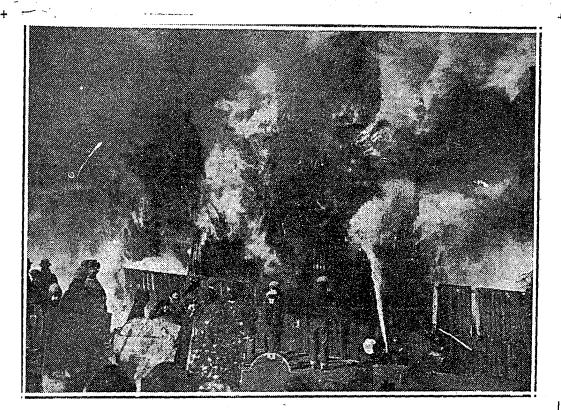
10 HURT IN CHARLESTOWN FIRE

Boston Daily Globe (1923-1927); Feb 27, 1925; ProQuest Historical Newspapers Boston Globe (1872 - 1927)

OHUBI GHARLESTOWN FIRE



THE CHARLESTOWN FIRE AT ITS HEIGHT



Left to Right—David Foley, Who Gave Alarm for the Fire, and Rose, Patsy and Philomena De Massee, Who
Were Driven Out by It. Patsy Was One of the Earliest Discoverers of the Fire

TWO STABLES ARE DESTROYED

Six Horses Burned to Death— Dense Smoke in District

Relief Station, five other men are suf-fering from injuries, six horses were burned to death and a score of others were rescued by policemen, stablemen and pedestrians in a spectacular four-alarm Charlestown fire, shortly after 10 this morning. The damage is estimated at \$20,000 to structures between Dun stable and Stacey sts.

Capt Charles Ingersoil of Engine 36, Dist Chief Philip A. Tague and Ladderman Patrick Sullivan of Ladder 22 were injured when a roof gave way under them. George Phelan, Walter Corwin, John Breslin, Dist Chief Edward A. McDonough, privates James F. Mahoney, John Carr and Lawrence Barry were injured when a wall col-

Sullivan, Phelan, Corwin, Breslin and Chief McDonough were treated at the and Chief Sennott arrived in preparation Haymarket-Sq Rellef Hospital. The others refused medical attention and continued to fight the fire.

Most Dreaded Box in Charlestown

The fire was discovered about 10:15 by a Mr Lombard, of S. & R. J. Lombard hay and grain merchants. He directed his stableman, Edward T. Merrick of 116 Rutherford av, to sound an alarm Merrick ran to Rutherford av and Dun stable st and pulled box 419. The alarm box is known in the Fire Department as the most dangerous in Charlestown When Dist Chief Philip A. Tague arrived the section was under a pall of heavy smoke. The smoke had rolled out to Main st. Traffic was jamming and the pall was so heavy that it was difficult to discern the source. Chief Tague immediately ordered a second alarm. Two more alarms were ordered in quick succession.

According to the firemen, the fire started in the center of the Wilkins stable on Stacey st. The cause could not be determined. The building was of filmsy wood, filled with hay and straw bedding, which provided tinder for the blaze. A high northwest wind whipped the flames and soon the rear of the Wilkins stable at 22-24 Stacey st was roaring.

Six Horses Died in Agony

I The fire quickly swept to the Libbey & Trefrey stable, adjoining it on Stacey st, and made its way along the low wooden building toward Dunstable st. In the Wilkins stable six horses were trapped. Policemen Walter Donovan and John J. Crawford of Station 15 made brave attempts to liberate them, but could not succed.. The horses groaned in agony, but the two officers, unable to aid them, turned their attention to the rest.

. They led eight horses from the Wilkins stable and with stablemen Merrick and Demasse ran to the next building Libbey & Trefrey's, where they led four more horses to safety. The Libbey & Trefrey stable extends to the Boston City Yard in the rear. Nine horses here were in danger and were taken by employes to safety.

Next to the Libbey & Trefrey stable is that of Joseph Demasse, at 44 Dun-

stable st. Eleven horses were in this stable and all were taken out safely.

Dense Smoke and Severe Cold

District Chief Philip A. Tague directed the work of fighting the fire. The smoke was dense and the weather so cold that water froze wherever it fell on streets and roofs. It was difficult for the men to keep their footing. Garage, stable and store employes within 100 years of the stables weer forced to leave their work, so dense and suffocating was the smoke.

Fire Commissioner Theodore Glynn



HOSEMAN PATRICK SULLIVAN,

for a conflagration, but under Chief Tague the fire was under control within an hour. Commissioner Glynn left the

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TEN HURT IN CHARLESTOWN FIRE

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scene when the injured firemen were removed, in order to look after their welfare at the Relief Station.

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On leaving the fire, both officials praised the work of the firemen and said that it was due to them that the fire did not assume larger proportions. Commissioner Glynn, seeing Lawrence Barry of Engine 8 working with bruised face and nose, asked him to quit and take a rest, but Barry refused and stayed on the fob.

Old Roof Fell Under Chief Tague

Capt Charles Ingersoll and ladderman Patrick Sullivan of Ladder 22, with Dist Chief Tague, were fighting the fire on the roof of the Wilkins stable. The roof was flinsy, the rafters were old. Under their weight the roof gave way and they fell to the floor below.

Ingersoil and Sullivan were removed to the Haymarket Relief Station where it was found that Ingersoil suffered contusions of the left shoulder and right knee and Sullivan received an injury to his back. Dist Chief Tague escaped serious injury, receiving only a slight shaking up and minor bruises. He continued to direct the efforts of his men District Chief McDonough, privates

James F. Mahoney, John Carr, Law rence Barry of Engine 8, with George Phelan, Walter Corwin of Engine 50 and John Breslin were working near a walfighting the fire at close range. The wall collapsed and buried them under

the debris.

McDonough, Breslin and Corwin wertaken to the Haymarket Relief Station where they were given medical aid. The others were not sufficiently injured to require the attention of a physician. Patrick Wall of Engine 6 suffered from smoke, but was revived without medical attention.

The strong wind and heavy smoke permeated the entire section. Many spectators in addition to fire fighters were affected by it. The Salvation Army, on hand with doughnuts and coffee, was greatly praised by the department.

The damage is estimated at \$20,000. The Libbey & Trefrey stable is owned by C. S. Gold. The Wilkins stable is owned by F. D. Wilkins of Medford, formerly a Somerville Alderman, and the third stable is owned by Joseph Demasse of 41 Dunstable st, Charlestown.