

LAWS INVITE HUNDREDS OF FACTORY DISASTERS

State Inspector Swears Binghamton Plant Had Complied with Statutes.

STRINGENT REFORM SOUGHT

Wagner Commission Plans Demand for Sprinklers and Inclosed Stairways at Earliest Moment.

From a Staff Correspondent of The Tribune. Binghamton, N. Y., July 26.—District Attorney Frederick J. Meagher in examining Frank S. Nash at the coroner's inquest there brought out that in the opinion of the State Factory Inspector, based on twenty years' service in the Labor Department, the overall factory in which forty persons were killed here Tuesday complied with the law, and that the laws, as they stood at present, afforded no protection against a similar disaster in hundreds of places in the state.

Meagher and his assistant, George F. C'Neil, are now convinced that the inquiry will do nothing more than to lay bare all the facts in the tragedy. They are doubtful whether criminal responsibility can be definitely fastened upon any one. The inquest will be continued on Tuesday.

The representatives of the Wagner state factory investigating commission left here after the session today. It is expected that B. L. Shientag, counsel to the commission, will prepare a report on the Binghamton fire which will recommend that the laws passed last winter, some of which do not take effect until October, shall be made more stringent.

If the commission meets in Albany next week, as is now planned it is understood that its members will prepare recommendations for amendments to the laws to provide for automatic sprinklers and fireproof inclosed stairways on all factories more than two stories in height. These recommendations will probably be referred to Governor Sulzer with a suggestion that he send an emergency message to the Legislature when it convenes after recess on August 11, because the Legislature cannot take up any matters at an extra session without an emergency message.

Hose Not Even Suggested.

Inspector Nash's evidence was largely corroborative of that given yesterday by Reed B. Freeman, the factory owner. Nash testified he thought the one fire escape adequate for such a factory and had never suggested other measures to his superiors in the Labor Department. He was willing to admit that another fire escape on the other end of the building would have saved several lives. He had never spoken to Freeman about the advisability of installing automatic sprinklers, chemical extinguishers or even a length of hose. He admitted that even the one fire escape that the factory had did not meet all the requirements of the labor laws, but pointed out that the Labor Commissioner was empowered to "accept and improve" fire escapes of different patterns. This one had been accepted years ago, Nash said. Its peculiar danger was that the steps of the slanting ladder were made of two iron bars about four inches apart. At this point Earl Bush, a worker in a garage backing upon the factory, testified that he had seen several girls whose feet were caught between these two bars. Bush rescued two girls from the second floor fire escape landing.

"There are a number of other buildings practically the same as regards physical condition and the number of occupants right here in Binghamton," said Nash, "which have just one fire escape, and here are hundreds throughout the state. This place complied with the law, but the present law could not prevent a repetition of this disaster."

No Instructions from Albany.

"Are you going to order additional fire escapes for these places in Binghamton?" the District Attorney asked. "I think I ought to," Nash answered slowly. "In view of what has happened, but there have been no orders come from the Labor Department to Binghamton since the fire."

Mrs. Margaret Whitney, whose story of circumstances indicating that the fire had smoldered in the cellar for an hour before it burst through to the upper floors was told in The Tribune this morning, repeated it on the witness stand today. Emmanuel Horowitz, who was a sweeper in the factory a year ago, testified that the waste clippings accumulated in the cellar a month at a time before being carried away by the ragman. He was asked about the transfer of some of the girls from the third to the fourth floor.

PRISON WORK UNDER FIRE

Blake Announces Grand Jury Inquiry Into Contracts.

Albany, July 26.—George W. Blake, who, as Governor Sulzer's special prisons investigator, reported that the state had lost \$300,000 in the construction work at Great Meadow prison, Comstock, as the result of "carelessness and graft," issued a statement today in which he says that as this report "has been so bitterly attacked it has become necessary to have a thorough investigation made by a grand jury, and steps in that direction have been taken."

