to see that they were not taking any lace or other material home with them.

A narrow passage was left, they said, between the partition and the wall, leading to the freight elevator, which the girls were allowed to use in leaving the building. But the fire started in the Greene street corner, and in two minutes the partition was ablaze and the workers were driven back from it, so that they could not escape by the Greene street stairs, while the door to the other stairs was locked, they said.

**Wanted to Jump from Fire.**

Josie Nicolosi said that when she and Rosie Passantino, who were among the first ones to reach the door to the Washington Place stairs, found that it was locked they tore at it for several minutes and then started to jump from the windows rather than be burned to death. But Louis Brown, the machinist on that floor, opened the door in time for most of the girls to escape. She said that before she got out she saw one of her fellow workers afire in the middle of the floor and that that girl was burned to death.

"Did you notice at any time whether the doors in the Triangle waist factory were fastened?" was the first question asked of the girls.

"The doors were always fastened on the eighth floor on the Washington Place side," Josie Nicolosi replied.

"But the Greene street doors were not fastened?"

"No," she said, "the Greene street doors were not fastened. They always kept the Greene street side open, never the Washington Place side. I went through the Washington Place side. When I went to the door it was locked. There were about thirty girls there when I got there. Some of them went away across the room and some went to the windows. Then a man came and opened the door and we went out. I do not know what happened to the girls who went away from the door."

"Do you know if the door at the Greene street side was locked when the fire broke out?" she was asked.

"No, I do not know what happened there, the flames were between us," she said.

"What part of the room did you notice the fire come from?"

"It started near the Greene street entrance, at the cutting table," she said. "All at once it seemed that a match was lighted and in one minute it was full of flames. We did not know how it happened."

"Was anybody smoking?" she was asked.

"I do not know whether they were or not," she replied. "That was forbid. Of course, we were working and could not see."

"How many minutes did it take for the flames to spread?"

"It came all at once. Not even two minutes."

"Was it the custom to keep all the doors on the Greene street side unlocked?" was asked.

"The Greene street doors were always opened," Josie said.

"On the eighth and ninth floors?"

"I do not know about the ninth floor; only the eighth floor," she said. "The Washington Place doors were locked and the Greene street doors opened on the eighth floor."

"Did they have the doors on the Greene street side open when the fire started?" she was asked.

"Yes," she said.

"Do you know whether many of the girls got down the Greene street side?" was asked.

"I do not know," she replied. "I went through the Washington Place side. Most of the girls went to the Washington Place door, and when they found it locked they went away. Some went to the windows, and I do not know what happened to them. But if the Washington Place door had been opened many of the girls would have been saved."

"Was there a partition in front of the stairway on the eighth floor?" she was asked. "A kind of inclosure of wood around the door, so that at night when you went home you could leave the room only two at a time?"

**"Kind of a Fence" Around Stairway.**

"Yes," she said, "there was a door. A kind of fence around the stairway."

That referred to the Greene street stairs.

"How high was it?"

"Where we went out to get the elevator (the freight elevator) there was a kind of little hall by the stairs. I do not know how high it was. They had many boxes there that they put the waists in when they were finished, and took them up to the tenth floor. We had to go out this door and a man used to watch."

"And you had to go through that little space before you got to the stairway?"

"Yes. On that eighth floor after the fire started most of the girls went right to the Washington Place entrance and tried to get out. After the door was opened quite a lot of girls got out. A man named Brown opened it for us. He was the machinist. About thirty girls escaped by the Washington Place stairs with me."

"Did you happen to notice whether the wood around the Greene street door was on fire?"

"I do not know. We were all in flames at once and it must have got on fire."

This partition was burned completely in the fire. No trace of it remained.

"How many girls were working on the eighth floor?" was asked.

"About two hundred," the girl replied. "We had a cutting room upstairs where there were more. Most of the girls on the eighth floor escaped. The greatest loss was on the ninth floor."

