

# MOELLER STORE NO. 2 LOST IN FIRE

## Blaze in Four Story Milwaukee Avenue Structure Causes a \$75,000 Ruin.

### LONG WATCHED BY POLICE

#### Owner Sees Suspicious Man About Place and Fears Robbers Are Planning a Raid.

Fire caused \$100,000 losses last night in Chicago, the heaviest loss being in Moeller Bros.' department store at 1272-76 Milwaukee avenue.

The store had been watched carefully by the police for two weeks because the owner, John P. Moeller of 2424 Humboldt boulevard, feared robbers were planning to raid the place. Another Moeller Bros. store burned down early on Jan. 31 after saboteurs had bound and gagged the watchman, it was reported, and looted the safe of \$1,200. Blankets used by the robbers to deaden the sound of the explosion ignited and caused the blaze, it is said. That store was at 8014-34 Lincoln avenue and was owned by Peter A. Zahnen and Fred W. Moeller.

#### In Store Half Hour Before.

Sergt. George Euson of Lawson street station had walked through the Milwaukee avenue store only a half hour before the alarm struck in, and two watchmen had been stationed within the building. The fire started in the basement of the four story brick structure, raced up the stairways, and by the time the firemen had arrived enveloped the entire interior of the building.

The loss was estimated at \$75,000, the same reported on the Lincoln avenue property. "This is the first I have heard of the fire," said John P. Moeller at midnight after the blaze was two hours old. "I have had police watch the place because soon after the Lincoln avenue store was robbed I noticed two suspicious men in my place. They represented themselves as fire department inspectors and looked over the store for an hour."

#### Girl Rescues Flat Dwellers.

Marie Justin, 17 years old, ran through smoke choked halls and aroused the occupants of twelve flats earlier in the night when fire was discovered in a three story brick apartment building at 6104-6106 Ellis avenue. The building was a world's fair landmark.

Miss Justin was on the third floor when she discovered smoke. The hall was full of it. She pounded on the door across the hallway, and at the rear of the third floor warned the neighbors of the fire, and then fled to the second and first floors, spreading the alarm. All escaped in safety.

By the time fire apparatus arrived the blaze had gained a strong start, and a 4-11 alarm was at once sounded. Marshall Charles Seyferlich arrived and followed it with a special call for ten engines.

The fire is supposed to have started in the basement. The cause is unknown. Markus Langerman, owner, valued his property at \$30,000 and estimated the damage at half of that amount.

## SORORITY GIRLS TUSLE HAIR IN "PIG TAIL" CELEBRATION.

#### Oak Park High School Class Dis- missed for Day When Teacher Fails to Stop Frolic.

Eight girls, said to be members of a sorority, played havoc with girl members of the Oak Park High school yesterday when they had what they termed "pigtail" day.

The eight girls went to school with their hair in braids. In the German class, conducted by Miss Bogel, the girls initiated their companions by disarranging their hair. The teacher attempted to put a stop to the frolic, but was unable to do so, and the class was dismissed. Among the girls who took part are:

- ELIZABETH PATTERSON, 341 North boulevard.
- ESTER McLEAN, 421 North Grove avenue.
- ERENE TIMME, 118 Williams street.
- ANNA YAGER, 400 Forest avenue.
- PRUDENCE WOOD, 120 North Oak Park avenue.
- ESTER PICK.
- FAY POLTZ.
- ELIZABETH CORT.

After the German class was dismissed the music class was called, consisting of girls and boys. Some of the girls attempted to fix their hair while this class was in session, but the boy members made a vigorous protest and the girls were forced to leave their hair hang down their backs.

## SEEKS INFORMATION ON SON.

#### Mother Asks "Tribune" to Help Her Locate Chauncey Ashenfelter, Formerly of Dayton, O.

THE TRIBUNE has received a message from Mrs. E. Ashenfelter of Dayton, O., asking aid in getting information about her son, Chauncey Ashenfelter, who has not been heard from since the summer of 1910. At that time he was in Chicago. He is about 30 years old, has brown hair and blue eyes, is 5 feet 8 inches tall and of slender build.

## ARREST "PIE" ADAMS IN DETROIT AS KIRBY WIRETAPPER FAKER.

#### Police Say He Will Be Returned to Chi- cago, but His Friends Bail Him Out and Plan Fight.

Frank, alias "Pie" Adams, arrested in Detroit on a charge of being one of the alleged confidence men who swindled Dr. William T. Kirby, head of the bankrupt Kirby Savings bank, out of \$20,000 on a fake horse race, will be brought back to Chicago, according to the police.

Influential friends of Adams in Detroit, however, asserted yesterday there had been a mixup and he was not the man wanted. They bailed him out and said they would stand by him.

Detective Sergeant William B. Blaul of Chicago was sent after Adams. The Detroit police picked Adams up after receiving a circular from Chicago that he was wanted in connection with the Kirby swindle.

Adams said he could prove an alibi, but Detective Blaul said he was the man wanted. He is said to be well known to the Detroit police. Adams said he would fight extradition. Several associates of Adams, who are alleged to have assisted in the wire tapping fake Dr. Kirby, has said he was a victim of, are believed in hiding in Detroit. The police are searching for them.

Judge Landis pronounced the wire tapping story a frameup and sentenced Dr. Kirby and Mrs. Margaret L. Kirby, his wife, to jail for contempt of court for failing to turn over the missing funds. The Kirbys appealed and are out on bail.

## Cites Five in Slot Device War.

Chief Fred Shaffer of the Evanston police department, who is attempting to rid the city of its slot machines, yesterday ordered the following alleged slot machine owners to appear at the station today: Charles Loonhardt, 838 Custer avenue, grocer; M. C. Schultz, 1017 Central street, candy store; Adolph Pacyna, 605 Main street, cigar store; W. H. Hardicke, grocer; Mrs. Agnes Kutter, 803 Davis street, candy store owner.

## COSTS \$4,000 TO REAR BOY OF SLUMS TO AGE OF 18 YEARS.

#### Prof. Hoben of University of Chicago Says Fact Should Make Poor Youth Realize His Value.

If the average boy of the slums when 18 years old decides to pay back to his parents what it has cost them to bring him up he will find himself in debt \$4,000.

Prof. Allan Hoben of the practical theology department of the University of Chicago made this statement yesterday in an address before the Presbyterian ministers' meeting in the Ohio building.

At this ratio the child of the millionaire would owe his parents \$100,000 when he became 18.

"The boy who reaches 18 should realize what he owes to his parents and the public for making him what he is," said Prof. Hoben. "When it is figured out in hard cash it will be easier for him to see what it means to be a good citizen."