This investigation, Mr. Blake explains, "ought to discover the reasons for the giving of one contract on a percentage basis without an upset price; whether charges for material and labor were just charges; whether one contractor had to tear down some of the work built by another contractor and rebuild it; why the first contractor got an increased percentage on work that had to be rebuilt; whether bolts were used instead of rivets; whether the main partition walls are properly constructed, and all the facts about the ironwork."

Mr. Blake defends his original report in an elaborate argument, but presents few specific details to account for the alleged \$300,000 loss to the state.

RAILWAY ASSESSMENTS RAISED.

Pierre, S. D., July 26.—Under the new full valuation assessment in this state the total assessed value of railway property has been raised from \$22,000,000 to \$24,000,000.

DENIES THAW HAS ESTATE

Trust Company's Answer to His Appeal for \$30,000.

Pittsburgh, July 26.—Counsel for the Fidelity Title and Trust Company filed an answer in the Orphans' Court today to the petition of Harry K. Thaw, which asks that the trust company be directed to pay him \$30,000 from the income and funds he asserts the company is holding in trust for him.

The answer recites that Thaw has no property or estate, and no income, except that accruing from the trust estate of which the respondent company is trustee. It is further declared that much money has been spent for Thaw's release from Matteawan, and that he has not yet been declared sane and that he is anticipating the institution of further proceedings for his release which would require a considerable amount of money.

It is expected a hearing on the petition and the reply will soon be held.

TRAIN DITCHED TO SAVE IT

Towerman Turns Flier Into Derailer and Averts Collision.

Chicago, July 26.—Scores of lives were saved today when a towerman in Burnham, Ill., threw the Ohio River Special on the Pennsylvania Railroad into a derailer and averted a collision with a through Wabash train from St. Louis.

The train took the ditch at a high rate of speed. The locomotive was overturned, but aside from minor injuries suffered by the fireman no one was hurt.

The towerman said the block signal to stop the Pennsylvania train was set, but this statement is disputed by John Wilson, the engineer.

A moment after the Pennsylvania train hit the derailer the Wabash train eluded across the tracks at the intersection, less than 1,000 feet away.

FINE WEDDING SPOILED

Bridesmaids Left in Lurch at Secret Ceremony.

(By Telegraph to The Tribune.) Bridgeport, Conn., July 26.—Plans for a big church wedding in Bridgeport, N. Y., in September, for which six bridesmaids had been selected, were shattered today, when Miss Dorothy Jones, a daughter of Wylie B. Jones, of Bridgeport, and John Clifton Clark, son of the late E. H. Clark, chief owner of Bridgeport traction interests and several amusement parks, came here and were secretly married by a justice of the peace.

The young couple had been spending the summer at the home of Mrs. Robert Headley, in Woodmont, near here. This morning there was gloom when the guests at the summer home read the following note:

"John and I have gone to Bridgeport to get married. Will see you Monday. Am borrowing a coat. With love, DOROTHY."

Among the guests were two of the bridesmaids, while the hostess was to be mistress of honor. The other four bridesmaids were to have arrived next week.

WOMEN OPPOSE MORMONS

Threats Made Against Elders in New Jersey Towns.

Atlantic City, July 26.—Church people of this county have appealed to the authorities to drive four Mormons out of this section and prevent them delivering any more sermons or attempting to spread their propaganda.

Elders Tidwell, Hilton, Sperry and Hooper, who hail from Smithfield, Utah, attempted to deliver speeches at Pleasantville last night. Angry women discovered their intentions and saw that girls were not permitted near the places where the elders started to speak.

Developments are expected in the mainland towns if the elders continue their campaign. Many women say that they themselves will drive the elders away unless the authorities take action.

KEPT NEGRO BLOOD SECRET

Dead Chicago Publisher's Life Mystery Explained.

Chicago, July 26.—Seventeen years ago, who believe they may prove some relationship to William Henry Lee, a wealthy publisher, who died leaving an estate valued at \$300,000, have communicated with Public Administrator Bishop, who for several weeks has been searching for relatives of the decedent. Thus far none have been able to prove relationship with the man who died without leaving a will.