After the girls had told their story, it was put in the form of an affidavit and sworn to by both of them. The affidavit will be included in the report of the Bureau of Buildings to Borough President McAneny, and a copy of the report will be sent to District Attorney Whitman. The report, which is nearly finished, will have also two statements by engineers of the results of their examinations and the report of the inspector of the bureau for the district in which the Asch Building was.

The District Attorney sent yesterday to the Bureau of Buildings for the daily journals of the inspectors who have visited the Asch Building since it was finished in 1901. These will show a record of nearly fifty visits in the ten years, and that on one occasion a partition was ordered put in in the subcellar.

Mr. Whitman said yesterday that the investigation by his office could hardly be said to be more than begun, it was such a tremendous job. Assistant District Attorneys Bostwick, Manly and Rubin were busy all yesterday examining Factory Inspector Harmon, of the State Labor Commission, who inspected the building on February 27, Max Blanck, of Blanck & Harris, who composed the Triangle Waist Company, and Louis Brown, the machinist on the eighth floor. Mr. Whitman said that he had also sent to Albany for the report Harmon made after his inspection in February.

Mr. Bostwick was busy yesterday afternoon with James F. Whiskeman and John D. Moore, the consulting engineers employed by the District Attorney, going over the plans of the building and the various reports made by the Bureau of Buildings and other departments of the city government. Copies of all the reports of the various investigations that are being made will be turned over to the District Attorney, and he will begin in a few days to examine the officials of the departments that have jurisdiction over buildings. Shortly after 5 o'clock Assistant District Attorney Rubin went to the scene of the fire to examine again the fire escape and see the conditions of light at the hour of the disaster.

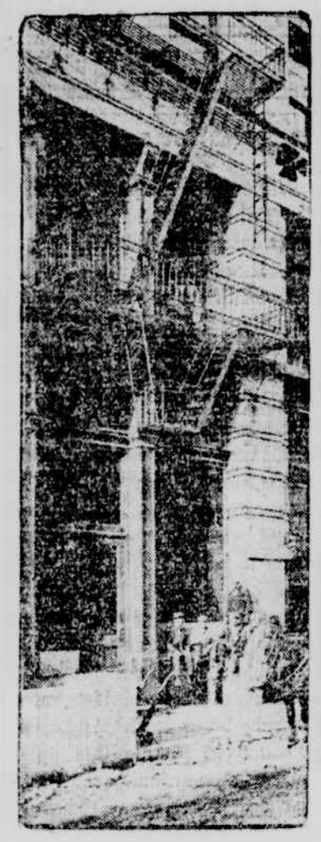
Besides Harmon, Blanck and Brown several persons were examined yesterday who witnessed the fire from surrounding buildings. The particular purpose of their examination was to discover if the fire escape was of any value to the girls in the factory and if the twisting of the ladders and balconies was entirely due to the heat or if the metal was so old and rotten that it would not support the weight of those who crowded on it.

The examination of the survivors will be started by Assistant District Attorney Rubin to-day. More than one hundred and fifty of them have been called and it is expected that their examination will take at least a week. Mr. Whitman estimates that it will not be possible to get through the great mass of material in less than ten days or two weeks and he thinks that the case will not be taken to the grand jury for at least that length of time.

John D. Moore is expected to be one of the most important witnesses before the grand jury, as he has acted as foreman of several grand juries and is familiar with inquiries by that body. He was the foreman of the grand jury that refused to indict the leaders of the cloak and suit makers' strike a year ago.

