

# STUBBORN FIRES GIVE FIREMEN A CHANCE TO FIGHT

## Chestnut Street House and Front Street Block Burn

Bath firemen had two stubborn fires to fight Thursday night, one at the home of Mrs. Samuel Gordon, Chestnut street, and one on Front street in the Kimball block, now owned by Samuel Greenblatt. The first fire was at the Gordon residence and the fire companies had just returned to their houses and all hose were frozen when the department was called out for the Front street fire. Estimated damages at the two fires is \$7,000.

Box 46 called the department to the Gordon fire at 7.17. The Combination 4 had been on the scene a short time trying to put out the fire without calling out the department but a backfire in the basement disclosed that there was considerable blaze in between partitions so the general alarm was immediately pulled. This fire started under the ell of the house when Sam Mack and Abie Gordon were thawing out a drain pipe with rags saturated with kerosene. The pipe was near the partition and the air sucked some of the fire up and caught the woodwork above the sills. Mr. Mack at once telephoned Combination 4 which made a quick run to the fire and started to fight the blaze with a chemical. Suddenly there was a hot air explosion and the general alarm was quickly pulled. The fire worked its way through several partitions and gave the firemen a hard battle and it had to be fairly drowned out. The part of the property which runs from main house to ell was gutted and the main house badly damaged by water.

The Gordon property consists of the grocery store, a big back ell which connects with the main house and the loss is estimated at about \$2000 covered by insurance. The all out was sounded at 8.45 and 45 minutes later, before the men had the hose straightened out in the houses an alarm came in from box 42.

This fire started in a rear room of the Watkins store, formerly the Woman's Exchange, and occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Green who lived in back of the store. No one was in the store at the time and how the fire caught is a mystery. It got a big headway however and ran through to the roof, especially in the rear of the building over the room where it started. Hot air blew out the front windows. This was another stubborn fire to fight, partitions sucking up the flames and the block was gutted. Mr. and Mrs. Green did not have any insurance nor were there any on the Scott harness and leather shop next door north, which was a fire in the rear and was gutted with water and smoke. The tenement over the two stores is vacant. The store of Morris Povich in the next block and the offices of the Webster Jewelry Co., and Prudential Insurance Co., were filled with smoke. Loss at this fire about \$5,000. Mr. Greenblatt has insurance on the building. The all out was sounded at 10.57.

Ed Rice, a fireman, had one hand cut quite badly.

**TWO BODIES HAVE**