

FIRE AND DEATH

Brave Firemen Buried in Ruins of the Lorenz Block.

DOW-SNELL BURNED OUT

Wholesale Grocery Visited by a Disastrous Fire.

ESTIMATED LOSS \$300,000

One Fireman Rescued, but Two Are Still Imprisoned.

A BRAVE STRUGGLE FOR LIFE

Their Comrades Work in Flame and Smoke for Their Relief—Several Are Injured.

Three brave firemen were buried in the ruins of the Lorenz building on Jefferson street last night and their escape from instant death was little short of a miracle.

The most stubborn fire ever encountered by the Toledo fire department started in the building occupied by the Dow-Snell Company, wholesale grocers, adjoining The Blade building, and for eight hours the firemen battled against the smoke and flames with superhuman energy.

The loss is estimated at \$300,000, as follows:

The Dow-Snell Co., \$225,000; Mrs. D. R. Locke buildings, \$65,000; Toledo Blade Co., \$5,000; Chas. Locke building, \$2,000; Berdan & Co., \$3,000.

The three men who were buried were:

W. S. Willis, captain No. 3 chemical. Karsner Trepnald, ladder man of No. 7 company.

Herman L. Bishop, No. 10.

Others injured were:

Captain Frazier No. 1, overcome by smoke and heat.

Captain Gottlieb Baertschi, No. 2, over-

boxes and barrels piled up with the ruins of the floor above.

DETAILS OF THE FIRE.

A fire that caused a loss of \$300,000 and gave the firemen one of the most stubborn fights in their experience, occurred last night.

It was one of the fires that the department has feared for many years, and when it did come, such as usual, was with the department, for it had no wind to contend with.

The department did noble work in saving the surrounding buildings and confining the flames to certain portions of the wholesale grocery. It made a stubborn resistance and would be controlled in one place only to break out in another with increased fierceness.

The fire started in the top floor of the Dow-Snell building on Superior street. The origin is a mystery. At 5:45 the alarm was turned in, and the department responded promptly. Electrical Inspector Nolan and Chief Wall were the first to gain entrance to the floor on which the fire was raging. When they arrived and opened the door, the top floor was a mass of flames. The doors were immediately closed, and all the efforts of the department were directed from the outside.

On the top floor of the building, the company had stored a quantity of chemicals, used in the manufacture of extracts and essences. They also had spice mills, baking powder mills and coffee roasters. This machinery was operated by an electric motor, but none of the mills had been working during the day. They men were cleaning the floor having finished a day just previous. It was the duty of the man who last left the building to turn off all the electric switches and extinguish all the lights. Inspector Nolan made an examination of this and found that all switches had been properly turned off and all lights were out. He is confident that the fire did not originate from the electrical connections.

BERDAN & CO.'S LOSS.

The first stream of water turned on the fire was from Berdan & Co.'s standpipe. As soon as the fire was located, the employees of the firm mounted to the roof, attached the hose to the standpipe which runs from the basement to the top of the building, and turned on the water. As only an alley separated Berdan & Co. from the burning block, that firm was badly frightened. Men were stationed on all the floors and kept close watch to see that the flames didn't get over. When the wall fell into the alley, a portion forced its way into the basement of Berdan & Co., leaving a gaping hole into which the smoke poured in great volumes. Mr. Claire Berdan said this morning that the firm could not yet estimate its loss by smoke, but feared that it would be considerable.

From the Superior street building the fire worked around to the Jefferson street side. All the apparatus was at once centered on this part of the building, where the fire was confined to the fourth and fifth floors. Then it worked back to the Superior street side, and another change was made until that

foundry. This machinery was nearly ruined by the water and rendered useless for the time being. The type-setting machines will be taken apart and cleaned and replaced for operation at once. On the fourth floor, the art department was flooded and most of the apparatus ruined. The editorial rooms on the third floor were deluged with water from the upper floors and everything was floating early in the evening. From the upper floors the water poured into the business office and from there into the press room. The mammoth presses were covered with tarpaulins early in the evening, and were not damaged to any great extent, although the water carried considerable sand and dirt into the bearings. The loss on this part of the building will reach well into the thousands, as considerable property was damaged that cannot be replaced. Many times during the progress of the fire, The Blade building was believed to be doomed, as the flames seemed surely to be working around that way. The department directed its efforts against the fire at these times, and it was driven back to the portions of the building already burning.