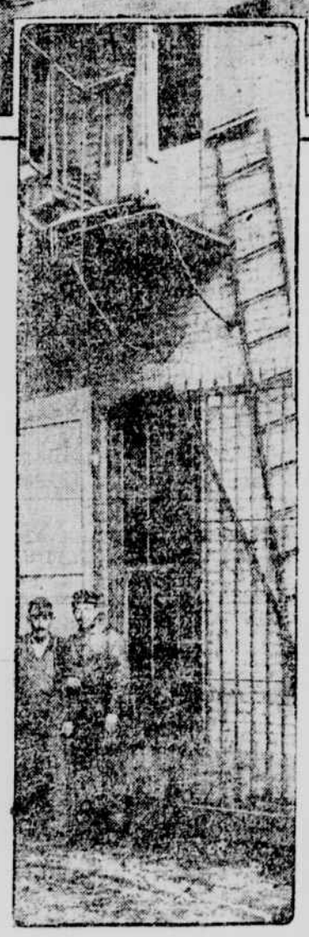
## SOME FIRE ESCAPES ON BUILDINGS WHERE MANY PERSONS ARE EMPLOYED.

DROP LADDER HUNG FAR OUT OF REACH

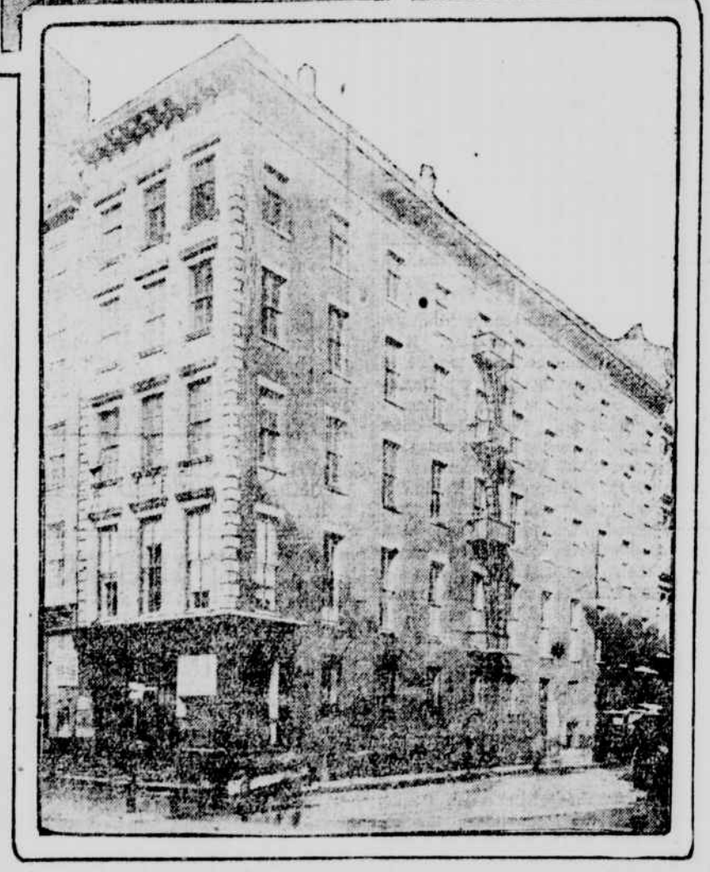


BUILDING PROPERLY EQUIPPED WITH BALCONY RUNNING ALONG EACH FLOOR

A DROP OF THIRTY FEET TO THE GROUND



LADDER TO GROUND HELD BACK BY IRON GATE, WHICH WOULD IMPALE ANY ONE JUMPING.



FACTORY BUILDING 125 FEET LONG, WITH ONLY ONE FIRE ESCAPE AND ONLY ONE WINDOW ON EACH FLOOR OPENING ON IT.
(By courtesy of "The Survey.")

## 20 BODIES NOT IDENTIFIED

### Relatives or Friends Claim Nine More During the Day.

There were still twenty unidentified bodies in the morgue last night, including that of the Italian woman whose face is recognizable. Nine identifications were made during the day, as follows:

DEL CASTELLO, Josie, twenty-one, No. 155 Cherry street.
DOCKMAN, Clara, nineteen, No. 524 East 11th street.
FICHTENHULTZ, Yetta, eighteen, No. 290 East 8th street.
PEARL, Ida, twenty, No. 555 East 4th street.
PILDESCUE, Jennie, eighteen, No. 515 East 11th street.
PINNELLO, Vincenza, thirty, No. 129 Chrystie street.
PROVIDENZA, Panna, forty-three, No. 49 Stanton street.
SALENI, Sophia, twenty-four, No. 174 Cherry street.
STEIGLITZ, Jennie, twenty, No. 231 East 13th street.