On his deathbed he made frantic attempts to talk, but was unable to do so, his tongue being paralyzed. Under the law the estate will revert to the state unless some relative claims it within twenty years.

That Lee had negro blood in his veins and that this explains the mystery he maintained regarding his early life was the opinion expressed today by Frederick C. Laird, of Spokane, Wash., a former business partner of Lee.

TRAIN GUARDS IN BATTLE

Passengers Overpower Them When Cars Are Stalled.

During the rush of early morning travel across the Williamsburg Bridge yesterday the first car of a six-car train became derailed near the Manhattan terminal. The rear truck had failed to pass the crossover, and the electric shoe wedged between the third rail and the service rail next to it. When the accident occurred flames and sparks sputtered and the passengers made a wild scramble to get out of the cars. Meanwhile trains which followed the derailed one became stalled, and within a few minutes a line of cars stretched across the bridge to the Williamsburg side.

The train guards refused to open the gates, and this caused one fight after another until the guards were overpowered, and men and women climbed down from the platforms. Word reached the Delancey street police station that a serious accident had occurred, and a few minutes were hustled out, followed a few minutes later by the reserves of the Clinton street station. The tie-up was complete for nearly an hour. A wrecking crew finally moved the car into the terminal.

BERMUDA AS A NAVAL BASE

Resort Will Be Headquarters of Branch of British Fleet.

The British naval force in the West Atlantic is to be reorganized and based permanently on Bermuda. The cruisers composing the West Atlantic squadron are to be withdrawn and replaced by the cruisers now forming the fourth cruiser squadron, which name will be retained. The squadron will proceed to Bermuda after the manoeuvres. The Admiralty House will be reopened and 150 officers and 3,000 men will be stationed on the island, and already preparations are being made for the greatest social season Bermuda has ever enjoyed.

McANENY'S STRENGTH GROWING, FRIENDS SAY

Interborough Sentiment Developing in Borough President's Favor, They Declare.

J. A. RIIS INDORSES HIM

Washington Market Association Thinks He Is Man for Mayor—Committee to Plan Action Pending Fusion's Choice.

Paul Fuller, chairman of the McAneny General Committee, yesterday called a meeting of the committee for to-morrow at 11 a. m., when he expects to outline the course which the organization will pursue between now and the time when the Citizens' Municipal Committee will make its choice of a candidate for Mayor. Mr. Fuller and his associates declared yesterday that a strong sentiment "has developed," not only in this borough, but in the other boroughs, in favor of the Borough President as head of the anti-Tammany ticket.

The committee lays stress on the recent presentation of Mr. McAneny's name to the fusion committee by the Washington Market Merchants' Association. The indorsement of the merchants of the city's oldest market is regarded as significant, it was said, in view of the statement made by Joseph M. Price, chairman of the fusion nominating committee, that "the question of city markets is one of the big issues of the mayoralty campaign."

Chairman Fuller yesterday received a letter from Jacob A. Riis, one of the new members of the McAneny committee, indorsing Mr. McAneny as the best fitted man for the office of Mayor.

Sixty new members have recently been added to the committee's roster, bringing the number up to nearly a hundred. Miss Lillian D. Wald, of the Henry Street Settlement, is among them. Others are Everett P. Wheeler, Arthur von Erlsen, president of the Legal Aid Society; Frank H. Dodd, Paul J. Sachs, Alfred A. Whitman, Nelson S. Spencer, Felix Rosen, George Haven Pateman, Dr. John A. Wyeth, Robert Underwood Johnson, Robert D. Kohn, president of the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects; William McCarroll, former Public Service Commissioner, and General Horatio C. King.

Mr. McAneny sent a reply yesterday to the letter of Nathan A. Smyth, secretary of the Citizens' Municipal Committee, stating that he would serve his full term if nominated and elected Mayor.

Candidates Make Same Pledge.

"I should, if elected Mayor, consider my election a contract with the people to serve the entire term," wrote Mr. McAneny, "and you may have my full assurance that I would so serve."

