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WHITMAN MEN SEEK TOFIXRESPONSIBILITY

Two Doors That Escaped Flames Were Still Locked — Hear That All of Them Were.

BODIES HEAPED NEAR THEM

Said Also That These Doors Opened Inwardly, Contrary to Law—Narrow Fire Escape Also Blamed.

The preliminary investigation by the District Attorney's office of conditions surrounding the Asch Building fire has led the investigators to believe that several indictments for manslaughter, based on evidence of negligence, are likely to be handed down when the April Grand Jury takes up the case.

Although no official report has yet been received by District Attorney Whitman from the three assistants to whom he has intrusted the duty of gathering evidence of laxness in properly safeguarding human life in the building, his official investigators learned much yesterday that caused them to believe that several legal requirements were not carried out by those whose duty it was to see that all possible safeguards were observed.

District Attorney Whitman said last night that from the unofficial reports he had received, based on statements from firemen, employees of the firms occupying the building and employees of the Building Department, he was inclined to think that not only was the single fire escape entirely inadequate, but that proper precautions had not been taken as to the doors leading from the eighth, ninth and tenth floors to the two stairways.

The official investigators ascertained yesterday that the Building Department regulations require that these doors should open outwardly to the stairways and should always be unlocked in working hours. The District Attorney has been informed, too, that not only did the doors in the loft building open inwardly but that the doors were locked at the time the fire started and remained locked during the frantic attempts of the panic-stricken women and men to escape the flames.

It was in front of these doors that between forty and fifty dead were found piled when the flames were extinguished and the firemen could venture upon the burned-out floors. Many of these bodies were packed closely against what remained of the doors leading to the stairways. The employes had evidently tried to get the doors open, and, failing in the attempt, fallen to their death, while others trampled upon them, beating frantically on the doors in the hope that some one on the outside would open them. But no such help came.

Mr. Whitman has been informed that it was the custom to keep the doors locked during working hours. Yesterday, when the District Attorney's assistant inspected the interior of the burned lofts, they found that the doors leading to the stairways were, in several instances, burned from their hinges and the locks burned away so that the question of whether the six doors, two on each floor, were really locked when the blaze started was not definitely decided. Two of the doors, however, had escaped destruction. According to the official investigators, both were locked.

Find Fire Escape Inadequate.

An inspection of one fire escape, which ran down the side of the open interior court from the tenth floor to the bottom of a sunken areaway, took up much of the investigators' attention yesterday. They found that the fire escape was narrow, apparently inadequate for any building on the floors of which more than twenty-five or thirty persons were employed. District Attorney Whitman has learned that it would have been impossible for all the employés of the Triangle Waist Company to have escaped by the fire escape even had exit that way not been cut off by the flames and smoke.

Although Mr. Whitman said that it would be improper for him to predict any line of action in advance of the Grand Jury inquiry he intimated that the question of enforcing a provision of outside fire escapes on such buildings as that in which the disaster of Saturday occurred would be gone into in great detail.

District Attorney Whitman will probably conduct the Grand Jury inquiry into the Washington Place fire and into general conditions prevailing in the loft and office building district between Canal and Twenty-third Streets in person, as he has manifested great interest in the criminal side of the investigation up to date. He will not, however, let the fire inquiry interfere with his investigation of the Carnegie Trust Company. It is likely that the Carnegie Trust matter will be out of the way before the April Grand Jury begins considering the evidence which is now being gathered by Mr. Whitman's assistants.

The two fire investigators who were instructed on Saturday to begin an immediate inquiry of conditions surrounding the Washington Place disaster were joined yesterday by another Assistant District Attorney, Mr. Rubin. The two previously selected were Assistant District Attorneys Manley and Bostwick.

In addition to making a personal inspection of the premises, the assistants questioned many of the firemen who helped to extinguish the blaze and who removed bodies from the three floors. Most of these firemen will probably be called as witnesses before the Grand Jury.

The question of proper inspection by the Building Department has already been occupying the attention of Mr. Whitman's investigators. With this idea in view they yesterday questioned not only the owner of the building, J. J. Asch of 733 Broadway, but several officials of the Building Department, as well as Harris & Blanck, owners of the Triangle Waist Company.

Other Buildings in Like Plight.

Mr. Whitman and his assistants also consulted W. W. Walling, the former representative in this city of the State Department of Labor, in order to familiarize themselves with the situation concerning conditions prevailing in the loft and office building district, where large numbers of women and girls are employed and where the safeguarding of human life or lack of it, is much the same as in the Washington Place loft building.

Mr. Walling says that at least 100 loft buildings of the so-called modern fireproof type, similar in every respect to the one in which the disaster of Saturday occurred, are in the area between Canal Street and Twenty-third Street, and that they are a daily menace to the lives of thousands of workers. On any day, says Mr. Walling, the same thing that happened in the Washington Place loft building is liable to happen in any one of the 100 similar structures.

"The labor law requires that all doors leading from the workrooms to the stairways shall be open during working hours 'when practicable,'" said Mr. Walling yesterday. "The disaster of yesterday seems to have been due largely to the lack of adequate fire escapes, number of staircases and general lack of fire control, all of which elements figure largely in the safeguarding of human life.

"There seems to be a lax administration of the laws governing safeguarding of life in these buildings, owing, I believe, to a division of authority which has been brought about between the Fire Department, the Building Department, the Health Department, and the Tenement House Department. Such a division of authority is naturally dangerous. The State Department of Labor has tried to compel the owners of such buildings to provide proper safeguards, such as adequate fire escapes, ample stairways, sprinklers, and proper exits to the stairways.

