

FIRE AT BRAYBROOK

SOAP WORKS BURNT.

The soap manufacturing works of Messrs. Bailey and Aitkenson, at Raleigh-road, Braybrook, were destroyed by fire on Saturday evening. The fire brigades had to run out 1400 feet of hose to the nearest water main, on the Ballarat road. The water pressure was so bad that the fire steamer could hardly pump a sufficiently strong enough stream to play upon the flames. The building, which was a wooden and iron-structure, contained highly inflammable oils and cotton "waste," the latter being rendered down to obtain the oil. The machinery used in this process and in the manufacture of soap was also destroyed. The property was owned by Mr. T. C. Pencil, of Ballarat-road, Footscray. The building was insured for £500 with the Union Assurance Society, but the contents were not covered, and the tenants compute their loss at £400.