

# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18<sup>TH</sup> ST.,



AAH.

*New York,* 17th May 1897. *189*

*m.*

Hon. William L. Strong,  
Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

I submit herewith a Synopsis of the Operations of this Department for the Week ending May 15th; 1897.

Respectfully,

*Stevenson Constable*  
Sup't of B'ldgs.

Dic. W.H.C.

58

CHURCH

A

1881. MAY 1887

1887

# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,

S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,



AAH.

*New York,* 17th May '97. 189

## Synopsis of Operations for the Week ending May 15th, 1897.

Plans filed for New Buildings - Main Office	42
Estimated Cost	\$798,100
Plans filed for New Buildings - Branch Office	21
Estimated Cost	\$ 64,650
Plans filed for Alterations - Main Office	21
Estimated Cost	\$ 69,650
Plans filed for Alterations - Branch Office	14
Estimated Cost	\$ 12,725
Buildings reported as Unsafe	83
Buildings reported for additional means of escape	18
Other Violations of Law reported	164
Unsafe Building notices issued	124
Fire Escape notices issued	26
Violation notices issued	366
Unsafe Building cases forwarded for prosecution	4
Violation cases forwarded for procesution	82
Complaints lodged with the Department	36
Iron and Steel Inspections made	4713

V.F.

New York, July 25th, 1896

Hon. Stevenson Constable,  
Superintendent of Buildings.

Dear Sir:-

You have submitted to me the question whether it is lawful for you, as Superintendent of Buildings, to approve of plans and specifications for the construction of a show window that projects twelve inches over the house line, starting eighteen inches above the ground.

Such a projection is an interference with the rights of the public to a free passage over every portion of the street, and is consequently unlawful unless sanctioned by the Legislature. The Legislature may itself directly authorize an occupation of the street, or may confer the power to act upon the Municipality.

In the City of New York the only authority for erecting such a window is an Ordinance of the Common Council, passed October 9, 1883. It amended Section 6 of Chapter 24 of the Ordinances of 1866. This Ordinance provides as follows:- "Show or bow windows may be placed in front of any store window opening, provided, however, that any such window shall not start from the ground, or level of the platform, and is at least eighteen inches above the same to the sill, and is supported on suitable brackets, and shall not extend above the first story, nor more than twelve inches from the front wall of the building to which it is attached, nor more than twelve inches beyond the jambs or posts at the sides of the opening, and that every such window shall, in all respects, conform to the laws regulating the erection of buildings in the City of New York".

It is noticeable that this ordinance does not in so many words permit show windows projecting twelve inches over the house line or line bounding the street. Such a construction, however, has always been put upon it, and for the purposes of this opinion I will assume that such was the intention of the Common Council.

By an examination of the Charter of the City of New York (Chapter 410, Laws of 1882) it appears to me that the Common Council, in the passage of this ordinance, has exceeded the powers therein upon it conferred, and as a result the same is void and of no effect.

Section 86 of Chapter 410 of the Laws of 1882 as amended enacts that "The Common council shall have power to make ordinances, not inconsistent with law and the constitution of this state, and with such penalties as are provided in the last section, in the matter and for the purposes following, in addition to other powers elsewhere especially granted, namely: x x x To prevent encroachments upon and obstructions to the streets, highways, roads and public places, not including parks, and to authorize and require the commissioner of public works to remove the same; but they shall have no power to authorize the placing or continuing of any encroachment or obstruction upon any street or sidewalk, except the temporary occupation thereof during the erection or repair of a building on a lot opposite the same, but may authorize the temporary occupation of a portion of a street, during the night time only, by trucks belonging to or habitually driven by actual residents of the City of New York, etc.

Here the Legislature has inhibited the Common Council from authorizing "any encroachment or obstruction upon any street or sidewalk." Two exceptions are made, neither of which include the present case. In the Ordinance above

set forth that **body** has attempted to sanction windows that encroach to the extent of one foot upon the sidewalk.

Such ordinance, therefore, is in contravention to said Section 86, and is, as a necessary sequence, null and void.

I am, consequently, of the opinion that plans and specifications for the erection of a show window projecting one foot over the sidewalk and starting eighteen inches from the same are illegal, and should not receive your approval as Superintendent of Buildings.

I have the honor to remain,

Yours very respectfully,

(Signed) John Vinton Dahlgren,

Attorney to the Department of Buildings.

Aug. 4<sup>th</sup> 96.

Opinion

your show  
windows

projections  
I have the honor to request,

F. M. Scott

Counsel to the  
Corporation

Attorney to the Department Buildings.  
(Signed) John A. H. Green;

one foot over the sidewalk and starting eighteen inches from  
specifications for the erection of a show window projecting  
I am, consequently, of the opinion that plans and

superintendents of Buildings.  
the same are intended; and should not receive your approval as  
one foot over the sidewalk and starting eighteen inches from  
specifications for the erection of a show window projecting  
I am, consequently, of the opinion that plans and

Law Department,  
Office of the Counsel to the Corporation.  
New York, July 31st, 1896.

Howard Payson Wilds, Esq.,  
Deputy Commissioner of Public Works,

S i r :-

I have received your letter, dated July 23, 1896, in reference to the complaint made against an extension or show window being constructed on the southeast corner of Broadway and 20th Street.

It appears that the proposed bay window extends twelve inches beyond the building line at two points, one on Broadway and the other on 20th Street, and that it is proposed to construct the same in accordance with an ordinance of the Common Council adopted October 9, 1883, and amending Section 6 of Chapter 24 of the Ordinances of 1866.

It is undisputed that it is proposed to occupy a part of the street by the structure, and the question thus arises whether you should take the position that such encroachment is legal and whether you should interfere.

The question is not entirely free from doubt. In the case of Wormser vs. Brown, recently decided in the Court of Appeals, 149 N.Y. 163, bay windows extending.

over the street line, when authorized by the Department of Parks in a case where it had jurisdiction, were held to be legally constructed.

On the authority of that and other cases cited in the opinion, the following proposition of law may be regarded as established.

The Legislature by virtue of its general control over public streets and highways has power to authorize structures in the streets, which without such authority and under the common law would be held to be encroachments or obstructions, and this power it may delegate to the governing body of a municipal corporation

The proposed structure in this case would doubtless at common law be an illegal encroachment upon the street, and the legislature has not directly authorized it.

It thus is necessary to inquire whether it has delegated to the municipality its own power, and hence the question is whether the Common Council had the power to pass the ordinance in question.

In 1883 when the ordinance was adopted the Consolidation Act was in force, and hence the power of the Common Council in the premises is to be determined by Section 86 of that act.

