CLOSE ON TRAIL OF FIREBUG WHO USED BENZINE

Torn Paper Furnishes Clue That May Solve Mystery of Broadway Blaze.

CASE TAKEN TO JEROME.

Consultation at District-Attorney's Office Follows Deputy Chief Guerin's Discoveries.

Three torn pieces of paper are the principal evidence which the District-Attorney, the police and the Fire Department expect to use in finding the fire-bug who attempted to burn down the business and manufacturing building at No. 637 Broadway early to-day.

Deputy Chief Guerin, of the Fire Department, was the first to recognize the detective possibilities of the first bit of torn paper which was found. He followed the clue with almost dramatic keenness worthy of the French descent which his name implies. The investigation of the attempt at arson was made by Deputy Chief Guerin, Police Captain Cottrell and Fire Marshal Grof.

These three were assisted by the members of the six firms who occupied the six different floors of the building. These six men were waked up at their home soon after midnight by Capt. Cottrell's detectives and were asked to come down to help him.

Asked About an Enemy.

The detectives said that one of the many things the Captain wanted to know was whether any of them had an enemy who would do such a dastardly deed. Some of them bounded out of bed at the news and started at once and willingly. But at least one of the rudely awakened business men was so sleepy and irritable when a detective tried to arouse him that the detective thought it best to wait for him to dress and to accompany him down to Broadway—for fear he might fall asleep on the way.

"It's awful early for him to be out alone," said the detective.

The six concerns which occupied the building were: Barion's cafe, on the ground floor; Albert Houtman, hosiery, second floor; G. Cohen & Co., dealers in alcohol and kerosene, third floor; White, Perkins & Co., notions, fourth floor; M. Price, shirts, fifth floor, and the Multigraph Letter Company, sixth floor.

Torn Paper Clue.

Deputy Chief Guerin made an investigation while Capt. Cottrell was waiting for his visitors. On the fifth floor he found his torn paper clue. It was an irregular strip with a hole in the middle. The hole had evidently been made so that the strip could be spiked on a candle, which was fixed in the neck of a demijohn half full of benzine. It was apparent that the firebug had hoped that the burning candle would set fire to the paper, which would drop into trails of benzine soaked cotton waste and paper that led up and down the stairs of the building, and that he also hoped the heat of the burning cotton would cause the demijohn of benzine to explode and feed the flames.

Guerin removed the piece of paper and found that before the firebug had fashioned a strip which would fit the candle satisfactorily he had made three attempts, thus causing the folds and the irregular shape of the strip. He put the strip in his vest pocket and went mousing around the floors of the establishments in the building. Under a desk in the fifth floor he found two more strips of paper which made the prettiest kind of a puzzle picture. He also found wire for the little round pieces which fitted the space in which the candle was to be fitted.

Found Neck of Demijohn.

This interested him so much that, with Capt. Cottrell, he made further researches on the fifth floor. In the back of the loft he found a bucket which smelled of benzine; it also contained some chips of brown glass. The demijohn was of brown glass and the neck had been broken off. The broken neck was found near the bucket. There was also a large roll of wrapping paper in the loft from which the paper used in the fire trap had been torn. There was also found a quantity of cotton of the same sort as that with which the fire trails had been laid.

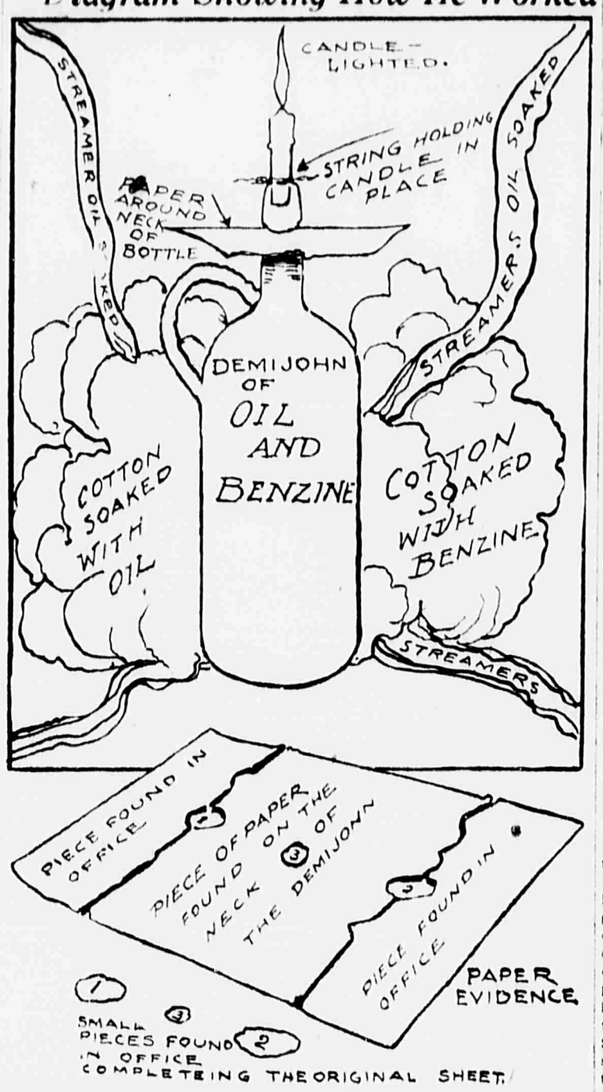
M. Price, the shirt manufacturer, who occupied the fifth floor, told Capt. Cottrell and Deputy Chief Guerin and Fire Marshal De Groff that he was the last man out of the building last night. The three officials went to the Criminal Courts Building at 10 o'clock this morning and had a protracted consultation with Assistant District-Attorney Symonds.

