

DEPOT AT SOPER BURNED DOWN
HELPER BOTHE RECEIVED DANGEROUS INJURIES IN THE FLAMES
Baggage and Express Went Up in the Flames of Big Fire Thursday
Night at Soper

The Hugo Husonian January 18, 1912 – transcribed by Ron Henson

Soper was visited by a destructive fire at 11:50 o'clock Thursday evening, which destroyed the depot and came nigh snuffing out the life of H.E. Bothe, depot helper, who slept in the station house.

Just as the agent arrived on the scene the roof fell in and the hurry sufficient good to get an engine there to remove several car loads of burning freight out of the fire zone.

The depot building, all the books and papers, baggage and freight contained therein were completely destroyed, and all of the express was also lost. Three box cars loaded with ties were destroyed and several other cars were partially burned before the Hugo relief party arrived to be of assistance.

Helper Bothe had his face and both hands severely burned and was hurried on the early morning train to the company hospital at Sherman, Texas.

The Frisco immediately partitioned off a coach for a station at Soper, and a box car is being used for express and baggage rooms.

A dangerous wind caused the burning station to alarm the town of Soper, which is just installing its water plant, but the damage was confined to property of the Frisco.