

DISASTER STRIKES CANADA

Fire ravages Rimouski - bustling riverside city in Canada - 200 miles from Quebec. Gales - whipping in off the St. Lawrence River - fan flames, as the blaze spreads - out of control. The holocaust began when winds blew down high-tension wires, touching off a lumber mill - a freak accident that turned this town of 15,000 into a torch. After two nights and days, exhausted firemen are still at it - pouring gallons of water onto the smouldering ruins.

Twelve people died. Four children were drowned when the bridge over the Rimouski River was engulfed in flames. 3,000 are homeless. Damage runs into millions of pounds as a city is wiped out in the worst fire in Northern Quebec.

FLOODS THREATEN WINNIPEG

Disaster of another kind strikes at Winnipeg. Two hundred miles of rich grain land are flooded as the Red River bursts its banks. Whole communities, like the town of Morris, are evacuated and the town abandoned to the flood.

As the flood waters sweep on towards Winnipeg, a state of emergency is declared. Troops are rushed in to reinforce hastily built dykes. Five thousand are homeless, each able to save only his most prized possessions.

As rain pushes the rampaging river 12 feet above danger level, Winnipeg's suburbs are cut into small islands. Women and children are ordered to leave. Only one of seven bridges is left clear for escape. Still rising, the water now laps the heart of this great city of 300,000. Only a few feet separate the fast encroaching river from Portage Avenue, Winnipeg's Piccadilly, as nature holds a great metropolis to ransom.