"Lessons hard to learn are sweet to know"

WE CLOSE SATU Saturday, January 2d

The Leat January Clearing Sale begins Saturday. Every department offers the most unusual values. With plenty of cold toming and with prices like these quoted we cannot urge upon you too strongly the advantages of this sale. Store open at 8 o'clock.

CLOAK DEPARTMENT-We Announce

TURDAY our annual January Special One-half Price Sale of Coats, with hundreds of THIS YEAR'S latest productions-not an old coat in the stock. he past two days throngs of delighted women have been examining, admiring and wondering at the marvelous low prices of the COATS which will be sold on Saturday, January 2d, at exactly one-half of the actual year we have made greater preparations than ever, so that our Cloak sale tomorrow will be the greatest money-saving event ever held in the city of Omaha. that we have placed these Coats on exhibition in our store for the past two days will convince the most critical that NOT an old garment or style is shown in this immense assortment. We have sizes, styles and

afficient to please and fit every lady in the city. owing will give but a very inadequate idea of what to expect on Saturday.

pats-Louis the 14th Comforts and Blanketshandsomely made. Saturday's price, \$20.00.

our \$30 style, Saturday's our \$25 style, Saturday's n 34 to 44

made; most

\$15.00. oth Coats -

rave hundreds of the legant styles of rich, By tailored coats, in all AND COLORS. There many choice things that possible to even mention lowever, come Saturday will please you.

coats, Saturday's price, \$25. coats, Saturday's price, \$15.00, coats, Saturday's price, \$12.50. coats, Saturday's price, \$10. coats, Saturday's price, \$7.50. oth coats, Saturday's price \$6.25.

made of Priestley's Cratte-about fifty coats in all ey will also be sold Satur at half price.

rain coats, Saturday's price, \$12.50. rain coats, Saturday's price, \$10.00, rain coats, Saturday's price, \$9.00. rain coats, Saturday's price, \$7.50.

hildrens Coats -

Too numerous to mention-all n sale Saturday morning-at alf our regular price.

\$5.00 coats, Saturday's price, \$2.50. \$7.50 coats. Saturday's price \$3.75. \$19 coats, Saturday's price, \$5.00. \$15 coats, Saturday's price \$7.50.

Important Notice

We have an immense stock of ost beautiful FURS, elegant ess and Walking Skirts, fine for Made Suits, Waists and Stlyish Novelty Silks icoats, which will be put on at special low prices, of ich notice will be AN-DUNCED later. Consult your on interest and WATCH our ally ADS.

Duting Flannel Night Shirts—

Men's Outing Flannel Night shirts, pretty and neat paterns, well made, good full lib-

January Clearing Sale on

We know you have been waiting for this opportunity and you shall not be disappointed.

In the face of higher market prices on Comforts and Blankets we offer you the best and most this sale 98c per yard. reliable goods for less than mill prices. We need the room. It will certainly pay you to investi-

gate and invest. \$1.00 Silkoline Comforters, @c each. \$1.55 Silkoline Comforters, 83c each. \$1.50 Silkoline Comforters, \$1.08 each. \$1.75 Silkoline Comforters, \$1.19 each. \$2.00 Silkoline Comforters, \$1.39 each. \$2.50 Sateen Comforters, \$1.78 each. \$3.50 Sateen Comforters, \$2,29 each. \$4.50 Wool Comforters, \$2.29 each.

\$18 White Blankets, \$12 a pair. \$16.50 White Blankets, \$11.00 a pair. \$12 White Blankets, \$8 a pair, \$7.50 White Blankets, \$5.88 a pair. \$6 White Blankets, \$4.98 a pair. \$4.25 White Blankets, \$3.28 a pair. \$3.20 White Blankets, \$2.39 a pair. \$2.75 Grey or White Blankets, \$1.98 a pair \$2.65 Grey Wool Blankets, \$188 a pair.

\$3.50 Wool Comferters, \$1.98 each.

