

## **Early Morning Fire.**

A little after two o'clock on Sunday morning a fire broke out in a shop in Crown-street, and in less than half an hour it was burned to the ground. Samuel Palti conducted a jewellery and second hand business in the shop. The fire was first noticed by Mrs. R.

Osborne, who lives opposite. Mr. Osborne at once rang up the firemen, whilst his son gave the alarm from the fire bell. At the time the fire broke out a strong sou h-westerly wind was blowing, carrying the flames right across the street, thus preventing them from reaching the buildings on either side. At the time of the outbreak heavy rain was falling, which no doubt helped to keep the fire under. On arrival the Fire Brigade got to work, and soon had a great stream of water pouring on the flames. In a short time, owing to the great pressure of water the fire was put out. Mr. Parkinson's cordial factory at the rear of Palti's shop had a narrow escape from the fire. As it was, about £40 worth of stock belonging to Mr. Parkinson was destroyed by the fire. The firemen done good work, as also did Sergeant Noble and Constable Larkin.

The building was insured for £100, whilst Palti's stock was covered by a policy of £400 with the New Zealand Insurance Co.

Mrs. R. Osborne and Mr. J. O'Brien very kindly supplied the firemen with refreshments.