CONGRESS READY TO HIT BACK AT ROOSEVELT.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—The Perkins special committee will report a resolution to the House to-morrow advising that body what action to take with regard to the references made by the President to the secret service and Congress in his annual message. Mr. Perkins, of New York, as Chairman of the committee, will make a few remarks in presenting the resolution, and a general debate will follow. Representatives Tawney, of Minnesota; Fitzgerald, of New York; Smith, of Iowa, and Sherley, of Kentucky, are to reply to the President's criticism of them which he made in the special message to the House on Monday.

The report of the special committee was drawn up at a meeting held to-day, and is understood to deal with the special message as well as the objectionable portion of the annual message. The resolution will be reported as soon as the House convenes to-morrow, according to the present programme.

Torn Paper Clues to Firebug and Diagram Showing How He Worked



ROOSEVELT'S ACT CALLED LAWLESS AND ARBITRARY

President's Stand on Steel Trust Characteristic, Culberson Tells Senate.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—In the Senate to-day Senator Culberson made a brief reply to the message sent to the Senate yesterday by the President, saying that he had directed Attorney-General Bonaparte not to reply to the Senate's resolution of inquiry concerning the merger of the Tennessee Coal and Iron Company with the United States Steel Corporation.

In his statement Mr. Culberson characterized this as "another arbitrary and lawless act, which," he said, "had been traced to the chief magistrate of the country, who," he continued, "is not only solemnly obligated to obey the law himself, but to see that others do so."

Mr. Culberson introduced a resolution instructing the Committee on the Judiciary to report to the Senate at as early a date as practicable, whether in the opinion of that committee the President was authorized to permit the absorption of the Tennessee Coal and Iron Company by the United States Steel Corporation, and then proceeded with his remarks.

When Mr. Culberson began his comment on the President's message Senators Cullom and Lodge were conversing on the Republican side of the Senate Chamber, and the Texas Senator suspended his remarks and then said to amused Senators would talk in low tones so that he could proceed.

He said the President's position in denying that Congress had authority to direct a head of a department by a resolution of inquiry "is characteristic of the distinguished occupant of the White House, and it is a corollary of his main dogma that he is absolved from any legal restraint whatever."

MOVE TO RAISE PRESIDENT'S SALARY TO $100,000 A YEAR

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—By amendment to the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Appropriation bill, which to-day was reported to the Senate from the Committee on Finance, the salary of the President of the United States is increased $50,000, to $100,000 a year, the increase to include the $25,000 now annually appropriated for the President's travelling expenses. Amendments also were reported from the Finance Committee increasing the salaries of the Vice-President and the Speaker of the House from $12,000 to $20,000 a year.

The amendments were referred to the Senate to Committee on Appropriations, which if it approves them will incorporate them in the Appropriation bill which is now under consideration, and report them back to the Senate for action.

FLAMES AGAIN SWEEP MESSINA; MORE NEW SHOCKS

Ten Quakes Every Hour Keep the Stricken Zone Constantly Atremble.

MESSINA, Jan. 7.—Earthquake shocks are still continuing here at the rate of about ten every hour. Fire also has again broken out, completing the destruction of the City Hall and the records stored therein.

A party of men under the direction of Major Landis, the American Military Attache at Rome, has been working for four days to extricate the bodies of A. S. Cheney and his wife from the ruins of the American Consulate. The apartment of the Cheneys has not yet been uncovered and many feet of wreckage still remain to be removed.