The general tenor of the section is to give authority to the Common Council to prevent encroachments upon the streets rather than to authorize them.

I am inclined to think that the section is not broad enough to render legal the adoption of the ordinance now in question.

It is also to be observed that as the ordinance was adopted subsequent to the passage of the Consolidation Act, it was not ratified or continued in force by Section 84 of that act.

I accordingly advise that you should take the position that the proposed structure would be an illegal obstruction of the street.

I may add that I am informed that the Superintendent of Buildings has received similar advice from the attorney to the Department of Buildings.

No injustice can result to the property owners for if they think your course wrong they can readily apply to the courts for protection.

You also ask in your letter to be advised as to the duty of your Department as to enforcing the ordinance against the proposed bay window where the front wall of the building to which it is to be attached is far within the building line.

I think that your jurisdiction in matters like this only extends to the line of private property. You

have nothing to do with projections within that line. It  
is only when they extend over that line into the public  
streets that your Department has power to act.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) William L. Turner

Acting Counsel to the Corporation.

A.E.H.

Law Department,  
Office of the Counsel to the Corporation.  
New York, August 4th, 1896.

Stevenson Constable, Esq.,  
Superintendent, Department of Buildings.

S i r :-

I have received your letter, dated July 28, 1896 in reference to an application made to you for permission to erect a show window on the premises at the south-east corner of Broadway and Twentieth Street.

You state that it is proposed to extend certain projections over the sidewalks under authority of an ordinance of the Common Council passed October 9, 1883, and that you have approved of the application.

You also refer to the complaint of Mr. Merrifield, proprietor of the Continental Hotel, and to the opinion of the Attorney to the Department of Buildings in reference to this matter, dated July 25, 1896.

The Deputy Commissioner of Public Works requested to be advised as to this same matter. A copy of an opinion, which has just been forwarded to him, is enclosed herewith and is equally applicable to the questions raised in your letter.

Very respectfully,

Francis M. Scott

Counsel to the Corporation.

# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18<sup>TH</sup> ST.,



OFFICE OF ATTORNEY.

B.deY.

COPY.

*New York,* May 24th, 1897.

Francis M. Scott, Esq.,  
Counsel to the Corporation,  
2 Tryon Row, N. Y. City.

Dear Sir:-

Heretofore, at the request of the Superintendent of Buildings, an opinion was forwarded to him by you in relation to show-windows, on August 4th, 1896. Previously an opinion had been rendered to the Superintendent of Buildings by Mr. Dahlgren, then Attorney to the Department, to the same effect, namely, that the position to be taken by the Superintendent of Buildings was that a show window extending beyond the building line was an illegal obstruction of the street.

On February 4th, 1897, I tried the case of Department of Buildings vs. Dick, before Hon. John J. Freedman, Justice, and a Jury, a copy of which case I enclose herewith. As you will note, judgment was directed for the plaintiff. Thereafter and before the Dick case came up on appeal, the Appellate Division rendered its decision in Broadbelt vs. Loew, 15 App. Div. 343, and it would appear that the question of the validity of the ordinance authorizing bay windows was very fully discussed by Judge Patterson in that opinion, and the decision in that case appears to be contrary to the views expressed by you.

Subsequently the appeal in the Dick Case came on to be heard and the Appellate Division affirmed the judgment below, without opinion, on

**DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,**

**NO. 220 FOURTH AVENUE,**  
S.W. CORNER 18<sup>TH</sup> ST.,

*JULIUS M. MAYER,*  
*ATTORNEY.*

OFFICE OF ATTORNEY.

2.

*New York,*

May 14th, 1897. I enclose my brief which is hardly more than a memorandum, and in which, as you will note, two points are raised; I also enclose the brief of the defendant.

I have no means of ascertaining officially whether the Court by its affirmance of the Dick judgment receded from the position taken in *Broadbelt vs. Loew*, or whether it based its affirmance on the second point made in my brief.

The result, however, seems to create a greater uncertainty as to the law than ever, and in view of the fact that the Department of Public Works has certain jurisdiction in relation to projections beyond the building line, I write you herewith so that I may be able to advise the Superintendent in harmony with the views which you may entertain upon this subject.

I hope to argue the Dick case at the Court of Appeals in June, and the defendant's attorneys are willing to facilitate the hearing of the appeal as much as possible.

Meanwhile, may I request your opinion in relation to the duties of this Department in regard to bay or oriel windows and show windows which project beyond the building line?

Very respectfully yours,

(Signed) JULIUS M. MAYER,

Attorney to the Department of Buildings.

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I also enclose the

# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

STEVENSON CONSTABLE  
SUPERINTENDENT.

H.J.H.

New York, May 24th, 1897

Hon. William L. Strong,  
Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

I submit herewith a Synopsis of the Operations of this Department for the Week ending May 22nd, 1897.

Respectfully,

*Stevenson Constable*  
Sup't. of B'ldgs.

(Dic.W.H.C.)

# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,



HJH

*New York,* May 24th, 1897

Operations for the Week ending May 22, 1897.

Plans filed for New Buildings - Main Office	34
Estimated Cost	\$1,236,000.
Plans filed for New Buildings - Branch Office	30
Estimated Cost	\$ 275,480.
Plans filed for Alterations - Main Office	33
Estimated Cost	\$ 102,350.
Plans filed for Alterations - Branch Office	8
Estimated Cost	\$ 5,950.
Buildings reported as Unsafe	91
Buildings reported for additional means of escape	19
Other Violations of law reported	98
Unsafe Building notices issued	145
Fire Escape       "       "	22
Violation       "       "	334
Unsafe Building cases forwarded for prosecution	1
Fire Escape       "       "       "       "	6
Violation       "       "       "       "	125
Complaints Lodged with the Department	111
Iron and Steel Inspections made	5,727

CITY OF NEW YORK.  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR.

April 20 1897

Hon. WILLIAM L. STRONG,  
Mayor.

Sir:

I herewith make application for a License to  
give Vocal and Instrumental Concerts and to sell Ales,  
Wines and Beers during such performances, as provided  
by Section 2010 of the Consolidation Act, on the premises  
located and known as Court Hall  
302 Bowery Street, in the City of  
New York.

Very respectfully,

Otto Christen  
for one year

**DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,**

**NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,**



AAH.

*New York, 25th May, 1897.*  
*m. 4*

Hon. William L. Strong,  
Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

In compliance with telephone message, I have had examination of # 302 Bowery in re granting license for Concert Hall. Would say that same can be granted.

Yours respectfully,

*Stevenson Constable*  
Sup't of B'ldgs.

Dic. R.O'B.



**DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,**

**NO. 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,**



BW

*New York,* May 27th, 1899.