"But the Court of Appeals not long ago decided that the State Department of Labor had no right to step in and dictate to property owners in a city where control over the buildings is vested in the various municipal bureaus.

"As the facts show all too plainly that a rigid observance of the proper safeguards cannot be brought about by the city authorities, I am convinced of the necessity of enacting such a legislative act as would give the State Department of Labor the power to enforce proper facilities for escape from a fire."

District Attorney Whitman, upon learning the views of Mr. Walling, said that this phase of the situation would also be taken up by the official investigators, in all probability, and that some definite action looking to improvement in the existing conditions would doubtless be brought about.

The District Attorney was informed yesterday that the Building Department requirements call for three stairways in all loft buildings of the dimensions of that where the disaster occurred, and that only two stairways were in the building. This phase of the matter is also being looked into by his assistants. Although the inquiry into general conditions prevailing in office and loft buildings in the area between Canal and Twenty-third Streets will not be taken up by Mr. Whitman's aides until all evidence has been gathered concerning conditions surrounding the Washington Place building, the broader inquiry is likely to begin in a few days, and will last until the matter is ready for presentation before the April Grand Jury.

NEW CODE NEEDED—McANENY.

Borough President Tells What He's Done Since the Newark Warning.

Borough President McAneny spent three hours yesterday morning going through the Asch Building in an effort to find how Saturday's fire was caused and why the Triangle Waist Company's employes did not use the staircase to escape. Later at his home, 19 East Forty-seventh Street, Mr. McAneny told a TIMES reporter that it was evident the girls had all rushed for the two freight elevators and did not know of the existence of the staircase.

"The loss of life," he said, "would have been prevented to a great extent if the employes in the building had been used to a fire drill at regular intervals, which should be done in all factory buildings. With the increasing height in new loft buildings, a fire drill is as necessary for the safety of the work people as it is on a big liner like the Mauretania at sea.

"I think that the plan that has been tried in Philadelphia of having a staircase built out from the building and inclosed is the best practical method of getting the people out in case of fire and reducing the loss of life to a minimum. At the present time, even if there is a fire escape outside a twenty-story building, many girls would lose their heads when they looked down below and the jam of the others crowding on them would be fatal."

With regard to the laws relating to buildings in New York City, Mr. McAneny said:

"I trust that one definite result of this disaster will be a thorough overhauling of the laws and ordinances with relation to fireproof construction and the proper protection of life. The Building Code, in Section 103, provides that all buildings of certain specified types, including factories, shall be equipped with 'such good and sufficient fire escapes, stairways, or other means of egress' as the Superintendent of Buildings may require. The question of the adequacy of fire escapes has been determined, however, when the plans are presented for approval. Once accepted as adequate, they have been permitted to remain.

Newark Fire Started Inquiry.

"The plans of the Asch Building were passed by Supt. Brady in 1900. At the time of the recent Newark factory fire the need of systematic checking up of similar buildings in New York, and of providing for systematic inspection thereafter, was brought sharply forward. I took the matter up at that time with Commissioner Waldo, who agreed to detail some 500 or 600 firemen for the purposes of a general preliminary examination.

"As a result of the investigation of the firemen, about 3,500 cases of apparent lack, either of adequate fire escapes or of any fire escapes, were reported to Supt. Miller. Mr. Miller thereupon detailed a squad of five or six of his men, under Chief Inspector Lucke, to inspect each of the cases reported.

"They include every class of building to which the code refers—hotels, school houses, boarding houses, factories, &c. Thus far, about 700 of the inspections have been made. It was found, in a large proportion of the cases, that the law did not apply; but in at least 10 per cent. of them the bureau reports action has been taken requiring the owners to comply more satisfactorily with the code provisions.

Asch Building Not in List.

"The Acting Superintendent, Mr. Ludwig, reports that examination of the returns from the Fire Department shows that the Asch Building was not included in its list.

"I took up with Supt. Miller several months ago the matter of fire exits in the tall downtown office buildings. At my invitation the representatives of sixteen of the largest of the buildings met Mr. Miller and Chief Croker at my office in two or three conferences on this subject. The question raised was whether an attempt should be made to install outside fire escapes of any sort upon buildings of twenty or thirty stories in height, and what steps should be taken to compel the proper inclosure of all stairways and elevator shafts as a substitute.

"I appointed an Advisory Committee consisting of Allan Robinson, President of the Allied Real Estate Interests; Joseph P. Day, President of the Real Estate Board of Brokers; Paul Starrett of the Fuller Construction Company, Francis H. Kimball, and William Crawford to continue in conferences with Mr. Miller and with Mr. Goodrich, the Consulting Engineer of the borough. I have not, as yet, received their report."

WALDO FOR ONE CONTROL.

Believes a Bureau of Fire Prevention Would Help.

Fire Commissioner Waldo went to the Asch Building yesterday in company with Deputy Commissioner O'Keefe, who was at the fire. Mr. Waldo had returned hastily from Boston upon learning of the fire, and was anxious to get an investigation under way.

After looking the premises over carefully he made this statement:

"The loss of more than 140 lives resulting from the Washington Place fire has demonstrated forcibly the contention of the Fire Department that while buildings may be fireproof the contents are not fireproof. Therefore fire escapes and other good and sufficient means of exit should be required in buildings of this character, especially those in which large numbers of persons are assembled for work or other purposes. There are many buildings of this class in this city in which even worse conditions prevail.

