

**The Giddings News**

January 2, 1942

**FIRES PLENTIFUL**

Four fire alarms were sounded in Giddings within six days, giving the firemen plenty to do.

Wednesday, Dec. 24, a grass fire near the cemetery was spreading but was put out. That night, a little past 7 o'clock the residence of Henry Lehman was ablaze when the alarm was turned in. The blaze started in a front room when a lighted oil heater was placed too near window curtains. The family had eaten supper and only Henry G. Lehman was in the house at the time. He discovered the fire by smelling pine burning.

The building was almost a total loss and all contents were lost. Two families were living in the residence and they lost all belongings. The shingle roof furnished blazing par-

ticles which were blown by a high south wind and several other buildings caught on fire, including the residence occupied by D. S. Walters and the barn at Mrs. S. J. Davis'. The firemen put up a strong fight for hours, but the blaze was making too much headway for them to check it.

Saturday afternoon the airport was afire, caused by a balloon with a lighted candle in it settling on the grass and setting it on fire. The blaze, if not checked could have spread over a large territory. Monday morning about 10 o'clock the roof of Mrs. Werner's residence (the Raube homestead) was noticed on fire about a flue. Mrs. Werner was in the building but had not noticed the fire. The fire was quickly extinguished, saving the building without much damage. Household articles were removed to the

street, but the weather was favorable and they were not damaged therefrom. There was but little wind and nearby property was guarded from spreading flames.