

BUSH FIRE SUPPERS.

"THE ARGUS" FUND.

£11,678 ALREADY RECEIVED.

Magnificent Public Response.

Every day, as it brings fresh tidings of the extent of the devastation wrought by the bush fires and of the intensity of the suffering of those through whose homes they have swept, emphasises the need for something more than expressions of sympathy, however sincere they may be. The appeal made for contributions to a fund for the relief of the sufferers has stimulated those emotions of generosity and fellow feeling which always arise. It is help that is needed, and the sooner it is forthcoming in adequate measure the sooner will the effects of this dreadful visitation be mitigated. To our appeal for funds we have received the following subscriptions—

Amount previously acknowledged (corrected)

£2,490 12 0

£1,640 0 0

£250 0 0

£250 0 0

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BUSH FIRE VICTIMS.

DEATHS NOW TOTAL 31.

THREE WARBURTON RESIDENTS MISSING.

SEVERAL FRESH OUTBREAKS.

SERIOUS DAMAGE AT YALLOURN.

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The body of another man was found at Gilebury, near Warburton, by a search party last night. The body was that of Joseph Johnson, who had been reported as missing.

Three residents of Warburton were reported yesterday as missing. The missing list is now—Killed, 31; missing, 4.

Bush fires at the Brown Coalmine Township and Yalourn caused considerable damage yesterday. For a time both townships were in danger, and the brown coalmine is still menaced.

A fire ignited the coal face in the new open-cut, and the coal is still burning.

Damage to machinery at Yalourn is estimated at nearly £40,000.

Several fresh outbreaks of fire occurred in the area between Moe and Waltham and Fumina and Erics. Waltham for a time was menaced, but is now believed to be safe.

Damage to timber mills in this area is estimated at £100,000, and the damage to the timber in the Tait and Neeshok forest reserves amounts to at least £200,000.

Many beautiful fire gullies on the Blacks Spur road were burnt last night. The township of Toolang, 14 miles from Healesville, was saved only after a desperate struggle.

A fierce fire occurred on Ben Gair, near Warburton. Although it was considered necessary for women and children from the area to seek refuge in Warburton, no reports of serious damage have yet been received.

According to the Acting Premier (Mr. Alexander Peacock) the Ministry's attention for the relief of sufferers in the first fire burning smoothly. A very successful public meeting was arranged by the Lord Mayor (Sir William Branton) to launch his appeal on behalf of the homeless and suffering people.

By OUR SPECIAL REPORTERS.

LIST OF VICTIMS.

ANOTHER BODY FOUND.

WARBURTON RESIDENTS LOST.

Several changes have been made in the list of casualties caused by the fire. Last night a message was received from the body of Joseph Johnson, who had been reported as missing. The missing list is now—Killed, 31; missing, 4.

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APPEAL FOR WORK.

TIMBER EMPLOYEES WAIT.

RE-ESTABLISHING MILLS.

Officials at Warburton.

WARBURTON, Wednesday.—No news of further fire has been received from the area between Moe and Waltham and Fumina and Erics. Waltham for a time was menaced, but is now believed to be safe.

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YALLOURN MENACED.

SERIOUS LOSSES CAUSED.

SPARKS IGNITE OPEN CUT.

Truck-driver Injured.

BROWN COAL MINE, Wednesday.—Fires which have been burning since the outbreak of the bush fire at Yalourn, near Warburton, have caused serious damage to the mine. The mine is now in danger, and the brown coalmine is still menaced.

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FUND IN SYDNEY.

The Melbourne office of the Sydney Evening News was informed yesterday afternoon by telegram that a relief fund had been opened by that paper, and that the money collected would be handed to the Argus for transference to the Lord Mayor's fund.

MANSLAUGHTER CHARGE.

The recent case of the death of a man at Yalourn, near Warburton, has caused serious damage to the mine. The mine is now in danger, and the brown coalmine is still menaced.

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FIGHT TO SAVE MILL.

ALARM IN LOCK VALLEY.

Counting the Homeless.

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WOMAN SAVES HER HOME.

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WALHALLA IN DANGER.

LOSSES IN STATE FORESTS.

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