

# Firemen Battle Two Large Fires As Sands Pt. Home Is Ruined Yesterday Afternoon And Craven's Last Night

New York Attorney Places  
Loss At Over \$350,000, In-  
cluding Valuable Furniture

## 3 FIRES KEEP FIREMEN BUSY MAY 19 1939 Neighboring Departments Of Manhasset And Great Neck Help

Fire destroyed the Alexander A. For-  
man house at Sands Point yesterday  
afternoon, and resulted in a loss of  
\$350,000 to the owner. Although a  
small fire had been kindled in the in-  
cinerator early in the morning, the  
real cause of the conflagration was not  
decided upon as the News goes to press.

The fire was discovered when Mr.  
Forman endeavored to telephone about  
noon and was unable to get central.  
Investigation proved that the wires  
had been affected and it was necessary  
to send to a neighbor to telephone po-  
lice and firemen.

The Port Washington Department  
was at the moment fighting a fire in  
Manorhaven and left part of the men  
there while the rest went on to fight  
the blaze at Sands Point.

Limited resources as far as water  
went retarded the men's work and a  
hose was run from 1800 feet to a pond  
on the estate as an auxiliary water  
supply. Manhasset, Lakeville and Great  
Neck fire companies joined with Port  
Washington in the fight, but the two  
story shingle house was doomed.

Mr. Forman built the house in 1928  
at a cost of \$150,000. He quoted also a  
loss of \$200,000 in furnishings. There  
were 24 rooms and 20 baths in the  
house which was maintained only for  
Mr. and Mrs. Forman.

The estate is one of the most beau-  
tiful on the North Shore with several  
buildings on the place, houses for the  
help, garages, barns, etc., as well as  
the home of Mr. Forman's daughter,  
Mrs. L. E. Forman which is only a  
short distance from the big house. The  
property lies between Middleneck road  
and Hempstead Harbor and has over  
a half mile of water front on the har-  
bor.

### Another Fire Breaks

Firemen were still at work on the  
fire at the Forman Estate when an  
alarm called them to the home of Ad-  
miral Thomas E. Craven at 23 Murray  
avenue.

A recently installed oil burner is  
said to have been the cause of the fire  
which resulted in the destruction of a  
part of the house including the cellar,  
and the roof.

Admiral Craven, U. S. N., retired and  
Mrs. Craven have been on a world  
cruise and their house was being re-  
paired and painted for their return in  
the near future.

The amount of damage has not yet  
been ascertained.

No one was living in the house at  
the time.

## Seen This Week

Contributions to this column  
are always welcome

Firemen having lots of fun  
hurling rocks threw Forman plate  
glass windows in order to create  
a draft.

Mr. Forman himself sitting  
calmly in easy chair on the lawn  
and watching his home burning  
rapidly to the ground.

The Flower Hill Fire Com-  
pany's new pumper proving her  
worth yesterday afternoon, and  
being much the envy of other  
departments.

Helpful neighbor dashing into  
the burning mansion and coming  
out with five different shoes.



Formans Fire Sands Point

1939