and Mr. Edgar Wright was burned on the arms. It was impossible to approach nearer than 20 ft. to the fire. Fortunately the scene of the fire was about 10 yards from the main store room of the company, in which were big supplies of paint and varnish.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Wednesday 25 November 1936, page 19

Fire At Paint And Varnish Works

When a kettle containing 26 gallons of boiling raw linseed oil was uncovered at the Premier Paint and Varnish Company works, Bellingham street, Torrensville, oxygen in the atmosphere caused the boiling liquid to flash, and set fire to liquid in adjoining kettles used for the manufacture of varnish. The works manager (Mr. R. Wright) and the foreman (Mr. E. Wright), in attempting to place a cover over the burning liquid to extinguish the flames were slightly burnt, but continued at work after treatment.

The flames charred the woodwork of a shed 40 feet by 9 feet, and three chemical fire extinguishers kept the flames in check until the arrival of a reel from the Thebarton Fire Brigade under Station Officer Goddard. The damage was estimated at £35. The fire was confined to the shed, which is about 10 yards away from the main storeroom of the company, where large supplies of paint and varnish are stored. Constable Claxton, of Thebarton, is making a report.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Thursday 26 November 1936, page 4

Shortly before noon Thebarton Fire Brigade was called to the property of Mr. D. L. Beaty, of West street, Torrensville, to extinguish a grass fire at the rear of the house. No damage to property was done.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Thursday 26 November 1936, page 11

Boy's Bogus Telephone Calls To Annoy Parents

How a 17-year-old boy who was "wild because his father would not allow him to use his bicycle," made bogus telephone calls bringing an ambulance and two undertakers to his parents' home, was described in the Children's Court yesterday by Assistant Police Prosecutor Walsh.

The boy was charged before Mr. Coombe, S.M., with having, on November 25, at Hilton, been an uncontrollable child. He was ordered to be detained at the Mount Barker Home until he reached the age of 18 years. On two charges of having at Hilton, given a false alarm of fire, and of having mischievously used a telephone, the boy was convicted without a penalty. Mr. Walsh said that when the boy refused to accompany his father home from a Hilton bakehouse on November 7, the father took his son's bicycle. The boy telephoned to the Adelaide Fire Brigade, and one of its detachments, together with the Thebarton Brigade, rushed to an hotel in Hilton. On November 9, the boy telephoned to the Hindmarsh Ambulance, and a car was sent to his parents' home. Two undertakers had also been called to the house as a result of telephone calls.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Thursday 17 December 1936, page 26

Henley Fire Control.—The Thebarton Council last night appointed the Mayor (Mr. J. Langdon) and Aldermen J. Leal and Thompson Green and the town clerk (Mr. C. E. Wyett) to confer with members of the West Torrens and Henley and Grange Councils regarding the possibility of including Henley and Grange in the district served by the Thebarton Fire Brigade.

1937

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Thursday 7 January 1937, page 2

FIRE PROTECTION FOR HENLEY

Conference Shortly

To discuss a proposal that Henley and Grange should join Thebarton fire district of the Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board and thereby secure fire protection, a conference of councils will be held next Thursday night. The Mayor of Thebarton (Mr. J. Langdon) will preside. Other delegates will be Ald. T. Green and J. L. Leal, and the town clerk (Mr. C. E. Wyett) representing Thebarton; Crs. A. Burt and C. W. Lloyd and the district clerk (Mr. V. S. Shephard) representing West Torrens; the mayor (Mr. E. W. Mitton), Ald. G. T. Gurner, and Cr. C. L. Alexander, representing Henley and Grange.

Recently Henley conferred with Woodville Council on a proposal that in the event of the Fire Brigades Board taking control of Woodville Volunteer Fire Station, Henley should share in the fire brigade protection and contribute towards the cost of Woodville Fire Station. Nothing definite was decided, however. Fire protection costs West Torrens District Council about £188 and Thebarton £171 annually. The contribution to the Fire Brigades Board is on a rates revenue basis. Thebarton rates amount to about £15,500, and it is assumed that on a rates income of £8,300 a year, the Henley and Grange moiety to the proposed three-party fire brigade station would be about £94. If the Fire Brigades Board found it necessary to increase the staff of Thebarton Fire Station, the cost would be slightly higher.

The State Government gives a straight-out grant of £10,000 a year towards the Fire Brigades Board. Insurance companies contribute five-ninths of the general expenses of the board, plus five-sevenths of any excess expenditure on the Government grant. Corporations in the fire brigades districts contribute the balance.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Monday 5 April 1937, page 2

MILE-END SHED AND CONTENTS BURNT

Car There Shortly Before

A shed and its contents and about 30 ft. of paling fence were destroyed by fire early today at Cuming street, Mile-End. The shed was used as a garage and workshop, and the contents included a carpenter's bench, tools, and a bicycle. The owner, Mr. Henry Shanks, had left in his motor car about an hour earlier. The cause of the fire is unknown. Thebarton Fire Brigade, under Station-Officer Goddard, responded to the call, and a motor pump from city headquarters, under Station-Officer McCallum, also went to the scene.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Thursday 29 April 1937, page 3

Fire in Welding Shop At Mile-End

A shed used as a welding shop in the railway yards, Mile-End, an electric welding choke, several packets of electrodes, face shields, and other articles were damaged by fire about 1 a.m. today. The blaze was extinguished by pumps from the Metropolitan and Thebarton Brigades.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Wednesday 12 May 1937, page 9

