

Chart No. 1 gives the seasonal snow fall from October to May for the winter of 1884-1885 to the winter of 1923-1924. The heavy horizontal line indicates the average fall for the entire period. The heavy dots in the broken line indicate the average seasonal snow fall over five year periods.

The month of February is generally the month in which we have the heaviest snow fall and Chart No. 2 indicates the snow fall during this month from the winter of 1884-1885 up to and including the winter of 1923-1924, with the mean average for the entire period of the five year averages indicated as in the previous chart.

There is certainly nothing in the records to indicate that there is any gradual reduction in the snow fall and there is nothing to justify the statements that are frequently made that the winters are any less severe. As a matter of fact the actual depth of snow that falls during a twenty-four hour period or during an entire winter is no criterion as to the

severity of the winter. There is a decided difference in the densities of snow, and what is known as a "wet" snow may have a far smaller volume but a far greater density. It may be much heavier in actual weight and much more severe, therefore, than a "dry" snow which, measured with a yardstick and plotted on a chart, may appear more severe.

The real factors that make a severe winter are the temperatures and the wind. Our Committee on Standardization has been trying to educate you as to the importance of wind as a factor to be considered in connection with the problem of heating, and the information indicated on Chart No. 3 may bring that thought home to you more forcefully than all of the arguments that the committee has presented to date.

It would appear that a very unusual condition has prevailed during the past ten or twelve years and that the total annual wind movement, as well as the maximum velocities encountered during



BURNING HOLES IN THE SNOW AFTER THE STORM—DRAWN BY CHARLES GRAHAM
From Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper of March 24, 1888.