

# FIRE!

## The Most Disastrous Fire Ever Experienced In Griggs County.

Last Saturday night and Sunday a prairie fire swept through the west and north-west portions of this county fanned by a stiff breeze that has left its blackened track of desolation and ruin in its wake. Hundreds and thousands of dollars worth of grain and property were swept away by the relentless flames and many farmers have suffered heavy losses. In many places the farmers had to fight the fire fiend all night long at the risk of their lives to save their homes and property. The exact amount of damage done by this fire can hardly be estimated at this writing as a large territory was burned and reports are meagre. It is safe to say, however, that the damage will reach away up into the thousands. Farmers who have toiled for many weary months to gain a livelihood for themselves and family, and who were congratulating themselves on a bountiful harvest and saw in sight comfort and warmth for the winter months, were powerless to check the fiery billows and saw also in a few moments their stacks and shocks of garnered grain licked up by the hungry flames and just that quick also went their source of revenue for their winter's supply. While firebreaks in many cases would no doubt have helped, yet the fire jumped firebreaks thirty feet wide and also jumped the river at five different points. The high wind carried the flaming brands of fire a long distance, and it was only hard work that many places were saved. Below we give some of the losses reported, but they are not guaranteed to be absolutely correct.

Henry Ditweller, 1400 bushels of wheat, barley and oats.

John Fosholdt, 1500 bushels of oats and barley. Mr. F. also had four horses badly burned.

Ole Rinde had thirteen head of horses burned to death. They were in a barn and could not be got out.

Max Wild lost about 2000 bushels of oats.

Wm. Arndt has eight stacks of wheat consumed by the fire, between 500 and 1000 bushels.

Frank Blanchard lost his barn and some wheat. No particulars as to amount.

Western Houghton lost about 40 acres of wheat.

Fred Sinclair lost 500 bushels of wheat and 70 tons of hay.

Wm. Koch, an old German farmer, lost 27 stacks of grain, nearly all his crop. This is a hard blow to the old gentleman.

R. C. Cooper lost 65 acres of wheat on Section 33 and some on Section 3, estimated between 3000 and 4000 bushels.

Olaf Johnson lost 25 tons of hay.

John Donaldson lost his barn, 1 cow and calf and all his hay.

Anderson and Dahlin lost 175 bushels of wheat and a lot of hay.

Nordstrom lost between 30 and 40 tons of hay.

Feske boys lost a barn and binder.

John G. Lee lost 1100 of grain, all his machinery and 75 tons of hay.

Al. Waring lost about 500 bushels of grain.

Tobias Olson lost his barn and hay.

Hans Moen lost 30 acres of grain.

Ellef Olson got off with a loss of a large quantity of hay.

J. F. Wilson lost 8 pigs, barn, some wheat and rye, and all of his hay.

Dave Miller lost all of his hay.

Nick Westman lost 900 bushels of wheat.

Ole Gronlie lost his barn, harnesses, and all his hay.

Christian Jacobson, 1400 bushels of grain burned up.

Margaret Miller lost 40 tons of hay.

G. A. Thayer escaped with the loss of 15 tons of hay.

Joel Erickson lost 15 acres of flax.

Asmund Pederson lost all his hay.

Leonard Flick lost his barn and hay.

Hans. Olson barn and all his hay.

Ole Aslakson 30 tons of hay.

Morris Roach 12 acres of rye.