Fire at Torrensville House While Occupants Away

While the occupants of a home in Shipster street, Torrensville, were absent this afternoon, a fire destroyed a wooden case containing a small quantity of firewood, and damaged the door and window frame of a wash-house. The Thebarton Brigade quickly extinguished the fire.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Monday 9 August 1937, page 5

Tar Heating Plant Catches Alight

Huge volumes of smoke issued from the works of Ausbestos Ltd., of South road. Hilton, today, when the tar heating plant and a quantity of bitumen caught alight. Flames quickly spread to the rafters of the iron building, and many were charred before two pumping appliances from headquarters and Thebarton Fire Brigades, under Deputy Chief Officer E. W. Cook arrived and quickly quelled the outbreak. Flames had just set alight to the roofing of the Bolivar Dairying Co., Ltd., the adjoining premises, when the firemen arrived.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Tuesday 24 August 1937, page 6

ALL SUSPICION REMOVED

Why Nolle Prosequi Was Entered

Further evidence obtained by the police about a fire at the premises of Waste Products Co., Thebarton, on April 7, removed all suspicion from Arthur Roy Selwyn Sowter, the occupier. This was announced by the Attorney General (Mr. Jeffries) in the House of Assembly this afternoon. Mr. McInnes (A.L.P., West Torrens) told the House that Sowter had been committed for trial on a charge of having set alight to the premises. Subsequently a nolle prosequi was entered, and the case was not proceeded with. Mr. McInnes asked why a reason was not given. As a result of the publicity given to the inquest at which Mr. Sowter was committed, his business had been seriously prejudiced, and he had been forced to dismiss some employes. "I am glad that this was brought to the notice of the House." Mr. Jeffries said in reply. "I entered a nolle prosequi on the advice of the Crown Solicitor. It appears that another person broke into the premises and, finding nothing of value, set fire to the place. Evidence submitted to the coroner quite justified him reaching his decision. The crown is satisfied that Mr. Sowter was in no way responsible for the fire. It is regrettable if he has suffered financially. "It is usual when the Crown Prosecutor reports that the Attorney-General has entered a nolle prosequi to give no reasons for so doing. I do hope the true culprit will be brought to court, although at present this seems difficult."

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Saturday 9 October 1937, page 9

Water Taken From River To Extinguish Blaze

Although the Thebarton Fire Brigade attended a fire on the banks of the River Torrens last night, there was no water hydrant to which a hose could be attached within distance, and the firemen had to extinguish the blaze with water scooped from the river in buckets. A wood and hessian shack, occupied by an unemployed person, was demolished. The shack was situated among many other similar huts in the west parklands, below the weir.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Monday 15 November 1937, page 19

FURNITURE FACTORY DESTROYED

£2,800 Damage Done At Mile End

A furniture factory owned by Mr. Jas. Alexander Pocock and situated at the corner of Falcon avenue and Tarragon street, Mile-End, was destroyed by fire shortly after 8 a.m. yesterday. The damage is estimated at £2,800, and only the building and a portion of the plant were covered by insurance. The cause of the fire is unknown.

The Thebarton fire station received the alarm at 7.58, but by 8.25 a.m., the factory was destroyed. Mrs. W. A. Lapthorne, attracted by the screaming of Pocock's adopted six-year-old son, looked through her window and saw a huge sheet of flame leap from the building. Soon the flames were 30 ft. high.

Miss Irene Lapthorne telephoned the Thebarton Fire Brigade, which sent two motor fire pumps under Station Officer Goddard, and another outfit was sent from the Wakefield head station. The fire had such a hold on the building that the brigades could not do more than protect surrounding property.

Mr. Pocock said that he drove his motor car into the shed at the factory about 9 p.m. on Saturday, when everything appeared to be all right. The first he knew of the fire was when his 13-year-old daughter told him that the factory was ablaze. With the help of two neighbors he pushed his car to the street. The factory was a wood and iron structure. Stock, timber and made-up furniture, stored in it was valued at £500, the machinery cost more than £2000, and the building was worth about £350. The only articles insured were the building, an hydraulic press, and the electric motors used for driving the machinery. The factory was situated on the same allotment as Mr. Peacocks house. An adjoining house and a stable on another property at the back of the factory were damaged.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Thursday 25 November 1937, page 25

SHED AND CONTENTS SEVERLY DAMAGED

Fire at West Croydon

A wood and iron shed and contents, including butcher's stores, were severely damaged by fire about 11.30 p.m. yesterday at premises occupied by Mr. R. B. Carolan at Rosetta street, West Croydon. The rear portion of the ceiling of the main shop was slightly damaged by fire. Woodville and Thebarton brigades attended. The cause of the fire is unknown. The damage is covered by insurance. Owner of the buildings is Mr. G. Cox, of Rosetta street.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Friday 17 December 1937, page 36

Fence On Fire.—The Thebarton Fire Brigade put out a fire in a fence between two houses in Henley Beach road, Mile-End, yesterday. Rubbish was being burned in a yard, and it is thought that sparks jumped from the fire into a creeper growing on a paling fence.