John Purroy Mitchell, Collector of the Port, has given the Citizens' Municipal Committee the same assurance in reply to a similar letter.

Clarence H. Kelsey, president of the Trust Guarantees and Trust Company, in discussing the local political outlook yesterday from the taxpayers' point of view, declared that if property owners hoped for relief from the burden of heavy taxation, and from still greater financial burden on account of money wasted or imprudently expended in the administration of the city's affairs, they should organize in self-protection to secure the election to the Board of Estimate of men of character and capacity, who will insure an efficient and economical administration.

Mr. Kelsey said that the City Economy League, which has written the fusion committee that it may nominate candidates of its own for the Board of Estimate unless satisfactory men are named, was an organization most likely to accomplish this purpose, and that every taxpayer in the city should belong to it.

Moss and Seaman Booms.

The Frank Moss campaign committee yesterday opened an East Side branch at No. 35 Delancey street for the enrolment of voters in that section of the city who favor the nomination of Assistant District Attorney Moss as the fusion candidate for District Attorney. A meeting will be held to-night at the Hotel Martingale, under the auspices of the "Moss Volunteer Corps," at which Mr. Moss and others will speak.

A committee of forty-five citizens issued a statement yesterday to the voters of the upper West Side, urging the reelection of Justice Alfred P. W. Seaman, of the Municipal Court, in the 5th Judicial District. Justice Seaman was elected to the bench of the Municipal Court ten years ago with a non-partisan indorsement, and those who now are advocating his reelection declare that his record on the bench warrants his continuance in office.

Among the men whose names appear on the statement are Everett V. Abbot, George W. Alger, George Gordon Battle, Victor W. Cutting, Julius Henry Cohen, Lewis L. DeWitt, J. Hampden Dougherty, Paul Fuller, L. Ludin Kellogg, Payton Merrill, Harry W. Mack, Francis Lynde Stetson, Charles Straus, Rush Taggart, Everett P. Wheeler, William R. Wilcox, Edmund E. Wise and Henry A. Wise.

REPUBLICANS IN HARMONY

South Dakota Factions Get Together on Policies.

Sioux Falls, S. D., July 26.—Three hundred and fifty Republicans representing Taft and Roosevelt strength in South Dakota, met here yesterday in harmony for the first time in half a dozen years. The meeting went on record in favor of a national primary law, national conventions based on the Republican vote rather than on population, and national regulation of the liquor traffic, and as opposed to Wilson short ballot principles and Democratic tariff measures.

J. E. ADDICKS LOSES SUIT.

A judgment for \$12,522 was obtained yesterday by the Columbia-Knickerbocker Trust Company against J. Edward Addicks, former political leader of Delaware, who fought for the United States Senatorship from that state for eleven years. Addicks executed a note for \$9,000 on November 28, 1906, the papers showed, which, with \$3,222 interest and costs, now totals the amount named in the suit. Only \$74 had been paid by Addicks, it was said.

Maternity Dress

made in one piece, self-expanding, in all the latest styles and fabrics, for every occasion. CLEARANCE SALE. Dresses, Coats, Suits, Waists, Skirts, Negligees, Corsets and Underwear. Greatly Reduced. LANE BRYANT, 25 W. 38th St., NEW YORK

B. Altman & Co.

A SPECIAL SALE OF WOMEN'S SKIRTS

at extraordinarily low prices, will be held to-morrow (Monday)

Women's Skirts of white and white-and-black striped serge and other materials, for outing and general Summer wear, at the remarkably low prices of

\$3.50, \$4.50 & \$6.00

The former prices having been \$8.50 to \$15.00

THE FOLLOWING SPECIAL SALES HAVE ALSO BEEN ARRANGED FOR TO-MORROW (MONDAY):

Women's & Misses' Bathing Costumes

consisting of a number of high-cost and novelty models, have been marked at greatly reduced prices.