"In the opinion of this department, the means of exit from this building were insufficient. There was only one outside iron balcony fire escape, with treads eighteen inches in width, and which was so constructed that when iron shutters on windows were opened it was impossible for persons to use them without first closing the shutters, which could not be done if persons were endeavoring to escape from the windows from the lower floors.

"There were two enclosed fireproof stairs with wooden doors and jambs. These doors were consumed by the fire and left the stairs open to the flames. These stairs were only sufficiently wide for one person to descend at a time, and with winding steps at the turns. Entrances to stairs were blocked by partitions. From indications gates and doors appear to have been locked at the time of the fire.

"The Fire Commissioner is endeavoring to secure legislation which will create a Bureau of Fire Prevention, with sufficient legal power to install automatic and auxiliary fire appliances, to enforce fire preventive measures, and to give to the department the right to insist on adequate means of escape in case of fire. The Fire Department is the most competent to pass on the necessity for fire escapes, due to its experience with fires.

"Several days ago a public meeting was held in a Wall Street law office denouncing the action of the department in requiring automatic sprinklers in buildings which, in the opinion of the department, required the same.

"Under the present law the Fire Department has no control whatsoever over fire escapes or means of exit from fires."

ALDERMEN ORDERED INQUIRY

After the Newark Fire and Never Heard from It Again.

After the Newark fire Alderman Folks introduced a resolution in the Board of Aldermen, calling upon the Building Superintendents of the various boroughs to hold an investigation and advise the board if any additional legislation was necessary to protect the lives of our factory workers. The resolution was unanimously passed. This was four months ago.

Alderman Folks was asked yesterday what ever came of the investigation. "I don't know," he replied. "I never heard of it again."

NEW LAW NEEDED, HE SAYS.

State Labor Commissioner Thinks Fire Drills Should Be Compulsory.

Special to The New York Times.

ALBANY, N. Y., March 26.—The State Labor Department has exercised authority over the equipment of New York City factories with fire escapes in the last seven years, according to John Williams, State Commissioner of Labor. In 1904, Mr. Williams said to-night, the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court decided that the Municipal Bureau of Buildings had jurisdiction over fire escapes so far as buildings in New York City are concerned.

Mr. Williams said he visited the building occupied by the Triangle Waist Company a few months ago, and his observation was that the structure was built in such a manner as to resist flames. He said his Inspectors had not reported that the building was not properly equipped with fire escapes, probably because there was one fire escape. The last report of the Triangle Waist Company to the State, Mr. Williams said, showed that it employed 405 persons.

"My belief is," Mr. Williams said, "that no matter how carefully a factory may be constructed there is always danger on account of panic. In nearly all of such disasters it is the panic that kills."

The State Commissioner said there should be a more rigid law to prevent such tragedies as that of Saturday.

"For a long time I have favored compulsory fire drills by factory employes," Mr. Williams added. "Jurisdiction over this matter should be given to the State Department. It would not surprise me if legislation along this line were proposed this week."

If an amendment which has been in the hands of the Assembly Committee on Labor and Industries for nearly two months had been in force yesterday the loss of life in the Washington Place fire would have been greatly reduced, it is said here. On Feb. 2 Assemblyman Frank Brooks of the Seventeenth District, New York County, introduced a bill requiring an adequate fire alarm system in all factories of two or more stories, and for a weekly fire drill for all employes above the first floor. Heavy penalties are to be imposed by the State Commissioner of Labor in case of failure to comply with the law.

No action has been taken on the bill as yet. Gov. Dix said to-night:

"I am appalled by the terrible disaster in New York. It is hard to believe that such a thing could happen in this day and age. Very often carelessness on the part of employes is responsible in no small degree for horrors of this kind. Employes in many cases fail to familiarize themselves with the building in which they are employed, and sometimes don't even know where the stairways or exits are."

The Governor is anxious that every precaution shall be taken by the Legislature to prevent a repetition of the disaster. There is a belief in Albany that a legislative investigation will be held to inquire into the cause of the fire, with a view of strengthening the law affecting factories.

SATURDAY'S AWFUL TRAGEDY would have been PREVENTED

and more than 150 souls saved, had the Asch Building been equipped with automatic fire sprinklers.

The Esty Sprinkler

prevents spread of fire and effects great reduction in insurance rates.

PARTICULARS ON REQUEST.

H. G. VOGEL COMPANY,
12-14 Walker Street New York City

DEATH LIST IS 141; ONLY 86 IDENTIFIED

But Several More of the Injured in the Hospital Are Expected to Succumb.

22 BEYOND RECOGNITION

Thirteen of the Dead Were Men—All the Rest Women—The Coroner's Summary.

When all the bodies of the victims of Saturday's fire had been counted, recounted, and checked by officials of the Coroner's office Coroner Holtzhauser made official announcement last night that the total number of the dead was 141.

Of this number 133 were found at the scene of the fire, either out on the sidewalk or huddled on the ninth floor of the factory building. Three died of their injuries in Bellevue Hospital, three in St. Vincent's Hospital, and two in New York Hospital. The total number identified at midnight was seventy-eight at the Morgue; eight dead in hospitals.

The unidentified still number 55. Of these 28 are women and 5 men. The other bodies are hopelessly charred and probably never will be identified. The total number of women who lost their lives in the fire, according to the Coroner's figures, is 128; the number of men is 13.

Here are the official lists of the identified dead and the missing:

Identified Dead.