1938

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Wednesday 26 January 1938, page 7

Fire in Garage At Cowandilla

Damage estimated at £80 was caused by a fire in a garage at the rear of premises in Cowandilla road, Cowandilla, occupied by Mr. C. F. Schrader, storekeeper. The cause of the outbreak, which occurred about 4.30 a.m. today, is not known. A motor buckboard housed in the garage was badly damaged. Reels from Fire Brigade Headquarters and Thebarton attended.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Thursday 27 January 1938, page 7

Buckboard And Shed Burnt

A motor buckboard and the shed in which it was housed at the rear of Mr. C. F. Schrader's store, corner of Cowandilla road and Brooker terrace, Cowandilla, were almost completely destroyed by fire early yesterday morning. The wood and iron shed and the vehicle were both insured. The Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call at 4.30 a.m., and a motor fire pump from Adelaide, under Chief Officer J. J. Whyte, and another from Thebarton under Station-Officer Goddard quickly had the fire under control.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Friday 18 February 1938, page 23

£700 DAMAGE IN MILE-END FIRE

Garage And Car Destroyed

A fire which broke out in a garage in South terrace, Mile-End, about 6.30 p.m. yesterday, destroyed a 1937 model closed motor car, the contents of the garage, and practically the whole of the building. The car was valued at £600, and was partly covered by insurance. The extent of the damage is estimated at £700. The origin of the fire is not known. Two appliances in charge of Senior Fireman E. Godfrey, of the Thebarton Fire Brigade, attended and extinguished the fire in less than half an hour. The fire occurred on the property of Mr. K. Assad, retired, who lives in Goodenough street, Mile-End. The rear of his property is in South terrace. He saw smoke coming from the garage about 40 yards from his house and tried to put out the fire with a garden hose. He then attempted to push the car into South terrace. By that time the fire had a good hold, and he was forced to fight his way out of the garage, which was burning fiercely. Hair on his head was singed. Mr. Assad took delivery of the car only a month ago. Articles in the garage included drapery, oil in drums, a set of bowls, and tools. A woodshed which adjoins the garage, was also destroyed. Constable D. L. Beatty (Thebarton) is preparing a report for the City Coroner.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Monday 21 February 1938, page 21

Motor Vehicles And Garage Burned

About £600 worth of damage was caused about 3.40 a.m. yesterday when a fire destroyed a garage and two new motor vehicles, owned by Mr. W. Bishop, carter and wood merchant, of Walsh street, Southwark.

Awakened by the glare, Mr. Bishop's son, Lionel, who was sleeping out, played a garden hose on the fire while his father telephoned the brigade. Shortly after Thebarton firemen arrived, the roof of the wood and iron garage collapsed. The fire was spreading along a paling fence towards an adjoining property, but it was soon extinguished under the direction of Chief Officer J. J. Whyte and Station Officer Goddard. The cause of the fire is unknown. The garage was locked by Mr. Bishop's son when he placed the motor cycle outfit inside about midnight on Saturday. As well as the two motor vehicles, a bicycle, a scales, and tools were destroyed. The property was insured.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Thursday 24 March 1938, page 6

16 Tons of Wood Burnt In Beverley

Fire Damage estimated at nearly £50 was caused when a fire broke out early today on the premises of Freburg Brickworks Ltd., at Beverley. Called at 1.34 a.m., the Woodville and Thebarton Brigades attended the blaze, and found a wood-and-iron structure measuring 20 ft. by 40 ft. alight. About 16 tons of wood were destroyed, and the structure was badly damaged. A spark from a kiln is believed to have caused the outbreak. Constable Barker, of Kilkenny, is preparing a report.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Saturday 9 April 1938, page 5

FIRE DAMAGE TO EXCAVATOR

Boom Drops into River

Believed to have been caused by the engine backfiring and setting alight to petrol dripping from a tank on to the exhaust, an excavator belonging to the Engineering and Water Supply Department was damaged by fire at Flinders Park early today. The intense heat cracked the glass in the windows of the cabin, and caused some steel wires to give way, allowing the boom with scoop attached, to drop into the River Torrens. The excavator was being used for dredging and reclamation work. Appliances from Thebarton and the City Fire Brigades attended. An estimate of the damage has not yet been made.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Saturday 30 April 1938, page 23

TWO MEN BURNED IN GARAGE FIRE

Petrol Takes Fire During Filling Operations

Two men were burned, one of them seriously, when a fire broke out in a garage at Danby street, Torrensville, about 8 p.m. yesterday. Those injured were:— Harold Richard Ackland, of Danby street, Torrensville, severe burns to both hands and the back of both legs. Keith Megson, of Norma street, Mile End, burned hand. The garage is owned by Mrs. Elizabeth Jean Ackland, of Northcote street, Torrensville, who operates a cartage business. Megson was engaged in filling the petrol tanks of the trucks at the time. While Megson was trying to open a drum of petrol, the spirit caught fire and burned his hand. He tried to extinguish the flames, and, finding this impossible, went for help. While he was away Ackland reached the

garage, and it is believed that he attempted to roll the drum out of the garage. In doing so the petrol splashed on his hands, which, according to an eyewitness, "blazed like torches."

Constables Claxton and Williams, of Thebarton, who were on patrol duty in the vicinity, went to the fire. They found Ackland still standing in the garage with his clothes alight. They pulled some of the garments off and extinguished other portions of his clothing that were smouldering. Machines from fire brigade headquarters and from Thebarton, under Chief Officer Whyte, arrived shortly afterwards and put out the fire, which had extended to both trucks and their contents. Little damage was caused. Ackland was treated by the firemen for his burns, and was then taken to Warraweena private hospital in a civil ambulance. His condition late last night was satisfactory. Megson was also taken to the hospital. It is not known how the fire started, but it is believed by the police that it was caused by a spark from the metal cap of the drum when Megson was trying to remove it.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Monday 2 May 1938, page 20

FIRE FOLLOWS ATTEMPT TO FILL LAMP

Woman Thought Petrol Tin Contained Kerosene

While attempting to fill a hurricane lamp from a two-gallon petrol tin, which she thought contained kerosene, Mrs. Lillian Downing, of West Thebarton road, West Thebarton, on Saturday night, started a blaze which spread to a motor car and burnt the side curtains, hood and front seat. In trying to extinguish the flames, her father, Mr. Alfred Marks, was burned slightly on the right hand and face.

