

THRILLING RESCUES FROM FIRE PERIL; ONE WOMAN DEAD

Flames Sweep Through a Crowded House on Columbus Avenue Corner.

LADDER SAVES MANY.

Dozens of Women and Children Swung Down to Safety as Crowd Applauds.

With the aid of high swinging ladders, acrobatic feats such as no circus performer would dare attempt, rearing, popping flames, clouds of stifling smoke, women and children driven from windows to fire escapes with the heat forcing them from behind, a policeman cut off by the fire and calmly sitting on a window sill forty feet above the street—all these and other happenings made for thrills in a blaze that swept the apartment house at the northeast corner of Columbus avenue and Seventy-first street, and caused the death of a woman.

The victim was Miss Lilla Sanford, forty-seven years old, of Warren's, R. L. in the city on a visit to her friend, Miss Conant, who lived on the fourth floor. Miss Sanford was overcome by smoke. She was breathing when firemen found her when the blaze had been controlled and an ambulance surgeon used the pulmotor revival treatment in vain.

The fire occurred shortly after 9 o'clock last night, a fortunate circumstance considering that it spread almost instantly from the cellar to the roof of the building. Had the blaze broken out when all the tenants were asleep the loss of life would doubtless have been heavy.

POLICEMAN ALARMS TENANTS THROUGHOUT THE HOUSE.

Policeman Hardiman, one of Commissioner Waldo's new recruits, saw smoke issuing from the cellar of the house, ran in and found the negro janitor fighting a wicked blaze at the foot of the stair well in the cellar. The policeman saw that the fire had got beyond the control of the janitor and shouted orders to him to turn in an alarm.

Then Hardiman raced up the stairs. When he was through pounding on the door on the first floor and was starting to the second the flames were right behind him, racing up the stairs. By the time he got to the top floor the whole stairway was ablaze. Hardiman had warned all the tenants to make for the fire escapes as there was no chance of escape through the halls.

When the firemen arrived the fire escape landings were jammed. The panes of glass in the windows flaming when they were popping out and fire was shooting through the apertures. It was time for quick action and the firemen were equal to the emergency.

Hook and Ladder Truck No. 25, a modern piece of apparatus, had two ladders out to the air in a minute. One was directed toward Policeman Hardiman, who was sitting in a fourth-story window, with his feet hanging over the ledge and the tails of his long coat turned up over the back of his head and shoulders as protection against the fire that was buffeting him from the room. The policeman was leaning out, shouting to those on the fire escapes to wait for rescue.

DROPPED TO SHOULDERS OF FIREMAN BELOW HIM.

The ladder meant for Hardiman was about eight feet too short. Elsworth Clemmons, a fireman, raised to the top of the ladder, stood on the top rung, braced himself against the wall and asked Hardiman to lower himself. As he deliberately as though in the performance of a drill Hardiman turned around and lowered himself from the window sill until his feet rested on Clemmons's shoulders.

A searchlight played on the two men. Carefully but swiftly Clemmons was down rung by rung with the policeman on his shoulders, both men bracing themselves against the wall of the house. When Hardiman's feet reached the top round of the ladder Clemmons guided him down and both were soon on the ground, the policeman minus his coat, which had been half consumed.

A cheer that rose above the roar of the flames and the puffing of the engines greeted this rescue. In the meantime Capt. Bicketts's men had raised other ladders and were taking the people from the fire escapes. The following persons were rescued:

From the fifth floor: Mrs. Harriett Moran and her children, Catherine, eighteen; John, seven; Alice, three; and Elizabeth, two years, and a guest, Dorothy Whitford, fifteen, of No. 101 West Seventy-fourth street.

From the fourth floor: Mrs. Margaret Laughlin, fifty; her daughters, Ethel and Anna, and her grandson, Edward, eight; Edward Neuman and Miss Conant.

From the third floor: Mrs. Wilhelmina Hauschman, sixty; her daughter, Mrs. Mota Hoffmeyer; her granddaughter, Meta, thirteen, and Harry Wasser.

From the second floor: Mrs. Zordan, Miss Virginia Pope, a blind fencer, who lives on the fourth story, waving in the street, said she had lost birds in the fire valued at \$6,000. Later she found that a fireman had rescued most of them. After the fire Chief Kenton commended Patrolman Hardiman for a bravery.

MAN'S VANTITY. (From the Atlantic Globe.)

A man thinks he is graceful if he can dance with a girl without stepping on her.