ADLER, LIZZIE, 24, of 324 East Sixth Street.
ALTMAN, ANNIE, 16, of 33 Pike Street.
ASTROWSKY, BECKY, 20, of 108 Delancey Street.
BENENTI, VINCENZA, 22, of 17 Marion Street.
BERNSTEIN, JACOB, 28, of 224 East Thirteenth Street.
BERNSTEIN, MORRIS, 19, of 309 East Fifth Street.
BIERMAN, GUSSIE, 22, of 8 Rivington Street.
BINEVITZ, ABRAHAM, 20, of 474 Powell Street, Brooklyn.
BRUNETTE, LAURA, 17, of 160 Columbia Street, Brooklyn.
CABUTTO, FRANCES, 17, of 81 Degraw Street, Brooklyn.
CARLISI, JOSEPHINA, 31, of 502 East Twelfth Street.
CARUSO, ALBINA, 20, of 21 New Bowery.
CIRRITO, ROSIE, 18, of 135 Cherry Street.
COHEN, ANNA, 25, of 104 Melrose, Street, Brooklyn.
COLLETTI, ANNIE, 30, of 410 East Thirteenth Street.
DOWNIC, KALMAN, 24, of 214 Monroe Street.
FEIBISH, REBECCA, 17, of 10 Attorney Street; jumped from window and died in New York Hospital.
FRANK, TINA, 17, of 342 East Eleventh Street.
GIEB, BERTHA, 25, of 161A Nassau Avenue, Brooklyn.
GITTLIN, CELINA, 17, of 174 Clinton Street.
GOLDSTEIN, LENA, 22, of 161 Second Street.
GOLDSTEIN, ESTHER, 29, of 143 Madison Street.
GREENBERG, DINAH, 18, of 273 Watkins Street, Brooklyn.
GRASSO, ROSIE, 16, 172 Thompson Street.
GROSSMAN, RACHAEL, 17, of 98 East Seventh Street.
HAROWITZ, PAULINE, 19, of 58 St. Mark's Place.
HOLLANDER, FANNIE, 18, of 257 East Third Street.
JAKOFSKY, IDA, 19, of 294 Monroe Street.
KAPPELMAN, BECKIE, 16, of 191 Madison Street.
KEPPLE, TESSIE, 18, of 326 East Eighth Street.
KESSLER, BECKY, 19, of 276 Madison Street.
KONOWITZ, IDA, died in St. Vincent's Hospital.
KUHLER, BERTHA, 20, of 99 East Fourth Street.
KUPERSMITH, TILLIE, 16, of 750 Second Street.
KURITZ, BENJAMIN, 19, of 406 East Tenth Street.
L'ABBATE, ANNIE, 16, of 509 East Thirteenth Street.
LANSNER, FANNIE, 21, of 78 Forsyth Street.
LEHRER, MAX, 22, of 143 Essex Street.
LEHRER, SAM, 19, of 143 Essex Street.
LERMACK, ROSIE, 19, of 177 East 100th Street.
LEVINE, PAULINE, 19, of 380 South Fourth Street, Brooklyn.
MAIALE, BETTINA, 18, of 135 Sullivan Street.
MALTESE, ROSARI, 14, of 35 Second Avenue.
MALTESE, LUCIA, 20, of 35 Second Avenue.
MANARA, Mrs. MARIA, 27, of 227 East Twenty-eighth Street.
MANKOFSKY, ROSE, 22, of 412 East Seventy-fourth Street; died in Bellevue Hospital of multiple injuries.
MARCIANO, Mrs. MECHI, 25, of 272 Bleecker Street.
NERBERER, BECKY, 19, of 19 Clinton Street; fractured thigh and burned body.
NICHOLAS, ANNIE, 18, of 126 East 110th Street; died at New York Hospital.
NICOLOSEI, MICHAELINA, 21, of 440 East Thirteenth Street.
NAUSBAUM, SADIE, 18, of 641 East Sixth Street.
NOVOBRITSKY, ANNIE, 20, of 143 Madison Street.
OBERSTEIN, JULIA, 19, of 53 Avenue A.
ORINGER, ROSE; died in St. Vincent's Hospital.
OZZO, CARRIE, 22, of 1,990 Second Avenue; died in Bellevue Hospital of multiple injuries.
PACK, ANNIE, 18, of 747 East Fifth Street.
PASQULIECO, ANTONETTA, 16, of 509 East Thirtenth Street.
POLINY, JENNIE, 20, of 152 East Third Street.
PRATO, MILLIE, 21, of 93 Macdougal Street.
REIVERS, BECKY, 19, of 215 Madison Street.
ROSENBERG, JENNIE, 21, of 242 Broome Street.
ROTHER, THEODORE, 22, of 1,991 Washington Avenue, the Bronx.
SARACINO, TESSIE, 20, of 118 East 119th Street.
SARACINO, SARAFINA, 25, of 118 East 119th Street.
SCHIFFMAN, GUSSIE, 18, of 535 East Fifty-ninth Street.
SCHMIDT, Mrs. THERESA, 32, of 141 First Avenue.
SCHNEIDER, Mrs. ETHEL, of 95 Monroe Street.
SCHOCHEP, VIOLET, 21, of 740 East Fifth Street.
SELZER, JACOB, 33, of 510 East 136th Street.
SEMMILIO, Mrs. ANNIE, 30, of 471 Ralph Avenue, Brooklyn.
SHAPIRO, ROSIE, 17, of 149 Henry Street.
SKLAVER, BEREL, 25, of 169 Monroe Street.
SORKIN, ROSIE, 18, of 382 Georgia Avenue, East New York.
STEIN, JENNIE, 18, of 120 East Third Street.
TABICK, SAMUEL, 18, of 513 East 148th Street.
TERRANOVA, CLOTILDE, 22, of 104 President Street, Brooklyn.
TORTORELLA, ISABELLA, 17, of 116 Thompson Street.
ULLO, MARY, 26, of 437 East Twelfth Street.
UTAL, MEYER, 23, of 163 Chrystie Street.
VIVIANIA, BESSIE, 15, of 352 East Fifty-fourth Street.
VOVOBRITSKY, ANNIE, 20, of 148 Madison Street.
WEINDUFF, BERTHA, died in St. Vincent's Hospital.
WEINER, ROSE, 23, of 119 East Eighth Street.
WEINTRAUB, SALLY, 17, of 187 Ludlow Street.
WILSON, JOSEPH, 21, of 528 Green Street, Philadelphia.
WISNER, TESSIE, 27, of 129 Second Avenue.
WISOTSKY, SONIA, 17, of 303 East Eighth Street.

