

# RIVER FRONT FIRE EATS UP \$1,500,000 AT SAVANNAH, GA.

Greatest Loss Suffered  
by Central of Georgia  
Railroad

Many Business Structures  
and Shipping Endangered;  
Several Firemen Hurt

SAVANNAH, Feb. 2.—Damage estimated at \$1,500,000, resulted today from a fire of unknown origin which swept the Savannah river front for two blocks, destroying the wharves of the Merchants and Miners' Transportation Company, several warehouses and business structures and the Planters' rice mill.

The blaze was discovered shortly after one o'clock this morning in a shed on the western end of the wharves. All the available fire apparatus and fire tugs in the river could not prevent the spread of the flames from the Ogeechee canal east to within 150 feet of Broad street. Many business structures and much shipping were endangered.

After four hours the fire was gotten under control without loss of life. Several firemen were slightly injured.

The greatest loss was suffered by the Central of Georgia Railway company, owners of the Merchants' and Miners' terminals and freight stored in the warehouses. The loss to this company is estimated at \$600,000, covered by insurance.

The American Steel and Wire company warehouses on each side of the entrance to the Merchants and Miners' docks were damaged to the extent of between \$50,000 and \$75,000, also covered by insurance.

Estimates place the loss on the Planters' rice mill property at \$20,000. The building was not insured, but the machinery was protected. Other losses include Conklin Tin Plate and Metal company, \$20,000; Savannah Supply company, \$15,000; Crane Co., \$25,000; Quaker City flour mills, \$2,500.

Warehouses and business structures of several other firms also were damaged or destroyed, but the loss has not yet been definitely determined.

Efforts to ascertain the origin of the fire have been fruitless.

President J. C. Whitney, of the Merchants and Miners' company, after a consultation with W. A. Winburn, vice-president of the Central of Georgia, announced that immediate steps would be taken for rebuilding the wharves.

#### No Interruption to Business

Philadelphia officials of the Merchants and Miners' Line announced tonight that there would be no interruption to either local Savannah or through business on account of the destruction of the Savannah wharves. Arrangements, it was stated, have already been made whereby new facilities adjoining the old quarters had been secured