Fails in Brooklyn Divorce Suit and Now Seeks Decree in Nevada



RENO, Dec. 27.—Mrs. Mabel Lorraine Miller Swam began to-day an action for divorce from Kingsley Swam of Brooklyn, a grandson of William C. Kingsley, who took part in the construction of the Brooklyn Bridge. Desertion and non-support are alleged in the complaint.

The couple were married in 1908, and they have one child. Mrs. Swam is a daughter of Alvah Miller, a New York paper manufacturer. Early this year Mrs. Swam sued in the Brooklyn Supreme Court for an absolute divorce, but failed to satisfy the court with her proof.

BRAVE POLICEMAN WHO SAVED MANY FROM FIRE PERIL.



ESTHER ACKERMAN, GONE 4 DAYS, RETURNS

Brooklyn Girl of Thirteen Says She Was Working in a Candy Store.

Esther Ackerman, thirteen, missing since last Monday, returned yesterday to her home at No. 736 De Kalb avenue, Brooklyn. It was 2 P. M. when she reappeared, and from then till dark relatives, friends and neighbors held a jubilation.

According to the story told by the girl, who came to this country six weeks ago with her mother from Austria, she got tired of Brooklyn and its schools, and Monday wandered across Williamsburg Bridge to Manhattan, which she reached at 8 P. M.

She made the acquaintance, she says, of a woman who keeps a candy store at Twilencey and Orchard streets. The woman said she would employ her if she would register at an employment agency. The girl asserts she did this and went to work. She tired of the candy store yesterday and tramped back to Brooklyn.

Bertha Badger Goes Home After Elopement—Away Two Weeks. Her family welcomed Miss Bertha Badger, sixteen, when she returned to her home, No. 136 Prospect street, Jamaica, L. I., in time for Christmas dinner. She eloped with Thomas Kirby, twenty-two, and the two were absent two weeks.

"I care only for Charley Jacob," said the girl. Jacob, her fiance, is a wireless operator at the Brooklyn Navy Yard. Jacob said he would forgive her and marry her.

\$100,000 RADIUM IN LEFT SHOULDER OF 'BOB' BREMNER

New Jersey Congressman Is Hopeful Under Treatment for Cancer.

ELEVEN TUBES USED.

Surgeon Confident He Will Arrest the Four Years' Growth of Tumor.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 27.—Eleven tubes, each about two and a half inches long and a third of an inch thick, and coated with rubber, were inserted a second time this morning to incisions in the left shoulder of Robert G. Bremner, Democratic Representative in Congress from the Seventh New Jersey District. In the tubes are \$100,000 worth of radium, the most expensive quantity of radium ever used in a single operation. It is hoped the treatment will arrest the growth of, if not permanently destroy, a malignant cancer from which Mr. Bremner has suffered for four years.

The valuable radium, of course, can be used again and again after to-day's operation. The operation was performed by Dr. Howard A. Kelly in his private hospital in Dutaw place. It was the second that Mr. Bremner has undergone in two days. The tubes were put in place the first time on Christmas morning and allowed to remain there for twelve hours. Dr. Kelly observed the result carefully yesterday and to-day determined to repeat the operation.

The doctor looks for a regeneration of the malignant cells in Mr. Bremner's shoulder under the application of the gamma rays. The operation is so performed that the alpha and beta rays are filtered out, leaving only the gamma rays to penetrate the cancerous tissue. Dr. Kelly expects a cure.

The cancer on Mr. Bremner's arm and shoulder is of a most malignant type. It extends over the shoulder and almost meets under the arm. The extension in front ends just over the heart and the extension over the back covers the shoulder blade. The patient has been compelled to carry his arm in a strap holding it constantly in an elevated position.

COLLEAGUES IMPRESSED BY BRAVERY OF SUFFERER. Mr. Bremner ("Smiling Bob") is one of the most popular of the newer members of the House. A native of Scotland, where he was born thirty-nine years ago, he went to Canada with his parents when he was a boy. He settled in the United States before he was of age, and began his life work as a reporter in Paterson. In 1902 he obtained control of The Passaic Daily Herald, and is its present editor and publisher.

He had never held public office until elected to Congress in 1912 over Republican and Progressive competitors. When the special session of Congress met in April and Mr. Bremner was sworn in as a member of the House, the growth on his shoulder had become so serious that he had to resign his seat. He has since been in the hospital in Baltimore.

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Announcement that they had bought the plant and that they had organized a National Radium Institute, with the co-operation of the Federal Bureau of Mines, the radium would be extracted according to a new and more efficient process, and for medical purposes, was made by Dr. C. L. Parsons of the Mines Bureau at the American Mining Congress in Philadelphia in October.

