

## CLAIM HEAT OVERCAME THIRTY GIRLS IN THE FAIR

Thirty girls and women fainted at the Fair department store last Friday, according to complaints sent to Factory Inspector Oscar Nelson.

It was the same day forty persons in Chicago dropped dead from the heat. And with the large working force of The Fair, just as in any big store or factory, it is expected that during the course of a fierce summer hot spell a few girls and women would drop from exhaustion.

What made last Friday an exception at The Fair was the statistics, the percentages, the rapidity and numbers of girls and women swooning at the counters.

So many working girls were temporarily disabled for duty while at the same time so many customers were staying away from the hot shopping district that the store management closed for the day and let everybody go early in the afternoon.

"I have no statement for The Day Book and I will not answer any questions The Day Book asks, nor will I go into this matter in any way with The Day Book," was the reply of J. J. Buell, general sup't of The Fair, to a reporter yesterday.

"The law says department stores must have ventilating systems installed in basements and there shall be a certain amount of cubic air space per individual worker on the main and upper floors," said Factory Inspector Nelson. "The Fair store complies with these regulations. It has plenty of cubic air space and it has followed our suggestions in correcting its basement ventilation system."

"There's a lot of kicking from workers at The Fair that the store sells all kinds of electric fans, but doesn't operate electric fans for the relief of its own employes," said the reporter.

"The state law says nothing about electric fans during hot weather and The Fair is not violating any

law in that respect," explained Nelson.

On a tour over The Fair yesterday afternoon a Day Book man saw three sets of fans in operation. These were over the ladies' corset section, the boys and girls' book section and in Sup't Buell's office.

Outside of these lonely cooling mechanisms, the reporter couldn't locate any other devices stirring the air and keeping it in circulation for the reduction of statistics on fainting working girls during the dread dog days.

From Sup't Buell's office the reporter walked to the men's clothing section. On a poop-deck, where a real tall man would bump his head on the ceiling if he stood straight up, was a gang of stitching, basting tailors and bushelmen. They work on a narrow shelf hanging to the Adams street wall of the building.

And instead of pressing men's pants with heavy chunks of ice, these tailors and bushelmen use hot flatirons. It was a steamy place.

"Ah! hah!" said the reporter, "this is where I'll find some of the fine electric fans like the Fair sells customers who use Commonwealth Edison current and keep up to date."

But there weren't any fans. Not a fan.

And the reporter walked away wondering what the statistics are on bushelmen who stitch and baste during the dread dog days of summer.

## JURY FIXER GRABBED

William J. Gallagher, former chief of the Union Traction Co.'s pin brigade of jurors, sought for ten years by the police, was taken into custody in New York yesterday.

Gallagher skipped his bonds after being convicted of jury bribing. His scheme was to approach jurors in the Union Traction cases and, if they were fixed, to put pins in their lapels. The traction lawyers would then select them without question.