

FEARLESS BOSTON FIREMEN

Who Take All Kinds of Chances

A SERIES OF PERSONAL STORIES

CAPT DENNIS DRISCOLL ENGINE 37

Capt Dennis Driscoll of Engine 37 has had many thrilling experiences during his 30 years with the Fire Department. The one incident that stands out most vividly in his career is the First National Bank Building fire a few years ago.

"I responded to the alarm," he says, "after awakening from a sound sleep at 1 o'clock in the morning. We reached the scene and found the big granite structure, five stories high, corner of State and Devonshire sts, a mass of flames. The fire broke out in the air shaft in the center of the building. The flames were leaping 30 feet in the air.

"On the top floor lived the janitor, W. H. Goldthwaite, his wife and 12-year-old son Mrs Goldwaite had been awakened by the smoke; arousing the others, all escaped to the roof, where their screeches could be heard a block away.

"It was impossible to reach them with the ladders on account of the flames that were shooting out over all sides. With several other firemen I went into the building and we made our way through the dense smoke to the top floor, where we found the three of them. The mother and son were unconscious.



CAPT DENNIS DRISCOLL.

"I carried the woman down to the street while others brought the father and son down. We were nearly overcome several times on the way on account of the heat and smoke. This fire gave me a thrill that I shall always remember."

Capt. Driscoll joined the department April 17, 1896.