

# STANDS BURN AT READVILLE

## Damage at Trotting Park \$40,000.

### Gigs and Apparatus Stored Under Bleachers Destroyed.

### Hyde Park and Dedham Fight Fire Vainly.

HYDE PARK, June 27—The grandstand and bleachers at the Readville trotting park were destroyed by fire at 5 o'clock this afternoon, causing a loss of about \$40,000. The property was owned by the New England trotting horse breeders' association.

Hyde Park sent to the fire three hose wagons, a hook and ladder truck and a chemical engine. From Dedham came a steamer, two hose wagons and a hook and ladder truck. The property is partly in each town. With all the apparatus the efforts of the firemen were of little avail on account of the low pressure of the water, which is supplied by the Dedham service, so that the fire practically burned itself out.

The fire started on the roof of the grandstand, probably from sparks from a locomotive on the N Y, N H & H railroad, and was discovered by employes at the park, who made heroic efforts to extinguish it. They attached a line of hose to a hydrant, but the pressure of the water being so low they could not bring the stream to bear on the blaze, and were also handicapped by not having a ladder long enough to be of use.

The fire was a spectacular one and a hot one for the firemen. Fortunately for the stables and the clubhouse of the Gentleman's driving club of Boston, the wind, which was quite brisk, blew toward the inclosure of the race track.

The clubhouse was somewhat blistered, and for its protection Hyde Park's chemical engine stood on guard during the height of the fire. The tall brick chimney of the grandstand made a picturesque sight as it collapsed. The judge's stand across the track from the grandstand was partially burned.

Stored under the bleachers were about 20 gigs and apparatus used in the work at the track. The fence between the park and the N Y, N H & H railroad tracks was damaged and several telegraph poles were scorched.

The grandstand cost to build about \$30,000 and the bleachers about \$4500. Most of the apparatus stored under the bleachers was new. The insurance is about \$30,000.

Capt Frank Kunkel of hose company 3 was overcome by the heat and was taken to his home.