

L. P. Larson's Store at Knox Burned.

Knox Advocate: The first store building built in Knox on the south side of the G. N. tracks, by J. Delameter & Son, in the year 1897, and owned and occupied at the time by Larson, Steen & Co., was totally destroyed by fire Thursday night, Jan. 28th. The fire originated in the grocery department from some unknown cause—presumably an overheated stove, and when discovered at 11:20 p. m., had gained such headway that practically nothing was saved from the doomed building except a new shipment of drygoods just received a few days before, which were in the back room and not yet unpacked. The fact that there was no wind and that the building was sided with steel siding, prevented the fire from spreading to the adjoining buildings although, it looked at times as if the boys would be unable to keep it from spreading.

The Security Bank building, across the street from the burned building suffered most, having the big plate glass window and door cracked by the heat. The G. N. depot, which was in direct line with what little wind there was, caught fire several times from burning shingles falling upon the roof, was extinguished as fast as seen by the fire fighters. The other adjacent buildings including the Advocate office suffered a few broken windows and badly scorched walls. The cost of the building and the stock is estimated at \$50,000 and was insured for \$12,000. We understand that Larson Steen & Co. will, as soon as the weather permits, commence the erection of a fine new brick or cement building.