\$2.50 Grey Wool Blankets, \$1.75 a pair. \$3.25 Grey Wool Blankets, \$2.48 a pair. All of our imported Robe Blankets that sold at \$1.75, \$2.00, \$2.50, \$2.75 and \$3.25, go at All Cotton Blankets at greatly reduced

\$16.60 Down Quilts, \$6.88 each. \$9.90 Down Quilts, \$6.29 each. \$7.00 Down Quilts, \$4.50 each. \$4.50 Down Quilts, \$2.98 each.

Corset Clearing Sale,

At \$1-reduced from \$7 each. La Vida, boned with real whalebone, straight front, made of fine French coutille and Italian lasting cloth, shapes are right but sizes missing, so we drop the price to almost nothing to send them out

At \$5-reduced from \$10. Two handsome brocade corsets, "La Vida," white silk, sprinkled with small

pink rose buds, boned with genuine whalebone, long hips, finished with Mechlin lace and pink ribbons, sizes 20 and 25 only. At 50c-reduced from \$1.50

and \$1. All standard makes, (R and G), (H. and H.), (W. B.), Straight Front, with dip hips, mostly all new models, assortment of sizes

Here is the important part of this special silk sale. It is not the ordinary, cheap, trashy silks usually offered you at these

these same silks-pretty, small figures, dots, dashes, just the material for the pretty shirt waist suit, fancy waist, etc. must come and see them. \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50 silk in this sale 39c, 49c, 59c, 69c a yard, FANCE VELVETS AND VELVET CORDS \$1.00 hundsome Velvet Cords, in this sale 63c yard.

75c Stylish Metallic Print Velvets, black 75c Gowns in this sale, 55c with small white dots, black with color, gun metal, etc., in this sale 37% yard.

Our Great Annual January Linen! Sale Begins Saturday Morning-TABLE DAMASK

All our \$1.75 Bleached Satin Damask, in this sale, \$1.10 per yard. All our \$1.65 Bleached Satin Damask, in this sale, \$1.00 per yard. All our \$1.00 Bleached Heavy Damask, cut in half.

in this sale, 750 per yard. All our \$1.50 bleached satin damask, in All our \$1.50 sliver bleached damask, in this sale \$1.00 per yard.

All our \$1,00 Sliver Bleached Damask, in this sale, 75c per yard. All our 75c Silver Bleached Damask, in this sale, 48c per yard.

TABLE CLOTHS All our \$1.75 Bleached Table Cloths, in this sale, \$1.00 each. All our \$2.25 Bleached Table Cloths, this sale, \$1.69 each. All our \$3.00 Bleached Table Cloths, in this sale, \$2.00 each All our \$3.50 Bleached Table Cloths, this sale, \$2.38 each. All our \$3.85 Bleached Table Cloths, in this sale, \$2.75 each. All our \$3.75 Bleached Table Cloths, in this sale, \$2.50 each.

All our \$4.50 Bleached Table Cloths, in this sale, \$3.28 each. All our \$6.00 Bleached Table Cloths. this sale, \$4.28 each. All our \$7.50 Bleached Table Cloths, in this sale, \$5.00 each. A lot of \$10.00 cloths, in this January sale \$5.00 each.

BLEACHED NAPKINS. All our \$1.75 bleached napkins, in the sale, \$1.00 a dozen. All our \$2.35 bleached napkins, in thi sale, \$1.69 a dozen. All our \$2.75 bleached napkins, in sale, \$1.95 a dozen All our \$3.00 bleached napkins, in this sale, \$2.00 a dozen. All our \$3.50 bleached napkins, in this sale, \$2.65 a dozen. All our \$3.75 bleached napkins, in sale, \$2.89 a dozen All our \$4.60 bleached napkins, in this sale, \$3.38 a dozen.

A special lot of John 8, Brown's \$4.0 napkins, in this sale at \$2.75 a dozen, 190 dozen of John S. Brown's \$8.50 % napkins, in this sale, \$5.00 a dozen. CRASHES AND TOWELINGS. All our 75c brown linen crash, in this

sale, 314c a yard. All our 10c bleached linen crash, in thi sale, 7%c a yard. All our 15c bleached heavy crash, in this sale, 11%c a yard. TOWELS! TOWELS!!