A Special Offering for to-morrow will consist of a limited quantity of Bathing Costumes in a variety of styles, representing such popular materials as satin, moire and mohair. These will be on sale at the following unusually low prices:

Bathing Costumes of satin or moire, including tights at \$7.50, 11.75 & 14.50

Bathing Costumes of Mohair, with bloomers, at \$3.75, 5.75 & 7.50

Women's Summer Blouses

in an entirely new, all-net model, with attached underbodice, at the special price of \$4.85

Also WOMEN'S LINGERIE BLOUSES, in a number of desirable styles taken from the regular stock, at the greatly reduced prices of 95c., \$1.50, \$2.85 & \$4.00

Women's Knit Underwear

in Summer weights and styles, at exceptionally attractive prices, as follows:

Ribbed Lisle Vests, with crochet top at 35c.

Ribbed Cotton Combination Suits at 50c.

Swiss Ribbed Combination Suits, reduced to \$1.00

The regular stock of this department includes complete assortments of Women's Bathing Tights, Combination Suits and Bloomers; Women's, Misses' and Children's Sweaters in the latest styles and colors; and Slumber Slips of soft wool for open-air wear.

B. Altman & Co.

On TUESDAY, July 29th

An Additional Purchase of Women's House and Porch Dresses

in a diversity of popular styles, made up in sheer Summer fabrics, will be placed on sale at extremely low prices, as follows:

\$1.35, \$2.00 & \$3.25

The Mourning Department

is showing, at moderate prices, a select assortment of Women's Mourning Afternoon and Evening Gowns, Dinner Gowns, Tailor-made Suits, Blouses and Separate Skirts, in the fashionable modes and materials.

Also Mourning Hats, Veils, Parasols, Gloves, Handkerchiefs and all the accessories of the Mourning costume.

Mourning Cards and Stationery. Mourning Outfits supplied at short notice.

Chirty-fourth Street Fifth Avenue, New York Thirty-fifth Street

Misses' & Small Women's Dep't

Additional large reductions have been made in the prices of the remaining stocks of Misses' and Small Women's Dresses, Tailored Suits, Coats, Evening Wraps and Blouses, all of which are adapted for the present season. Included are a limited number of

Tailored Suits of Cotton fabrics, heretofore \$15.00 to \$32.00 at \$10.50

Washable Summer Dresses, in various styles and fabrics, heretofore \$8.75 to \$32.00 at \$5.00, 7.50, 9.50 & 12.75

Blouses of washable fabrics, heretofore \$2.00 to \$7.50 at \$1.10 & 2.25

Blouses of Silk and Chiffon, heretofore \$7.75 to \$15.50 at \$5.00 & 7.50

Also a number of Higher-cost Dresses and Wraps at remarkable concessions from the original prices.

Girls' Middy Blouses

in a special selection, will be placed on sale at 65c.

The remaining stock of Girls' Summer Dresses (sizes up to 14 years), made of desirable cotton materials, will be offered at the extraordinarily reduced prices of \$1.25, \$1.75 & \$2.25

Men's, Women's & Children's Hosiery

offering excellent values at the following low prices:

Men's Black Lisle Thread Half-hose

per pair 20c.

Women's Silk Hose, in black, white or tan, per pair 70c.

Women's Silk Hose, in black or white, with openwork instep per pair, \$2.25

Children's Fancy Socks, in a large variety of designs (sizes incomplete), formerly 25c., 35c. & 50c. per pair, reduced to per half dozen pairs 95c.

Women's Pure Silk Sweaters

recently received from France in an entirely new assortment, are now being shown in the Women's Knit Underwear Department. These Sweaters represent an attractive variety of the vivid colorings that are the latest vogue in Paris; also some novel two-toned effects.

The French Lingerie Department

is showing, in the new Josephine Chemise, an attractive novelty designed upon the graceful Empire lines. This chemise is shown in the regular stock, made of sheer nainsook and trimmed with point de Paris, at \$9.50; another style, hand-embroidered and trimmed with Valenciennes lace, is marked at \$10.50

INTERESTING REDUCTIONS have been made in the prices of French Hand-made Night Robes, Chemises, Petticoats, Drawers, Combinations and Corset Covers.