

REBUILDING OF VIRGINIA

Two New Structures Started In Burned District.

ORIGIN OF THE BIG FIRE

WAS DUE TO BOILING OVER OF
KETTLE OF FAT.

When the Mill Fire Alarm Was
Sounded, Two Men Engaged in
Trying Out Fat Left Their Work
and the Stuff Boiled Over — City
Lock-Up is Box Car—The Relief
Committee.

(Staff Correspondence.)
VIRGINIA Minn., June 8.—The en-
terprising citizens of the all but ruined
city of Virginia are not standing idly
by and bemoaning their loss, but are
taking hold in an intelligent and ener-
getic manner to recoup their losses as
best they may. One business man, who
lost heavily by Thursday's holocaust,
cast his eye over the fire-swept town
today and with grim humor said:
"Well, we will have a chance to get in
on the ground floor once more."

The reconstruction of Virginia, de-
stroyed by fire for the second time in
seven years, began today, within 24
hours after the fire and before the
ashes were cold. The lumber was haul-
ed to about the center of the burned
district, and the clean, white timbers
looked ghostlike amid the blackened
surroundings. Both of the new build-
ings that are being erected are for
business purposes. Within a week
scores of the new buildings will be go-
ing up.

Now That the Excitement
of the big fire has abated, people are
discussing the origin of the fire. As
is already well known, the first fire
originated at the Moon & Kerr mill
and the second originated in Ole Hal-
verson's meat market. A citizen of
Virginia describes the beginning of the
fires as follows:

"Down at the Moon & Kerr mill they
had one of those calliope whistles.
When it began blowing Thursday
shortly before noon, the people knew
that it meant fire, and the magnitude
of the industry which was threatened
naturally caused considerable excite-
ment. People began running to the
fire, thoughtless of everything else.
Among the people that rushed to the
fire were a couple of men that were
trying out a kettle of tallow at the
Halverson butcher shop. While they
were taking in the fire at the sawmill,
their kettle of fat at the shop boiled
over, and you know the rest."

The Duluth, Missabe & Northern
road has installed a telegraph station
in a box car, where messages come and
go with the same facility as before the
fire. When the town was destroyed
there were two

Prisoners in the City Lock-Up
but they were not given their liberty,
although they were merely drunks. The
prisoners were taken over to a box car
and locked up. During last night two
other men were arrested for drunken-
ness and they were lodged in the jail
cells. Today, however, all of the
prisoners were liberated.

One of the burned-out families is in-
stalled in a Missabe road box car,
where today the place had really a
home-like appearance. The table, cover-
ed with a white cloth, stood in the cen-
ter of the car and the children in the
car door looked tidy and contented.

The Duluth, Missabe & Northern
road yesterday carried fire sufferers
free to any point on its line outside of
Virginia. Many availed themselves of
this generous offer to reach their
friends until they can be better pre-
pared to return. Tower sent over a
half car of supplies today and word has
been received that supplies may be
looked for from Duluth Saturday
morning. The people of Virginia are
much gratified at the prompt action of
Duluth in responding to the demands
of the hour.

The Virginia general relief committee
is composed of the following men and
sub-committees: Chairman and treas-
urer, M. L. Fay; secretary, J. Duffala;
street committee—M. C. Palmer, M. L.
Fay, M. Fanning, E. E. Burley, Ed
O'Rourke, A. Hawkinson, J. P. James,
W. T. Bailey, D. H. Moon, E. T.
Susery, Charles E. Nelson; distribution
—E. T. Susery, Gust Johnson, and W.
T. Easley.

Among the Donations
that have been received was one for
\$200 from W. H. Yawkey and \$100 from
M. L. Fay.

There is about \$10,000 in the Bank of
Virginia's vault. The books of the
Santry mine were deposited in the
vault when it was plain that the town
was doomed.