FIREMEN'S HEROIC EFFORTS.

Too much credit cannot be given to the department for the manner in which the fire was handled. Fighting against big odds, the men worked like trojans to gain a foothold in the burning building and, when driven from one position, would take up another where the result could be accomplished. The fire gave one practical demonstration of the efficiency of standpipes in tall buildings. Adjoining the elevator shaft in The Blade building, is a standpipe that was put into service immediately after the department arrived on the scene. This supplied water for the various floors and for the roof which was reached through the elevator shaft. In the Berdan building, the standpipe was used by the firemen to good advantage and the stream being directed against the sides and roof of the burning building.

All this water poured into the upper floors of the building greatly increased the weight which tested the strength of the floors. They stood up until the fire had eaten into the supports and shortly, after midnight, a portion of the rear walls on the alley fell with a crash and this weakened the floor supports on the third floor which also fell carrying with it the firemen who were at work. The fact that the firemen had been buried in the ruins was kept quiet as long as possible, in order to avoid any excitement among the spectators, and prevent a rush for the alley by those who wished to satisfy their curiosity.

The stock of the Dow-Snell company is almost a total loss. What was not destroyed by fire was rendered wholly unfit for use by the water poured upon it. A good portion of the stock in the cellar and cold storage plant is not damaged. This consists mainly of vinegar, barreled meats and syrups. The company announces that its traveling men will be sent out as usual on Monday morning and the business will continue as though no fire had occurred.

INSURANCE CARRIED.

The Dow-Snell Company

bird at
statio
Mayor
ina of
Just
five w
see-be
back
store,
ly. Al
gave w
were b
floor b
badly b
by sm
out af
soon a
ing w
their b
-BIS
An
finding
man
down
Lack
from b
ed his
was c
carria
No. 2
summi
made
that h
Meal
and
with
that h
under
and
though
the bl
search
o'clock
perfor
stoner
men b
had w
rubbia
suppo
Pipe
o'clock
a repr
tives
over a
dially
the fat
Trepn
when
and t
were s
"I ca
affair,"
questi
Mayo,
self, W
Snell
side, r
Chief
him
about
save
floor
have a
side w
second
floor
canned
head.
arm, al
not.

smoke and heat.

Captain Gottlieb Baertschl, No. 3, overcame by smoke.

George Uhl, hook and ladder No. 3, eyes and face burned and otherwise injured by smoke and heat.

The accident in which the men nearly lost their lives occurred about 12:30 in the building next to the alley. The men were on the third floor with a life of hose and had worked their way back to the center of the building. Assistant Chief Mayo was with the men, directing their efforts and felt the floor settling beneath the weight of water and the stock. Before any warning was given, the floor suddenly surged and the outer walls gave way and the mass of goods was suddenly precipitated to the floor beneath. All the men went down, and Chief Mayo made his way from the pile of goods to a door on the second floor and then found his way to the street. He reported that the men were in the ruins and efforts were at once directed towards getting them out. The firemen worked until late this morning before the men were reached.

RUSHED TO THE RESCUE.

The portion of the building where the accident occurred is filled with wooden ware and other highly combustible material, and it made one of the hottest fires the men ever had to fight. They were aware that the walls were being damaged by the intense heat, but were of the opinion that the fire had not reached the third floor with sufficient intensity to make them crumble. The portion of the walls on the alley gave way first, and this, together with the weight on the third floor carried it to the second floor where the men lay in a heap of ruins.

