

November Fire Losses Boosted By Four More Blazes; Carbon Canyon Home Destroyed

Four fires, one of which required two doses of water, one of which resulted in the loss of a house and all contents and two which did little damage, were written into the records of the Chino department between Thanksgiving night and Wednesday of this week.

They have brought November, ordinarily a month of few fires, into contention as one of the most disastrous months of the year as far as total damage is concerned.

The ranch home of Mr. and Mrs. Pete Chilobolast just beyond the summit in Carbon Canyon was destroyed, with all contents, by fire last Thursday night while the family was at dinner at the Ferdinand Chilobolast home on Schafer avenue.

Call was relayed to the rural fire department from the D. C. Tidwell store where the alarm was given by a passing motorist but the flames had gained such headway that the firemen could do little but save adjacent buildings and protect ranch property to the west which was being endangered by embers carried on a brisk wind. Lack of sufficient supply of water also handicapped the fire fighters who exhausted a small reservoir supply and then had to resort to use of emergency equipment to complete their task which was completed shortly after 2 a. m.

Total loss was estimated between \$5000 and \$7000, partially covered by insurance.

The family had left home about 6 p. m., according to Mr. Chilobolast, who was at a loss to understand how the conflagration started. Indications pointed, however, that the fire started in the vicinity of the kitchen and swept through the frame structure in front of the east wind.

Two fires Sunday afternoon in quick succession, kept the Chino firemen on the hop.

First call came at 1:40 p. m. for the city crew to the E. W. Broecker residence at 161 Seventh street where some hot ashes removed from the fireplace had been fanned by the breeze and set fire to the garage. Only slight damage resulted.

The second call came from the rural district to quell a fire in high weeds in an open field on the old Brice ranch, Euclid avenue south of Robles road. The fire, which gained considerable headway before being quelled, was presumed to have been started by hunters in the vicinity. While no damage was done, ranches in the neighborhood were threatened by sparks carried on a stiff breeze.

Two still alarms were required to successfully control fire in an eucalyptus grove at Edison and Grove avenues on Wednesday. The first was at 1 a. m. and the second at 11:30 a. m.

The fire evidently started in a clearing where a crew of men has lately been cutting and stacking wood in the center of the grove. It spread through the underbrush and trees northward toward Edison avenue and was halted only with a fire-break through the trees.

Denseness of the wood which keep any vehicle from being operated except on paths which do not reach the fire hampered the efforts of firemen.

Five-Day Air-Raid Test to Give 'Spotters' Practice

Statewide Experiment To Start December 12 Under Brig.-Gen. Ryan

For five days, beginning Wednesday, December 12, San Bernardino county's 800 civilian air-raid "spotters" will be on the alert in the first statewide test of the aircraft warning system, it was announced yesterday by Russell Z. Smith, chairman of the county defense council's warning service.

During the tests, observers will attempt to sight "enemy" planes and relay information regarding the number, type of craft, direction of flight and height to a filter center. The center will then relay the information to the center from which the intercepting forces will be directed.

Major John Gray, officer of the fourth air force, with command at Riverside, said the tests would be conducted from 9 a. m. to 5 p. m. on the first two days and continuously from 9 a. m. on the last three.

The maneuvers throughout the state will be in charge of Brig.-Gen. William Ord Ryan, commander of the fourth interceptor command at Riverside. General Ryan said the test will simulate the tactics which would be used by an enemy as far as possible.

In this county there are approximately 800 volunteer observers at 52 listening posts scattered from the West End to the state line on the desert. These civilians will be responsible for locating fleets of in-