

Sunshine Advocate

Timber stacks saved from fire threat

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Timber Stacks Saved From Fire Threat

Firemen and volunteers on Tuesday fought strenuously to keep out a fire which threatened timber stacks in the Somerville Road - Market Road area, Brooklyn. Six hundred acres of grass were burnt out before the fire was brought under control.

At one stage the flames were well on the way towards stacks of timber at the Una Company's yards, and a line of hose was run out to guard a thin line of protection to timber stacks close to a cyclone fence.

Choppy winds caused the fire's face to change frequently and disconcert fire fighters. Burning thistle heads caught by the wind added to the problem.

Towards Geelong Road the fire raced in the direction of Smith's timber yards and Ralph's and other works, but it reached a quarry where it was held in check.

In addition to the 600 acres of grass, a number of fence posts were damaged.

Fire brigade officials were grateful to the volunteers who arrived early and fought well.

TANKERS CALLED FOR

Another blaze in the same locality on Wednesday caused some anxious moments. After about 20 minutes trying to get command of the situation, water tankers were called for.

The fire started behind Smith's timber yards but the large timber stacks were not seriously menaced. It was necessary to chase the fire around several quarry holes, but it was eventually brought under control.

Firemen have had their busiest month on record. Statistics are given elsewhere.

On Friday last at 4.5 p.m., grass and rubbish on a building block in Watt Street caught fire and damaged building stumps and two panels of fencing.

Saturday, 9 a.m.: Sleepers at Watkins' private rail-siding near McDonald Road were damaged.

Saturday, 4-30 p.m.: An outbreak along the creek near Sunshine golf links burnt three acres of grass close to houses in Ryder Street.

Saturday, 6 p.m.: A fire in Doherty's Road, Laverton, was caused by an auto-cycle backfiring. The machine was damaged. In addition, on the property of J. H. Meyers, a haystack and 150 acres of grass were destroyed.

Monday, 8-20 a.m.: A fire in Andrew Parade, near Selwyn Street, destroyed three acres of grass.

CAUSED BY CABLE SPARK

Sparks from a high tension cable were blamed for a fire which started early on Wednesday morning on the Albion Quarries property near Ballarat Road and destroyed three acres of grass. It was not near any of the company's buildings.

CYCLIST INJURED

On Tuesday evening a cyclist W. E. Howard, of 5 Walsh St., Sunshine, was riding along Ballarat Road when he was struck by a truck driven by Leo John Plowman, of Beaumaris. Mr. Howard received abrasions to his right arm.