

AMERICAN RUBBER FACTORY BLAZE. (816)

If rubber catches alight, then there's sure to be a flare-up;-- and this, at Fall River, Massachusetts, is one of the most spectacular ~~ones~~ ^{on record}. It is almost useless to try and check such a tempest of flame. Water seems of little avail.

But come up with our cameraman and have a look at this amazing fire from the air. Six great buildings are alight from end to end and come tottering to the ground. The loss is over 12 million dollars. The cause of this huge inferno has not been determined, though sabotage is suspected.

It's the biggest fire for years, as the flames lick this way and that in their devouring fury.

At night -- what a terrifying sight it is -- What a colossal fantasy of flame and smoke -- one of the most picturesque fires that has ever been filmed.

Immense quantities of rubber, coke, and chemicals are burning fiercely. All most inflammable, and the blaze soars and whirls with an immensity of curling, pungent ~~smoke~~ ^{fumes} ~~and~~ ^{amid} the muffled ~~roar~~ roar of explosions.

Rubber making is a chemical job, employing materials that burn with the most intense heat. Such high temperatures are raised that you can see strange distortions, ~~of heat~~.

~~and listen to the chemicals blowing up.~~ Billowing clouds of acrid smoke are blown ~~this way and that~~ ^{about} by a high wind that whips the blaze. The destruction wrought by this disastrous fire is exceeded only by the sweeping terror of the scene.