

INDIANAPOLIS, SUNDAY, AUGUST 18, 1907.

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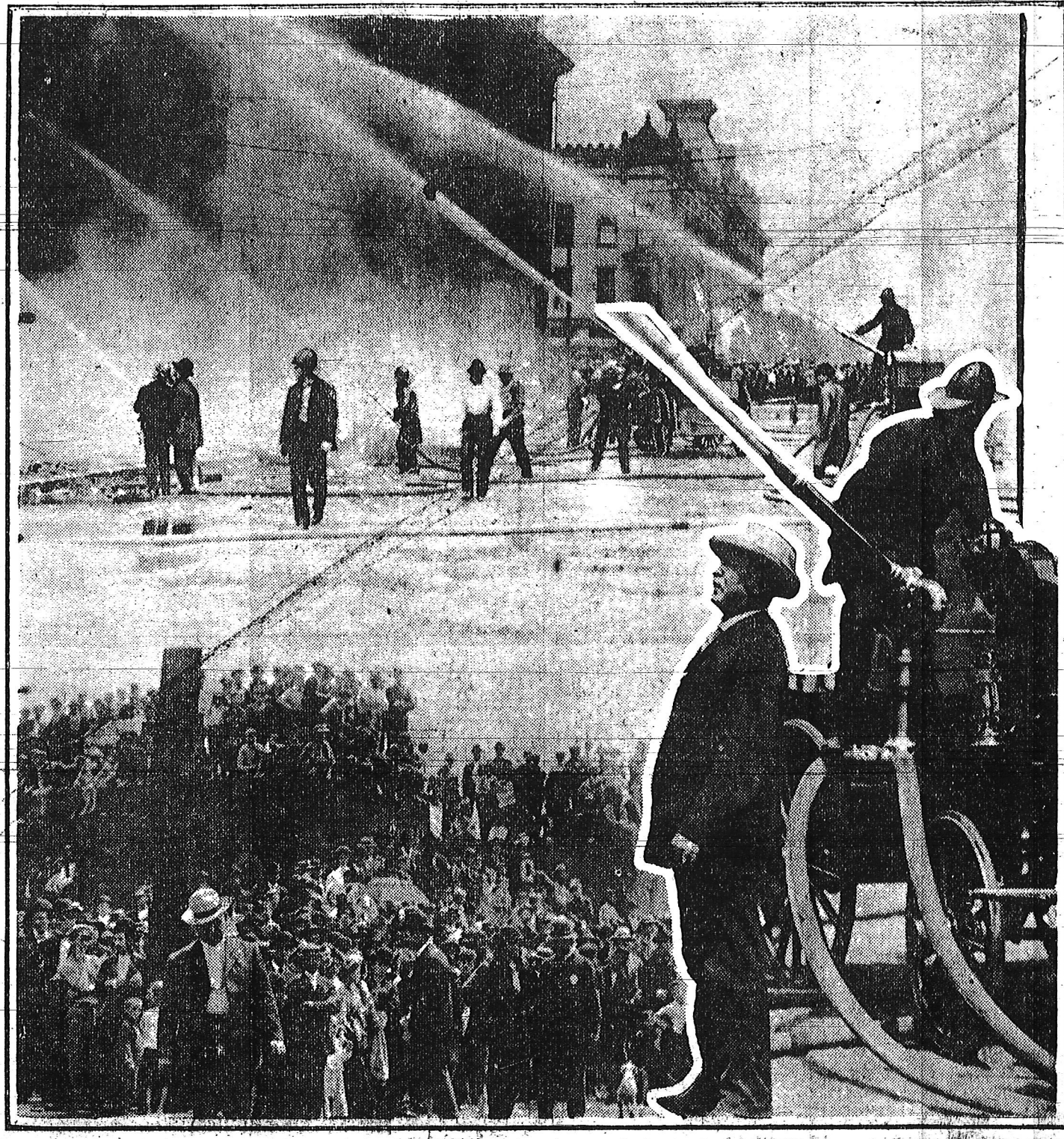
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## Spectacular Fire and Explosions Wreck Business Building.