Mrs. Downing went to the garage in the backyard to fill the lamp from a tin which formerly contained kerosene, but which had been filled with petrol for a recent motor trip. When she attempted to pour the liquid it burst into flames, and she threw the tin and the lamp away from her. The petrol spread over a brick floor, and almost immediately the flames rose to a height of seven or eight feet. They set fire to the side curtains of the car and spread to the hood and front seat. The Thebarton Fire Brigade put out the fire. Damage was estimated at £10.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Wednesday 19 October 1938, page 23

Small Fires At Factories

Originating among a stack of packing cases outside, a fire extended to the main entrance of one of the buildings of the Australian Glass Manufacturers' Co., Kilkenny, yesterday afternoon. Quick work by the Woodville Fire Brigade restricted the damage to minor proportions.

About 9.30 p.m. yesterday the Thebarton Brigade was called to a fire under a section of the roof of the premises of Adelaide Timber Products, Ltd., Kilkenny. No damage was caused.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Thursday 20 October 1938, page 20

NEWS IN BRIEF

Henley Fire.—Threatening the bakehouse and shop of W. R. Badenoch, on Seaview road, Henley Beach, about 9 p.m. yesterday, a fire in a stack of 15 tons of wood was extinguished by the Thebarton Brigade. Two tons were burned.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Wednesday 9 November 1938, page 27

Fire At Woodville

Fire destroyed about half of a 10-ton stack of firewood and menaced several houses and a service station, near the Port road, Woodville, yesterday afternoon. The wood was stacked at the Star Bakery, in Oval avenue, Woodville, belonging to Mr. J. Gallacher, of Kellett street, Semaphore. It is believed that the fire started in the grass on a vacant allotment. The Woodville Fire Brigade, assisted by a reel from Thebarton, quickly controlled the blaze.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Monday 21 November 1938, page 19

SPECTACULAR KILKENNY FIRE

£1,000 Damage At Glassworks

A spectacular blaze at the factory of the Australian Glass Manufacturers Co., Ltd., Kilkenny, late on Saturday night caused damage estimated at £1,000 to the bottle manufacturing section of the plant.

Five fire brigade motor appliances were used. They came from the Adelaide head station, Port Adelaide, Woodville, and Thebarton stations. A poor water pressure hampered their efforts, and more than two-thirds of a mile of hoses were used. The firemen also risked serious injury by entering the building amid showers of sparks and the falling of large pieces of timber from the roof. Flames leaping many feet above the high building attracted thousands of spectators, and at one stage nearly a mile of motor and other traffic was held up on the Port road because of the hoses taken across it. Six trolley buses were held up for half an hour, and arrangements were made to send petrol buses to tow them round a detour and back to the overhead wires on the Port road so that the traffic could be maintained. Motor traffic police took charge of the situation, and gradually relieved the congestion by sending motor and other vehicles round a detour road. It is doubtful how the fire started. The firemen had to work with speed, because alongside the main manufacturing building which was ablaze were thousands or pounds worth of bottles packed with straw in wooden crates in a wood and iron building. The streams of water from the hoses failed to reach the blazing timber until the pressure was boosted by a special pump, which sent half a dozen streams to the roof. The fusing of the electric wires by the blaze added to the difficulties of the firemen and other firefighters. The whole building was in darkness, and men had to grope through the building, where electric torch lamps used by some of the firemen were not available.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Saturday 10 December 1938, page 1

£500 FIRE AT FACTORY

Storm Blamed For Outbreak

Damage estimated at £500 was caused by a fire which gutted the Kingston Sauce Factory in Clifford street, Kurralta Park, early today. Last night's storm is thought to have been the cause. It is believed that a short circuit occurred when telephone wires leading to the front of the wood-and-iron building were blown down. People living nearby reported to the chief officer of the South Australian Fire Brigade (Mr. Whyte) that the telephone wires were lying on the ground at 4 a.m., and sparks were seen shooting from overhead wires nearby. The blaze originated in the front portion of the

structure, and this was practically demolished when appliances from Thebarton and Adelaide Fire Station arrived. The roof collapsed soon after. The blaze had such a strong grip when the firemen came on the scene that they could save only a small compartment at the rear. The building was already well alight when the fire was first noticed about 7.15 a.m. A neighbor had to run nearly half a mile to the nearest phone on the South road. Two girls will be temporarily unemployed as a result of the fire. The factory was insured.

1939

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Monday 16 January 1939, page 20

£8,000 FIRE AT WOOLLEN MILLS

Heat Causes Spontaneous Combustion

CONTENTS ENTIRELY DESTROYED

Spontaneous combustion caused by the high temperatures during the past week and the humidity on Saturday night is thought to have started a fire in the Torrenside Woollen Mills at Taylors road, West Thebarton, early on Sunday morning. Damage amounting to about £8,000 was done to fine wools in the store, and to portions of the building.