All our 25c H. S. huck towels, in this sale, 19c each. All our 45c H. S. huck towels, in this sale, 25c each. All our \$1.00 H. S. damask toweds, in this sale. 75c each. All our \$2.00 H, S, huck towels, in this

FANCY HUCKS. All our \$1.25 fancy figured hucks, in this sale, \$1.00 per yard. All our 65c fancy figured hucks, in this sale, 55c per yard. All our 65c plain buck, in this sale 50c

SCRUB CLOTHS. All our 816c scrub cloths, in this sale, 5c each.

AT JUST ONE-HALF PRICE. All our real hand made cluny lace and Chinese grass linen center pieces, table covers, scarfs, doylles, plate doylles, lunch cloths, tray cloths, etc., that were excellent values before reduced-prices are now

\$25 real cluny lace table covers, in this sale, \$12.50. \$25.00 real cluny lace center piece, in this ale, \$12.50 \$10.00 real cluny lace center piece, in this sale, \$5.00.

\$5.00 real cluny lace center piece, in this sale, \$2.50 each. \$10.00 real Chinese grass linen center piece -in this sale \$5.00 each. \$5.00 real Chinese grass linen center piece, in this sale, \$2.50 each.

\$4.00 real Chinese grass linen center piece, in this sale, \$2.00 each. \$1.75 real Chinese and cluny lace plate doylies, in this sale, 88c \$1.00 real Chinese and cluny lace doylies, in this sale, 50c. 50c real cluny lace doylies, in this sale,

\$1.50 Teneriffe center pieces, in this sale, \$2.25 each \$12.75 real cluny lace scarf, in this sale, \$6.38 each. \$10.75 roal cluny lace scarf, in this sale,

Golf Gloves-

This popular line of Gloves will be included in this great clearing sale. You will find the assortments large and the qualities of the best.

Women's 75c golf gloves, reduced to, 50c \$1.25 NEW BASKET NOVELTY, 98c A YD per pair. Women's 50c golf gloves, reduced to 25c per pair. White, gray and black, in plain and

fancy stitchings, also a few with fancy Men's 50c golf gloves, reduced to 25c each. In this lot you will find many of the popular golf green shades.

Hoslery Clearance—

Some of the greatest reductions in the store will take \$2.75 GUN METAL ZIBELINES, \$1.49 place in our hosiery stock. Over | The swell fabric of the season, handthree thousand pairs of women's some long silk glossy hair, good weight, All our 10c and 12% huck towels, in this and children's hose at a price nothing better or more stylish at any price,

Lot 1 at 19c per pair. Values worth up to 35c per pair. This lot is comprised of women's plain black cotton-also lace stripes in black and col-

Here are 85c, 75c and 50c values. Women's plain black lisles and cottons, some split coles-beautiful patterns in lace hosiery, in black and colors, Rembrandt ribs, in black and colors, also fancy striped hoslery. No disappointment, for the values will surprise you.

Thompson, Belden & Co.

Y. M. C. A. Building, Corner Sixteenth and Douglas Sts.

Sweeping Reduction in Colored Dress Goods-

Prices for the most part have been cut clean in two-some are only about one-third regular prices., In other words, this is the big sweeping out sale you have been waiting for. Too complete list. You won't be disappointed when you come. Remember all to go on sale at 8 a. m. Saturday sharp.

50c ALL WOOL ZIBELINE, 29c A YARD. In pretty shades of gray mix, blue mix, plain brown and green, handsome glossy finish, in this sale, 29c a yard .-

50c NOVELTY IN SMALL INVISIBLE CHECK, 29c A YARD. Very pretty for children's school dresses, three styles to choose from, in this sale,

me a yard. \$1.25 MIXED NOVELTY, 78c A YARD. In the pretty shades of green mix, blue mix, and three shades of blue and two of green, very stylish, handsome rich finish,

in this sale, 79c a yard. 2.00 IMPORTED FLECKED ZIBELINE. 98c A YARD.

This pretty, dressy tabric is from abroad the beautiful rich glossy finish has a small dainty fleck of white scattered over the surface, one of the season's handsomes: fabrics, in this sale, 98c a yard.