*7m*

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

Enclosed please find blue prints of various methods, from which I would suggest selection, to obtain the best and most practical way of guarding the openings through the platforms of fire-escapes, as generally constructed in this city, to prevent the great loss of life, which has amounted to several hundred in the last five years, and as far as I can ascertain, has been as high as one hundred and sixty in one year, and a very large number of casualties, resulting from the same cause.

While I appreciate that fire-escapes are not constructed for use as balconies, decks, galleries or platforms for general and frequent use, but only for the purpose of fire, emergency or accident, which the decision of the Courts has maintained, I feel that if every practical purpose for which the fire-escape is built can be accomplished, and this additional safeguard added thereto, it is a good work and should be carefully considered before discarded or passed over.

I therefore wish to file these suggestions with Your Honor and ask for any co-operation that you may deem advisable to give in this matter.

I am calling the attention of the Fire Department and the Health Department to this matter, and have the full size drawings at this office

**DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,**

**NO. 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18<sup>TH</sup> ST.,**



*New York,* \_\_\_\_\_ *189*

Hon. W. L. S. #2

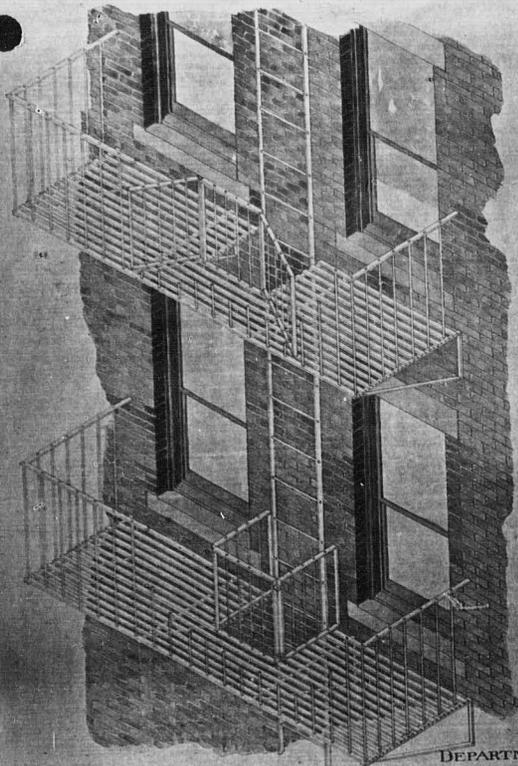
for examination or consultation, but concluded they were too large and bulky to forward to you, unless you so desire.

Yours respectfully,

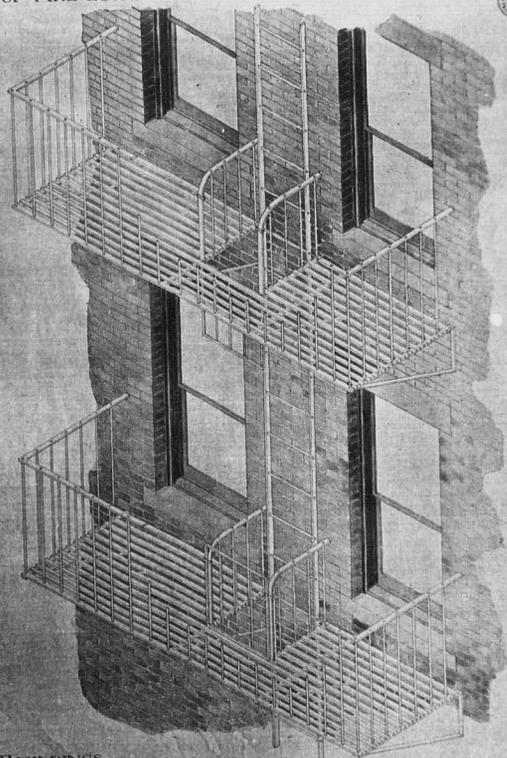
*Stevenson Constable.*  
Sup't of B'ldgs.

(Enc. Blue Prints 1 to 7.)  
(Dic. S. C.)

DEVICES FOR IMPROVEMENT OF FIRE ESCAPES.



~Swinging Gate~



~Vertical Gravity Gate~  
(Top story shows gate dropped)

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS.  
New York City.  
STEVENSON, CONSTABLE, ESQ. SUPERINTENDING

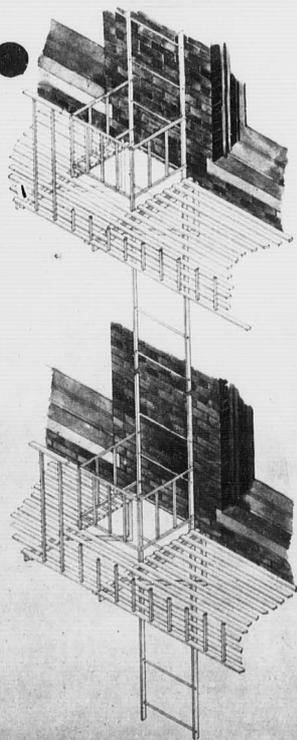
PROPERTY OF THE DEPT OF BUILDINGS,

No. 220 4th AVE., COR. 18th ST.,

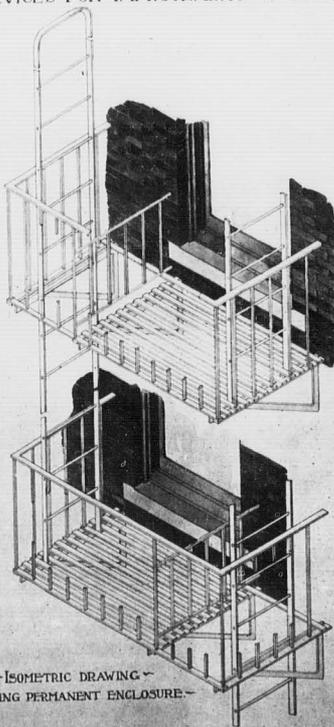
NEW YORK CITY.

#6.

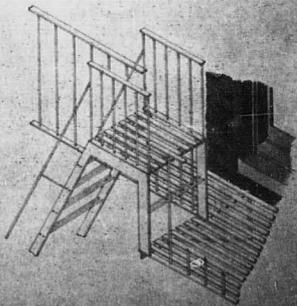
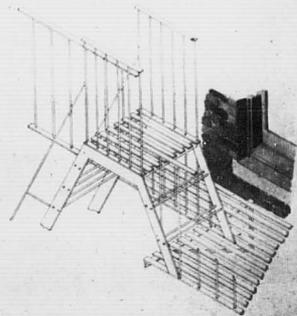
DEVICES FOR IMPROVEMENT OF FIRE ESCAPES.