Three appliances from the Adelaide Fire Brigade and one from Thebarton had the fire under control in 20 minutes. The owners are Goode, Durrant and Murray. The manager of the mills (Mr. Taylor) said yesterday that Anson Bloor, painter, of Torrens avenue, New Hindmarsh, was returning home after having been fighting fires in the hills when he saw the store alight. He promptly called the Thebarton Fire Brigade. A hose was attached to a six-inch water main, which had recently been installed at the mill. Two large fire-proof doors leading into the store prevented the fire from spreading to an adjoining room, where overflow wool was stacked, and from the rest of the premises, and assisted the work of the brigade. The contents of the store were destroyed, and a wood and iron wall on the river side, and the roof, which was about 20 feet high, were destroyed. Two machines which were in the store, but which were not in use, were damaged. The bulk store, at the other end of the premises, and other parts of the mill were not damaged, and operations will not be stopped. Enquiries were made by Constable Geary, of Thebarton.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Monday 16 January 1939, page 2

NO LOSS OF JOBS

Mill Manager's Assurance

"NONE of the 180 employees at the Torrenside Woollen Mills will be affected by Saturday night's fire. There may be temporary disorganisation, but there will be no unemployment as a result." the manager (Mr. Taylor) said today. He added that the amount of damage was not known, but the loss would be covered by insurance.

Mr. Taylor paid a tribute to the efficient work of the fire brigade. It had made a prompt turn-out and had the fire under control within 20 minutes, he said. In its firefighting the brigade had been assisted by the recent installation of 6-in. mains through the mill property. This had prevented the spread of the fire to other parts. The store that was burned out contained scoured and blended wool. Two wool-preparing machines, that were damaged were not in use.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Monday 27 February 1939, page 18

FACTORY BURNT AT MILE END

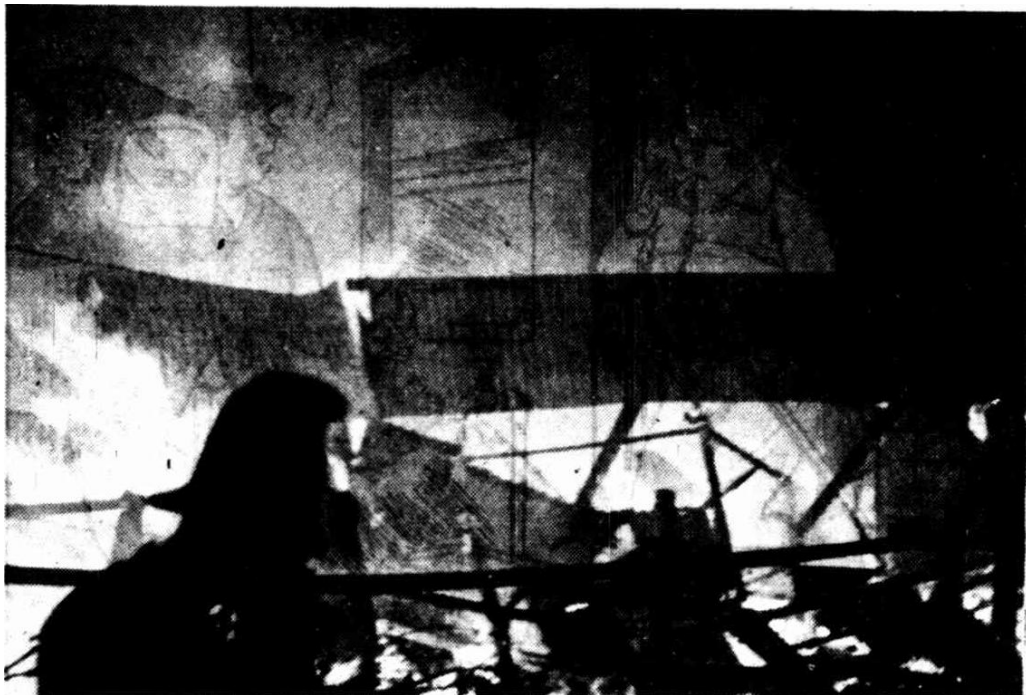
Railwayman Fights Flames With Garden Hose

A railwayman with a garden hose attempted to quell a fire which destroyed the furniture factory of Mr. Reginald Burnett at Rose street, Mile End, last night. Mr. Burnett, who was at his home at Lockleys when the fire occurred, said the damage would probably amount to £750, and 12 men would be thrown out of work. A second building, which is divided from the other by a lane, was saved, after work by the Metropolitan and Thebarton Fire Brigades.

Mr. L. Claxton, the railwayman who fought the fire until they arrived, lives in a property in front of the factory. "Much of the place could have been saved had the water pressure been better," he said. "It only trickled through for about ten minutes or so after the firemen arrived." The fire began, it is thought, in a corner of the building and spread rapidly after the roof fell in and the flames were fanned by a wind. The building was of wood and iron and had been occupied by Mr. Burnett for about 15 months. Stacks of timber and plywood and some partly completed furniture were inside. The loss is partly covered by insurance.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Monday 27 February 1939, page 3

BATTLE WITH FLAMES



FIREMAN PLAYING A HOSE on the furniture factory of Mr. Reginald Burnett, of Rose street, Mile-End, last night. The fire broke out in a corner of the building and spread rapidly, destroying the factory. An adjoining shed was saved by the Metropolitan and Thebarton Fire Brigades.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Saturday 4 March 1939, page 1

Firemen In Action



FIREMEN PLAYING WATER on the drums of Colas which exploded in the blaze at Richmond today.