Reported Missing.

BELOTTA, VICENZA, 25, of 625 Washington Street.
BUEALLO, JANE, 23, of 49 Stanton Street.
BUSCHEN, JOSIE, of 52 East Twelfth Street.
CIRITO, ROSE, 20, of 135 Cherry Street.
COOPER, SARAH, of 1,530 Webster Avenue.
CORTESI, JOSEPHINE, of 502 East Twelfth Street.
FORRESTE, MAY, 23, of 37 East Twelfth Street.
KLEIN, JACOB, 23, of 120 Stanton Street.
LORETTO, Mrs. MARY, 25, of 116 Thompson Street.
PINELLO, FRANCESCA, of 186 Chrystie Street.
PREVEDENZI, BOGULA, 27, of 49 Stanton Street.
STAI, ANNA, 25, of 734 East Ninth Street.
STIGLITZ, JENNIE, of 231 East Thirteenth Street, was reported missing by Max Schulman of 44 Pacific Street, Brooklyn, at Police Headquarters.
WELFOWITZ, DORA, of 114 Division Street, is missing. She wore a signet ring, with her initials, "D. W.," and plain gold earrings.
WISE, ALICE, 18, of 433 West Forty-fifth Street.

FIVE DYING IN HOSPITALS.

Seven Others Who Are Less Badly Injured Being Cared For.

At the hospitals to which the victims of the Triangle waist fire were taken, it was stated last night that at least five more will probably die. The total number of survivors at the hospitals last night was twelve.

Three women who are in St. Vincent's Hospital are believed to be hopelessly injured. They are Sarah Kupla, 18, of 1,503 Webster Avenue, Bronx; Esther Harris, 21, of 131 Chester Street, Brooklyn, whose back is broken, and Annie Miller, 17, of 154 Attorney Street, who has a fractured leg and internal injuries. Five others at this hospital are expected to recover.

In the New York Hospital are Freda Valakowsky, 20 years old, of 639 East Twelfth Street, with a fractured leg and internal injuries, and Mrs. Daisy Fitze, of 11 Charlton Street, who has a compound fracture of the pelvic bone. Neither of these is likely to recover.

To these hospitals, as well as to Bellevue, where there were two survivors last night, crowds of relatives and friends of the injured and others who had been searching for hours without success for some one known to be in the building when the fire occurred and not accounted for, steadily streamed yesterday. If the physicians decided that the injured were strong enough to be seen the rules of the institutions were suspended for these visitors. Most of those in the hospitals received their injuries by jumping from the windows.

Freda Valakowsky graphically described to the attendants at the hospital her struggle to escape from the building. She remembered being pushed toward the window ledge by the frenzied girls and finally jumping from the window sill. The story told by Mrs. Fitze varied little.

One of the most pathetic scenes was the identification by her brother Louis of the body of Becky Nerberer of 19 Clinton street, at the New York hospital. Nerberer had inquired at the hospital Saturday night about his sister's condition and was told that she had a chance to live.

He returned at 3 o'clock yesterday morning and found her dead. He was so crazed with grief that attendants had to hold him. He said that his parents were expected to arrive in this country from Russia within a few weeks, and that passage money had been sent to them from his savings.

The List of Injured at the Hospitals.

FITZE, Mrs. DAISY, 24, 11 Charlton Street; fracture of pelvic bones; New York Hospital.
GROSSMAN, PAULINE, 19, operator, 98 East Seventh Street; internal injuries; Bellevue Hospital.
HARRIS, ESTHER, 21, operator, 131 Chester Street, Brooklyn; internal injuries; St. Vincent's Hospital.
HIMMELSTEIN, DORA, 20, clerk, 250 Madison Street; shock; St. Vincent's Hospital.
KUPLA, SARAH, 18, operator, 1,503 Webster Avenue, the Bronx; back broken; St. Vincent's Hospital.
LEVINE, SAMUEL, 29, operator, 1,382 Atlantic Avenue, Brooklyn; contusions of left leg, burns on hands; New York Hospital.
MILLER, ANNIE, 17, operator, 154 Attorney Street, fractured right leg, internal injuries; St. Vincent's Hospital.
ROSEN, ANNA, 90 East Broadway, hysteria; Bellevue Hospital.
RUBINO, KATE, 17, operator, 265 Madison Street, shock; St. Vincent's Hospital.
RUPLINA, GUSSIE, 20, operator, 161 Madison Street, burns of body, contusions; St. Vincent's Hospital.
VALAKOWSKY, FREDA, 20, operator, 639 East Twelfth Street, fractured right leg and femur, and burns of face; New York Hospital.
ZALLUP, NATHAN, 21, mechanic, 836 East Fifth Street, shock; St. Vincent's Hospital.