There is a long list of missing. In some instances it was not definitely known that they worked in the factory; in others it was certain, according to the stories of operators who sat near them. The names of missing operators submitted to the police were:

LUCALLO, Jane, twenty-three, No. 49 Stanton street.
BUSHEN, Josie, No. 32 East 12th street.
CAMMARTA, Josephine, seventeen, No. 117 Cornelia street.
COOPER, Sarah, No. 1530 Webster avenue.
CORTESI, Josephine, No. 502 East 12th street.
FLORIN, Max, twenty-two, No. 14 Avenue A.
FORRESTE, May, twenty-three, No. 37 East 12th street.
GOLDSTEIN, Mary, No. 101 2d street.
LEVINTHAL, Mary, twenty-two, No. 604 Sutter avenue, Brooklyn.
LONETTO, Mary, twenty-five, No. 116 Thompson street.
MINELLO, Francesca, No. 186 Chrystie street.
PRESTITILIPPO, Rose, eighteen, No. 117 Cornelia street.
RIVNER, Rosie, nineteen, No. 146 Ridge street.
ROSENFELD, Gussie, nineteen, No. 414 East 16th street.
STAL, Anna, twenty-three, No. 754 East 9th street.
WISE, Alice, eighteen, No. 453 West 43d street.

Freida Velakowski, twenty years old, an operator, of No. 629 East 12th street, died from her injuries last night at New York Hospital.

## FIRE FUND NOW $26,196 71

### Mrs. Sage and Thomas F. Ryan Largest Givers Yesterday.

Jacob H. Schiff, treasurer of the New York County Red Cross, announced last night that he had received $26,196.71 for the sufferers from the fire. Of this amount $7,942.20 was received by Mayor Gaynor and forwarded to Mr. Schiff. The largest amount received yesterday was $1,500, from Mrs. Russell Sage. Thomas F. Ryan gave $1,000. The list of contributions of $100 or more follows:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| F. S. Smithers | $100 | Dean Sage | $100 |
| The Jewellers Board of Trade | 100 | Morris Eatman | 100 |
| J. W. Sellman & Co. | 500 | Harter & Guterridge | 100 |
| American Art Association, Madison Square So. | | Mrs. Agnes Neustadt | 100 |
| John Rees Kane | 100 | Saks & Co. | 100 |
| Mrs. Louise B. McCagg | 100 | Mrs. M. Danziger | 100 |
| American Book Co. | 500 | George R. V. | 100 |
| E. F. C. | 100 | L. H. Van Jogen & Co. | 100 |
| Crossman & Sieleken | 500 | Frankenthal Bros. & Co. | 100 |
| Paul M. Warburg | 250 | Mrs. Columbus O'D Iselin | 100 |
| Hirsch & Cohen-Wise Co. | | Bishop David H. Greer | 100 |
| Hirsch & Cohen | 100 | S. Liebmann's Sons Brewing Co. | 250 |
| Horace White | 100 | Joseph H. Choate | 100 |
| Mrs. A. S. Guggenheimer | 100 | George D. Pratt | 100 |
| Mortimer L. Schiff | 250 | Abraham & Straus | 255 |
| Edward L. Mayer | 100 | Henry R. Towne | 100 |
| A. Wimpfheimer & Bro. | 100 | C. Altschul | 105 |
| Mr. and Mrs. Edward Holbrook | 100 | Wm. J. Wellman | 100 |
| Anna Woerishof | 100 | Otto T. Bannard | 100 |
| Chas. H. Fletcher | 100 | Thomas F. Ryan | 1,000 |
| Samuel Scheuer | 100 | Douglas Robinson, Charles S. Brown & Co. | 100 |
| Oppenheim, Collins & Co. | 100 | Mrs. Russell Sage | 1,500 |
| George F. Morgan | 100 | Mrs. H. Buhl | 100 |
| | | Irving T. Bush | 100 |
| | | John W. Trinkle | 200 |
| | | Dr. A. Jacobi | 100 |

The Independent Order of B'nai B'rith met at Temple Beth-El, Fifth avenue and 76th street, last night and started a fund for the fire sufferers, to which other benevolent lodges of the Jewish faith throughout the country will be asked to contribute. Nearly $700 was pledged at the meeting last night.