EXPLOSIONS LIKE CANNON IN BIG BLAZE

Bombardment Of Red-Hot Iron

Exploding with a noise like cannon fire, and with red-hot pieces of iron bombarding the roofs of houses nearby, about 60 drums of Colas, a bitumen mixture, were destroyed in a spectacular blaze at the depot of Asphalt Cold Mix Australia Pty. Ltd., South road, Richmond, this morning. Nearly 200 drums on a platform at the depot went up, but only about 60 44-gallon drums were full. The contents were valued at about £120, and a big shed, housing the drums, which was destroyed in the blaze was valued at about £700.

Starting at about 8.45, the fire burned fiercely for about half an hour. It was fortunate that the blaze did not attain more serious proportions. Two big 12,000-gallon tanks and two smaller 5,000-gallon tanks, standing in the depot and partly full of Colas, escaped the flames. These were right alongside the burning shed. The most remarkable feature was the escape of hundreds of drums of bitumen, piled high alongside the valuable bitumen heating plant, only 20 ft. from the exploding drums.

Flames were licking the platform and the walls of the plant when firemen, realising the danger, concentrated on saving the plant and the bitumen drums. Other serious damage was averted when valves on oxy-acetylene cylinders blew off and prevented them from exploding. "If these had gone up and the bitumen drums caught alight, the fire would have still been burning, and dreadful damage might have resulted," said an official. The fire is believed to have started under the shed platform.

Employees rushed for safety as flames and smoke suddenly belched from the shed. Later they helped to keep the flames from the bitumen plant. Apart from scorched arms and shoulders, no one was seriously hurt.

Valuable Trotters Freed

RESIDENTS in homes round the depot had a terrifying time. Women screamed as red-hot pieces of iron from the exploding drums fell on roofs, in back gardens, and in nearby streets. Some tops of the drums weighing up to 6 lb. were hurled nearly 500 ft. Mrs. W. McMillan, of Manchester street, rushed to the stables in her yard to free five valuable trotters when she heard the explosions. Assisted by others she released the animals, which belonged to Mr. S. Cooney, a friend. These well-known trotters, some of which are engaged at Wayville tonight, are Frank, Steppall, Rockford, Wonga Lea, and a youngster. Terrified by the noise of the explosions and the flames, the trotters were plunging in their stalls when Mrs. McMillan and Mr. C. Burchell released them and led them to safety to paddocks at the top of Manchester street. "How we got them out I do not know," Mrs. McMillan said afterwards. "The heat was terrific, and if he had not had a concrete wall at the back I think we would have been burnt out."

Mr. W. Gardner was standing in Manchester street more than 100 yards from the scene of the outbreak, when a red hot bitumen drum crashed on to the roadway within two yards of him. When the fence of Mr. C. J. Kerr's back yard, which adjoins the depot, and a small tool shed, caught alight, Mr. Kerr rushed for the garden hose. As he turned on the water his wife, standing in the back verandah, screamed out when she saw the top of one drum come hurling down, missing Mr. Kerr by a foot. Mr. Kerr's fence was burned down and part of the shed and a few tools destroyed.

Close Call for Infant

Next door to the depot, Mrs. R. C. Forrester was having her breakfast when the explosions began. It was just as if a lot of cannon were firing, she said. A red-hot piece of iron, the top of one of the drums, landed on the top of the house, broke several tiles, and rolled off the roof into the front garden. This just missed a swinging bassinette, from which a 10-week-old baby had just been taken inside by her mother, Mrs. G. White, daughter of Mrs. Forrester. The women rushed into the back yard, but were turned back by the terrific heat of the blaze, which was only about 30 ft. on the other side of their fence. Wrapping the baby in blankets, they were ready to leave the house if danger threatened, but, with the arrival of the brigades from Adelaide and Thebarton, hoses were played on the fences, and the danger passed. Scorched peaches and grapes in the garden testified to the narrow escape they had. Parts of the woodwork of the house were also scorched by the terrific heat. During the blaze, and while the explosions were occurring, traffic passing along South road was warned to keep out of the danger area. Other residents had portions of these drums scattered in their yards and one on a roof. "We wondered what was going to happen next," said one man. "The explosions were terrible, and we thought the bigger drums would also go up and start fires everywhere."

People living nearby paid a tribute to the smart work of the Adelaide and Thebarton Fire Brigades in preventing the blaze from spreading to nearby properties. Chief Fire Officer Whyte, who directed operations, said that some hoses were ruined during the blaze by thoughtless motorists and drivers of other vehicles running over the equipment in the street.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Monday 6 March 1939, page 18

ALARMING FIRE AT RICHMOND

Burst Bitumen Drums Terrify Residents

SA Country Fire Service Promotions Unit
www.fire-brigade.asn.au
11 April 2026

PIECES FALL ON HOUSES

Flames and smoke leapt nearly 200 feet when more than sixty 44-gallon drums of emulsified bitumen caught fire at the Asphalt Cold Mix Proprietary Limited's factory at South road, Richmond, early on Saturday morning. Drums of bitumen exploding like cannon shots drove women in nearby houses screaming into the streets, and there were many escapes from being hit by portions of the drums which flew for more than 200 feet on to roofs of houses and into back yards. The flames were confined to one section of the works. The damage was estimated at slightly under £1,000.

Alongside the shed in which the fire occurred are two 12,000-gallon and two 5,000-gallon steel tanks in which emulsified bitumen is stored in bulk. Nearby is a large bitumen heating plant, where thousands of gallons of bitumen is stored. Chief Officer Whyte of the Fire Brigade, considers that the bitumen in this portion of the plant would have burnt for three weeks.

