

COOPERSTOWN AGAIN

VISITED BY FIRE

Sentinel-Courier: The Cooperstown Fire Department was called out again Tuesday night to combat one of the most vicious fires that has occurred in Cooperstown in a good many years, when the alarm was turned in upon the discovery that Hemerlin's ice house, located just west of the railroad tracks, was on fire.

The alarm was turned in about half past eight in the evening and at that time the inside of the building was a mass of flame. The outlook for saving any of the building looked hopeless but the prompt response of the Fire Department and the efficient manner in which they went after the job in hand was responsible for confining the flames to the inside of the building. A high wind from the northwest made the checking of the flames difficult, and perhaps had it not been for the fact that the building was covered with fireproof roofing it would have been entirely destroyed. Three streams were played on the fire until it was well in hand, but active fighting of the fire did not stop until about two o'clock in the morning. A watch was continued until daylight, however, as a precaution against its starting again.

The wind which was blowing a gale at that time caused considerable apprehension lest the sparks be carried to the elevators and the Salzer Lumber yard and measures were taken to see that a fire could not be started at these places.

An idea of the amount of water it took to subdue the fire may be had when one realizes that it took the entire amount of water which was in the tank at the time, besides emptying the cisterns at the fire hall and the Great Western elevator.

The origin of the fire is unknown. The building contained a great amount of wheat straw which was used for pack'g the ice and the theory has been advanced that the fire may have been started from the combustion of the straw.

The interior of the building is a charred ruin, but the outside is but little scorched. The building was partially covered by insurance, but nevertheless Mr. Hemerlin stands to lose considerable through the misfortune.