It was stated at that time that not one cent of the radium would be sold, but that every bit of the precious metal would be used in the cause of humanity, either for the treatment of the afflicted, or for the treatment of the afflicted, or for the treatment of the afflicted.

Will Tango Amid Tables of Waldorf. But Staid Diners Needn't Worry, for It Will Be on New Year's Eve Only.

Dancing between bites has never been permitted in the dining rooms of the Waldorf-Astoria. But it will be on New Year's Eve. Persons who have made reservations have told Oscar that a meal without any tango in it is a disadvantage.

Oscar had hard work to prove it to George C. Boldt, the proprietor, who failed to see why turkey-trots should be sandwiched between courses of a square meal.

Reluctantly he consented to smother his prejudices for New Year's Eve only. Oscar so announced yesterday.

"Spaces will be left vacant in the dining rooms," said Oscar. "The Waldorf-Astoria will be closed for dancing after Jan. 1. You may take it from Oscar, who knows."

11 LOST IN STORM, 150 HOMELESS ON THE JERSEY COAST

Barges A. G. Ropes and Undaunted Known to Have Been Wrecked off Barnegat.

NO TRACE OF CREWS.

Victims of the Gale at Seabright Sheltered in the Fire House.

Eleven lives were lost in the storm which started on Christmas night and ravaged the adjacent coast of New York and New Jersey. Ten men of the crews of two coal barges, the A. G. Ropes and Undaunted, wrecked off Barnegat in an eighty-mile gale, were drowned. Their bodies have not been recovered. One man perished in the Egg River from a skiff overturned by the wind.

Wireless dispatches received from the revenue cutters Itasca and Seneca, which were sent out in the gale yesterday to save lives, remove the last doubts of the fate of the men aboard the barges. Capt. Johnston of the Seneca reported that he found both barges sunk. From the Itasca Capt. Van Hookirk sent word that both were a total loss.

The wind shifted in the night to the northwest, bringing the icy breath of blizzard which has been prevailing up-State. Tremendous seas still prevail along the coast of New Jersey and Long Island, and suffering in coast towns still prevails.

At Seabright, N. J., where the bulkhead has been torn away leaving the sea a clear road into the town, 150 persons are gathered in the fire house. Otherwise they are homeless and shelterless. Most of them are fisher folk who have been exhausted by their continuous struggle with wind and wave for the better part of forty-eight hours.

DAMAGE AT ROCKAWAY AND CONEY. The Rockaways are by no means out of danger. The Arverne Pier Theatre totters on its shaking pier, some of which have been battered off by the waves. Waves fifteen feet high are still pounding upon the shore, and unless the storm relents the theatre is doomed.

Many of the section many residents have packed their meager belongings. Many of the 300 bungalows of the Ocean Breeze Camp, at Edgewater, have been washed from their foundations and are floating on the sea.

Waves are running through Surf avenue in Coney Island. Many small boats have been washed to sea. Bathing houses have been damaged and overturned, and from Norton's Point to Manhattan Beach the storm has left its mark. The damage is especially heavy at the Sea Gate end of the island. In this region telegraph and electric light poles have been undermined or blown down.

The two coal-laden barges lost down the coast broke away from the ocean-going tug, Edgar F. Luckenbach, Christmas night and stranded off Forked River. They both sank after daylight, about three-quarters of a mile off shore. The two barges were bound to Providence.

Capt. William B. Fickett of Chelsea, Mass., commanded the Undaunted and Capt. D. Olson of Providence was in charge of the A. G. Ropes. The tracks of the Southern division of the Central Railroad of New Jersey were swept away at Normandie-by-the-Sea. An emergency force was put to work in relays and at midnight had restored the tracks so that it was possible to run trains over them at regular intervals. Under orders from the wealthy house owners, contractors all along the shore from Normandie to Seabright began replacing the bulkhead piling that had been torn out by the storm. The present repairs are merely temporary, but it has been decided that in the spring a new system of bulkheads will be put in to protect the spots where the storm did the greatest damage.

Through the generosity of summer dwellers the permanent dwellers whose houses were wrecked have been allowed to make their homes in unoccupied cottages until the smashed and overturned houses have been replaced.

\$200,000 NEEDED NOW FOR HOSPITAL WORK. Every \$15 Gives a Week of Free Treatment to a Suffering Man, Woman or Child.

To-day and to-morrow mark the climax of the campaign to provide funds for free hospital treatment to the poor. All ages, sexes, creeds and races in our city are benefited. It is necessary to raise \$200,000 now to enable the forty-seven associated hospitals to fill their present beds with sufferers, who cannot otherwise get medical and surgical care.