~ ISOMETRIC DRAWING SHOWING ~  
PERMANENT ENCLOSURE AROUND LADDER.



~ ISOMETRIC DRAWING ~  
~ SHOWING PERMANENT ENCLOSURE ~



~ ISOMETRIC DRAWINGS ~  
~ SHOWING RAISED PLATFORMS AT HEADS OF STAIRS ~

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS.  
NEW YORK CITY.  
STEVENSON CONSTABLE, ESQ. SUPERINTENDENT.

Scale: 1/4" = 1'-0"

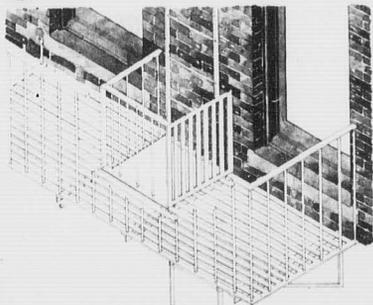
PROPERTY OF THE DEPT OF BUILDINGS,

No. 220 4th AVE., COR. 18th ST.,

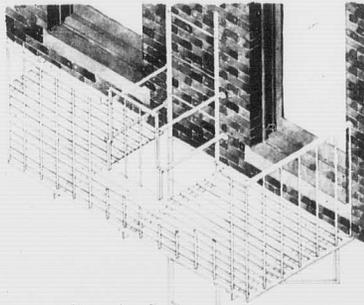
NEW YORK CITY.

#1

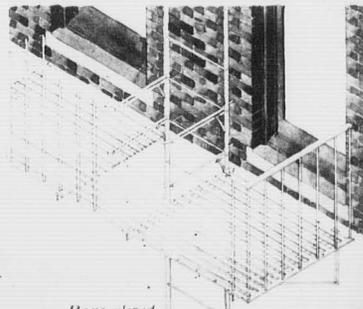
DEVICES FOR IMPROVEMENT OF FIRE ESCAPES.



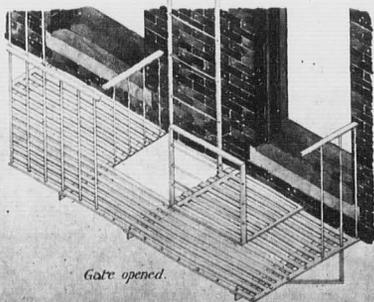
Gate closed



Bars closed  
Device showing pivot bars

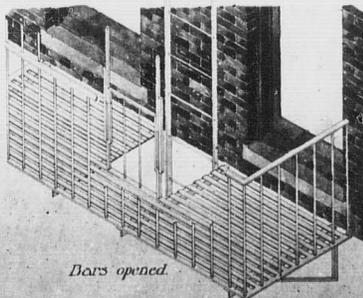


Bars closed

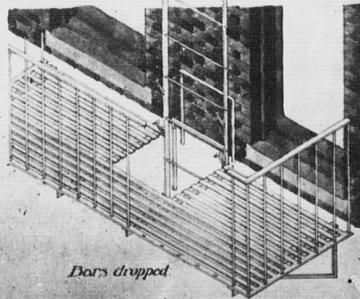


Gate opened.

Device showing drop over gate.



Bars opened



Bars dropped

Device utilizing slide bars

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,  
NEW YORK CITY.  
STEVENSON CONSTABLE, ESQ. SUPERINTENDENT.

Scale 1/4" = 1'-0"

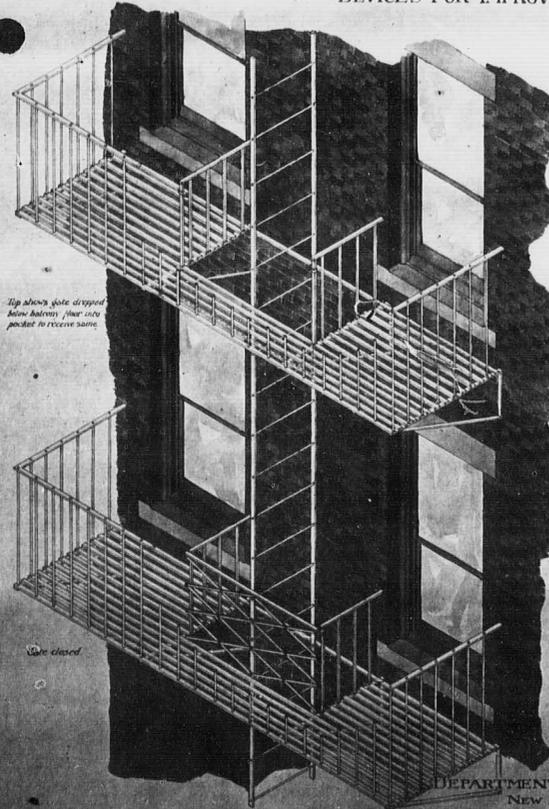
PROPERTY OF THE DEPT OF BUILDINGS,

No. 220 4th AVE., COR. 18th ST.,

NEW YORK CITY.

#2

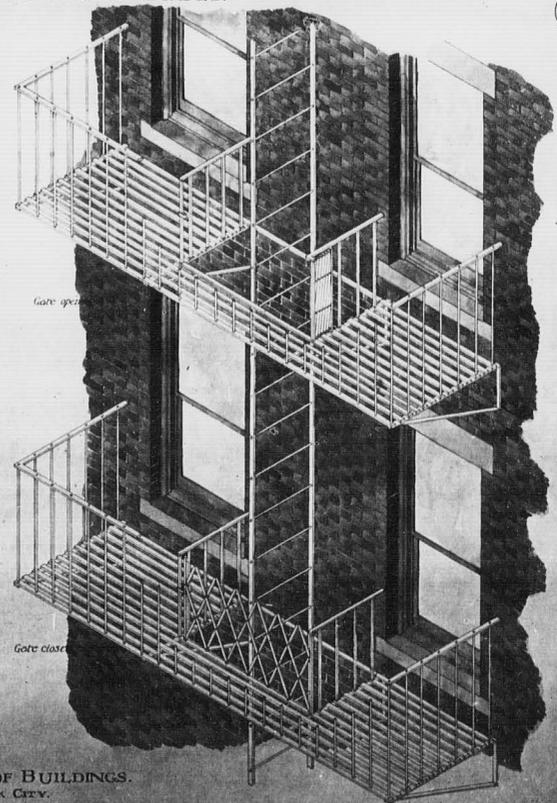
DEVICES FOR IMPROVEMENT OF FIRE ESCAPES.



Top shows gate dropped  
below balcony floor into  
pocket to receive same.

Gate closed

Device showing drop holding gate.