CROWD WATCHING THE FLAMES

CHIEF COOTS DIRECTING HIS MEN.

High explosives in the plant of the Prest-O-Lite Company, at Pearl and East streets, were a spectacular feature of the fire which partially destroyed the property and placed many lives in jeopardy yesterday.

**AUTO TURNS; 7 HURT**

**RELATIVES "OUT IN COLD"**

**SAYS PUT BODY IN TOMB**

**BABY CRUSHED BY CAR**

**CRUSHES GAY PASSENGERS**

**GET ONLY THE OLD CLOTHES**

**SPEAKER OPPOSES CREMATION**

**WAS GOING TO BUY CANDY**



## THREE ARE HURT IN ACETYLENE BLOWUP

Two Women and One Man Injured in \$25,000 Explosion at Prest-O-Lite Plant.

### FIREMEN'S WORK PERILOUS

Fight Flames While in Danger From Debris Hurled by Exploding Tanks.

**THE INJURED.**  
Miss Emma Brown, sprained ankle.  
Miss Kate Metz, arm bruised and slightly lacerated.  
John Luckey, leg sprained and bruised, face scorched, hand cut.

Three persons were slightly injured and a loss of \$25,000 was estimated at the plant of the Prest-O-Lite Company at Young and New Jersey streets yesterday, when a fire or explosion on the first floor of the plant set off two or three acetylene tanks that had been standing with acetylene gas.

That no one was killed is a marvel to the police and firemen, who were on the scene a few minutes after the fire broke out, for by the time the officers arrived, the terrific explosion was following in such quick succession that the debris was like a continuous rain, and pieces of steel were flying in all directions.

It was practically impossible to obtain exact information as to the cause of the fire, the loss or the injuries to the employees. Almost without exception those who had been in charge of the plant either refused absolutely to furnish information, or pleaded ignorance as to details of which it seemed certain they knew.

Some of them even declared that they had never been in the plant at all. One of the men who was in the plant at the time of the explosion, and who stated his name as John Luckey, was in charge of the plant at the time of the explosion.

Frank Sweet, who was in charge of the plant at the time of the explosion, and who stated his name as John Luckey, was in charge of the plant at the time of the explosion.

The fire started on the first floor, near a machine, by which the gas was compressed and forced into the small acetylene tanks, which are used mostly on automobiles for lighting purposes. The fire started on the first floor, near a machine, by which the gas was compressed and forced into the small acetylene tanks, which are used mostly on automobiles for lighting purposes.

### EMPLOYEES IN DANGER.

Men and Women in Building Have Close Call for Lives.

Seven or eight of the twenty-five employees were on the first floor, a dozen more were on the second floor, and the rest were on the third floor when the fire started at the Prest-O-Lite Company yesterday.

The escape of those on the first floor was simple. They merely turned and ran for their lives. Several of them were on the second floor when the fire started, and they were compelled to resort to the use of a rope to escape.

That all the occupants of the office on the third floor were saved is a marvel, however. In addition to the three young women, who were in the office, there were several men, including a traveling salesman for the company, and W. H. Allen, who was a customer of the concern, were on the third floor. Several of them were in the office at the time of the explosion, and all the rest were forced to use the ladder for escape.

That none of them were killed is a marvel to the police and firemen, who were on the scene a few minutes after the fire broke out, for by the time the officers arrived, the terrific explosion was following in such quick succession that the debris was like a continuous rain, and pieces of steel were flying in all directions.

### COOTS COMMENDS HIS MEN.

Fire Chief Praises Subordinates for Valor in Face of Danger.

Instead of being compelled to force his way into "the bright flash of danger" at the Prest-O-Lite fire yesterday, Fire Chief Charles E. Coats commended his most for fear toward the men venturing into the blazing building.

Coats said that the men who were in the plant at the time of the explosion, and who stated their names as John Luckey, were in charge of the plant at the time of the explosion.