Chief Wall went into the building at the head of a searching party, and vainly endeavored to help lost comrades. They were taken from the building almost overcome with heat and smoke, only to make another attempt when sufficiently recovered. Their efforts were of no avail and they were obliged to dig away the debris before the men could be taken out.

Chief Wall said this morning that all the efforts of the department were being directed to getting the men out of the ruins. He had been up all night, and was still working at the head of his men this morning. The fire still resisted their efforts, although the men were working like beavers to extinguish it.

Herman Bishop, one of the men who was on the third floor when it went down, was rescued an hour after the accident. He was bruised and badly shaken up, but no bones were broken, and his injuries are not regarded as serious. He was taken to his home in a carriage, where he is now resting easy.

Chief Mayo said after the floor had fallen, the smoke was so dense that a man could hardly live in it for a moment. How he escaped he could not tell, but finally made his way to the floor below, and got to the street. He said the second floor was a mass of

back to the Superior street side, and another change was made until that part of the building was placed under control. Another shift was made by the flames, and the Jefferson street side attacked. From the fifth floor it worked down to the fourth floor, and the water tower, which had been doing great work on the Superior street side, was placed in position against the Jefferson street wing.

PLENTY OF WATER.

When the gigantic stream of water was shot into the flames that were rolling from the windows, it seemed to add to the intensity of the fire. Water, apparently, had no effect upon it until the floors were running knee deep with it.

The water works maintained a good pressure all through the fire, and some of the hydrant streams were thrown as high as the fourth and fifth floors. The location was the best in the city for securing a good supply of water, as 8 and 12 inch mains are laid in all the streets surrounding the building, and the 30-inch main is but one block distant. At the corner of Superior and Jefferson streets, one of the new hydrants recently placed in position by the water works, had three three-inch lines running from a six-inch connection, and all the lines were well supplied with water.

SHIFTS TO JEFFERSON STREET.

When the fire was discovered it was confined wholly to the portion of the building fronting on Superior street. At 9:30, after it had been burning four hours, that portion of the building was almost entirely abandoned by the firemen, who turned their attention to the Jefferson street side, where the fire was the fiercest. All this time, Assistant Chief Elling and a number of men were on the roof of the Berdan building, with five streams pouring water into the fourth and fifth floors, and occasionally flooding the roofs and sides of adjacent buildings. In addition to the streams from the engines and hydrants, the stand pipes in the Berdan building were brought into play and did good work. The men had some difficulty in forcing an entrance to the burning building on account of the iron shutters being securely locked. After grappling with the doors for some time, the foreman tied three pipe poles together and finally broke open the shutters. The smoke and flames poured from the windows in such volume that the men were driven back, but soon directed their streams into the opening and gained control of the fire from that point.

On the ground, every piece of apparatus in the city was at work, and lines of hose covered the streets in all directions. Six steamers were at work on the hydrants, and every available foot of hose in the houses was brought into action. Towards morning the fire was controlled and the chief began relieving the men in order to give them an opportunity to rest. The engines still remained at their work, and poured water into the ruins all morning.

The Ruide building was damaged by water. The fire did not break through the walls. On all the floors the water was in rivers while through the ceilings. It poured down in torrents. The fifth floor of the Ruide was occupied by the

INSURANCE CARRIED.