RESCUES BY LAW STUDENTS.

Prof. Sommer Tells of the Heroic Work They Did at the Fire.

Refusing to admit that he had played the rôle of a hero at the fire disaster of Saturday, as was reported in the press, Prof. Frank H. Sommer of the New York University Law School, which adjoins the ill-fated loft building, said yesterday at his home, 156 Heller Parkway, Newark, that the lion's share of credit belonged to the students of his class.

"All I can say is that I have been through it," Prof. Sommer continued. "It is too horrible to recount. Even if I should try, words would fail me."

At the time the fire started, Prof. Sommer was delivering a lecture to his class. When he saw the seriousness of the situation, he directed them in the work of rescuing fifty girls from the burning structure. He said that the Law School Building caught fire, but its occupants were in no danger except that to which they exposed themselves to save those begging to be taken from the building that was fast becoming a roaring furnace.

"After such an experience the mind is dazed," continued Prof. Sommer. "The recollection of it comes back in flashes and piecemeal. I remember it was about 5 o'clock. I was lecturing to a class of about fifty boys. All was quiet and serene, when suddenly we heard the toot of whistles and the sound of gongs and fire engines. I threw open the door of the lecture room, and then the door of the Law School Faculty room, which opens on an areaway separating our building from the burning one.

"Some of the boys followed me, and we saw the ten-story building across the areaway was on fire. The open space between us and that building was filled with smoke. There were ear-piercing shrieks, and girls appeared at the windows of the lofts in which was the waist factory.

"We hurried to the roof of our building, where two ladders had been left by painters, and the boys used these in the work of rescue. They worked like beavers, apparently never giving a thought to the possibility that their own building might catch fire from the flames that were leaping out into the open space.

"How it was done I don't know, but in surprisingly short time about fifty girls were brought across the ladders to safety. The boys paid no attention to the thick smoke and risked life and limb to steady the terror-stricken girls on the ladders. Some of the rescued were pitiable sights. In some cases it was necessary to beat out the flames that had caught their clothing, and many of them had blackened faces and singed hair and eyebrows.

"But our heroes were not ready to desert even after they had all of the girls in places of safety. They manned the standpipe and hose in our building and did efficient work, and others ran out to get the firemen to come in and save our property. As it was, the flames swept across the areaway, cracked the plate glass in our windows, and set fire to several of the rooms. Many books, papers, and documents were lugged out of the building by the volunteer workers."

SAVED HER FRIEND'S LIFE.

Survivor Tells of a Heroic Deed in the Mad Rush to Escape.

Annie Sprinsock of 501 Pennsylvania Avenue, East New York, told yesterday at her home a thrilling story of her escape. She was employed on the eighth floor, and as soon as the alarm was given ran to the dressing-room and snatched up her street clothes. When she got to the elevator shaft she remembered that she had left on the table of the dressing-room her bag containing her week's wages, $8. She ran for it but could not find it.

As she reached the elevator shaft again the car was about to make its last trip. She just managed to squeeze aboard, the last of those that could find room. As the door was being jammed-to a friend called wildly to her not to desert her. She took the girl in her arms and by main force raised her above the heads of the others in the car. There she held her till the car reached the ground floor in safety.

Esther Harris of 131 Hester Street, East New York, was less fortunate, but managed to make her escape. As she reached the elevator the last trip of the car was over. In her despair she caught hold of the elevator cables and slid down those to safety. She was injured in the descent and is now in a hospital.

Abraham Robinowitz was one of those who jumped from the eighth floor only to be crushed to pieces in the street. He was to have been married next week to Miss Minnie Greenberg of 369 Watkins Street, and it was she who identified his body. Mary Leventhal was a bookkeeper in the factory, and nothing has been seen of her since the fire. Her father and mother and two little sisters, who live at 604 Sutter Avenue, East New York, are nearly beside themselves with grief.

RUSH TO THE AID OF FIRE SUFFERERS

Many Civic Organizations Take Steps to Bring Immediate Relief to Them.

MAYOR MAKES AN APPEAL

Waistmakers' Union Goes to the Rescue—Red Cross Society Joins in the Work.

In response to many requests, THE TIMES will receive, acknowledge, and turn over to the proper committee such contributions as may be sent to the paper for the relief of those left dependent and in need through the deaths of the waist factory fire victims.

Larry J. Margulies, a waist manufacturer of 48 to 54 West Twenty-fifth Street, has already sent in $100, with this letter:

To the Editor of The New York Times:

Inclosed herewith please find my check for $100 as a contribution toward a fund for the relief of dependents of victims of the Washington Place fire. I would respectfully suggest that a public-spirited committee be selected to handle all receipts of intended contributions for the proper relief of victims, widows, orphans, and their dependents, to relieve all other individuals or organizations from promiscuous solicitations and to centralize all future actions for relief in the one committee, with the view of not merely affording immediate relief, but also to establish a permanent organization to provide suitable means of support for those left without breadwinners.

LARRY J. MARGULIES.