Gate open

Gate closed

Device showing folding swinging gate.

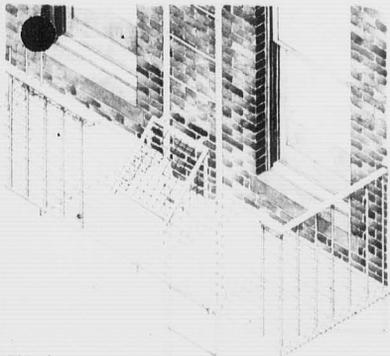
DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS.  
NEW YORK CITY.  
STEVENSON CONSTABLE, Esq. SUPERINTENDENT.

PROPERTY OF THE DEPT OF BUILDINGS,

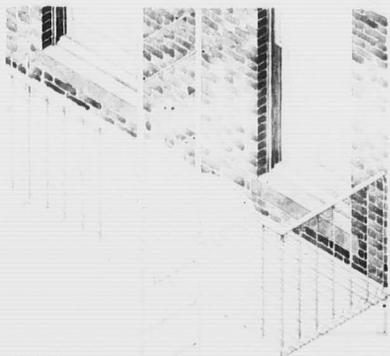
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NEW YORK CITY.

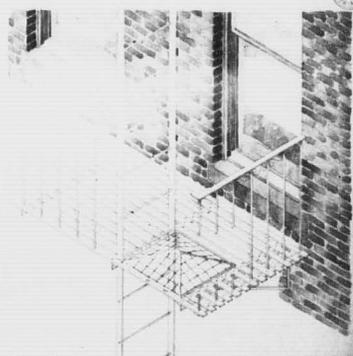
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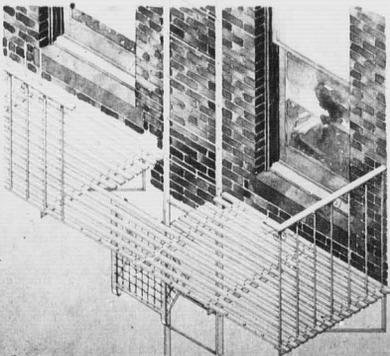
“Closed.”



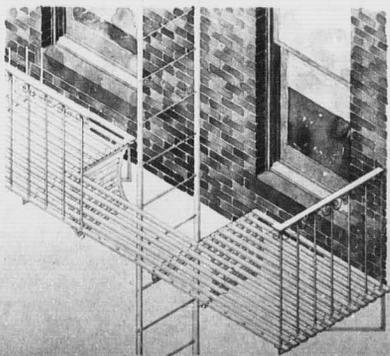
“Closed.”



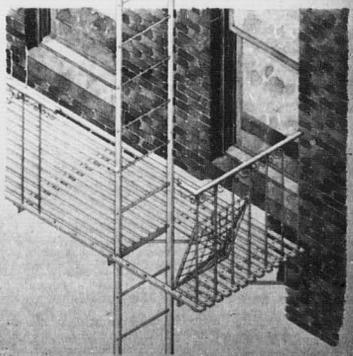
“Closed.”



“Open.”  
“INCLINED PLANE DROP DEVICE.”



“Open.”  
“CURVED SLIDE.”



“Open.”  
“SCUTTLE.”

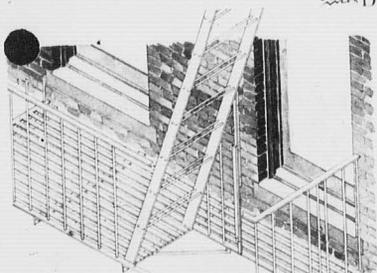
PROPERTY OF THE DEPT OF BUILDINGS,

No. 220 4th AVE., COR. 18th ST.,

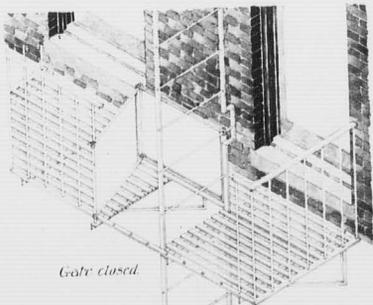
NEW YORK CITY.

#4

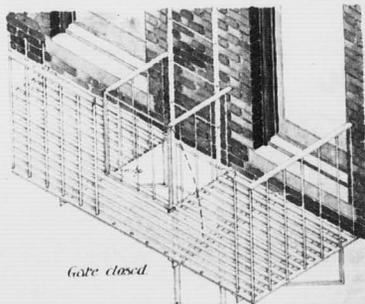
DEVICES FOR IMPROVEMENT OF FIRE ESCAPES.



Bars opened.

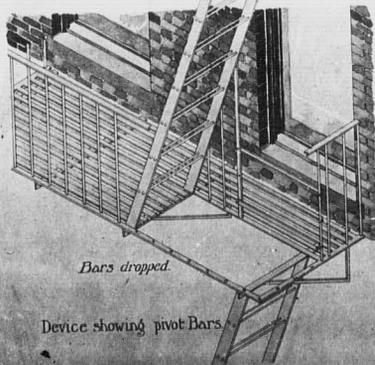


Gate closed.



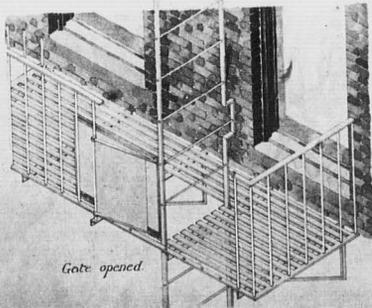
Gate closed.

Device showing Pivot Side Gate

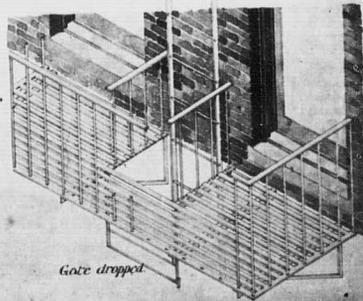


Bars dropped.

Device showing pivot Bars



Gate opened.



Gate dropped.

Device showing hinged drop gate

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS.  
 NEW YORK CITY.  
 STEVENSON CONSTABLE, ESQ. SUPERINTENDENT.