The Dow-Snell Company carried the following lines of insurance:
Barber & Frost—Aetna, of Hartford, \$10,000; Phoenix, of London, \$10,000; National, Hartford, \$5,000.
Walter A. Campbell—Firemen's, of Newark, N. J., \$2,500; Fire Insurance Co., Philadelphia, \$2,500.
I. H. Detwiler Co.—The Lancashire, of Manchester, England, \$2,500; North-western National, Milwaukee, \$1,500; H. H. Dawson—Continental, of New York \$5,000.
J. T. and H. T. Greer—Home Mutual, San Francisco, \$5,000; Sun, London, \$2,500; Delaware, Philadelphia, \$2,500.
F. J. Hoag—Liverpool, London and Globe, \$15,000.
H. H. Haynes—Royal Exchange, of London, \$5,000; Lion, London, \$5,000.
John D. Irving & Co.—Phoenix, of Hartford, \$10,000; The Williamsburg City, Brooklyn, \$2,500.
J. S. Kuntz & Son—Royal, of Liverpool, \$5,000; Scottish Union and National, Edinburgh, \$5,000; Fire Association, Philadelphia, \$5,000.
Merrill, Dodge & Jackson—Imperial, of New York, \$5,000; Michigan Fire and Marine, \$3,000; British America, Toronto, \$3,000; Agricultural, Watertown, N. Y., \$3,500; Fraternal, Manchester, Eng., \$5,000; Westchester of New York, \$2,500; Manchester, of England, \$7,500; Caldonald, Scotland, \$5,000; Insurance Co. of North America, \$5,000; Hartford Fire \$12,500; Pennsylvania Fire, \$2,500; Philadelphia Underwriters, \$5,000.
R. S. McGarvey—Hanover, \$5,000.
Peter J. Mettler—Eagle, of New York, \$2,500.
A. C. Osborne—Sun, of London, \$2,500; American Fire, New York, \$2,500; New Hampshire Fire, \$5,000; Girard, \$5,000.
Pomeroy & Close—North British and Mercantile, \$2,500; The Greenwich, of New York, \$7,500.
Ira A. Richardson & Son—Merchants, Newark, N. J., \$2,500; Commercial Union, London, \$15,000; Commercial Union, New York, \$5,000.
Wright & Russell—Springfield, Springfield, Mass., \$5,000; Imperial, London, \$5,000.
Woodbury & Moor—Underwriters, of New York, \$5,000. Total, \$225,000.
Machinery, Furniture and Fixtures—Queen Insurance Co., America, \$1,500; Boston Marine, \$2,000; total, \$3,500; grand total, \$238,500.
The insurance on the Dow-Snell buildings will amount to about \$20,000. The insurance carried by the Toledo Blade Co. on machinery and office fixtures will aggregate \$25,000, of which \$22,000 were on machinery.

UNDER THE RUINS

How Two Gallant Fire Fighters Lost Their Lives.

Shortly after midnight, Assistant Chief Mayo, Captain Oscar S. Willis, of No. 3's chemical engine, Pipeman Herman L. Bishop, of No. 10, and Ladderman Kaiser Trzplaski, of No. 7, ascended the ladder standing in front of the Dow-Snell Co. building on the Jefferson street side, and crawled through the

not hoarse, water a box along as if I and my took my trills to me. "I wa expecte minute my life ally gre struggle the wat the wa have st scious felt fr have a tricated taken 6 cot in 7 In a rev OTE In a Bishop was so was lid the hu eyes, a pain. It wa Elling No. 1 of No. last nig Assis fully at top of was in injured heavy day-or Capt the br fighters co his rered and ha during pointed eral ye the Jo o wife, home between Land Polish fence for a n nised leaves The fa street. 371 Every The Dow-Si eight D workn floor lo lost cov were hi wematri The

ard; situation a moment, Assistant Chief Mayor shouted to Trepinski to shift a line of hose.

Just then, the floor commenced to give way, and a crash of falling wall was heard. The wall facing the alley back of Berdan's wholesale grocery store, partly gave way and fell heavily. At the same time, the third floor gave way and the four gallant firemen were buried beneath the ruins on the floor below. Chief Mayo found himself badly bruised up and almost suffocated by smoke, but pluckily found his way out after a hard struggle. The news soon spread, and Chief Wall and willing workers commenced search for their imprisoned co-workers.

BISHOP FOUND UNCONSCIOUS.

An hour's search was rewarded by finding the unconscious body of Pipeman Bishop. He was found pinned down by debris on the second floor. Pluckily, the smoke had kept away from his head, but the water had choked him into unconsciousness. Bishop was carried to the street, placed in a carriage, and taken to the dormitory at No. 3's house. Medical assistance was summoned, and anxious friends were made happy when it was announced that his injuries were not fatal.

