

4-ALARM FIRE, 5 HURT

Explosions Add to Danger.

Building Near Park Sq Guttled.

Nearby Tenants Driven Out, Sleep in Cadets' Armory.

Protective Captain and Firemen the Injured.

Four alarms were sounded between 11:45 and midnight for a fire in the Tenney Building, a six-story brick structure at 36-40 Columbus av, almost on the corner of Tennyson st, owned by Henry W. Tenney et al, trustees, and valued at \$25,000.

On the ground floor are the salesroom of the Fred S. Smith Company, agents for the Mercer automobile, and James J. Harrington, liquors.

The fire appears to have started in the cellar of the liquor store of James J. Harrington, at 40 Columbus av, and then to have spread up an air shaft to the fourth floor, where it mushroomed out, gutting the three upper floors, but confining the damage to the lower floors largely to that from smoke and water.

According to Edward McDonough, aid to Chief Peter F. McDonough, when the chief's car reached the scene, there was only a smudge in the cellar to be seen. Then all at once came a big explosion, with a great outburst of flame that seemed to sweep all through the building.

From the fourth floor the flames later worked down until there was some fire on every floor, but at 1:45 it was mostly in the rear of the building, where the firemen could fight it from the fire escapes.

An accurate estimate of loss was impossible, but it did not appear that, even with heavy loss to property of occupants, it would greatly exceed \$40,000.

Between 1:45 and 2 a m, while this fire was still burning, three alarms were sounded for a fire in the old Bacon store on Washington st, near Ruggles st, Roxbury.

Occupants of Building.

Occupants of the top floor are the Perkins Lace Company, Inc, and Thomas N. Bathrick, upholsterer. On the fifth floor are J. H. Head, painter and decor-

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FIVE INJURED IN FOUR-ALARM FIRE

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ator; Arthur Beaumont, leadglazier, and the A. B. Cutter Company, stained glass. The Celebrity Art Company, art goods, and the Specialty Company, toys, occupy the fourth.

The third floor, just below the fire, and a part of the second, are occupied by Skelley-Bros, printers. Christopher F. Skelley said early today, that he could not set a value on the contents of his plant, or tell what loss water damage might cause. On the second floor also is the Epicurean Employment Office, run by Frank A. Lohmann. The Mountain Valley Water Company also had an office in the building.

The building backs upon Grenville pl, and its east side overshadows a row of houses on the south side of Tennyson st. Occupants of these houses, as also of those on Grenville pl, were forced to flee.

The fire was well fought by water towers planted on the Columbus-av front. One of these, Tower 1, the aerial from which several powerful streams were playing, slipped down to its ordinary position shortly before 12:30.

Capt Thompson Injured.

Shouts of warning from spectators caused nearly everybody near it to scatter to safety, but Capt Henry E. Thompson of Protective 2 was struck by one of the streams and knocked violently to the street, his head being injured. As he attempted to rise, the stream struck him and knocked him down again. He was taken to the City Hospital in a police ambulance.

By 12:45 the firemen had the blaze well in control and the flames in the fifth and sixth floor well disposed of, and were devoting their principal attention to the fourth.

Mr Smith, head of the automobile agency, said that he had three cars in the salesroom, worth respectively \$3000, \$2900 and \$950, while other contents brought the total value of his property to about \$12,000, all insured.

At intervals during the fire there were a number of small explosions. The first occurred at Chemical 2, from Church st, the first company to arrive, was going up the stairs, but did no damage.

Four Hurt in Explosions.

Later, on the first floor, where Engine 10 was working, an explosion injured hosemen George P. Smith and Patrick J. O'Donnell of that company, who were taken back to the engine house in a police ambulance.

Still later, ladderman John M. McLaughlin of Ladder 13 was working on the fifth floor, when an explosion dislodged a beam, which struck him on the head. He was partly stunned, but got safely down to the street and was walking along Grenville pl when he was overcome by weakness. He was treated on the scene by Medical Examiner Magrath.

Hoseman Patrick J. Darcy of Engine 26 was scorched by an explosion while at work on the first floor. His hair, eyebrows and eyelashes were singed, and his face was painfully burned. He also was taken to the hospital in a police ambulance after being rescued by other members of the company.

The building is not far from the 1st Corps Cadets' Armory, where a dance was being held, and the dancers made part of the great crowd of spectators. On Grenville pl is the Armory garage, from the roof of which firemen played streams on the burning building.

Rev Frs Maurice J. O'Connor and Robert E. Lee of St James' Church left their beds in the parish house to offer their services at the fire, but these were not required.

Opens Armory to Refugees.

George W. Coolbroth, armorer of the Cadet Armory, threw open the doors to refugees from houses threatened by the fire, and with Mrs Coolbroth offered them accommodations for the night on militia cots and under militia blankets.

The first to come were the occupants of the two-story brick dwelling at 42 Columbus av, adjoining the burning building, run by Mrs Elsie Stowe as a boarding house. Her lodgers included Mrs Ora Hall and her daughter Elsie, Sirkis Samuelian and his son Franklin, Otto Bush, Miss M. Haney, Mr and Mrs Jean Marquis and Richard Burke. The house did not catch fire, but smoke and water rendered it untenable.

Hoseman Philip S. Bates was almost overcome by smoke while at work in the saloon and had to be taken out. So many were the small explosions that, in addition to the men sent away from the scene, fully 20 were treated for minor burns by doctors from the City and Relief Hospitals, Medical Examiner Magrath and Dr E. R. Gookin of Dorchester, a member of the Box 52 Association. The emergency kit on Ladder 8 was kept in almost constant use.

A large detail of police, including men from the Joy-st, East Dedham-st and Back Bay stations, as well as the Lagrange-st, were on duty, with Lieut Arthur B. McConnell of Station 4 in charge.