

SYMPATHY TO FIRE VICTIMS

The Witness surely expresses the feelings of all residents of the district in extending sympathy to those who stood helpless last Wednesday afternoon and watched their flourishing businesses destroyed by fire. The crumbling of those buildings, and the knowledge of the valuable stocks which were being destroyed, was a very trying ordeal for the owners. Insurance which may appear very sufficient, when rated on replacement costs, too often is quite inadequate, when so reckoned. Those businesses were the source of livelihood for the owners and their families, and they were good sources of income. Until these businesses are completely re-established, there will be many discouragements, and the knowledge that customers and other friends are loyal will help to support through the trying days ahead.

To those who lost their homes, sympathy is also extended. There is no place like home and its possessions, no matter how humble, are precious.

At the Sunday service in Bradford United Church, Rev. F. G. MacTavish read a telegram he had received from

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Rev. John Hunter. It read as follows:

Rev. F. G. MacTavish—

This is to express to all your people who may have suffered loss in the recent fire the sympathy and understanding of Simcoe Presbytery. We regret the misfortune that has befallen them, but live in the faith that God makes all things new, and that out of the flame there will arise a finer vision and new buildings.

Rev. John Hunter,

Collingwood,

Chairman Simcoe Presbytery.

Mr. MacTavish also received a telephone call and a letter, extending sympathy to the fire victims, from Dr. W. A. Honnissett of the Victor Mission, United Church of Canada, Toronto, and Rev. W. R. Auld, assistant minister, Cambridge St. United Church, Lindsay (formerly of Midland), respectively.