Bayard Cutting jr., Winthrop Chanler and Stuart K. Lupton, American Consular representatives, are making every effort to trace Americans supposed to have been in the earthquake zone at the time of the disaster, but so far without success.

The authorities have determined to isolate Messina as the only means of preventing an outbreak of serious illness. The relief parties complain that the starving refugees refuse the most nutritious food, and want only macaroni.

The work of the soldiers in Messina to-day consists principally in gathering up the dead bodies and burying them in trenches between layers of quicklime. Out of respect to religious feeling it was determined not to burn the dead.

The work of relief is now well under way in Messina, but the smaller towns in the interior are being neglected. Ships arriving on the scene will henceforth be sent to the coast towns, and parties will go inland with supplies. The English have established a splendid relief camp in the hills behind San Giovanni.

SUES CALUMET CLUB.

There was brought to trial this afternoon before Justice Lehman in the Supreme Court an odd suit, in which Fleming Tuckerman is plaintiff and the Calumet Club the defendant.

Mr. Tuckerman says that in 1881 he loaned a fine oil portrait of Benjamin Franklin to the Calumet Club, with the understanding that it was to be insured against loss by fire or otherwise and returned to him whenever he demanded it, but that his requests for its return have gone unheeded. He demands the return of his picture, which he says is worth $2,000, or a judgment for $1,000.

FORCED HER INTO A PICKLE BARREL, MRS. BLOOM SAYS

Grocer Parnes First Accused Her of Stealing a Five-Cent Cream Cheese.

THEN HE SPANKED HER.

She Wanted $2,000 for the Humiliation, but Jury Awarded Only $40.

Joseph Parnes keeps a little grocery store in Stanton street. Lena, his wife, is his chief clerk. Mrs. Esther Bloom was one of his best customers. Mrs. Bloom brought her sunny presence into the little store one morning, and, after looking over the stock, purchased three cents' worth of milk, five cents' worth of butter and two cents' worth of crackers.

Mrs. Bloom tendered a dime, lawful money of the republic, in payment of her bill, but Parnes asked:

"Why don't you pay for the cheese?"

"What cheese?" returned Mrs. Esther Bloom, still sunnily.

"The five-cent cream cheese I saw you take from the counter."

Mrs. Bloom indignantly resented the insinuation that she, a lady, would be guilty of purloining five cents worth of cream cheese, and when the grocer declared that he had seen her put a cream cheese into the bosom of her waist and proposed a search to determine whether he was a wickedly false accuser or no, the indignant Mrs. Bloom flounced out. She went straight home, across the street, but she was back again, and then there was fun—with flounces and other ornamentation.

Mrs. Bloom testified before Justice Lynch and a jury in the City Court on the trial of her suit for $2,000 damages from Grocer Parnes, that Parnes struck her, squeezed her in a corner and finally bent her over the chine of a pickle barrel, with her head down inside the barrel so deep that she could have bitten the pickles, and, holding her in that position with one hand, spanked her with the other, to her great mortification, anguish and injury.

When she got out of the pickles, according to her testimony, adduced by her lawyer, Mr. Greenthal, Mrs. Parnes, like a true helpmate, and her sister, Mrs. Holland, pitched in, tore her clothing, pulled her hair and flustered her generally.

In defense Parnes and his wife and Mrs. Holland all swore in answer to the first question of David Tim, attorney for the grocer, that they saw Mrs. Bloom swipe the little cheese and drop it into her waist. Parnes denied positively that he "touched" Mrs. Bloom, and the ladies corroborated him, assenting to the grocer's statement that the whole row was between them and the accused customer, and that Joseph Parnes was merely a spectator with a reserved seat.

Just what the twelve men in the jury box thought about it it is difficult to determine by their verdict—$40 damages for Mrs. Esther Bloom.

NO BACIGALUPO CONTEST.

A report that the will of the late Charles Bacigalupo, undertaker, of No. 55 Second place, Brooklyn, is to be contested was denied to-day by the oldest son of the deceased. The will has been filed for probate and a hearing will be had to-day before Surrogate Ketcham. A widow, two sons and a daughter survive the testator.

Like visiting country cousins,

Harris Suction Clip

holds eyeglasses with such a strong personal grip that you

Cannot Shake Them Off

The original suction principle—coupled with the five points of contact—holds eyeglasses firmly and securely—yet so gently as to leave no unsightly marks.

Attached to your glasses for 35 cts.

Sold Only at Our Five Stores

M. H. Harris

OCULISTS AND OPTICIANS.