\$1.50 NOVELTY ZIBELINE, 95c A YARD. Navy ground, with a dainty fleck of green, black ground with white, etc., very stylish, in this sale, 98c a yard.

In the new shades of gun metal and blue, in this sale, 25c a yard. \$1.75 NEW TUFTED NOVELTY, \$1.09 A YARD.

They are the height of dress elegance, only two shades left, garnet and green a most beautiful fabric, in this sale, \$1.09 a yard.

\$1.75 BOURET NOVELTY, \$1.05 A YARD Only two shades left of this pretty novelty, green with black nob, black with white, in this sale, \$1.05 a yard.

just the material for a stylish jacket suit,

that will sell them quick. We in two shades, gun metal and tan, in this have divided them in two lots. \$2.5 IMPORTED FLECKED NOVELTY. NOW %c A YARD. Beautiful medium weight fabric in th

new colors, with a tiny fleck or dot of contrasting color on dark ground, very exclusive and stylish, in this sale, 880

\$3.00 PARISIAN NOVELTY, NOW \$1.30 A YARD. Handsome rich colors with just a sugger tion of colors scattered over the surface all high grade dress goods, in this sale, \$3.00 PARISIAN NOVELTY ZIBELINE, NOW \$1.79 A YARD.

These are the goods you have admired so much, but thought the price too high, now is the time to buy if you can find the wanted color, in this sale, \$1.79 a yard. \$2.25 BOURET NOVELTY, NOW SEC A YD. In two styles only, a 56-in. fabric, in this sale, 98c a yard.

\$2.00 FINE IMPORTED ROPE NOVELTY NOW 79c A TARD. \$1.25 NEW LATTICE ETAMINE, NOW

896 A YARD. many different prices to give a 81.75 IMPORTED SCOTCH NOVELTY NOW 98c A YARD. \$1.75 AND \$2.00 SILK FINISHED ZIBE-

LINES, NOW 98c A YARD. One of this season's most snappy sultings, beautiful rich luster, in the new shades of red, green, brown, tan, etc. style and finish of these goods are the finest produced this season, nothing handsomer at any price, in this sale, 98c a yard.

Pretty Wool Waistings at Cut Prices-

Clearing out the broken lines, no matter how nice the goods or what they cost, they must go all at hurrying prices.

\$1.50 IMPORTED STRIPED WAISTING, in this sale, 49c a yard. 85C HANDSOME STRIPED NOVELTY,

in this sale, 390 a yard. 75c PERSIAN STRIPED NOVELTY, to this sale, 49c a yard

75e BEDFORD CORD NOVELTY, with pointilla dot, in this sale, 29c a yard. 75c PRINTED PERSIAN NOVELTIES, extra fine quality, in this sale, 50c a yard. CLEARING OUT THE PRETTY CHAL-

All clean, nice fresh goods, not a po style or color in the lot, Many broker lines you have been paying us more money for, now the odd pieces are all to go at next to nothing in price. 60c PLAIN CHALLIES-colors red, pink

blue, etc., in this sale 39c a yard. 85c SILK AND WOOL STRIPED CHAL LIES-fine line of colors to choose from, in this sale, 89c a yard. 65c fine Imported Challies, all choice pat

January Reductions in Knitted Goods-

terns, in this sale, 39c a vard,

ICE WOOL SQUARES. 75c squares reduced to 50c. \$1.00 squares reduced to 75c. \$1.50 squares reduced to \$1.00.

WOOL FASCINATORS \$1 fascinators reduced to 75c. LADIES' BLACK WORSTED HOODS. \$1 hoods reduced to 60c. 60c hoods reduced to 85c

WOOL KNITTED SKIRTS, \$1.00 and \$1.25 skirts reduced to 75c. \$1.50 and \$1.65 skirts reduced to \$1.00. \$1.75 skirts reduced to \$1.25. \$2.00 skirts reduced to \$1.50.

WOOL SCARFS. Two and one-half yards long, in pink, blue and lavender shades, that were \$2, your

KNITTED WOOL TOQUES. That were 50c each, your choice at 35c.