Meanwhile the search for Capt. Wills and Ladderman-Trepinski continued with unabated energy. Bishop said that he thought the men could be found under the debris in the second story, and felt that they were alive. Some thought the men were buried beneath the big pile of brick in the alley. The search continued all night long. At 9 o'clock this morning, Water Works Superintendent Cook and Street Commissioner Ryan furnished a squad of 20 men to relieve the weary firemen, who had worked for hours in the smoke and rubbish where the missing men were supposed to be.

BISHOP'S STORY.

Pipeman Bishop was resting well at 8 o'clock this morning, when visited by a representative of The Blade. Relatives were at his bedside, watching over him. He greeted his caller cordially, and his first inquiry was as to the fate of Capt. Wills and Ladderman-Trepinski. Tears came to his eyes when informed that the gallant captain and the brave ladderman from No. 7 were still in the ruins.

"I can not remember much about the affair," said Bishop. In answer to the question, "I remember that Chief Mayo, Capt. Wills, Trepinski and myself went in the third story of the Dow-Snell building from the Superior street side, next to the alley, and I heard Chief Mayo shout to Trepinski—calling him 'Kaiser', telling him something about the hose. Just then the floor gave way. It seemed to me as if the floor above had also given away. I have a dim recollection of hearing the side wall give away next the alley. A second later, I found myself on the floor beneath, pinned in by a lot of canned goods. A barrel rested at my head. I found that I could use one arm, and tried to free myself, but could not. I remember shouting myself hoarse, calling for help. A stream of water gushed through the crack of a box alongside my face, and it seemed as if I must drown. I shuddered my nose



Admiral Dewey Souvenir Rocker

With a beautiful collu-
loid medallion silver
framed photograph of
our Nation's Hero

To further popularize our store
as the

BARGAIN STORE
NEXT

Monday, May 28d.

we will place on sale a lot of these Rockers for

\$1.00 EACH

(only one to each party.)

The object of this sale is to bring in thousands of people, and as our goods are all marked in plain prices prove that we are selling any kind of Furniture cheaper than any store in Ohio.

Our store is recognized as the leader in FINE FURNITURE. We now propose to make it equally as popular with those in want of the cheaper grades.

Come in, you are welcome if you do not purchase.

STOLBERG & PARKS

Cor. Summit and Adams.

outward into the alley, carrying down everything within reach. Bags of coffee and dried fruits, torn open in their descent, were mixed with boxes of canned goods, washboards, pails and in fact everything that is carried in a grocery stock. Over all of the ruin lines of hose sent little rivulets trickling to the ground and raising dense clouds of steam by their contact with heated iron and brick. An indescribable odor, peculiar to fires of this nature, arose from the burning building, and sickened the spectator who was not a veteran in watching fires.

In the doorway leading to the spot where the firemen were imprisoned, stood a physician with a medicine case in hand, while behind him, leaning against the wall were two stretchers that told a silent story. Firemen with hands bandaged, and some with bandages on the face and hands, stood

FIREMAN WILLS IS DEAD

Trepinski Is Alive, but His In-
juries Are Fatal.

Rescuers Reached Him at 1:45 This After-
noon—Says His Back Is
Broken.

At 1:45 o'clock this afternoon, the fire-
men reached Trepinski and a few min-
utes later extricated him from his awful
position.

The body of Wills was found th-

arm, and tried to free myself, but could not. I remember shouting myself hoarse, calling for help. A stream of water gushed through the crack of a box alongside my face, and it seemed as if I must drown. I shielded my nose and mouth as best I could, but when I took my free hand away from my nostrils to breathe, the water smothered me.

