

# FINE RESIDENCE IS BURNED

## DISASTROUS FIRE AT THE OLD FITZGERALD HOME.

Property of C. J. Bills on Which no  
Insurance Was Carried—Fire-  
bug In Business Section.

The Fitzgerald residence at Twentieth and B. streets was destroyed about 2 o'clock this morning, and soon after the police received instructions from the station to keep a sharp lookout for firebugs, because of two other fires reported at or near the same time.

The Fitzgerald house was almost gone when the department got to it, and practically nothing of it was saved. The house was owned by Colonel C. J. Bills, he having purchased all of the property in the old Fitzgerald tract recently. The house was a large structure, having a dozen rooms, and when built it cost considerable money. It was one of the old houses of the city, but was still valued at about \$5,000. It was a frame structure. Not a dollar of insurance was carried on the place, the owner havin planned to wreck it soon and use the material in building other houses. Mrs. Mary Fitzgerald still resided in the house, but she was planning to sell her furniture and move out. No one was in the house last night, and the fire was not discovered until it was all over the house. It was reported from the Rice pumping station on N street, the night engineer having seen the light of the flames and notified the police station.

At about 2:20 o'clock this morning some man went up the alley behind the Chase block, Sixteenth and O streets, threw kerosene on some rubbish, applied a match and ran. A citizen saw the fire, put it out and telephoned the police.

A moment later an alarm came in from Fourteenth and Pine streets, where it was said a fire had started.

The police were notified to look for firebugs, and a strict watch was kept.