LADIES' PETTICOATS. Fleeced petticoats that were \$1 reduced to

Outing flannel petticoats that were reduced to 25c each. Fine French flannel embroidered petticoats that were \$3 and \$3.25 reduced to \$3

The Muslin Underwear Sale-

This January Clearance Sale of Muslin Underwear means a sweeping reduction in price of Gowns, Drawers, Chemise,

Skirts and Corset Covers. LADIES' GOWNS. At 50c reduced from 59c and 75c. At 69c, reduced from 85c. At 75c, reduced from \$1.00 and \$1.35.

At \$1.00, reduced from \$1.50. At \$1.25, reduced from \$1.75. At \$1.50, reduced from \$3 and \$3.25. At \$2, reduced from \$2.75. At \$2.75, reduced from \$3.75. At \$2.50, reduced from \$3.50.

At \$3.50, reduced from \$5.00. At \$3.00, reduced from \$4.50. At \$7.50, reduced from \$11.25. DRAWERS. All 850 drawers reduced to 50c.

All \$1 and \$1.25 drawers reduced to Tec. All \$1.50 drawers reduced to \$1.00. All \$1.75 drawers reduced to \$1.25. All \$2 and \$2.25 drawers reduced to \$1.50. All \$2.50 drawers reduced to \$1.75.

All \$3 drawers reduced to \$2.00. All \$2.50 drawers reduced to \$2.50. All \$4 drawers reduced to \$3.00. All \$5.00 drawers reduced to \$3.50. CORSET COVERS.

All 50c covers reduced to 25c. All The covers reduced to 50c. All 85c covers reduced to 69c. All \$1 and \$1.25 covers, reduced to 750 All \$1.50 and \$1.75 covers reduced to \$1.00. All \$2 and \$2.25 covers reduced to \$1.50. All \$2.50 covers reduced to \$1.75.

All \$3 and \$2.25 covers reduced to \$2.00. All \$3.75, \$4.50 and \$5 covers, reduced to \$3. SKIRTS. All \$1 skirts, reduced to 75c. All \$1.25 skirts, reduced to 89c. All \$1.50 skirts, reduced to \$1.00. All \$1.75 skirts, reduced to \$1.25.

All \$2 and \$2.25 skirts, reduced to \$1.50. All \$2.75 skirts, reduced to \$2.00. All \$3.00 skirts, reduced to \$2.25. All \$3.25 skirts, reduced to \$2.50. All \$3.75 skirts, reduced to \$2.75. All \$4.50 and \$4.75 skirts, reduced to \$3.50 All \$5.00 and \$5.25 skirts reduced to \$3.75. All \$7.50 skirts, reduced to \$5.50.

\$8.25 skirts reduced to \$6.00. \$12 skirts reduced to \$8.50. \$13.50 skirts reduced to \$10.00. \$16.75 skirts reduced to \$12.00. CHEMISE. All \$1.00 chemise reduced to 50c. All \$1.25 chemise reduced to 75c.

All \$3.50 chemise reduced to \$2.50.

All \$4.50 chemise reduced to \$3.00.

All \$2.75 and \$3 chemise reduced to \$2.00.

Clearing Underwear-

All the broken lines, odds and ends go on sale Saturday. The room they take up is valuable to us so the price has been duced for quick selling.

Women's Oneita Combination Suits. All \$1.50 natural wool Oneitas, reduced to 98c per suit.

All \$1.00 natural wool and balbriggan Oneitas, reduced to 65c per suit. All 50c ecru and gray Oneitas, reduce to 250 per suit. Women's \$1.00 yests and pants, reduced to

50c each. These are a very fine medius weight ecru cotton, beautifully finished. Children's fleeced cotton shirts and dray ers, sizes worth up to 85c, your choice

Boys' heavy fleeced union suits, sold no 500 and 60c-Saturday your choice at per suit. Men's 50c fleeced shirts and drawers.

ty blue shade, reduced to Mc each. Men's 75c natural wool shirts and dra extra value, reduced to 55c each. Men's \$1.00 camel hair color shirt drawers, reduced to 75c each.

