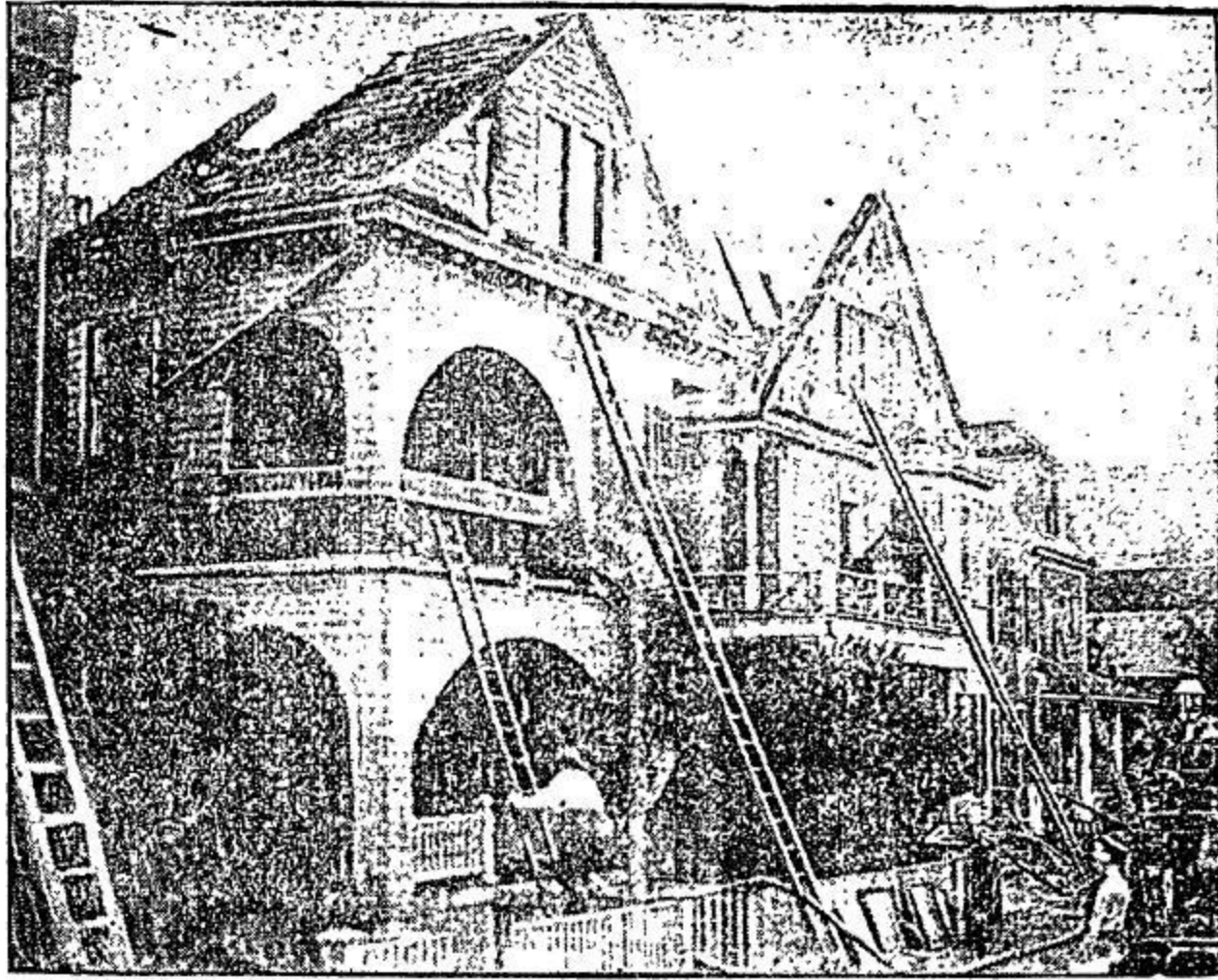


FLAMES SWEEP TWO DORCHESTER STREETS

Six Houses Destroyed, Others Damaged In Blaze Started by Firecrackers.



BURNED HOUSES AT 18 AND 20 JOSEPHINE ST.

Residents Driven Out in Terror by Swift Rush Of Flames Among Wooden Tenements.

Leroy and Josephine sts, extending from Geneva av to Ditson st, in the Fields Corner section of Dorchester, were swept by fire shortly after 5:30 last evening and residents were obliged to flee for their lives, so swiftly did the flames travel.

Six houses were gutted, a number of others damaged by fire and water and a score of families rendered homeless. The loss is estimated at \$35,000.