There seems to be no appreciable change
in the estimates of the aggregate loss.
It is agreed by most of the men best
equipped to judge that it is upward of
\$200,000 and that the insurance is about
\$125,000. Following is a list of the losses
as best it could be prepared today:

Thomas Karl, butcher, \$5,000; Moon &
Kerr \$50,000; insurance, \$15,000; Mer-
chants hotel, \$5,000; Ironwood house,
\$5,000; Superior house, \$4,000; Tower
hotel, \$5,000; Emmett house, \$2,500;
thirty saloons, average \$2,000 each; Vir-
ginia Cash grocery, \$12,000; Union gro-
cery, \$4,000; Soberg grocery, \$8,000; in-
surance, \$2,100; Finnish Mercantile com-
pany, \$2,500; Chinese restaurant, \$800;
Nelson store, \$500; Mesberg Furniture
company \$8,000; municipal court, in-
cluding records, \$2,000; postoffice build-
ing, P. E. Dowling, owner, \$4,000; John
Sutherland, restaurant, \$3,000; A. Haw-
kinson, hardware, \$12,000; Halvorson,
hardware, \$10,000; O. Shagbolt, dry
goods, \$10,000; Ben Levin, clothing,
\$500; Shandling Bros., clothing, \$17,000;
insurance, \$5,000; John Roman, clothing,
\$8,000; insurance, \$3,000; Nathanson
Bros., clothing, \$8,000; insurance, \$2,000;
Iron Range Brewing company, \$500;
Fitter's warehouse, \$500; Duluth Brew-
ing company warehouse, \$500; P. cof-
fee, livery, \$3,000; Lundstrom block,
\$500; Sullivan block, \$4,000; Crockett
opera house, \$10,000; N. Turnquist, liv-
ery, \$4,000; Pratt & Fanning, groceries,
\$500; insurance, \$2,000.
J. P. Rooney, boarding house, \$400.
R. E. Bailey, jewelry, \$1000.
N. K. Farrand, confectionery, \$500.
Mrs. Helmuth, millinery, \$500.
Gust Berchund, bakery, \$2000.
S. A. Reed, restaurant, \$2000.
Virginian, N. D. Uppernull, owner,
\$1200.
I. Melowitz, confectionery, \$500.
N. Anderson, hotel and saloon, \$7500.
J. P. Meehan, tailor, \$500.
E. E. Burley, barber, \$500.
R. Melowitz, cigars, \$4000.
Srea hotel, Andrew Johnson, \$5000.
H. Steinberg, dry goods, \$2000.
Sugram & Shepero, furniture, \$2500.
A. Jeffers, news and tobacco, \$2000.
John Mahoney, building, \$2000.
J. Dunn, restaurant, \$500.
R. Byrnes, barber, \$500.
H. Horner, tailor, \$1000.
M. Nelson, \$200.

Dr. Miller, M. D., \$5000.
H. A. Solbergren, drugs, \$5000; insur-
ance, \$4000.
R. A. Shipling, Shipling block, \$7000.
P. Coffee, \$2000.
Dr. Avery, office, \$200.
Virginia bank, \$2000.
J. E. James, furniture, \$1500.
Vindex View Co., \$500.
Cole & McDonald, diamond drills,
\$2000.
J. Mesberg, furniture, \$2000; insur-
ance, \$2000.
William Rooney, buildings, \$15,000.
O. A. Keap, pop factory, \$10,000.
Jarvinen, photographs, \$2000.
John Krains, building, \$2000.
Peterson & Anderson, blacksmiths,
\$1500.
Methodist parsonage, \$1500.
Pat Sullivan, building, \$1000.
Peter Samuelson, building, \$1000.
Alex Johnson, building, \$1000.
D. M. & N. road, buildings, etc., \$2000.
D. & I. R. R., cars, \$2000.
One of the

franks of the Big Fire
was the escape of the Methodist church.
The fire came up and destroyed the
Methodist parsonage adjoining the
church, but the latter was untouched.
W. T. Bailey is credited with having
organized himself into a salvage corps.
He hitched up a blind horse to a wag-
gon and moved a great deal of stuff
with it. The last article that he moved
was an electric banjo, and it was acci-
dentally tipped out into the ditch be-
fore it was removed to a place of safety.
One of the funny incidents described
by an eye-witness was that of an in-
surance man running down the street,
the flames curling up on both sides,
while close behind him was a woman
with a little pig under her arm. Be-
hind the woman with the pig came
another woman with a chicken under
each arm. A number of perfectly well-
people occupied the hospital at Vir-
ginia last night, and they were glad
of a place there. Eye-witnesses have
been very energetic in their efforts to
succor the fire sufferers.