## MOVE TO AVERT FIRES

Continued from first page.

is no proper power now vested in the department to compel the owners of buildings to live up even to existing regulations, they said. Commissioner Waldo said he believed the city charter gave him the power to create a "bureau of prevention" which might have proper police powers to enforce the commands of the department. It would be impossible to exercise such power, however, under present conditions, because these duties devolved upon several different municipal departments.

Fire Chief Croker and other experts yesterday denounced the present style of fire escapes which are in common use, with the iron stairs and the adjustable ladder at the bottom, as unsuitable and inadequate.

"The Fire Department," said Chief Croker, "has not now the power to compel the erection of suitable escapes upon buildings. There are thousands of places just as dangerous to life and limb in case of fire as the building in Greene street. But all we can do is to warn them to install better means of protection. If they do not comply we lay the case before the Corporation Counsel, and there it languishes for months, or at best a nominal fine is imposed. What we need is better legislation, giving to the department power to enforce their commands."

"The city is up against a tremendous problem. What is to be done? We can't drive commerce away by making buildings too expensive on the one hand, and on the other we can't allow such loss of life as occurred on Saturday. That was terrible. Something must be done, and I think something will be done now."

Fire towers, the chief maintained, were the only means of protection worthy of the name. They ought to be put upon every building in the city in which people congregated in numbers, and if they were not put on the department ought to have the power to close a delinquent building to every one until proper fire protection was installed. Such action, he thought, would bring the owners around quick enough.

"I realize, of course," he said, "that fire towers are a considerable expense. They mean the building of a fire wall from cellar to roof with no means of communication whatever with the interior of the building. They mean the erection of outside balconies on every floor that does not communicate with the tower. They mean, moreover, the utilization of 150 square feet right up through the building of very valuable space. But if New York wants the life of its citizens to be protected from fire these things must be done.

"It is next to impossible to put such escapes on buildings already in existence, but every factory and office building erected in the future should be equipped with them without exception. They come back at us and say that the manufacturers will move out in the suburbs, where they can get land cheap, and where they won't have to put up any fire escapes. That's where the trouble comes in. Naturally, we don't want to drive the factories away from the city. But, again, some means must be found that will prevent such a scene as that of Saturday from being re-enacted."

Besides the erection of fire towers, the chief thought it imperative that steps be taken to prevent the overcrowding of factory floors.

"If the owners refuse to provide proper appliances when they are told to do so," said the chief, "the bureau ought to have power to hang a sign on the front doors of their buildings labelled, 'Closed,' a policeman ought to be stationed there, and nobody should be allowed to enter the building until the regulations were fully complied with. But we can't do that now."

Several hundred letters have come into Fire Headquarters since the fire on Saturday complaining of conditions in buildings throughout the city, mostly from tenants. It was said that nearly one hundred and fifty were received yesterday. This fact is significant of the public interest aroused over the question of protection, in view of the fact that last year's report of the department shows that only 256 complaints were received during 1910 from sources outside the city departments, and of these only 72 were from tenants.

As an instance of the defiant attitude which property owners sometimes take toward the Fire Department, Commissioner Waldo said yesterday that the directors of Madison Square Garden had refused to install automatic sprinklers which he had ordered placed in the basement. Though ordered to install the sprinklers several months ago, all they had done was to place a few small fire extinguishers in the basement, which would prove absolutely futile if a big fire ever started there, he said. The Commissioner explained that the building itself was fireproof, but its furnishings were not, and, therefore, the automatic sprinklers were necessary.