The Southern Club sends the following:

To the Editor of The New York Times:

At a smoker held by the Southern Club in their new clubrooms in Hotel Schuyler, 57 West Forty-fifth Street, this evening President Mirabeau L. Towns offered resolutions of sympathy for the sufferers of the awful disaster to-day at Washington Place, and announced a subscription to be made and sent to THE NEW YORK TIMES for the cause. Mr. Towns headed the list and was followed by R. T. Jaynes, a prominent attorney of Wallhalla, S. C., and Mayor H. H. Baker of Winchester, Va. Manager Keown of the Hotel Schuyler donated $25 and others of the club members subscribing were J. A. Whitcomb, David Robinson, E. K. Speiden, T. N. Miranda, Henry Waldman, Mr. McCullough, E. St. Germain, H. Seaton Frank, H. S. Colding, M. S. Rorer, and William D. Mackey.

E. K. Speiden, 17 Battery Place, the Treasurer of the Southern Club, is ready to hand to THE NEW YORK TIMES the $100 donated above. Respectfully,

A. J. SMITH, Secretary.

New York, March 25, 1911.

The Sabbath school class of Temple Beth Sholon, in South Brooklyn, raised $10 yesterday morning for the surviving sufferers. Members of the class sent this letter:

To the Editor of The New York Times:

We, the children of the Temple Beth Sholon Sabbath School, are deeply affected by the sorrow and misery occasioned by the fire on Saturday last, and we wish to be among the first to contribute our little share toward any relief work that may be undertaken by your newspaper.

RUTH KANTER, President.
ROBERT COWEN, Treasurer.
Temple Beth Sholon Sabbath School.
New York, March 26, 1911.

The Independent Order of B'nai B'rith, the international Jewish fraternal organization, District No. 1, held a meeting of its General Committee at headquarters, 1,161 Madison Avenue, yesterday morning, at which it was decided to open a subscription list for the benefit of the fire sufferers. All lodges have been requested to be present to-morrow night at Temple Beth-El, Seventy-sixth Street and Fifth Avenue, to give in their contributions. Notices have been sent to the towns outside New York City to send contributions to Dr. Thorner, the Treasurer, at headquarters.

W. Irving Wolf, of the Wolf Company, manufacturers, 511 East Seventy-second Street, telephoned THE TIMES last night that he would mail a check for $100 this morning for the benefit of the families of the victims of the fire.

QUICK RELIEF MEASURES.

Many Organizations Take Steps to Aid the Fire Sufferers.

Relief measures for the alleviation of the sufferings of survivors of the disaster were taken up yesterday in a variety of quarters. Not only did an appeal from the union to which the dead and injured men and women belonged bring hearty responses, but the New York Chapter of the National Red Cross, the Independent Order of B'nai B'rith, and other organizations sent out appeals for funds.

Mayor Gaynor contributed $100 to the work of relief through the Red Cross. Robert W. de Forest expressed the hope that others would hasten to follow the Mayor's example. Contributions through the Red Cross will be received by its Relief Committee, at 1 Madison Avenue, or through Jacob H. Schiff. The contributions through the union will be received at its headquarters, 151 Clinton Street.

In connection with its work of relief, the union authorities will make inquiries from all members who apply for help for information which will shed light on the origin of the fire and place the responsibility for the loss of life, if such responsibility existed. The executive board of the union has instructed its attorneys, Panken & Rothenberg, of 150 Nassau Street, to collect and investigate any evidence bearing on this point.

Samuel Untermyer, it was announced last night, had contributed $500 to the relief fund for the families of the victims being raised by the Ladies' Waist and Dressmakers' Union. Others who indorsed the union appeal for funds and signified their willingness to contribute to them were Miss Anne Morgan, Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, Mrs. James Lees Laidlaw, Miss Carola Woershoffer, Miss Mary E. Richmond, Miss Mary E. Dreier, Mrs. Henry Ollesheimer, Mrs. Vladimir K. Simhkovitch, the Rev. John Howard Melish, the Rev. John Haynes Holmes, and the Rev. Leighton Williams.

Mayor Gaynor, in sending his check for $100 to Jacob H. Schiff, treasurer of the New York Chapter of the National Red Cross, said:

The appalling loss of life and personal injuries caused by the factory fire in Washington Place on Saturday afternoon call for larger measures of relief than our charitable societies can be expected to meet from their ordinary resources. The New York County Chapter of the National Red Cross Society has called for special contributions to be distributed through the Red Cross Committee of its affiliated member, the New York Charity Organization Society.

I urge all citizens to give for this purpose by sending their contributions either directly to Jacob H. Schiff, Treasurer of the New York County Chapter of the National Red Cross, 52 William Street, or to me for remittance to him. Acknowledgment will be made through the press.

The headquarters of the Relief Committee will be in the Metropolitan Building, 1 Madison Avenue. Applications for relief will be received and distributed there. Dr. Edward T. Devine, General Secretary of the New York Charity Organization Society, will be in charge, and he will be assisted by the standing Red Cross Emergency Committee of the charity organization, which consists of Robert W. de Forest, Chairman; Otto T. Bannard, Mrs. John M. Glenn, Lloyd C. Griscom, Mrs. William E. Rice, Cleveland H. Dodge, and Mrs. W. K. Draper.

The Brooklyn Bureau of Charities will co-operate with the committee for the purpose of giving relief to Brooklyn residents who are sufferers.

The appeal of the waist-makers says:

It should not be necessary to explain why these contributions are needed. Everybody knows that the victims of this terrible catastrophe were poor working people, whose families are either left destitute or can ill afford the cost of sickness or death. The sole support of the family in many cases has been swept away.