Tonight these places were deted, while in some doors were locked curtains drawn. or the second time Chicago has been

en to the heart. Not only have many

BOYS' SUITS

1-Heavy and medium thi suits, all styles, none th less than \$4.50, and some th \$5.00, out 2.85

Boys' Overcoats

and Reefers

285

75c

The calamity of the Iroquois the- variety of horrible and torturing forms, ight the only throngs were those around directly or indirectly interested in the piles d with lighthearted revelers, who toast missing-probably dead, likely burned or

on strangers within its gates. There is of dead or in the injured which fill the trampled beyond recognition. Cities far distant in America are mourners and sympathy has come from across the seas. The ist of dead grows, as it was given last ight in the neighborhood of 600. A widely ecepted estimate is 564 dead. This number

GIRLS' COATS

LOT 1+Girls' coats in kerseys, beavers, zibelines and fancy

Children's Bonnets

LOT 1—Fancy bonnets in blue, red, pink or brown, worth 750 and 85c, out they 30c

LOT 3-Bonnets of nearly all colors, also white, worth 660 to \$1.26, out they 50c

Girls' and Misses'

Furs

Still a nice assortment and prices reduced.

GIRLS' TAM O'SHANTERS Worth 50c and 75c, 30

3.98

39c

50c

1.00

5.90

cloakings, coats \$5.50, \$6 and \$6.50,

LOT 2-Garments \$8.50 and \$9.50, out they go.....

they go

ed only to give utterance to universal of its sons and daughters met death in a will likely be increased, as there are per- inent architects of Chicago tonight may offers of aid. It may be that before we get in their power to supply information con has cast Chicago in gloom. Business but the blow has fallen almost as heavily It is believed, however, that the total numy was performed with a view to ne-ity. Ordinarily on New Year's eve the hardly a village or town within a radius of the dead, missing and injured the total ber of dead will not exceed 600. Including are filled with merrymakers, but 100 miles of Chicago whose people are not number of casualties is approximately 1,000. There were about 2,500 spectators and actors in the theater at the time of the fire. marily fashionable restaurants are hospitals, or in the fate of those who are In the excitement following the calamity many persons were reported missing who these returns has been made to the police and their names still swell the list of miss-When the names of the dead who are still to be identified have been subtracted from the list of missing it is probbe fully revealed.

per yard.

There was animated discussion today and architects as to the cause of the fire. probably the safest theater in Chicago." The theatrical people are a unit in declaring that the fire started with an ex-

second balcony, today said:

I plainly saw the fire. I am a large woman, weighing close to 150 pounds, and I made up my mind that if there was to be a punic it would be wise for me to beat it to the street. I left my seat in the balcony, went down the stairs to the first balcony and from there started to pass out through the very door in which so many people were killed a few minutes later. The door was closed and a man standing on the outside refused to open it for me. Whether he was an employe of the theater I don't know, but he had evidently determined that no one should leave the theater and in doing so started a panic. I was leaving quietly up to this time, but when he refused to allow me to pass out peaceably I determined to get out if I had to make all forts of noise. I went along the balcony about ten feet to a glans partified and amashed it with the point of my umbrella. I went out and down the stairs. When I was about half way down I heard the roar of the crowd as it came after me and I hurried with all the speed I had. They overtook me, however, knocked me down, and, but for the fact that I was close to the door. I think my chances of life would have been almost nothing. As it was I think I must have walked the lant ten feet of my passage to the exit on the bodies of those who had fallen.

The best evidence at present obtainable

cause at present and they differ so widely that it is difficult to ascertain the truth of May Close Other Houses.

is that the fire was started by sparks from

an are light striking the edge of the drop

curtain, but this has not been proved.

There are so many statements as to the

sons in hospitals who will probably die. result a recommendation to Mayor Harrison to close every theater in Chicago until the exits and the construction has been today by W. A. Pridmore, an architect who lost sone relatives in the fire. President Beaumont refused personally to make the recommendation to Mayor Harrison, have since returned home. No report of but called an informal meeting of the association at which it was decided that a larger gathering of the members would be held tomorrow to take action

able that the extent of the catastrophe will than for stopping all railway trains after a disastrous wreck. There is no necessity of becoming hysterical about this matter, among firemen, employes of the theater although the disaster has taken place in all the proprietors of theaters in Chicago:

ordinance has not been obeyed to assign two regular firemen to the duty of protecting the public against fire. The wages of these firemen will be billed direct to the theaters to which they are assigned and the service will be continued until the council has finally acted on the ordinance.

