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Views of Bangor's Big Fire, April 30, 1911

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SPECIAL
COLLECTIONS

Views of
Bangor's Big Fire

April 30, 1911

STORY OF THE FIRE.

THE Bangor Fire started in a hay shed on Broad Street, at 4.10 P. M., Sunday, April 30, 1911. High wind carried burning brands diagonally across Kenduskeag Stream and ignited a shed in the rear of The Fairbanks Company, on Exchange Street, and almost at the same time one of the steeples of the Universalist Church on Center Street. In a few minutes the wooden buildings in the rear of Exchange Street were a furnace, the intense heat and flames from which, swept onward by the wind, fairly melted everything before them, leaping from one large block to another with great rapidity.

From the business section the flames spread into the residence district on Center Street Hill.

Until early morning the fire spread before it was under control. Many

houses were dynamited, but the wind carried brands across and the fire continued unabated.

Here and there a wooden house, by some prank of the fire fiend, was left intact, while all around was in ruins.

The edge of the fire was lined with spectators, many assisting in the removal of household goods. There was no panic, disorder, or looting, — a rather remarkable circumstance, which speaks well for the people of Bangor.

Firemen and apparatus came from Brewer, Oldtown, Waterville, Lewiston and Portland to assist in fighting the flames.

Two lives were lost, George Abbot, a fireman of the Brewer Fire Department, and John Scribner. •

The burned district covered fifty-five acres, involving a loss of about \$3,000,000.

One hundred business blocks and two hundred and eighty-five dwellings were destroyed. At least two hundred and fifty persons were rendered destitute.



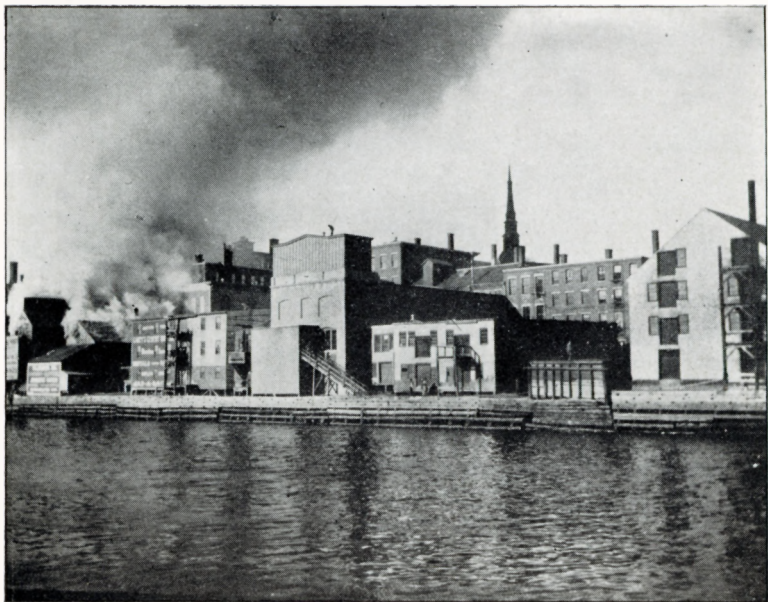
HAY SHED ON BROAD STREET. START OF THE FIRE



VIEW OF HAY SHED AS THE WALLS FELL



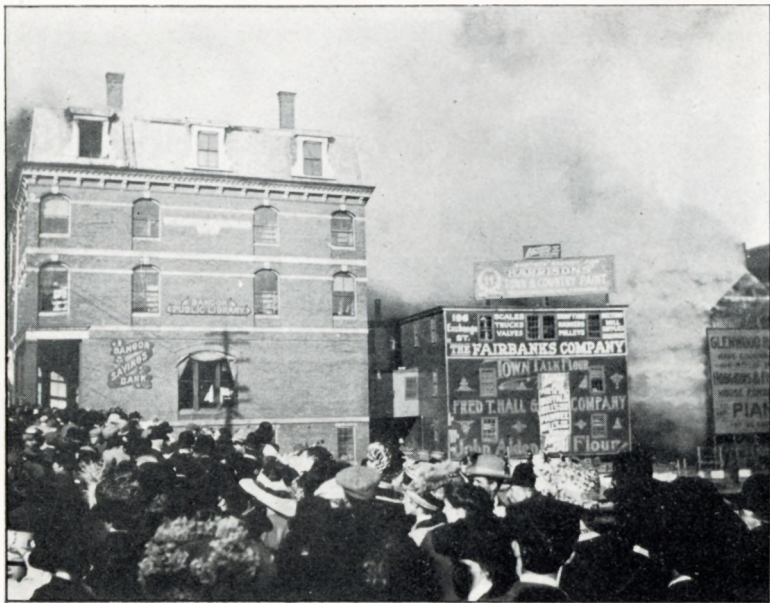
START OF FIRE, VIEW FROM M. C. R. R. BRIDGE