Scale 1/4" = 1'-0"

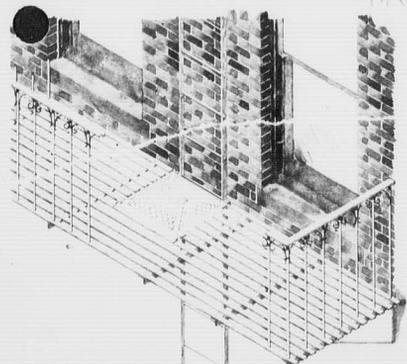
PROPERTY OF THE DEPT OF BUILDINGS,

No. 220 4th AVE., COR. 18th ST.,

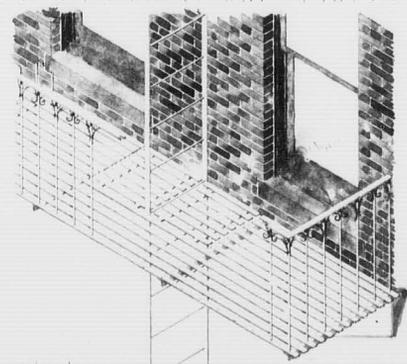
NEW YORK CITY.

#5.

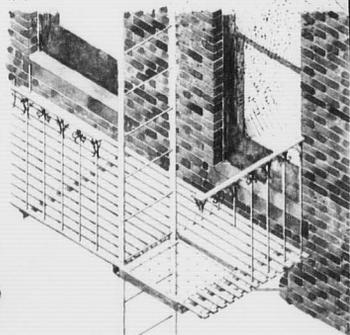
DETAILS FOR TWO ON WANT OF THE TUMBLERS



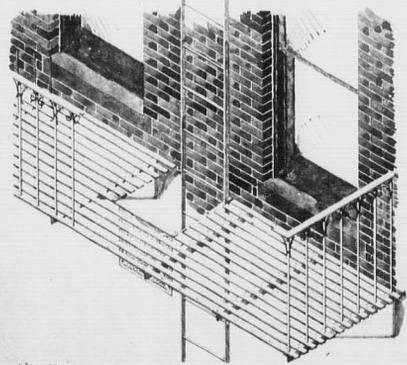
Close d



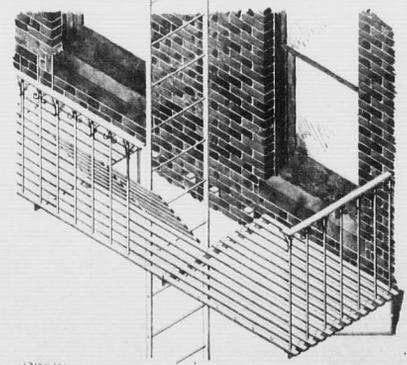
Close d



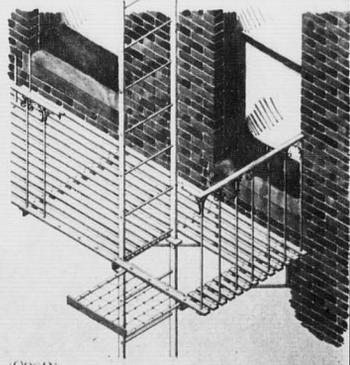
Close d



Open  
"E-C WITH DANCE"



Open  
SLAT LEFT



Open  
SLIDE

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS  
NEW YORK CITY  
STEVENSON CONSULTING ENGINEER SUPERINTENDENT

Scale: 1/4" = 1'-0"

PROPERTY OF THE DEPT OF BUILDINGS,

No. 220 4th AVE., COR. 18th ST.,

NEW YORK CITY.

#7.

**DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,****NO. 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18<sup>TH</sup> ST.,***STEVENSON CONSTABLE,  
SUPERINTENDENT.*

AAH.

*New York,* 28th May, 1897.  
*M 4*

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

In answer to yours of May 27th, in re of communication from S. W. E. Beckner, Washington Heights, concerning flat house on West 164th Street, known as premises # 453 West 164th Street, would say that there has been a violation against said premises since May 4th, of this year, which is in the hands of the Attorney, who is taking whatever legal action in the matter the law allows.

Yours respectfully,

*Stevenson Constable*  
Sup't of B'ldgs.

Dic. S.C.

**DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,****NO. 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18<sup>TH</sup> ST.***STEVENSON CONSTABLE  
SUPERINTENDENT*

AAH. ✓

*New York, 28th May, 1897.**m-4*

Hon. William L. Strong,  
Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your communication of the 27th inst., requesting report on premises 207-209 West 125th St., known as the Harlem Music Hall, application having been made for license to give vocal and instrumental concerts.

The matter will be given immediate attention and report sent you as soon as possible.

Yours respectfully,

*Stevenson Constable*  
Sup't of B'ldgs.

Dic. R.O'B.

61

INDINGS

1927  
SOUTH BRITAIN

4-28

# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18<sup>TH</sup> ST.

STEVENSON CONSTABLE  
SUPERINTENDENT.

HJH

New York, June 1st, 1897

Hon. William L. Strong,  
Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

I submit herewith a Synopsis of the Operations of this Department for the Week ending May 29, 1897.

Respectfully,

*Stevenson Constable*  
Sup't. of B'ldgs.

(Dic. W. H. C.)

**DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,**

**NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,**  
S.W. CORNER 18<sup>TH</sup> ST.,



HJH

*New York,* June 1, 1897

Operations for the Week ending May 29th, 1897.

Plans filed for New Buildings - Main Office	56
Estimated Cost	\$1,581,000.
Plans filed for New Buildings - Branch Office	33
Estimated Cost	\$226,000.
Plans filed for Alterations - Main Office	41
Estimated Cost	\$108,655.
Plans filed for Alterations - Branch Office	11
Estimated Cost	\$6,675.
Buildings reported as Unsafe	69
"        "        for additional means of escape	10
Other violations of Law reported	161
Unsafe Building notices issued	141
Fire Escape        "        "	15
Violation        "        "	420
Unsafe Building cases forwarded for prosecution	1
Fire Escape        "        "        "        "	8
Violation        "        "        "        "	88
Iron and Steel Inspections made	5,497
Complaints Lodged with the Department	86

# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,



AAH.

*New York,* 2nd June, 1897.  
*m-4*

Hon. William L. Strong,  
Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

Replying to yours of the 1st inst., with enclosure signed "A Friend", in regard to fire escapes on flat houses North Side of 106th Street between Amsterdam Avenue and the Boulevard, being used for storage purposes, would say that the encumbering of fire escapes does not come under the jurisdiction of this Department, but under that of the Police Department.

I have therefore referred said communication to the Police Department for their attention.

Yours respectfully,

*Stevenson Constable*  
Sup't of B'ldgs.

Dic. R.O'B.

62

1897

ST. OF BUILDINGS

CURRAN AVENUE

CORNER 18TH ST.

1897  
2nd June  
New York

**DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,****NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18<sup>TH</sup> ST.,***STEVENSON CONSTABLE,  
SUPERINTENDENT.*

AAH.

