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# The Indianapolis Times

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## 17 PERISH IN FLAMES; LOSS HEAVY

Police Notified When Lad Wanders From Home to Find St. Nick.

"Jimmy" Hampton, 6, of 123 N. Noble St., is waiting for Santa Claus at home today. Tuesday, Jimmy started out on a private search for the old fellow, which lasted for three hours, and resulted in a "lost" alarm being sent in to the police by the frantic parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Hampton.

"I couldn't find Santa," Jimmy admitted, sadly, "but I almost did. I saw his snow."

If Jimmy's father hadn't taken him window shopping the other day, and if a woolly dog hadn't "flippy flopped" entrancingly Jimmy wouldn't have thought of the Santa Claus.

Grown folks only say, "wait, wait," these days, so Jimmy took the matter in hand and started out "on his own" to find Santa and tell him about the nice dog with the round glass eyes. Jimmy was in such haste he didn't even stop for his hat.

The boy returned on foot, and alone. "Oh, I just went every place," he explained, "only Santa wasn't there."



Nine Asphyxiated Miners

Taken From Ohio Shaft

Five Firemen Sacrifice

Lives Performing Their

Duty.

## THREE CHILDREN ARE VICTIMS OF MATCHES

Million Dollar Pennsylvania Blaze Burns Out Fifty

Business Firms—Hotel

Guests Flee as Building

Wall Collapses.

Fire caused seventeen deaths and exacted colossal property damage throughout the Nation today. Nine asphyxiated miners were taken from a mine at Bellaire, Ohio, after a blaze. Four firemen were killed fighting a Wayneburg (Pa.) hotel fire. Another was crushed battling a Baltimore grain warehouse catastrophe. Three Buffalo (N. Y.) children were victims of a fire started by their matches.

## NINE MINERS KILLED

Sixty-Eight Escape Blaze in Ohio Mine.

By United Press

BELLAIRE, Ohio, Dec. 23.—With nine of their comrades asphyxiated, all of the miners endangered when they broke out in the Webb Coal Company's Cambria mine near here shortly after midnight were accounted for today.

Sixty-eight miners escaped unscathed. They owe their lives to the heroism of their foreman, Jacob Schramm.

Schramm, controlling his panic stricken men with an iron hand, led them to safety through an unused entrance, a mile from the main shaft, when the fire occurred.

A short circuit, caused when a boulder fell on an electric conduit, started the blaze.

Flames and dense clouds of smoke quickly penetrated the arteries of the mine, extinguishing the lights and trapping the panic-stricken miners.

Fire apparatus could not be sent to the mine from Bellaire or surrounding villages due to the impassable roads.

## FOUR FIREMEN KILLED

Million-Dollar Blaze Burns Out

Fifty Business Firms.

By United Press

WAYNESBURG, Pa., Dec. 23.—A wall collapsed during a fire at the Downey House today, killing four firemen and seriously injuring two others.

The fire started in a restaurant on the ground floor of the Downey House, spread to the Grossman department store and then jumped across the street to the first Presbyterian church.

Fifty business concerns in the Downey House and Grossman building were burned out.

Damage was estimated at a million dollars.

Fifty guests at the Downey were forced to flee in their night clothing.

## THREE CHILDREN DIE

Tots Play With Matches, Start Fire and Suffocate.

By Times Special

BUFFALO, N. Y., Dec. 23.—A triple funeral for three children who were suffocated by smoke from a fire they started while playing with matches was planned today. The children, Gertrude Weis, 6; Joseph Weis, 5, and Rene Weis, 3, were left alone by their mother while she went Christmas shopping. Firemen found them sprawled on a floor, dead, in a smoke filled room.

## FIREMAN IS CRUSHED

100,000-Bushel Baltimore Grain Warehouse Destroyed.

By Times Special

BALTIMORE, Md., Dec. 23.—Fire Captain Harry Jones was killed today and five other firemen were hurt when fire destroyed the 100,000-bushel E. Steen & Bros. grain warehouse. A fallen wall crushed Jones and injured his companions.

## TANGLES WITH TRAIN

Motorist Faces Drunkenness Charge After Accident.

Newton Green, 1165 W. Twenty-Seventh St., was charged with drunkenness and operating an automobile while under the influence of liquor today.

He drove his auto into a belt train at S. Harding St., and the Big Four Railroad. He was cut about the

## PARENTS SCARED AS JIMMY HUNTS SANTA

Police Notified When Lad Wanders From Home to Find St. Nick.

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## ISLAND OF YAP DEVASTATED BY WAVES, REPORT

Dispatch Says No Houses Are Left Standing—Storms Grip Japan.

By United Press

HONOLULU, Dec. 23.—A Tokio dispatch to the Hawaii Hochi Sha said today that the island of Yap has been devastated by a series of tidal waves, believed to have been caused by earthquakes under the ocean.

"The entire island has been laid waste, with not one house remaining standing," the advice stated.

Grave fear is felt for the Carolines, believed to have been in the path of the tidal wave.

The same dispatch stated that Japan is in the grip of severe storms, raging with cyclonic fury.

Villages have been wrecked and railways and shipping are feeling the effects of the elements.

The wind has taken a heavy toll of lives, it was reported.

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## JUDGE ASKS POOLROOMS BE BONDED

Forfeiture of Big Sum Would Be Penalty for Allowing Minors to Congregate in Plan Suggested to City by Collins.

## AROUSED BY STORIES OF ACCUSED YOUTHS

More Bandit Toll Taken as Two Kroger Stores Are Held Up in Daylight Crime and Robbed of \$130—One Victim Struck.

A high bond for all proprietors of Indianapolis poolrooms, to be forfeited when guilty of law violations, especially when minors congregate in their places, was one of the cures for the juvenile crime wave that Criminal Judge James A. Collins suggested today to the incoming city administration.

Judge Collins condemned poolrooms when four youths appeared before him charged with auto banditry and robbery.

He also had another suggestion: "I pass this out as a hint to the new administration that the city council pass an ordinance fixing license fee for operation of poolrooms so high that the men who operate them will feel some duty toward law enforcement."

Poolrooms now pay annually \$1 fee and \$5 for each table.

## GROCERIES HELD UP

Meanwhile two youthful daylight bandits early today held up two Kroger groceries, 1705 and 3748 E. Michigan St., two miles apart, and \$1000 was taken.

One of the bandits, about 18, was shot in the leg and captured.

He was taken to a hospital and released.

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