"I was not bothered by smoke, but I expected that a gust would come every minute and smother me. I fought for my life with desperate energy, but finally grew so weak that I gave up the struggle. The last I remember was that the water was dashing in my face. If the water had been shut off, I could have stood it until now. I lost consciousness. When I came to myself, I felt friends tugging to get me out. I have a hazy remembrance of being extricated from my imprisonment, being taken to the ground and carried to this cot in No. 3's house. I will be all right in a few days."

OTHER INJURED FIREMEN

In a cot across the dormitory from Bishop, Ladderman Gus Uhl, of No. 2, was tossing restlessly. A wet bandage was laid across his eyes. Uhl said that the heat and smoke had effected his eyes, and that he suffered considerable pain.

It was learned from Assistant Chief Elling, that Captain George Frazer, of No. 1, and Captain Gottlieb Boortsch, of No. 3, were overcome by smoke late last night, and had to be taken home.

Assistant Chief Elling walked painfully around. He strained his back on top of the Berdan building, where he was in charge of five lines of hose. He injured his back in trying to pull up the heavy hose. He will be all right in a day or two.

THE DEAD HEROES.

Captain Oscar S. Willis was one of the bravest and most experienced fire fighters in the department, and numbered his friends by the thousand. He entered the department 17 years ago, and has held various positions of trust during his long service. He was appointed captain of No. 3's chemical several years ago, and was stationed at the Jefferson street house. He leaves a wife, but no children. The family home was in a flat on Adams street, between Eleventh and Twelfth streets.

Ladderman Kaiser Trepinski was a Polish citizen of bravery and intelligence. He has been in the department for a number of years, and was recognized as a first class fire fighter. He leaves a wife and four small children. The family resided at No. 332 Noble street.

FIREMEN TO THE RESCUE

Every Effort Being Made to Save the Buried Men.

The fallen walls and ruins of the Dow-Snell building presented a sorry sight this morning. The men were working on the place where the third floor formerly stood, searching for the lost comrades, while a gang of laborers were hard at work clearing away what remained of the stock.

The walls of the building had fallen

whose the firemen with a medicine case in hand, while behind him, leaning against the wall were two stretchers that told a silent story. Firemen with hands bandaged, and some with bandages on the face and hands, stood around the edge of the pit making an attempt to secure a word from the brave men at the bottom. A white-coated chief, with his hands wrapped in bandages, assisted in the work of removing the rubbish and refused to leave, although the firemen offered time and again to do the work. He was bound to remain until the men had been taken out either dead or alive.

On the other side of the building, the water was running from the doorways and windows in torrents, and from some of the upper windows a little smoke was still to be seen. Policemen carefully guarded the entrance, and allowed no one to pass without authority as the firemen were not to be hampered in their work by a crowd of curiosity seekers.

Chief Wall worked all night and far into the morning before he would consent to take a little rest. After the fire was under control, and he saw the men could handle it, he went home for a rest, and something to eat. All through the night he was on his feet, directing the work of the men, and the fact that the fire did not spread to the adjacent buildings is due to his excellent management.

CHIEF MAYO'S MIRACULOUS ESCAPE.

The escape of Assistant Chief Mayo from a horrible death was almost miraculous. He went down with his three companions, when the fourth and fifth stories of the Dow-Snell building collapsed with the alley wall. The goods piled high in the two upper stories, together with the heavy timbers, seemed to mass around Chief Mayo, but when he gathered himself together on the floor below, he found that no bones were broken, and that he was but little injured.

"We went to the third story to size up the situation and change some lines of hose," said Chief Mayo this morning. "We were about sixty feet from the front of the building. Bishop and myself were together, and Captain Willis and Trepinski were about eight feet away, close to a stairway. Suddenly I heard a rumbling noise and at once knew what was coming. A second later, I found myself on the floor below, with the debris from the two top stories as well as the third floor, piled around me. I listened for a moment, but could hear nothing.

"Then I commenced to fight my way out. I groped here and there, not knowing where I was going. At times the smoke was suffocating, and the water came in a deluge. After ten minutes' work, although it seemed much longer, I found myself in the part of the Dow-Snell building, next to The Blade office. I realized then that I was safe. I reached the street all right and again reported for duty."