*New York,* 5th June, 1897.*2-4*

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

Replying to your letter of the 4th inst., enclosing letter from Richard S. Dey, 156 Fifth Avenue, in regard to premises 150th St. West of Amsterdam Avenue, would say same will receive my immediate attention.

Yours respectfully,

*Stevenson Constable*  
Sup't of B'ldgs.

Dic. R.O'B.

63

**DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,****NO. 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18<sup>TH</sup> ST.,***STEVENSON CONSTABLE,  
SUPERINTENDENT.*

BW

*New York,* June 7, 1897/189*m-4-*

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

In answer to your letter of the 5th inst (from Mr. Burrows) relating to plans of building, The West Side Republican Club, West Side of Boulevard, between 83rd and 84th Sts., would state that nothing has as yet been filed in this Department.

When the plans are filed, it will give me pleasure to act on same at once.

Yours respectfully,

*Stevenson Constable*  
Sup't of B'ldgs.

(Dic. S. C.)

65-

INDEX

June 7, 1897

M-4

△

**DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,****NO. 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18<sup>TH</sup> ST.,***STEVENSON CONSTABLE,  
SUPERINTENDENT.*

SED

*New York,* June 7, 1897. *189**m-4*

Hon. William L. Strong,  
Mayer, City of New York.

Dear Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 27th ult. in regard to granting license to give vocal and instrumental concerts on premises #207-209 West 125th Street, and known as Harlem Music Hall, would say that after careful examination, I find that same does not comply with the requirements of the law, and therefore, license should not be granted.

Yours respectfully,

*Stevenson Constable*  
Superintendent of Buildings.

(Dict. S.C.)

66

DRINGS

June 7, 1897

St  
Cl

# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18<sup>TH</sup> ST.

STEVENSON CONSTABLE  
SUPERINTENDENT.

HJH

*New York,* June 7th, 1897  
*M. 4 -*

Hon. William L. Strong,  
Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

I submit herewith a Synopsis of the Operations of this Department for the Week ending June 5, 1897.

Respectfully,

*Stevenson Constable*  
Sup't. of B'ldgs.

(Dic.W.H.C.)

64.

NO

DRUGS

1891

Jan 7th

Mr. N. M.

one

# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18<sup>TH</sup> ST.,



HJH

*New York,* \_\_\_\_\_ *189*

Operations for the Week ending June 5, 1897.

Plans filed for New Buildings - Main Office -	34
Estimated Cost	\$1,526,100
Plans filed for New Buildings - Branch Office -	47
Estimated Cost	\$153,050
Plans filed for Alterations - Main Office -	26
Estimated Cost	\$113,100
Plans filed for Alterations - Branch Office -	8
Estimated Cost	\$5,050
Buildings reported as Unsafe	59
"        "        for additional means of escape	14
Other Violations of Law reported	92
Unsafe Building notices issued	137
Fire Escape        "        "	22
Violation        "        "	311
Unsafe Building cases forwarded for prosecution	1
Fire Escape        "        "        "        "	9
Violation        "        "        "        "	71
Iron and Steel Inspections made	3,276
Complaints Lodged with the Department	92

**DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,****NO. 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18<sup>TH</sup> ST.,***STEVENSON CONSTABLE,  
SUPERINTENDENT.*

BW

*New York,* June 9th, 1897.

Hon. William L. Strong,  
Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

Enclosed please find copies of letters forwarded to Chief Conlin, and to Secretary Cohen, American Sporting Club, in regard to the aisles, passageways, etc. being kept clear and free from obstruction in the building at the Northwest Corner of 107th Street and Lexington Avenue, during the sparring contest tonight.

It is anticipated that a great crowd of people will assemble there, and it is absolutely necessary that this order be enforced. If you will kindly so signify to the police, you may aid me in preventing an accident.

Yours respectfully,

*Stevenson Constable*  
Sup't of B'ldgs.

(Dic. S. C )  
(Enc. 2)

BW

June 9th, 1897

Peter Conlin, Esq.,

Chief of Police .

Dear Sir:-

Anticipating the crowding of the aisles and passageways of the building at the Northwest Corner of 107th Street and Lexington Avenue, known as the American Sporting Club, this evening during the fight, and as the law requires that all passageways, aisles, and places of entrance and exit should be kept free and clear of obstructions, and that no persons should be allowed to stand therein, I hereby formally notify you, in order to preserve the safety of the public, that you may have a sufficient force of police there to see that this law is carried out.

Yours respectfully,

Sup't of B'ldgs.

(Dic. S. C.)

SED

June 9, 1897.

Max Cohen, Esq.,

Sec'y American Sporting Club,

107th Street and Lexington Ave., City.

Dear Sir:

You will hereby take notice that the law requires that all aisles, passage-ways, entrances and exits of your building, 107th Street and Lexington Avenue, shall be kept clear and free of all obstructions of any kind, and that no person shall be allowed to stand therein during any or all performances. This requirement must be strictly observed.

Yours truly,

Superintendent of Buildings.

(Dict. S.C.)

67

June 2, 1897.

CITY OF NEW YORK.  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR.

Apr. 5 1897

Hon. WILLIAM L. STRONG,  
Mayor.

Sir:

I herewith make application for a License to  
give athletic performances,  
as provided by Section 1998 of the Consolidation Act, on  
the premises located and known as Nelson Hall,  
132 E. 15<sup>th</sup> St., Nelson Hall Athletic Club Street,  
in the City of New York. No wines or liquors to be  
sold on the premises.

Very respectfully,

Nelson Hall Athletic Club

Wm. L. S.  
L.T.R. Apr. 5/97

James C. Daly  
pres.

**DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,**

**NO. 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,**



SED

*New York, April 6th, 1897*

*M*

Hon. William L. Strong,  
Mayor, City of New York.

Dear Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your communication of the 5th inst. requesting report on premises #132 East 15th Street, known as Nillson Athletic Club, application having been made for license to give athletic performances.

The matter will be given immediate attention and report sent you as soon as possible.

Yours respectfully,

*Stevenson Constable*  
Sup't of Buildings.

(Dict. S.C.)

**DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,**

**NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,**  
S.W. CORNER 18<sup>TH</sup> ST.,



HJH

*New York,* April 7th, 1891  
*M*

Bion L. Burrows, Esq.,  
Mayor's Office.

Dear Sir:-

I return herewith a letter from your office, of April 5th, in regard to the Nillson Hall Athletic Club. Will you please have same signed and returned to me.

Yours truly,

*Stevenson Constable*  
Sup't. of B'ldgs.

(Dic.S.C.)

(Enc.)