After dispatching this letter the mayor

to the people of Chicago and offers of aid poured in by telegraph on the mayor. He announced tonight: "I have received many

through this trouble a few persons will be cerning the dead and wounded, but five found to be in need, but Chicago will be times the number of available men in the

Saturday a Day of Mourning. In addition to the proclamation issued during the afternoon, suggesting that the usual New Year's festivities be abandoned, Mayor Harrison tonight announced that all departments of the city would be closed on Saturday, January 2, on account of the calamity at the Iroquois.

He made the request that all the bustness houses of Chicago also close on that day, making it a day of general mourning. On every train which arrived in Chicago today came relatives of persons thought to have been killed or injured in the fire. The lobbles of the down town hotels were scenes of many happy meetings as well as of anxious inquirles on the part of fathers, mothers and more distant relatives of persons of whom no trace could be found. Many of these people returned to the hotels late in the evening after either a fruitiess search for their loved ones or after finding in a charred and disfigured body lying in a morgue all that remained of the relative or friend for whom they had searched.

From early in the morning until late at night crowds besieged the undertaking rooms and hospitals looking for dead and places where the dead and injured had been carried to restrain the anxious men and women who pressed in at the doorways and nquired for lost friends and relatives. In all the undertaking rooms bodies were placed, as far as possible, on cots, and when these were exhausted stretched in long lines on the floor, and a constant succession of pale-faced men and tearful women passed slowly between the bodies, lifting the coverings from the charred and bruised faces and searching for something by which their lost ones could be recor nized. In many instances women fainted when lifting the sheet from some face in which they recognized the features of a dead child. While the crowds of anxious seekers for news besieged the different norgues, the telegraph and long-distance telephone offices were almost swamped with the flood of inquiring messages. Mes senger boys for the telegraph companies were swamped with messages all day and tonight the terrific rush of business was still on. Private wires of stock exchange and board of trade houses were likewise loaded down with inquiries and the an-

Chicagos telephone service has never be fore been put to such a test. Every available operator was pressed into service and It was impossible to obtain con with some of the outlying exnections changes

coroner's office could not have accomplished the task. Crowds besieged the coroner' office all day and begged that arrangements might be so that they could view the bodies without delay. The applicants promptly furnished with permits, which they showed to the police and which admitted them to any morgue. Six bushel baskets of valuables and trinkets of various kinds were gathered in the theater by policemen and firemen and turned over to the coroner. Among these were fully a dozen watches, and in every case the watch had stopped at 3:50 o'clock. The fire started about 3:15 o'clock. Coroner Starts Inquir.y

Coroner Traeger tonight conducted ar informal inquiry in the cause of the fire. His first witness was William C. Sellers, a fireman employed at the Iroquois. Sellers did not know just how the fire began, but saw it shortly after it started. He threw extinguishers on the blaze, but without effect. He tried to pull down the drop curtain or tear loose that portion of it which was blazing, but without success. The fire then spread so rapidly that he was unable to do much. Eight other witnesses were ported killed in the balcony with a party heard, and Assistant State's Attorney A. A. father went to Chicago a few years ago,

Heard, and Assistant State's Attorney A. A. Heer, who was present, said:

It seems agreed that the asbestos curtain was dropped, but went to only within ten or fifteen feet of the stage floor. People on the stage opened the door leading from the stage into the street on the west side of the theater and this created a strong draft. The draft blew the curtain out toward the audience. This held the curtain so tightly that all attempts to lower if further were fruitiess. Attempts were made by numerous persons to pull the curtain down by hand, but without success. From all the information we have been able to gather thus far it seems to me as though the fault in creating the draft, which threw the audience into a panic by forcing the flames out over their heads, was due far more to the action of the theaterical people in opening the door at the rear of the theater than to the audience in opening the doors in front. The management of the theater I believe, assert that it was the action of the audience that made the draft that was the primary cause of the disaster. I may be wrong, but from the evidence now at hand I think it will be shown that the draft was caused by the action of the stage hands or rembers of the company, instead of anything done by the audience in its attempt to escape. Heer, who was present, said:

FIVE DES MOINES PEOPLE DEAD

One Old Resident and Business Man and Others Prominent Society Women.