These hospitals last year gave 1,291,442 free days to 61,408 patients. Many more could have been treated but for lack of funds.

Every \$15 gives a week of hospital care to a suffering man, woman or child. This offer means health, friendship and happiness.

Victims of the storm. The bodies of the men who were lost in the storm were found in the wreckage of the barges.

THE WRECKERS. Why does that fellow go on associating with the other hens? "Oh, that hen is descended from one of the original Plymouth Rocks."

Actress Wife Who Served Writ on Gallant Husband



LILLIAN LORRAINE

TOOK MOVIE PICTURE ON CRATER FLOOR OF VESUVIUS IN ACTION

American Newspaper Man and 3 Aides Descended 1,212 Feet Inside Volcano.

NAPLES, Dec. 27.—Frederick Burlingham, an American newspaper man, has convinced Prof. Mercalli, director of the Vesuvius Observatory, that he descended to the floor of the volcano's crater last Tuesday. Three Italians, Solino, Formasino and Gaudino, were with the American. Burlingham has furnished Prof. Mercalli with proofs of the successful accomplishment of the undertaking, heretofore considered impossible.

For three nights the party slept on the top of the mountain, waiting for a propitious time to descend. On the third day ropes were swung over the precipice and the descent was begun. Burlingham's story of the journey to the inferno, 1,212 feet below, is as follows:

"While descending below the third ledge, almost immediately over the large sulphur fumarole, the wind changed and we were enveloped in dense sulphur fumes. A cloud of dangerous acid fumes came next.

"As they continued we decided to descend further and eventually reached the floor of the crater by passing over a steep slope between the sulphurous fumarole and the main mouth of the crater which was opened in July.

"I suggested making a descent of 300 feet through the tunnel to the mouth, Solino, who is an expert on Vesuvius, warned me that the lives of all would be in danger, but we finally agreed to take the risk.

"We reached the edge of the opening, from which red hot smoke was issuing in a great volume. I estimated that the temperature was 90 degrees Centigrade.

Moving pictures were taken in the crater.

ENGAGED COUPLE IN PERIL. Almost Run Over as They Emerge From Marriage License Bureau.

A million happy visions rose before Michael Sincoff of No. 230 Eldridge street and Fannie Hyman of No. 232 East Houston street as they tripped happily out of the marriage license bureau in City Hall and started across Park Row to catch a car shortly before noon to-day. Neither he nor his sweetheart noticed the approach of a cab that swung out of Nassau street and up Park Row at a lively pace. When the howling vehicle was at the point of running them down Sincoff perceived the danger and dragged his fiancée from under the horse's hoofs, but as he did so Miss Hyman lost her footing and tumbled to the pavement. After helping her to her feet Michael overlooked the offending driver, with the aid of a bridge policeman, far out on the Brooklyn bridge approach, but did not get the heart in press to prosecute.

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SLAYER OF LUDWIG GIRL SAYS HE ONLY SHOT TO SCARE HER

After Reported Confession Killer Is Hurried Away to Avert Threatened Lynching.

After a week of imprisonment and stern questioning by Sheriff William J. Doyle of Westchester County, Frank Cappelto, under arrest for the wanted shooting of Miss Mary Ludwig in the railroad yards at Croton, N. Y., has made a confession, the Sheriff reported today.

"I did not mean to shoot the girl," Cappelto said. "I only wanted to frighten her. When I fired two shots in the air to make her stop screaming and keep her from running off to get help, she dropped to the ground. I thought I had killed her and ran away."

Cappelto has given to the Sheriff the name of a young man who was with him at the time of the shooting. Detectives have made a hunt for this other man, but have been able to get no better trace of him than a report that he has gone to Italy.

The two men, according to the confession, saw Miss Ludwig get off a train, her arms full of bundles, and start for her home across the tracks. They followed her and, out of sight and hearing from the station, confronted her. She turned away from them and they caught her by the arms. Then she began to scream and Cappelto used his revolver.

After Cappelto's arrest he was taken to the bedside of Miss Ludwig, who was in the Oseining Hospital, shot through the lung and the abdomen. She said she could not certainly identify him unless she heard his voice.

Sheriff Doyle made no repeat of words Miss Ludwig said he had used just before he shot her. "If you don't stop fighting me I will kill you," Miss Ludwig with a moan, nodded her head and said: "He is the man. That is his voice."

Evening, saw Miss Ludwig being hurried at Cappelto for a confession. As soon as he had it he hurried the prisoner to the county jail at White Plains because of threats made by citizens of Harmon and Croton that they would lynch him if he were proved guilty.

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