

A BIG LOSS,

The Cooper elevator was totally destroyed by fire Monday afternoon, containing 8,900 bushels of wheat. About 2:15 p. m., smoke was noticed coming out of the roof of the elevator and it was discovered that the building was on fire. There was no possible chance of extinguishing the fire, for in less than five minutes from the time it was discovered, flames burst out all over the building. A stiff wind was blowing from the northwest which is the only thing that saved all the elevators and lumber yards from a like fate. Had the wind been in the south, Cooperstown would now be minus four elevators, two lumber yards, depot, and numerous warehouses, and possibly part of the business portion of the town. It took strenuous efforts on the part of the citizens to save the residence occupied by Brakeman Ridgeley. The house stands southeast from the elevator about 150 feet, and the high wind carried pieces of burning timber onto the roof of the building, which caught fire several times. The citizens worked like beavers and soon had every particle of furniture removed. However, the house was saved and very little damage done to the furniture. The cause of the fire is unknown, but Mr. Cooper's only idea is that it was caused by friction from the machinery. As we before stated the building contained 8,900 bushels of grain belonging to Mr. Cooper. There was not one dollar's worth of insurance on either the elevator or the wheat and the loss to Mr. Cooper, about \$10,000, comes hard, especially in a season of such financial depression.