

FOUR ALARMS FOR FIRE IN SOUTH END

Great Crowd Sees Department Have Hard Fight For Hours With Blaze Causing \$40,000 Loss

In the Badger Building

Entire District at One Time Menaced

Two Firemen Have Slight Injuries

Dickerman Box Factory Loss Is Heaviest

Four alarms were sounded shortly after 9 last night for a fire that caused between \$40,000 and \$50,000 the Dickerman box factory, on the fourth and fifth floors of the Badger Building, on Wareham st, South End, and for a time threatened to spread through the thickly settled district. The blaze was in the heart of the lumber district and caused considerable consternation.

The first alarm was sent in at 9:15, followed in a few minutes by a third and a few minutes later by a fourth.

This is the first big fire that has occurred since Chief Tabor took charge of the department, and he was on the scene early directing the work of the firemen.

Fire Walls Effective

The blaze apparently originated on the fourth or fifth floor and swept through to the roof with lightning-like rapidity. The massing of apparatus that answers four alarms gave Chief Tabor plenty of hose and men

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with which to keep the blaze under control. The engines were placed on Wareham and on Plympton sts, and in a very short time tons of water were being played on the fire.

The Dickerman factory extends through the Badger Building to the building at 535 Albany st. There are fire walls between the area in the Badger Building and that in the Albany-st building, and they proved effective in keeping the fire out of the Albany-st side

Great Crowd on Hand

Although the firemen were able to prevent the blaze from spreading to the first and second floors, much damage was done to the contents by water and smoke

Acting Fire Commissioner Manning also went to the scene as soon as the third alarm was sounded to watch the work of the department in its handling of a hot and what threatened to become dangerous fire.

A great crowd of persons was attracted to the fire as soon as the blaze broke through the roof. Police Capt Driscoll arrived with a detail of police, and fire lines were soon established in order to give the firemen plenty of room to work. One of the features of the blaze was its intense heat, and several of the firemen received slight injuries to their faces because of this.

Eighteen engines, six ladder trucks and two water towers comprised the apparatus that responded to the alarm.

Two Firemen Slightly Hurt

City Hospital ambulances were on hand, and Rev Frs J W Culhane and McDonough from the nearby Cathedral of the Holy Cross were ready to give emergency treatment to anyone who should be injured. Salvation Army men and women were also present, doling out coffee and sandwiches to those working on the fire.

The ambulances and the priests, however, seem to have had little to do, though two firemen were slightly hurt. While working inside the building, Lieut John Haley of Engine 38-9 fumbled a hose, and the stream of water, at a pressure of 120 pounds, cut his hand badly. Hoseman John A Martin of Engine 7 East st, was caught in debris in the upper part of the building and somewhat crashed, but it is believed that no bones were broken. Both he and the lieutenant returned to their own quarters for treatment.

Chief John A Taber received congratulations on all sides for his work in preventing the spread of the flames.

The Badger Building, 81 Wareham st, where the blaze occurred, is occupied on the fifth floor, where most of the fire was, by the Dickerman Box Company. On the fourth is the Up-to-Date Tool Company, on the third by the Boston Combining Company, and on the first by Flynn & Bergsch, lumber dealers. The second floor is vacant.

Milliken Discovered Fire

The fire was discovered by Daniel R.

Milliken, an employe of the Boston Fire Department repair shops. Milliken saw the reflection of the fire from a rear window of his home at 111 Union Park st and after assuring himself that it was really a fire ran to the street and sounded Box 1645 on Albany st, opposite the yards of the Boston Elevated Railway.

The fire was burning fiercely at the time, but was confined to the top floor and would not attract much attention from the street five floors below. The section is little traversed after early evening.

When the crew of Engine 3 and Ladder 3 from the Headquarters group of buildings on Bristol st, not far away, reached the scene the fire was burning so briskly and looked so threatening that Deputy Chief McLean, in charge of the South End fire fighting forces, ordered the second alarm skipped and a third alarm rung.