

Remember if those W. re Stretchers are not returned by the 15th we expect you to pay for them. Webb Bros.

# THE JASPER NEWS

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## STILL IN THE RING

We have invoiced our goods, cleaned out the cobwebs, lined up a new curload of American Hog Fence at a price that will do you good; put in stock a nice line of Ladies' Ready-made Skirts made by Man Tailoring shop at Joplin. We can now take your order for Skirts and have them made from any piece of goods we carry and deliver it ready-made in 24 hours. Take a look at us in this new line. Many new things we are adding to this department. Our line of Work Clothes are worth your time to see. We have a line of Overalls, Kiki Pants and Coats, made by the Hawkins Garment Co. at Webb City that have better shapes and quality than is found in the goods bought of the jobbers. Our Walkover Shoes al-

ways look good and make the feet feel like they were treated right. Our line of Underwear we know we have more than we need and want you to have it. And for Groceries, Drugs, less 10 per cent in trade, for Moline Plows, Best Ever, and Goodenough Sulkies, Disc, Mandt Wagons, Buggies with Henney on the step, place your eyes on your Humble Servant for the year 1906, for your Humble Servant and Brother John W. Spaid, the live real estate man of Jasper will attend the Kansas City Convention of Implement men next week and what we don't buy and have sent to Jasper wont be worth talking about. Come and see.

Your Humble Servants

### WEBB BROS. MERCANTILE CO

THE PRICE MAKERS

### THE JASPER MILLS BURN

TOTALLY DESTROYED BY FIRE LAST FRIDAY NIGHT

Loss on Mill and Stock About \$16,000 Partially Covered by Insurance—Origin of Fire a Mystery.

The Jasper Mills is a thing of the past. What was a few days ago, one of the best small mills in this part of state is now but a smouldering ruin. The mill was discovered to be on fire about 7:20 o'clock Friday evening and in a very short time the entire structure was a mass of flames throwing out a light that could be seen for many miles.

The fire had gotten such headway before discovered that it was impossible to save anything in the mill, and the company's books and papers which were in a small office building about ten feet from the main building were the only things saved.

The fire was first discovered by H. O. Baker as he was returning to the depot after supper. He was attracted by a small blaze which by this time had just begun to make its appearance out of the east and west ends of the ware-room near the corolice.

He at once spread the alarm and at the same time with his two sons Lawrence and Frank hastened to the scene of the conflagration. About the time they got their Mr. Starrett, who lives just across the railroad, Gay Webb and others appeared on the scene. Their first attention was given to the books and papers in the office building. The fire had already caught on the

front of the office building and it was impossible to get in by the door. Consequently the side windows were broken in and the young men climbed in and soon had all the papers and other articles in the building except the stove and desk out and to places of safety.

By this time a large crowd had gathered around the burning structure but all hopes of checking the flames were past, and as there was scarcely a breath of air stirring to endanger any of the other buildings nearby, all the people could do was to stand idly by and see one of their most important institutions decured by the fire fiend. From the standpoint of a fire display it was indeed the most magnificent spectacle of the kind ever witnessed by many of those who saw it.

#### LOSSES AND INSURANCE.

Insurance Amount To About Two-thirds Of Loss.

The Mill was owned by H H Beckwith of Carthage, who came by it through a trade with S H Veatch a couple of years ago. It was valued at ten or twelve thousand dollars and was insured for \$4000, part in the Millers' National, of Chicago, and part in the Millers Mutual of Texas.

The mill was operated by Messrs Putman and Doran. Mr Doran was in the city at the time of the fire but the mill had almost buried down before he knew of it. He was spending the evening with Mr Larriek in the North part of town. It was supposed that he was at his home in Carthage and no one thought it worth while to hunt for him

but it was learned afterward that he was somewhere in town, a messenger was sent after him and soon located him at Mr. Larriek's home. He was greatly surprised to hear the news and hastened to the scene of the fire but by the time he got there was very little left of the mill. Mr Putman was at his home in Carthage and was immediately notified by telegraph and strange to say he knew of the fire before his partner Mr. Doran who was within four blocks of it.

There was no way for Messrs Putman and Doran to tell their exact loss, but by referring to their invoices taken December 30 and the adding the value of the wheat taken in and deducting the value of the stock shipped out since that date they figure out that their loss is pretty close to \$6000. Their insurance on the stock was \$1500 divided with the Millers' Mutual of Texas, and the Western Millers' Mutual of Kansas City Mr. Reynolds representing the various insurance companies interested was in the city yesterday for the purpose of adjusting the loss.

#### HOW DID IT ORIGINATE?

That is A Question Only Answered By Surmising.

How the fire originated will probably never be known and all theories as to its origin are simply guess work. The fire started in the ware room on the north end of the mill. The engine room is on the south end of the mill and as there had been no fire in the mill for at least two days before the day of the fire it could not have caught from that source.

One theory is that some one might have entered the mill to steal a sack of flour and dropped a match. An open window which is said to have been discovered in the west end led some to take this theory.

Another theory is that sparks from the afternoon train which went through about 6 o'clock might have blown through the cracks of the ware room. Mr. Doran noticed an unusually number of sparks from the train that evening as it went by which leads him to think that as a possible cause.

Another theory is that of spontaneous combustion which occasionally occurs around mills. However these are only theories and may be as far as could be from the real cause.

#### A BIT OF HISTORY.

Built in The Early Nineties By Baird And Sears.

At the time of its sudden destruction the Jasper Mills was one of the best of the smaller mills in this part of the country. It had a capacity of 75 barrels a day and under the present management was building up a good business. It was built sometime in the early sixties, 1891 probably, by Baird and Sears. Shortly after its completion H. L. Tallman bought out the interest of Mr Soars, and the firm of Baird & Tallman run it for a number of years when Mr Baird bought out his partners interest and operated it alone until his death. Mr Tallman took temporary charge again and run it until its sale to S. H. Veatch several years ago. Mr. Veatch

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## If You Want Something Nice

See our line Fancy Collars and Combs, Fascinators, Hand Bags, Mufflers, Neckwear and Suspenders in fancy boxes, and many other articles that would make nice gifts

### A Pair of Star Brand Shoes

would make a very desirable present. Look at our stock of Groceries which is the largest and best assorted in Jasper. It will make you happy. Remember you can buy all these goods and anything we have with butter and eggs at the highest prices paid. Respt.,

Hasting's Old Stand

### CHANDLER & SON

Remember we are headquarters for Star Brand Shoes and Woonsocket Rubber Goods