

not the carrying on of other occupations. The reason for the enactment of the ordinance was no doubt to prevent the danger of fire occurring in a building whose basement might be filled with a multitude of shoppers, such as frequently through the aisles and surround the counters of such stores. The conditions are different from those of most other classes of business, if not of all others. The classification is not arbitrary, but is based upon the tendency of people to collect in great numbers at such places, which distinguishes them from other places and increases the danger which would follow a fire."

The Supreme Court also, in returning this decision, put a strong club in the hands of the city which could be used to make big buildings more fireproof.

#### —o—o—o— THAT TELEPHONE DEAL

The Tribune has a story this morning which indicates that the attorney general of the U. S. is watching closely the attempted gobbling up of the automatic phone plant by the phone trust.

It appears that letters have been received by Mrs. Charlotte Rhodus, president of the Woman's Party of Cook County; Morton L. Johnson, president of the Penny Phone League, and W. S. Vivian, secretary of the Independent Telephone Association, from Washington, indicating that if the Bell phone trust attempted to absorb the automatic, Uncle Sam would take a hand in the game.

It appears that the Bell phone trust wrote the attorney general last year, promising that neither the Bell company nor any of the companies in its system would hereafter acquire directly or indirectly, any other company that owns or operates a phone system in competition with the Bell.

If attorneys for the trust and for the Illinois Tunnel Co., which owns the automatic, attempt to force through the deal by which the automatic is to be gobbled up and junked,

Uncle Sam will probably get busy and put the phone trust out of business.

All the same the people of Chicago had better watch that deal. It still looks as if the lawyer-lobbyists for the phone trust were working on the council.

#### —o—o—o— NEW TURKISH AMBASSADOR ARRIVES



A. Rustem Bey  
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A. Rustem Bey, the very American looking ambassador from Turkey, who is now establishing himself in the Washington embassy as successor of Zia Pasha.

#### —o—o—o— MAY BE BIG MINE STRIKE

Butte, Mont., June 18.—That a big strike will result in the Butte copper mines from the internal dissension in the ranks of the Western Federation of Miners was predicted today following the action of the seceding miners yesterday in repudiating the federation by an overwhelming vote.

The count of the ballots shows 6,348 voted to repudiate the federation and only 243 against such action. This afternoon and tonight the se-