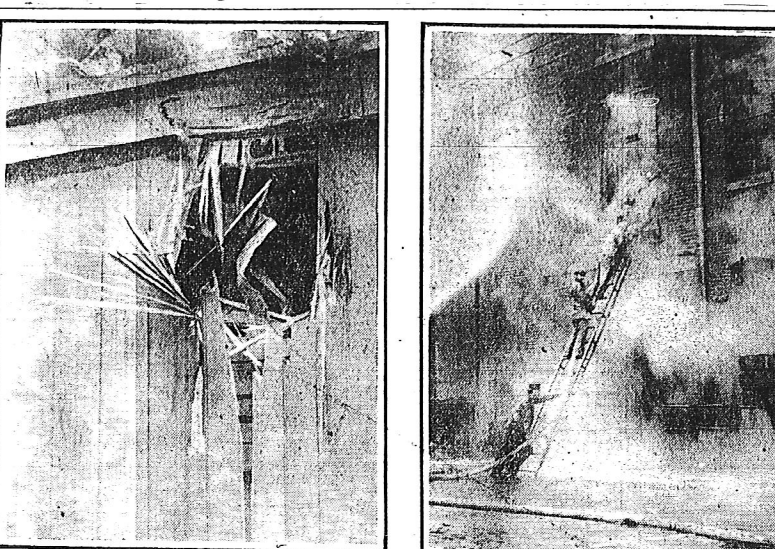
## GRAND IMPERIAL SEC

A most delicate and finely flavored Champagne, comparable favorably with the best imported wines.

## GOLD MEDAL

Wherever Exhibited  
GERMANIA WINE CELLARS  
KANSAS CITY  
NEW YORK  
Pacific Wine Co. Distributors, 108

## Striking Scenes at the Disastrous Prest-O-Lite Fire.



HOLE BROKEN IN BOX CAR 150 FEET FROM BURNING BUILDING BY METAL CAN HURLED BY FORCE OF EXPLOSION.

FIREMEN FIGHTING THROUGH FLAME AND SMOKE.

It was in doing what he believed was his duty. In fact, it was necessary for me to warn the men several times that they were running too great risks and to order them away from the more dangerous positions. No one of my men entered the building.

### MAY DRIVE PLANT OUT.

Costs Would Have Prest-O-Lite Company on Edge of City.

Fire Chief Charles E. Coats and Building Inspector Thomas Winterwood will order early this week in reference to controlling the re-establishment of the Prest-O-Lite Company.

Chief Coats believes that the nature of the fire is too dangerous to life and property to permit a plant to be situated in the very heart of a population center, as was the plant destroyed yesterday.

### LUCKY STOPPED GAS FLOW.

Prevented Further Machinery Damage.

John Luckey's injuries at the Prest-O-Lite yesterday were due to his efforts to stop the gas flow from the acetylene tanks.

It all happened so quickly that Luckey, who was in the plant at the time of the explosion, and who stated his name as John Luckey, was in charge of the plant at the time of the explosion.

That none of them were killed is a marvel to the police and firemen, who were on the scene a few minutes after the fire broke out, for by the time the officers arrived, the terrific explosion was following in such quick succession that the debris was like a continuous rain, and pieces of steel were flying in all directions.

### FIRE PROTECTION LACKING.

Prest-O-Lite Building Not Fitted for Protection.

Such a large building, which was not fitted for protection, was situated in the heart of a population center, as was the plant destroyed yesterday.

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### RISKS LIFE FOR HORSE.

Drayman, Faithful to Animal in His Charge, Takes Long Chance.

A drayman named Young, employed by the Prest-O-Lite Company, was in the plant at the time of the explosion, and who stated his name as John Luckey, was in charge of the plant at the time of the explosion.

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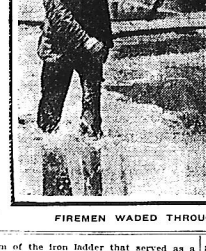
### CATCHES BREAKING GIRL.

August C. Tamm Breaks Young Woman's Fall and Suffers.