Start Of The Fire

The fire was reported to have started at the bitumen filling pipe. The flames quickly spread from a piece of burning waste to a 44-gallon bitumen drum. Employes rushed to the spot with chemical fire extinguishers, but in a few seconds the platform was an inferno. Three other employes rushed from the platform. One was scorched about the arms, chest and face. Firemen were anxious concerning several cylinders of oxyacetylene gas stored on the platform, but the flames melted the valves and allowed the gas to escape without exploding the high pressure steel cylinders. Several firemen were sprayed with hot bitumen as the drums exploded, but were not seriously burnt. The headquarters of the Metropolitan Fire Brigade received a telephone call from the works at about 8.25 a.m., and within five minutes Chief Officer Whyte, accompanied by three appliances from Adelaide and one from the Thebarton station, was on the scene. Due to an excellent water pressure drawn from two high pressure mains on the South road, a few yards away, the firemen had the blaze under control in a few minutes, and the fire was completely out in a little more than half an hour. Ten lines of hose were run out and 2,000 gallons of water a minute were pumped on to the fire. Firemen concentrated on isolating the blaze to the shed and the platform on which the bitumen was stored.

Householders Menaced

Householders in the vicinity had terrifying experiences. Mrs. R. C. Forrester, whose house is within 60 ft. of the shed, rushed on to the footpath in time to see the lid of a steel bitumen drum hurtling into the air. This missile, which weighed about 12 lb, fell on the front verandah roof, smashed several tiles, and rolled on to the lawn. The object fell immediately above a swinging bassinot from which her daughter, Mrs. G. White, had taken her 10 weeks' old baby only a few minutes before. Mrs. White, who was bathing her baby, snatched it from the tub, and rushed across the street, with the child wrapped in a towel, to the house of a neighbor. Mr. Forrester, who has been under a doctor's care for some time with a serious nervous complaint, was seriously affected with shock. Seven trotting horses belonging to Mr. A. McMillan, of Manchester street, were in a stable adjoining the company's works. Mrs. McMillan rushed out and released six of the horses, and a neighbor, Mr. Burchell, ran in to release the last horse. Just as he reached the stable a large piece of steel crashed on to the roof, and he had great difficulty in releasing the terrified animal. The back fence of the

property of Mr. C. Kerr, Manchester street, caught fire, and about 30 feet of it was destroyed. A shed in which tools were kept was also badly burnt. While Mr. Kerr was playing a hose on a large aviary of valuable birds, portion of one of the steel drums dropped on the ground within a few inches of him. Fruit trees and vines and creepers in all the adjoining houses were scorched by the flames.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Monday 2 October 1939, page 7

Young Man Arrested After Car Catches Fire

A small motor car, alleged to have been stolen from the parking area at the rear of the Hindmarsh Town Hall, between 8 and 11 p.m. on Saturday, came into collision with another car at the intersection of Ross avenue, Main street, and Grange road, Flinders Park, and turning on its side burst into flames. The Woodville and Thebarton fire brigades were called, but the car was reduced to the framework before the fire was extinguished.

The car was owned by Harry Beaumont, schoolteacher, of Stockwell who was attending a picture entertainment. It was valued at £150. The car with which it collided was owned by Leonard Kitchenir Skuse of Holbrook's road, Underdale. No one was injured in the collision. The Hindmarsh police later arrested James Joseph Scanlon, 21 of Manton street, Hindmarsh, who will probably appear before the Hindmarsh Court this morning charged with having stolen a motor car.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Thursday 5 October 1939, page 10

Stove Explodes At West Croydon

A man and his wife received burns when a gas stove exploded in a house in Torrens road, West Croydon, this afternoon. The Woodville Fire Brigade was called, and, assisted by the Thebarton Brigade, extinguished the blaze before much damage could be done. Mr. W. Gladwin, who lives in the house, was burned on his right arm while removing the stove from the kitchen, and his wife received burns on a leg and the neck. First aid was rendered by the firemen. It is believed that gas was leaking from the stove.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Friday 6 October 1939, page 23

Exploding Oil Stove Starts Fire

The Woodville Fire Brigade received a call at 12.30 p.m., yesterday to an eight-roomed house occupied by Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Gladwin and Mr. H. Bennis, at Torrens road, Croydon. A leaking primus stove caught fire in the kitchen and burnt some furniture and woodwork of the kitchen. While Mr. Gladwin was attempting to carry the blazing stove outside he was severely burnt about the hands, face and arms, and Mrs. Gladwin received burns on her right leg and her hair and neck. An appliance from the Thebarton Fire Brigade also attended.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Tuesday 12 December 1939, page 16

NEWS IN BRIEF

Thebarton Fire.—The Thebarton Fire Brigade received a call yesterday to a fire at the home of Mr. B. E. Johns, Ballantyne street, Thebarton. The fire was confined to a bed room, where bed-clothes, linoleum, two rugs, and other articles were damaged.

1946

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Monday 14 January 1946, page 5

TORRENSIDE BLAZE DESTRUCTIVE

Firemen Injured

The fire at the Torrenside Woollen Mills, Taylor's road, Thebarton, early on Saturday morning, was stated, at the weekend, to have caused damage approaching £20,000. Firemen from headquarters and several suburban brigades combined to prevent the spread of the flames to the premises of J. W. McGregor & Sons, woolbrokers, which are separated from the mills by a 12 ft. right-of-way. The blaze was got under control in about 40 minutes. Deputy Chief Officer W. McCallum, of Adelaide, was in charge of the fire-fighting operations. Valuable carding and spinning machinery was destroyed by the fire. A quantity of baled wool was only slightly damaged. In the height of the blaze, portions of the mills collapsed, and a falling piece of timber struck Station Officer R. Paul, inflicting severe burns on one of his hands. Fireman J S. Manning, while playing a hose on the fire from the roof of the main building, slipped and fell through a skylight, receiving a thigh injury. He remained on duty. Later he received treatment at the Royal Adelaide Hospital. Other firefighters were struck by falling iron, but escaped serious harm.

