

The Giddings News

March 25, 1932

BAD FIRE AT LEDBETTER

Four buildings were completely burned in Ledbetter Tuesday morning. A fire was started in the heating stove in the Wm. Kruse store and the north wind was blowing strong. In some way, the sparks were blown down from the flue on to the roof and soon set the dry shingles on fire. It was a little time until ladders were placed so the roof was reached, and at one time the flames were about under control, but the boys on the two-story roof became frightened and would not stay up there.

The flames soon spread over the four buildings in the block, and very little merchandise was saved. The Kruse stock of general merchandise saved only a few items and the C. W. Sanders drug store stock had only some showcases and contents saved. Mr. Kruse took about \$100 in currency out of his safe and laid it on the counter, forgot about it and it was burned. Two vacant buildings, one formerly occupied by a meat market, and a two-story one known as the W. R. McClellan store building were also destroyed. The fire began a few minutes before 8 o'clock and the Giddings fire department sent the chemical truck and firemen at once which was the only means of saving the Kruse dwelling which was scorched considerably. The fire truck from Brenham arrived some time later.

Insurance to the amount of \$2500 was carried on the Kruse stock. Mr. Sanders carried no insurance. He has moved to the south side of the track and opened his drug store, while Mr. Kruse has announced no plans to this writing.