Chief Mayo is made of the right stuff. Bruised in body and broken in spirit over the awful accident to his fellow fire fighters, he cast aside body pains and mental pains, taking up the fight where he had left off fifteen min-

utes ago. At 1:45 o'clock this afternoon, the firemen reached Trepinski and a few minutes later extricated him from his awful position.

The body of Willis was found three feet from Trepinski. Life was extinct.

As soon as Trepinski was uncovered, he told the firemen that both arms and his back were broken and that his legs were pinned fast. Despite this, he seemed fairly strong. He was conveyed to an ambulance by his comrades and taken to the hospital. His body will be removed as quickly as possible.

EVERYBODY TURNED OUT.

Chief Raits and His Force Kept the Great Crowd Back.

It is estimated that there were 25,000 people at the fire last evening. The report that The Blade building was burning attracted thousands to the scene, and half an hour after the alarm had been turned in, the streets passing The Blade for nearly two blocks, were filled with people. Chief Raits was on the grounds with a squad of policemen and a rope was stretched from the center of the Superior street block between Madison and Jefferson, up along the western curb to the southwest corner of Superior and Jefferson, thence along the Jefferson street curb to St. Clair street. Even then it required the constant efforts of the police to keep the surging crowd from breaking over the line. Chief Raits was here, there, everywhere, and stationed his men where they could best aid the fire department. He realized that there was danger from falling walls and he directed every energy to keeping people out of harm's way.

At night, the crowd increased, and it seemed as though the entire city had turned out to watch the great fire. Men and boys vied with one another in cheering the firemen on, and whenever a stream, well-directed, choked the upward march to the flames they shouted their approval in a vigorous manner and seemed to encourage the brave fire fighters to greater efforts.

The Royal is the highest grade baking powder known. Actual tests show it goes one-third further than any other brand.



ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK

CONTINUED ON SIXTH PAGE.

FIRE AND DEATH.

CONTINUED FROM FIRST PAGE.

utes before. He stuck to his post all night, and only took time this morning to swallow a cup of hot coffee. In company with Chief Wall, he remained at the ruins all morning, directing the men who were still pouring streams of water on the gutted building, and encouraging in every way the band of workers who were trying to locate the imprisoned firemen.

LESSON OF THE FIRE.

Commissioner Mensing Discusses the Needs of the Department.

Fire Commissioner Mensing was on the ground the moment the department arrived, and took an active part in the work. In speaking of the fire, he said:

"This fire shows that we need fire cisterns in this town, and that is something that I have been fighting for at all the meetings of the board. In many of the cities they have cisterns that occupy a whole block. When an alarm is turned in they locate the cistern, and the water main is turned into it at once. The cistern is always full, and I have seen as high as eight engines working on one of them, and the amount of water taken out could scarcely be noticed. By having these cisterns all the engines could be placed within a block or two of the fire and then have the benefit of the short lines, while there would be no danger of exhausting the supply of water. We also need more engines as this fire will show. Our water pressure is excellent to-night, but I am always afraid of a break in the main while the pressure is being run up high enough to throw a good stream.

Few people among the spectators at the fire had any idea of the amount of water thrown upon the flames. They knew that considerable water was going into the building, but could not tell how many streams were at work. Chief Engineer Conover, of the water works, says the pumps at the station were working at the rate of six millions gallons in 24 hours. That would be 250 gallons a minute or equal to a weight of $1\frac{1}{2}$ tons a minute. The volume of water thrown on the fire would float sixteen war ships the size of the Maine, her displacement being 6,500 tons.

This morning, the water was pouring from the office of the Dow-Snell company in several places. The engines were still throwing water into the upper floors, and the lines on the top of buildings were pouring it into the opening in the roof. The sidewalks and gutters were overflowing in the vicinity of the buildings, and although the fire pressure had been reduced, the lines were still working from the hydrants to the upper floors.