Three small children on the lower piazza of 25 Leroy st were celebrating the Fourth exploding firecrackers, when John Stebold, who lives

at 21 Leroy st, saw a tiny flame and rushed over to put it out. He was met by a woman, who told him to ring in the alarm.

"I can put it out with a bucket of water," he answered. But he was urged to call the fire department, he says, so he ran to box 925 at Geneva av and Westville st, a short distance from Leroy st, and pulled in the alarm.

Before he got back the three-decker at 25 Leroy st was all ablaze and the house at 22 Josephine st had caught fire.

The firemen saw at once they had a serious situation, and District Chiefs Heffernan and Murphy ordered a third alarm, skipping the second. This was at 5:43. Crowds came flocking to the scene as the flames spread.

At 5:57 an alarm was sent in from box 922 at Dorchester av and Adams st, and this was followed by a second from the same box at 6 o'clock.

Car Men Help.

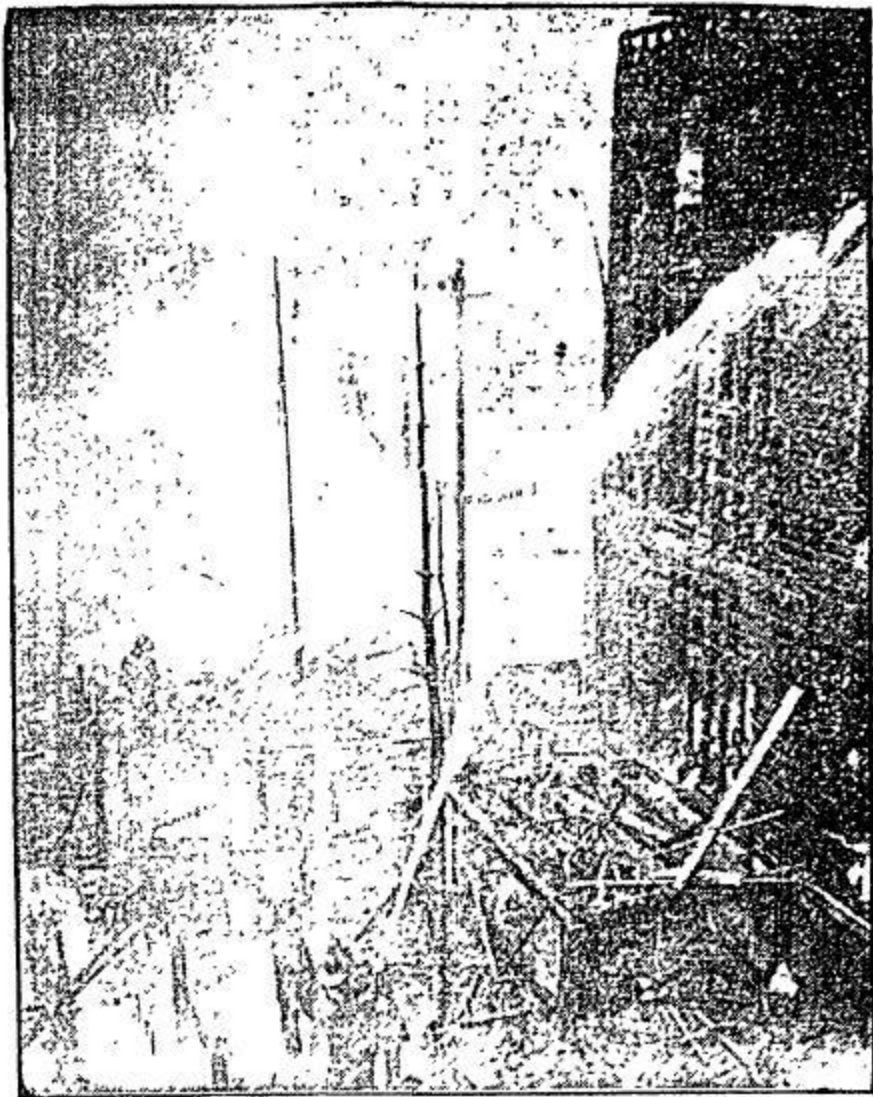
The dwellers in the houses on Leroy and Josephine sts—all three-deckers and 2½-story buildings—rushed into the streets, while neighbors went to the assistance of those whose apartments were in flames.

A squad of motormen and conductors from the Fields Corner car barn, who were waiting to take out their cars, aided effectively in the work of salvage. Morris Glynn, D. A. Spres, John W. McLaughlin, Barney Fallon, Thomas Adair, Charles Bishop and Jere Lally and others brought furniture, bedding, pictures, rugs and even pianos out of the burning dwellings.