WHERE FIRE JUMPED ACROSS THE STREAM



VIEW FROM KENDUSKEAG BRIDGE, STETSON BUILDING IN BACKGROUND,
OCCUPIED BY TELEPHONE EXCHANGE



FIRE STARTING ON TOP OF PUBLIC LIBRARY



PUBLIC LIBRARY, BURNING OF \$300,000 WORTH OF BOOKS,
FLAMES LEAPING CLEAR ACROSS STATE STREET



RUINS OF BAPTIST CHURCH, HARLOW STREET



RUINS OF THE MORSE OLIVER BUILDING, SHOWING
VAULTS ON THE RIGHT



RUINS OF FIRST PARISH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH ON STATE STREET



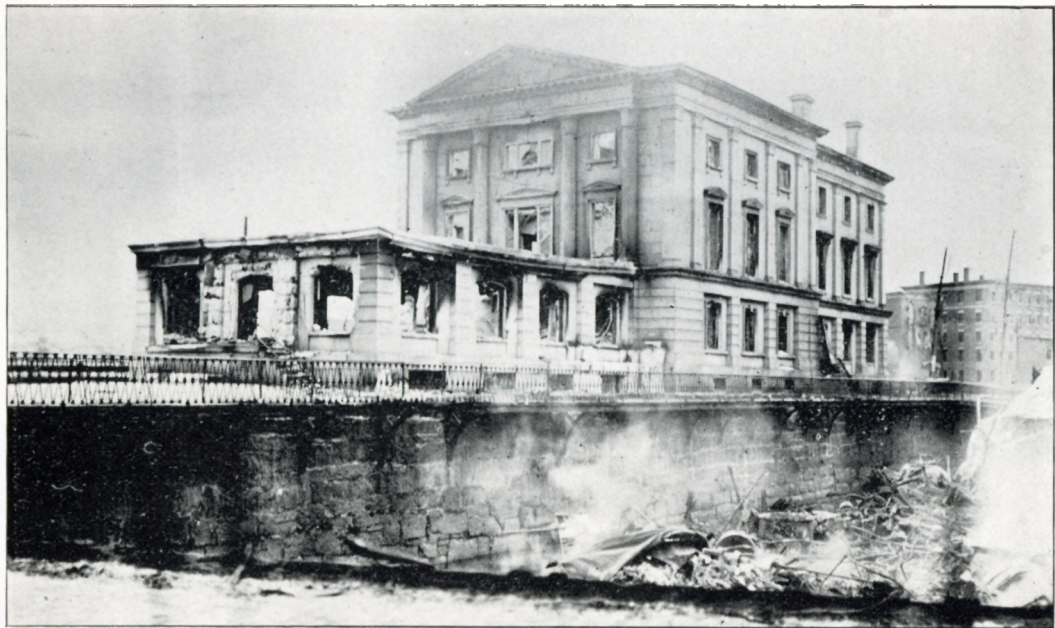
UNIVERSALIST CHURCH, ONE OF THE FIRST
PLACES TO CATCH FIRE



RESIDENCE OF CHAS. STEARNS, ON BROADWAY, SHOWING ONE OF THE
PRANKS OF THE FIRE, LEAVING THIS HOUSE UNTOUCHED
BUT BURNING ALL AROUND IT



FRANKLIN STREET, THE ONLY MEANS OF PASSAGE BETWEEN THE TWO PARTS
OF THE CITY AFTER THE FIRE



RUINS OF THE POST OFFICE, VIEW FROM CENTRAL STREET. THE MASS OF TWISTED IRON IN THE RIGHT FOREGROUND IS THE RUINS OF THE BANGOR STEAM LAUNDRY



VIEW FROM STATE STREET. RUINS OF MORSE OLIVER BUILDING IN CENTER
RUINS OF STEARNS BUILDING ON RIGHT



GRAHAM BUILDING, HOME OF THE ODD FELLOWS, KNIGHTS OF MALTA AND THE NICKEL THEATRE



V I E W F R O M K E N D U S K E A G B R I D G E , S H O W I N G U N I V E R S A L I S T C H U R C H I N B A C K G R O U N D



RUINS OF CENTER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, THE FINEST SPECIMEN OF GOTHIC ARCHITECTURE IN NEW ENGLAND

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