54 East 23rd Street, near Fourth Ave.
54 West 125th Street, Near Lenox Ave.
442 Columbus Avenue, 81st and 82d Sts.
76 Nassau Street, near John Street.
489 Fulton Street, BROOKLYN.
Opposite Abraham & Straus.

Evans Ale

If you enjoy a mug or glass of good, mild, fresh Ale, and like it with a deep, creamy head, luscious flavor and sparkling brilliancy, just specify *Evans' Cream Ale.*

ON TAP AT SALOONS, Cafes, Hotels, Oyster Houses.
N. Y. City Depot, 35th St. & 12th Av.

JOHNSON'S FOOT SOAP
Borax Iodine & Bran
ACTS LIKE MAGIC

On Ingrowing Toe Nails, Corns and Bunions, Swollen and Painful Feet

Used in a Bath, a few applications will restore the feet to normal conditions. Removes tenderness—cures that everlasting smarting—and relieves sweatiness and the inflammation caused by bunions. It cuts out corns and callouses to stay out.

Large cakes 25 cents. All druggists and shoe stores. Send 6c in stamps for sample.

Money Back if Not Satisfied.

WILBUR A. WELCH, Sole Distributer. 905 Flatiron Building, N. Y.

This Week at All the 200 "JAMES BUTLER" Stores

Potatoes, Bag, $2.75; Large Basket, 12c

These Potatoes are the finest grown in America—selected from Maine's choicest fields—and must not be confounded with the cheap, inferior, foreign Potatoes that are now flooding this market.

Other sensational price reductions for the week follow:

JAMES BUTLER CHOICE GROCERIES INC.

Prunes.. New shipment of fancy California fruit, sweet, thin-skinned and full of flavor.

Rice . . . New shipment of fancy Japan rice, clean, white, and as nourishing as the highest priced.

A lb. 5c

JAMES BUTLER CHOICE GROCERIES INC.

California Seeded Raisins, full-sized package **8c**
Choice quality of the new California crop, fresh packed, in full sized packages, regularly retailing for 10c and 12c.

Cleaned Currants, Blue Ribbon Brand, full-sized package **9c**
The well-known Blue Ribbon quality, fresh packed from a new importation from Greece; thoroughly clean and choice.

California Navel Oranges, dozen..... **29c**
Finest of the new crop; large, luscious, sweet and juicy fruit—selling elsewhere for 35c to 40c a dozen.

New Smyrna Figs, cut to, a lb..... **12c**
Choice importation of Smyrna figs in layers—sweet, rich, selected fruit—Nature's regulator; nothing more healthful.

Essie Brand Sugar Corn, can cut to **10c**
The very choicest sugar corn grown in **Maine**—deliciously sweet and tender—regular value 12½c to 15c a can.

Smoked Shoulders, cut to, a lb..... **7c**
The price this week is below its present wholesale cost—and these are the choicest lean, tender little "picnics."

Boneless Bacon, cut to, a lb..... **16c**
SWIFT'S EAGLE BRAND — worth 20 cents a pound — the very best of sugar cured bacon — every slice streaked with lean and fat.

Pride of St. Louis Flour, ⅛ Barrel, **73c**
By the Barrel $5.80; 7-lb. Bag 23c; 3½-lb. Bag 12c; no other high-grade flour can be bought so low.

Blue Ribbon Baking Powder, Special Offer:
15 Stamps Free with 1-lb. can, **35c;** 10 Stamps Free with ½-lb. can, **18c;** 5 Stamps Free with ¼-lb. can, **10c.**

Condensed Milk
Three Best Brands Fresh from the Factory.
Butler's Brand—choice quality and remarkable value; can **8c**
Liberty Brand—extra choice; rich in cream and butter fat; can.. **9c**
Essie Brand—highest quality; the best for all purposes, can **10c**

Housekeepers' Special
June Peas, green and tender..... 3 Cans for **25c**
Sugar Corn, choice Maine style...
Tomatoes, large No. 3 can..... Assorted to Suit.