Sympathy for the victims who met such horrible deaths should take practical form in providing immediate relief for their families and the survivors. The Ladies' Waist and Dressmakers' Union, many of whose members were employed in the Triangle shop, is anxious to help, but it cannot without the aid of every sympathizer. This is an occasion when every one can give his share and feel assured of assisting a worthy cause. Those wishing relief on account of the disaster should make application in person to the office of the Ladies' Waist and Dressmakers' Union, 151 Clinton Street. Help will be given as soon as possible.

All contributions, checks and postal and express money orders should be made out to the Relief Fund Committee, and sent direct to the office of the Ladies' Waist and Dressmakers' Union No. 25, 151 Clinton Street.

William Mailly, business agent of the union, also said:

"All waist and dressmakers in both the union and non-union shops of New York will be called upon to stop work in all shops on the day that the funerals of the unidentified victims are held. This is expected to be on Tuesday. The funerals will be attended by a procession of the waist and dressmakers and other workers. All labor organizations will be expected to participate. A memorial meeting will also be held by the union on Tuesday evening at a hall to be announced later, at which prominent men and women will speak."

The Independent Order of B'nai B'rith, District No. 1, has sent out appeals to all its lodges in New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island, to send in subscriptions for the sufferers. The order will hold a mass meeting in the Temple Beth-El this evening to discuss relief measures.

It was also announced last night that Director Gatti-Casazza of the Metropolitan Opera House, with the consent of the Board of Directors, had offered the use of the opera house for a benefit performance to aid the sufferers. He had requested Charles H. Burnham, president of the Theatrical Managers' Association, to arrange a programme for the benefit.

Frank E. Campbell, the undertaker of 241 West Twenty-third Street, announced last night that he would allow the use of his premises free of charge to relatives or undertakers in caring for the bodies of victims of the disaster. The offer includes the use of the morgue and funeral chapel, as well as the other facilities of his establishment.

At a meeting last night the Young Men's Democratic Club of the Sixth Assembly District resolved to hold a benefit entertainment and reception in aid of the families of the fire victims on April 23 in Lenox Assembly Rooms, 203 East Second Street. The committee in charge of the arrangements is headed by Assemblyman Adolph Stern. Municipal Court Justices Benjamin Hoffman, and Leonard A. Snitkin are members of the committee.

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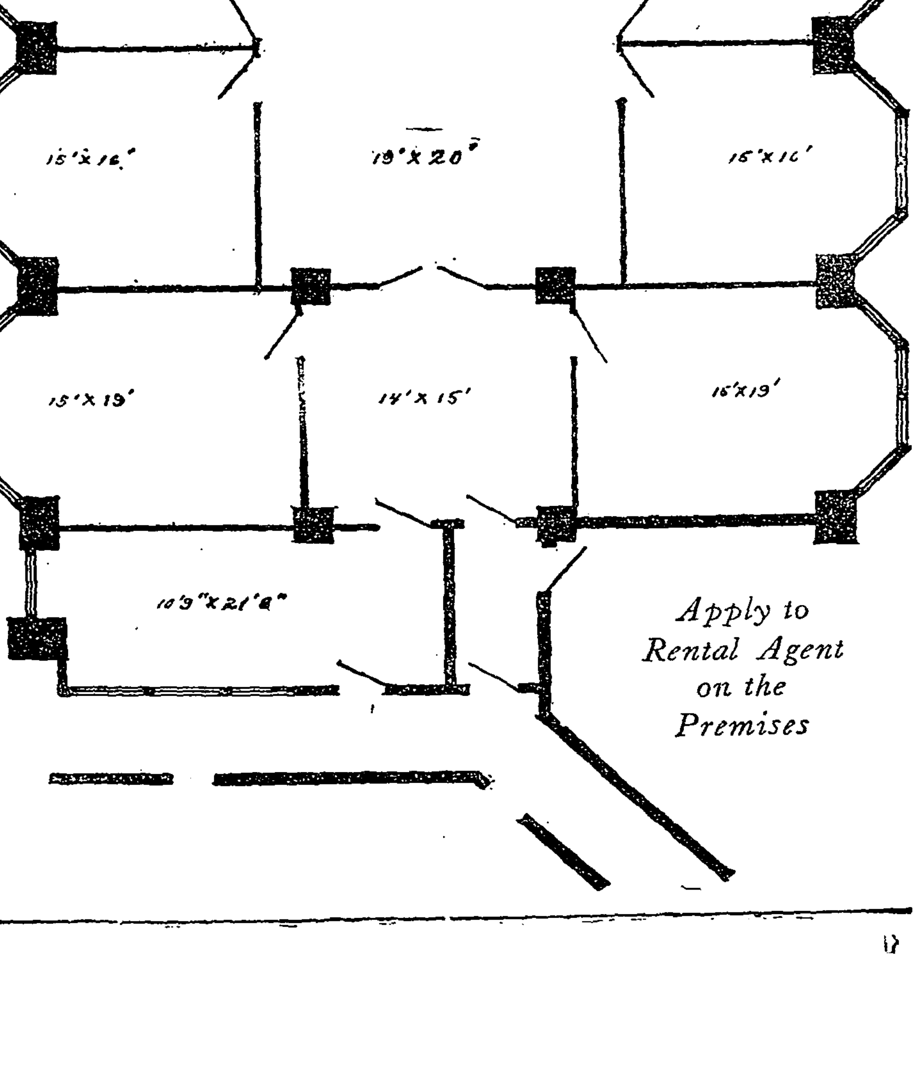

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