August C. Tamm was one of the first to arrive at the scene of the fire. He was in the plant at the time of the explosion, and who stated his name as John Luckey, was in charge of the plant at the time of the explosion.



FIREMEN WADED THROUGH A VERITABLE LAKE.



BIG TANK KEPT COOL.

Firemen Protect Great Receptacle and Prevent Serious Explosion.

A stream of water that played for an hour on a great retaining tank of acetylene gas at the Prest-O-Lite fire yesterday, prevented a serious explosion.

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### OLD "JACK" GIVES UP LIFE.

Watch Dog Overlooked in Rush to Safety.

An old "Jack" dog, who was in the plant at the time of the explosion, and who stated his name as John Luckey, was in charge of the plant at the time of the explosion.

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### DEBRIS STOPS SEWER.

Before the Prest-O-Lite fire broke out, a sewer pipe was blocked by debris.

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### COMPANY'S FUTURE UNCERTAIN.

Manager to Do Nothing Until Word Comes From Owners.

Frank E. Sweet, manager of the Prest-O-Lite Company, was in the plant at the time of the explosion, and who stated his name as John Luckey, was in charge of the plant at the time of the explosion.



FIREMAN FIGHTING THROUGH FLAME AND SMOKE.



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### EDWIN S. DILL IS SOUGHT.

Local Police Attempt to Locate Father of Destitute Girl.

Search for Edwin S. Dill, said formerly to have been an Indianapolis broker, is being made by the local police, at the request of the authorities at the Montgomery County Prison, Norrisville, Tenn.

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### COOKS BATTLE IN KITCHEN.

Ten or eleven cooks were fighting in the kitchen at White's restaurant.

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### MAZDA FAMILY REUNION.

Members of the Mazda family were reunited at the scene of the fire.

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## CUBA'S FUTURE GOOD

ISLAND HAS BRIGHT OUTLOOK

### Manager of Sugar Plantation in Indianapolis Enthusiastic About Southern Country.

H. B. Childs, general manager of a sugar company that accumulated 50,000 acres of plantation land in Central Cuba, has come away from the island for a few weeks' vacation and is spending part of it in Indianapolis.

Childs, who is the manager of the plantation, is a native of the United States and has been in Cuba for several years. He is a man of great energy and is very enthusiastic about the future of the island.

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**E. O. LANGEN CO.**  
OUTFITTERS TO WOMEN.

**Women's Tailored Suits**  
From Our Spring and Summer Lines

**In Two Lots at \$9.75 and \$16.75**

The \$9.75 lot includes all Tailored Suits that formerly sold at \$30, \$35 and \$40.

The \$16.75 lot includes all Tailored Suits that formerly sold at \$45, \$50 and up to \$60.

As there are only about seventy-five suits in the entire collection it will be to your interest to be among the early purchasers tomorrow morning.

**Sale of \$7.50, \$8.50 and \$10.00**  
**SHIRTAUST SUITS at \$4.75**

Dainty White Princess and Two-piece Dresses, made from fine quality Persian Lawn, trimmed in laces and embroidery—handsome dresses, clean and desirable in every way. All sizes. Choose

**\$4.75**

**New Fall Styles in Tailored Suits are Being Shown in Our Popular Suit Department.**  
You Are Invited to Review Them.

13 and 15 W. Washington St. **Langen** Indianapolis.

## Join a Circulating Library of Music

THOUSANDS of persons read books taken from a circulating library. Why not listen to music on the same plan?

In connection with the Pianola and Pianola Piano we maintain a circulating library of music-rolls. You get a change of 24 rolls every month.

In the course of a year you will have heard 288 different compositions. Not only that, but you will have had the pleasure of playing them personally.

If you contrast your present musical opportunities with this vastly greater amount of pleasure that Pianola provides, you will appreciate how much you are missing in not owning this best of Home Entertainers.

## THE AEOLIAN CO., 114 Monument Place

left Cuba hundreds of the soldier boys who had been in Cuba for several years. They were in the plant at the time of the explosion, and who stated their names as John Luckey, was in charge of the plant at the time of the explosion.

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