The houses on the two streets, which run parallel, back up to one

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FIGHTING THE FIRE IN REAR OF JOSEPHINE ST



HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS SAVED FROM FLAMES PILED ON THE SIDEWALK.

FLAMES SWEEP TWO DORCHESTER STREETS

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another, with only yards between, and it was only a few minutes after the fire started at 25 Leroy st that the house nearest it, 22 Josephine st, was burning fiercely. The flames then spread to 20 Josephine and ignited the roof of No. 18, cutting through into the ceilings and walls. So swift was the rush of the flames that women and children screamed with fright as they climbed out of their houses.

The firemen, having made sure that all had escaped safely from the burning buildings, centered their attention to checking the flames, but before they succeeded the houses 18, 20 and 22 Josephine st were reduced to skeletons and houses Nos. 25, 27 and 29 Leroy st were so badly burned that they were rendered uninhabitable.

Invalid Carried Out.

While the fire was at its height there was a report of low water pressure, which was called to the attention of Fire Commissioner Cole, who was present.

"I understand the water pressure is poor," he said, "and I am surprised. I do not know the reason and I will investigate it."

Miss Croke, an invalid, who occupied a suite at 20 Josephine st, was carried out by neighbors and made comfortable in a nearby house. Officers Gale and Rooney assisted an unknown woman and her baby from the top floor of 22 Josephine st.

Shortly after the fire was under control and the flames had reduced the dwellings to a mass of smoldering ruins, so that nothing but the walls remained, several of the wooden frames threatened to crumple and fall, and the police were obliged to throw lines about them. While they were doing this a chimney at 29 Leroy st fell with a crash, but the firemen gave a warning shout and nobody was injured.

Dwellings nearest the fire that did not catch were pretty well water soaked and the damage in each case is considerable. Other dwellings some distance away caught fire from sparks, among them the roofs of 126 Robinson st, 24 Montello st, 28 Ditson st, 10, 12 and 15 Draper st, a barn at 177 Adams st, house at 4 Robinson st and roof of a house at

9 Corwin st. There was no damage reported from these fires.

The six-apartment brick house, 32-34 Ditson st, caught fire at one time and tenants were forced to leave, but it was saved.

List of Burned Houses.

The houses destroyed or badly damaged are: 18 Josephine st, owned by E. A. Wentworth and occupied on the first floor by C. G. Glidden and family, who were away; Albert S. Whiting, second floor, and Mrs Helen Curran and her two sons on the third floor. Damage \$3000.

House 20 Josephine st, owned and occupied by Thomas Croke and daughter on the first floor, and Mr and Mrs E. R. Walsh on the second floor. Damage \$3000.

House 22 Josephine st, owned by Michael J. Sullivan; occupied on the first floor by Patrick J. Larkin; second floor by Daniel Sheehan, and third floor by Mrs Mary Rafter. Damage \$3000.

House 24 Josephine st, owned and occupied by John W. O'Neil. Damage \$2000.

House 16 Josephine st, occupied on the first floor by E. E. Moran; second floor by Francis J. Burns, and third floor by Frank J. Holland. Damage estimated at about \$1000, mostly by water.

House 25 Leroy st, owned and occupied by Abraham Klein on the first floor, Mark Goldstein on the second floor and Isaac Kaplan on the third floor. Damage \$2000.

House 27 Leroy st, owned and occupied by Nathan Youkervitz on the first floor, Edward Cohen on the second floor and Morris Ruskin on the third floor. Damage estimated at \$1000.

House 31 Leroy st, owned by Smith & Itothman, occupied by Morris Goldberg on the first floor with his wife and four children, Morris Gordon with five children on the second floor; third floor was vacant. Damage mostly by water, \$1000.

Other Houses Damaged.

These other houses were damaged: 23 Leroy st, owned and occupied by Walter F. Holmes, damage \$500; 27 Westville st, owned and occupied by Joseph Devenshire, damage \$20; 28 Westville st, owned and occupied by James Dempsey, damage \$15; 24 Josephine st, top floor, damage \$50; 26 Josephine st, top floor, damage \$100; roof of 28 Josephine st, damage \$100; roof of 28 Ditson st, damage \$100; roof of 22 Ditson st, damage \$100.

Several houses adjoining the burned dwellings were saved by the effective work of the firemen, under the direction of Chief Mullen and District Chiefs Heffernan and Murphy. They carried lines of hose up into the dwellings and fought the flames from vantage points on the roofs and from windows.

The heat was intense, but the firemen worked like Trojans and when the companies made up they felt happy that they had once again prevented a conflagration, so much feared in Dorchester. John Murphy, a resident of Leroy st, assisted by the Misses Addio and Helen Dannahy, served ice water to the firemen. It was appreciated.