New Teas Underpriced
Our latest importations of TEAS are giving supreme satisfaction.
20 Stamps Free with 1 lb. Choice No. 2 Teas ... 25c
10 Stamps Free with ½ lb. Choice No. 2 Teas ... 13c
5 Stamps Free with ¼ lb. Choice No. 2 Teas ... 7c
30 Stamps Free with 1 lb. Choice No. 1 Teas ... 35c
15 Stamps Free with ½ lb. Choice No. 1 Teas ... 18c
7 Stamps Free with ¼ lb. Choice No. 1 Teas ... 9c
60 Stamps Free with 1 lb. Best 50c Teas ... 50c
30 Stamps Free with ½ lb. Best 50c Teas ... 25c
15 Stamps Free with ¼ lb. Best 50c Teas ... 13c

Fresh Roasted Coffees
The BUTLER COFFEES are noted for superior "cup quality."
20 Stamps Free with 1 lb. Old Plantation Coffee 30c
10 Stamps Free with ½ lb. Old Plantation Coffee 15c
15 Stamps Free with 1 lb. Best Blended Coffee 25c
7 Stamps Free with ½ lb. Best Blended Coffee 13c
10 Stamps Free with 1 lb. Best Maracaibo Coffee 20c
5 Stamps Free with ½ lb. Best Maracaibo Coffee 10c
10 Stamps Free with 1 lb. Best Santos Coffee ... 17c
5 Stamps Free with ½ lb. Best Santos Coffee ... 9c
5 Stamps Free with 1 lb. Golden Santos Coffee 13c

10 S.&H. Stamps Free for three days with every one of the following purchases:
Best White Gloss Starch, No. 3 Box **18c**
Blue Ribbon Tapioca, package ... 10c
Blue Ribbon Farina, package ... 10c
Peerless Gelatine, shredded, p'k'ge 10c
East View Beef Extract, jar ... 25c
Blue Ribbon Table Salt, package ... 7c
Peerless Lemon Flavoring, large bot. 25c
Peerless Vanilla Flavoring, large bot. 25c
Peerless Cocoa, large can ... 17c
Peerless Cocoanut, large package ... 12c
Celery Salt, full strength, bottle ... 10c

5 S.&H. Stamps Free for three days with every one of the following purchases:
All Kinds Pure Spices, in ¼ tins, each **10c**
Pepper, black or white, ¼ tin ... 10c
Mustard, Butler's Peerless, ¼ tin. 10c
Prepared Mustard, best, bottle ... 10c
Worcestershire Sauce, Peerless, bot 10c
Tomato Ketchup, Peerless, bot ... 10c
Vinegar, cider or white, bottle ... 10c
Corn Starch, Peerless, package ... 10c
Hominy, Triumph, package ... 8c
Violet Ammonia, for bath, bottle .. 12c
Bird Seed, for singers, package ... 10c

Fresh from the National Biscuit Co.
Uneeda Milks, Zu Zu Snaps, Red Grahams — Reg. 5c Package **3½c**
Zweibacks .., Social Teas .., Butter Thins .. — Reg. 10c Package **8c**

First Quality Teas of the Orient
100 Stamps Free with 1 lb. Diana Brand Teas 70c
50 Stamps Free with ½ lb. Diana Brand Teas 35c
25 Stamps Free with ¼ lb. Diana Brand Teas 18c

Lemons, by the dozen ... 15c
Bright, juicy, new, fruit just received from Palermo.

Campbell's Soups, can, 9c; 3 cans, 25c
Wholesome, nutritious, healthful—of guaranteed purity and excellence.

Extra Specials This Week at 96 James Butler Inc. Licensed Liquor Stores:

Black and White Scotch Whiskey ...
Sir John Power's Irish Whiskey ...
The World Famous Three Swallow Dublin Pot Still, J. B. Bottling.
By the Bottle For this week **98c**

Kingussie Scotch Whiskey, special importation, very old and mellow, bottle ... **85c**

The Big Dollar's Worth
Bottle Old Monogram Whiskey ... 75c
Bottle J. B. Choice California Sherry .. 25c
Bottle J. B. Choice California Port ... 25c
Total low cost, if purchased separately ... $1.25
All Three Bottles, For This Week, **$1**

Port—Sherry—Claret
J. B. Choice California, full bodied pure grape wine; gallon, **95c;** half gallon **50c**
J. B. Superior, selected vintages, bottle **35c**
Trysome Brand, extra rich and fruity, bottle ... **50c**

California Rhine Wine
Riesling—rich and fruity, pure grape wine, bottle ... **25c**
Hochheimer Type, from selected vintages, bottle ... **35c**
Niersteiner Type, extra choice vtge., bot. **50c**

Guinness's Stout
Best Bottling and lowest price in America:—
Dozen Splits .. $1.00
Dozen Bottles . $1.35

Bass Ale
Lowest price for the best bottling in America—our celebrated J. B., viz:—
Dozen Bottles .. $1.50
Dozen Splits . . $1.10

It makes little difference what you need---a World "Want" will go and get it.