Fire Burns Fencing At Adjoining Houses

A fire destroyed about 100 feet of fencing and a grass-covered area at the home of Mrs. C. A. Dickens, in Kintore street, Mile End on Saturday. Part of a paling fence on an adjoining property occupied by Mrs. J. A. Gutty was burnt down. The Thebarton Fire Brigade attended

1947

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), Tuesday 22 July 1947, page 1

Arson Suspected In Southwark Factory Fire

Police believe that several fires which caused damage estimated at about £2,000 to the engineering works of Charles Richardson & Sons. Ltd., Holland street, Southwark, early yesterday, were lit deliberately. Detective-Sergeants Walters and Gill, who made enquiries, found the remains of nine fires and traces of oil and kerosene on the floor in the offices in the front of the premises. When six appliances from Thebarton and Adelaide, in the charge of Chief Officer J. J. Whyte, arrived, the fire had gained a hold in a set of offices in the north-western section of the building, which contained thousands of pounds worth of machinery, including lathes worth £3,000. Rafters above the offices were well alight, and flames were leaping through the roof. The main fire was under control 10 minutes after the raising of the alarm at 6.48 a.m. Twenty minutes later smoke was seen coming from a locked office at the south-western end of the premises. On unlocking the door, firemen found three separate fires smouldering on the floor in various parts of the room. They were extinguished with only slight damage to the floor. All the fires had been started from paper, which had been emptied from the drawers of office tables, and piled up on the floors. The fires had evidently been burning for a long time, as fittings in one of the offices were badly carbonised. The main fire destroyed an electric power switchboard. Police are puzzled how any person, other than one who knew where the key was kept could have entered the southern office. There was no sign of forced entry and the key to the locked door was kept in the main set of offices. Entry to the other offices could have been gained through a wicket at the main

entrance to the premises, which was open when the brigade arrived. The City Coroner (Mr. T. E. Cleland) inspected the damaged offices. The managing director of the company (Mr H. L. Elliott) said yesterday that employes would not be out of work because of the fire. Electricians worked continuously installing a temporary switchboard to enable the men to resume work at 12.30 p.m. today. About 150 men are employed at the factory which is engaged in building railway bogies and trucks for the Indian Government.



Clearing up the premises of Charles Richardson and Sons, Southwark, after heavy damage had been done to the premises by fire yesterday morning.

1948

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), Thursday 5 February 1948, page 8

A utility truck owned by Dollard & Potter, cabinet-makers, of Jervis street, Torrensville, was severely damaged by fire at the corner of Jervis street and Henley Beach road at 8.30 a.m. today. Thebarton brigade put the fire out.

The Advertiser Newspaper, online edition, October 25, 2017 - 8:13PM

<https://www.adelaidenow.com.au/news/south-australia/firefighters-respond-to-large-substation-fire-in-thebarton/news-story/af3daa8b04092a1fa79d531cf33e5ae3>

News, South Australia

Firefighters respond to large substation fire in Thebarton

POWER has been restored to thousands of homes after it was cut when an explosion sparked a large fire at a Thebarton substation. Mitch Mott, Police Reporter

October 25, 2017 - 8:13PM

THOUSANDS of homes and businesses were blacked out when an explosion sparked a large fire at a Thebarton power substation on Wednesday. More than 40 firefighters battled the blaze that started in a shed at the West Thebarton Rd substation after an explosion about

2.15pm. The fire cut power to about 5600 homes and businesses in the area, all of which was restored by about 4.45pm.

The Metropolitan Fire Service said the main blaze was extinguished about 4pm. Firefighters were continuing to monitor a fire fuelled by oil inside a transformer. Fire-cause officers and SA Power Networks staff were also investigating the cause, believed to be a faulty transformer.



Black smoke coming from a fire near West End Brewery at Hindmarsh. Picture: Supplied



Workers at nearby businesses heard the initial explosion when the fire took hold. They emerged to see black smoke rising into the sky, flames sprouting as high as nearby buildings and further explosions. The lights in nearby printing business TK Print flickered off and on before the power went out completely. "It sounded like thunder, we could definitely feel the explosion when it happened," company director Ben Newberry said. "The presses stalled in the middle of what they were doing. We had to send staff home because there was nothing for them to do."

Thebarton Foodland was also affected by the two-hour blackout and manager Karl Jamal said only time would tell the extent of the damage. "The bottom layer of the meat cabinets should be fine but the top layer may need to be thrown out," Mr Jamal said. "There has definitely been a loss, we are just trying to get everything under control now. We will know for sure (today)."

No one was working at the substation at the time and there were no reported injuries. The substation fire was the first of its kind since a 2001 blaze at a Tonsley Park site, SA Power Networks said. Spokesman Paul Roberts the fire was suspected to have been caused by a transformer failure and that there would be a thorough investigation. "No one was working at the substation at the time of the event and, thankfully, there have not been any reports of injuries," he said.

"While there was a lot of smoke and flame, damage has been contained to the substation site. "These kind of events are rare. The last time we had an issue like this at a substation was at Tonsley Park on New Year's Eve 2001." Traffic restrictions remained in place on West Thebarton Rd and motorists are asked to avoid the area.