When Manager James Young, of the Garden, heard of Commissioner Waldo's statement he was quick to say that the contract for installing the automatic sprinkler had been let already, and it would be put in as soon as possible. Manager Young said the directors were informed by the Fire Department not to do anything until they had approved of the plans. The plans had been at fire headquarters for three weeks, and were approved only last Wednesday.

An organization known as the Protective League of Property Owners, with offices at No. 34 Pine street, is soliciting membership among property owners for the purpose of combating the orders of the Fire Department to install the automatic sprinklers in their buildings. The league contends that the action of the Fire Department is "arbitrary" and imposes a burden of unnecessary expense in many instances. The members also intimate that the Fire Department officials may desire to advertise the wares of certain companies which manufacture the sprinkling apparatus.

Pendleton Dudley, with an office on the same floor as the league, is its counsel. The membership of the league consists mostly of warehouse owners, it was said, who consider that an expensive system of automatic sprinklers is not needed in their buildings, where there are a small number of employes.

A meeting of the public safety committee of the New York City Federation of Women's Clubs will be held on Friday in the Hotel Astor. Better fire regulations in factories and shops will be demanded.

### THREE FRENCH CRUISERS HERE.

The French cruisers Amiral Aube, La Gloire and Condé, under command of Admiral Dufaure de la Jerte, anchored off Tompkinsville last night. The ships have been cruising in American waters for some months.

## HAD NOTHING TO AID GIRLS

### Beers Admits City's Apparatus Was Wholly Inadequate.

### HEAT MADE VICTIMS LEAP

### Iron Gate Called a Hoax by the Fire Marshal, Who Says It Was Lugged in After.

The principal witness yesterday at Fire Marshal Beers's investigation into the cause and origin of the Asch Building fire last Saturday was Battalion Chief Worth, in charge of the district where the fire occurred. The chief has had little to say about the calamity. When he spoke yesterday it was the word of a quiet fire fighter who knew what the conditions were in the building after the fire alarm sounded.

He said it was the heat that drove the girls to the windows. They had leaped by twos and threes, locked in each other's arms, and no life nets, however strong, could have withstood the impact. His men had been jerked over into the nets, and the girls had landed with a heavy thud on the sidewalk, breaking the deadlights covering the basement.

Marshal Beers asked whether any of the department's apparatus could have saved the lives of the girls. Chief Worth said it could not possibly have done so. Even the scaling ladders couldn't have been raised in time, because the fire mushroomed the ninth and tenth floors so quickly that the girls were driven to the windows for air. The chief said that men operators in the building seemed to have fought the fire with buckets, but they apparently didn't touch the fire hose, which, if it had been used effectively, he thought, might have kept the flames down and thus minimized the panic.

The most interesting part of Worth's testimony came when he said he had seen no evidence of locked doors on the three upper floors, nor had he seen any iron gratings at the foot of the stairways. Marshal Beers produced photographs from several newspapers showing an iron lattice gate, said to have closed the exit at the foot of one stairway. Worth had seen no such gate. Marshal Beers said he believed the gate had been carried by newspaper men from some other part of the building for the purpose of making a good photograph.

Worth said that when he reached the fire the first bodies were coming down from the southeast corner of the building. Most of these had fallen from the ninth floor. Engine Companies 72 and 33 had been "stretching in." The firemen had started up the inside stairways. He couldn't say whether any of the doors were found locked.

"Did any of your men meet the girls coming downstairs?" asked Marshal Beers.

"I do not know. I was alone in charge of the fire and was ordering in a second alarm as soon as we arrived," replied Worth. He said the high pressure service was being used to cool down the building when the men had entered. The fourth alarm had been turned in at 5:10 p. m. by Deputy Chief Binns, who just had taken charge of the fire. Meanwhile the victims had been jumping three and four at a time. "Had they jumped one at a time more lives might have been saved, as we could have caught most of them in the nets," said Worth. The extension ladders had reached only to the sixth floor.