(From a Staff Correspondent.) DES MOINES, Dec. 31 .- (Special.)-Governor Cummins this morning sent the following telegram to the mayor of Chicago: On behalf of the people of Iowa I extend to the stricken and bereaved families who suffered in yesterday's unparalleled dis-

aster our deepest sympathy. We with you in this great affliction.

A. B. CUMMINS, Gove Mayor Brenton also sent a similar to the mayor of Chicago on behalf

people of Des Moines. There was sorrow in Des Moines of death of five persons, either resid Des Moines or recently living her H. Holland, who perished in the Chicago, was an old resident, of of Holland & New, dealers in wal He had gone to Chicago on bush went to the theater with his stepd who lives in Chicago and who ished. She formerly lived here and was well known.

Two young women prominent here died in the fire. They were Mrs. Lynn Tuttle and Mrs. N. M. Stark, sisters. They were daughters of the late John Given, for a number of years superintendent of the Iowa division of the Rock Island railroad. They mingled in high society in Des Moines and were accomplished women. They had gone to Chicago with their husbands, who went on business, and they were at the matinee. News was received this afternoon that their husbands had found their bodies under the wreckage in fairly good condition. Miss Helen McCaughan, who was re-

claim agent of the Rock Island railroad. The bodies of Mr. Holland, Mrs. Tuttle, Mrs. Stark and Miss McCaughan will all be brought to Des Moines for burial. A Guaranteed Cure for Piles.

of girls, was born in Des Moines and her

where he holds the position of general

Itching, Blind, Bleeding or Protruding PAZO OINTMENT fails to cure you in 6 to 14 days. 50c.



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and manufacture.

1515 Douglas

Read!--MOTHERS--Read! Saturday Morning at 8 o'clock we commence our

sage to the exit on the bodies of those who had fallen.

The best evidence at present obtainable

the matter. From the action of a committee of prom

dent Beaumont of the Chicago architects abundantly cared for."

Mayor Harrison said tonight; "I see no more reason for closing all the theaters The mayor sent the following letters to

claring that the fire started with an explosion, and in this they are flatly contradicted by scores of people in the audience who declare that they saw the fire creeping along the edge of the curtain for several minutes before the explosion took place. A number of people left their seats after seeing the blaze and were well on their way to the street when overtaken by the frightened rush of those they had left behind them.

Door Was Helä Shut.

Miss Anna Woodward, who sat in the second balcony, today said:

I plainly saw the fire. I am a large woman, weighing close to 180 pounds, and I made up my mind that if there was to be a panic it would be wise for me to beat it to the street. I left my seat in the balcony and from there started to pass out through the very door in which so many people were killed a few minutes later. The door was an employe of the the duty of protecting the distance of the duty of protecting the dentity determined that no one should have the theater and pending the effect of the fired expanient to assign one regular member of the department to each theater in the fire man assigned by the chief should be assigned to the front of the house, while the fired expanient to assign one regular for me. Whether he was an employe of the theater and pending or the ordinance where the duty of protecting the theater and pending action of the city council, I have directed the chief of the fire department to assign one regular for me. Whether he was an employe of the theater and pending action of the city council, I have directed the chief of the fire department to assign one regular forced the chief that in cases where the dentity determined that no one should have the theater and pending action of the city council a report on theaters in Chicago. Calling attention to the city council a report on theaters in Chicago. Calling attention to the city council are report on theaters in Chicago. Calling attention to the city council are report on theaters in Chicago. Now minutes the city council are report on

If any of the theatrical managers refuses to pay the wages of these men, as several of them have refused in the past, I will close the doors of the theaters and keep them closed until they agree to act as they should.

axative Bromo Quinine

able to give that aid itself. Most of those examined. This was suggested to Pres!- killed and injured now identified can be

Tracger and his assistants did all