"When I got up to the ninth floor I found a pile of bodies five feet high. They were huddled together so thickly that they couldn't be counted," the witness said.

John H. Mooney, of No. 37 Roosevelt street, who turned in an alarm of fire, was called. He was followed by William Greenspan, of No. 166 East 112th street, a machinist for the Triangle Waist Company, who told how he was trying to descend from the ninth floor by the stairway on the Greene street side and was driven back by smoke. Girls had clung to him like maniacs, but he couldn't help them much, they had been so panicstricken. To make the situation more horrible, the dense black smoke had invaded the ninth floor, making it impossible to see more than a few feet ahead. At first he had tried to slip down the elevator cable, but the smoke and heat had driven him back. Finally he had made his way to the roof. He couldn't say that he had helped any of the girls there, although several of them had followed him to safety in that way.

Marshal Beers again asserted at the hearing that had fire drills been the custom in the Triangle Waist Company's factory, as they are the custom on steamships and in school houses, there probably would have been little or no loss of life. In explaining the stairway situation he said that only one stairway—that on the Greene street side—led to the roof. The other stairway went only to the tenth floor. He repeated that there are as many as one thousand buildings in New York in the same condition as that of the Asch Building. He urged the establishment of a bureau of fire prevention, with the right to superintend the erection of fire escapes and sprinklers in factory and loft buildings, as was the case before consolidation. His office couldn't cope with all the work it had to do, and he advocated doubling the number of men employed in examining fires, which often average one thousand a month.

### TAKE PRECAUTIONS IN TOLEDO.

Toledo, Ohio, March 28.—In order to prevent a fire similar to New York's fatal blaze on Saturday, the City Council has ordered the building inspector of Toledo to examine every structure in the city to see if proper exits and fire escapes have been installed. The work will consume a month. Those who are found to be violating the law will be prosecuted.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BLAIR'S PILLS. CELEBRATED ENGLISH REMEDY FOR GOUT AND RHEUMATISM. SAFE AND RELIABLE. AT YOUR DRUGGIST

Buy a Health Insurance Policy by drinking

Still Rock Water

As delightful as a beverage as it is useful as a remedy for Stomach, Kidney, and Uric Acid Complaints

Manufacturers Wholesalers

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Lofts at the Bush Terminal are considered to be absolutely safe for employees.

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These lofts are equipped with broad accessible outside fire escapes, like stairways. They also open on wide fireproof halls, with broad fireproof stairways leading down. All lofts except those on the Westerly end have these fireproof halls and fireproof stairways on BOTH ENDS. The lofts are equipped with very large, self closing fireproof doors which OPEN OUTWARD.

You could start a fire in the middle of one of these floors and it would burn itself out—if the sprinklers would let it—but the sprinklers would automatically and instantly discharge such a downpour of gallons of water on it that the fire would have no shadow of a chance—experience of years proves this.

Each building is equipped with 20 unusually large elevators—each elevator can carry thirty people. This means that 600 employees can be taken down at one trip of all the elevators, and the buildings are only six stories high.

These reasons make it clear why employees like to work in factories located in the Model Loft Buildings of the Bush Terminal—they are ideal for employees as well as employers. And there are exactly the right sort of homes for employees nearby, within walking distance, modern, clean, bright, healthy apartment houses and tenements, giving very much more for the same money than houses of similar price in New York City.

**The insurance companies give a rate of 10c to 20c at the Bush Terminal on goods which command a rate of $2.00 and more a hundred in New York City. We can save you $3,000 to $10,000 on insurance alone. The freight car of every railroad comes to the door of every building at the Bush Terminal. We cut off your cartage bill on rail shipments, both in and out—and save you $3,000 to $15,000 on this item alone.**

**We save you more on rent, floor space, elevator service, watchman service, labor, light, heat and power. We have saved as high as $40,000 a year or some concerns. We shall be very glad to write and show you what we can save for you.**

Write and ask us "HOW?"

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