37

DRUGS

APRIL 1934

12

100

**DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,****NO. 220 FOURTH AVENUE,**S.W. CORNER 18<sup>TH</sup> ST.,*STEVENSON CONSTABLE,  
SUPERINTENDENT.*

SED

*New York, April 8, 1897.**M*

Hon. William L. Strong,  
Mayor, City of New York.

Dear Sir:

I have had examination made, in answer to yours of April 5th, in re license for athletic performances on premises located at 132 East 15th Street and known as Nillson Hall Athletic Club.

The place was found blocked and not accessible for inspection, doors, windows &c., being barred up. No application or plans have been filed in this Department to indicate how said building is to be arranged or used, or arrangement of aisles, passageways, &c.

Until this has been done, I would respectfully recommend that no license be granted.

Yours respectfully,

*Stevenson Constable*  
Sup't of Buildings.

(Dict. B.W.)

Police Department of the City of New York.

New York, April 12, 1897

Peter Conlin  
THOMAS BYRNES,  
Chief of Police  
Superintendent.

SIR :

In reply to order requesting information as to the advisability of granting a license to give Vocal and Instrumental Concerts, and to sell Wine and Beer during such performances at 132 East 15<sup>th</sup> Street

also, as to the character of the applicant and patrons of the place, I respectfully report :

Name of Applicant, James C. Daly

Character of Applicant, Good

Class and Character of the people who frequent the place, This place has been frequented by the worst class of prostitutes and disorderly persons.

Is the place a proper place to be licensed? No

Remarks, In my opinion it is not a proper place to be licensed for any such purpose whatever the vicinity is occupied by private residences and would be very detrimental to the peace repose & comfort of the community. It was formerly as stated above a resort for the worst class of prostitutes and disorderly persons constant violations of the law occurred there the peace of the neighborhood was disturbed and the place was broken up  
apl. 1, 1895. There is no liquor sold in connection with the place.

Elbert O. Smith  
Captain 18 Precinct.

Copy

*Police Department,  
of the City of New York,  
300 Mulberry Street,  
New York,*

April 12th, 1897.

Hon. William L. Strong

Mayor New York City.

Dear Sir:-

By direction of the Board of Police and in further reply to your favor of the 5th inst. I transmit herewith copy of report as to the character and reputation of the premises 132 East 15th street.

Very respectfully

*John J. Kelly*

Chief Clerk.

*East 15th Street  
New York*

**DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,**

**NO. 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,**



SED

*New York,* June 10, 1897. *189*

*m-4*

Hon. William L. Strong,  
Mayor, City of New York.

Dear Sir:

I have had examination made of premises #132 East 15th Street, known as Nillson Hall Athletic Club, in re granting license for athletic performances, and find that all the requirements of the Department have been complied with. I therefore recommend that license be granted.

Yours respectfully,

*Stevenson Constable*  
Superintendent of Buildings.

(Dict. R.O'B.)

**DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,**

**NO. 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18<sup>TH</sup> ST.**



SED

*New York, June 10, 1897. 189*  
*M-4*

Hon. William L. Strong,  
Mayor, City of New York, City Hall.

Dear Sir:

Replying to your letter of the 9th inst., referring to complaint received, as to lack of fire escapes on the block, Sixtieth Street, between Columbus and Amsterdam Avenues, would say that the matter will be given prompt and due attention.

Yours respectfully,

*Stevenson Constable*  
Sup't of Buildings.

(Dict. R.O'B.)

68

INDEX

INGS

1897 - 1898

City of  
Tromps

that I regret the same should have caused you any inconvenience.  
The original order will be insisted upon and the modifica-  
tion made for

**DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,**

**NO. 220 FOURTH AVENUE,**  
S.W. CORNER 18<sup>TH</sup> ST.,  
N.Y.C.



SED

*New York,* June 11, 1897 *89*

*72-4*

Sup't of B'ldgs.

Hon. William L. Strong,  
Mayor, City of New York.

Dear Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 10th inst., requesting report on premises located at 66th Street and East River, and known as the Pastime Athletic Club, application having been made for license to give vocal and instrumental concerts and athletic performances.

The matter will be given immediate attention and report sent you as soon as possible.

Yours respectfully,,

Superintendent of Buildings.

(Diet. R.O'B.)

6.9

(Dist. B. O. B.)

sent you as soon

the way

statements concerning

your application

at each street

ministration of the

1 1948

# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18<sup>TH</sup> ST.,

STEVENSON CONSTABLE  
SUPERINTENDENT

HJH

New York, June 14, 1897  
M.

Hon. William L. Strong,  
Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

I submit herewith a Synopsis of the Operations of this Department for the Week ending June 12, 1897.

Respectfully,

*Stevenson Constable*  
Sup't. of B'ldgs.

(Dic. W. H. C.)

# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NO. 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18<sup>TH</sup> ST.,



HJH

*New York,* June 14, 1897

*M.*

## Operations for the Week ending June 12th, 1897.

Plans filed for New Buildings - Main Office	26
Estimated Cost	\$653,000
Plans filed for New Buildings - Branch Office	38
Estimated Cost	\$296,350
Plans filed for Alterations - Main Office	34
Estimated Cost	\$ 95,400
Plans filed for Alterations - Branch Office	8
Estimated Cost	\$ 7,350
Buildings reported as Unsafe	81
"    "    for additional means of escape	27
Other Violations of Law reported	139
Unsafe Building notices issued	128
Fire Escape    "    "	45
Violation    "    "	395
Unsafe Building cases forwarded for prosecution	1
Violation    "    "    "    "	142
Iron and Steel Inspections made	3,923
Complaints Lodged with the Department	119

**DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,**

✓  
**NO. 220 FOURTH AVENUE,**  
 S.W. CORNER 18<sup>TH</sup> ST.

STEVENSON CONSTABLE  
 SUPERINTENDENT

SED

*New York,* June 15<sup>th</sup>, 1897 *189*

*770*

Hon. William L. Strong,  
 Mayor, City of New York.

Dear Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 14th inst., requesting report on premises located at #18 West Street, application having been made for license to give vocal and instrumental concerts, etc.

The matter will be given immediate attention and report sent you as soon as possible.

Yours respectfully,

*Stevenson Constable*  
 Sup't of Buildings.

(Dict. B.W.)

70

(Dict. B)

sent you as soon as

the matter

occurred and I have

at 178 West Street

and to not

**DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,**

**NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,**



SED

*New York,* June 16th, 1897. *189*  
*M.*

Hon. William L. Strong,  
Mayor, City of New York.

Dear Sir:

In answer to your favor in re application of Oscar Hammerstein for the renewal of his license for the Olympia Music Hall, would say that as yet he has not corrected all of the violations against his Roof Garden. Therefore I cannot yet certify approving of issuance of license for this place.

Yours respectfully,

*Stevenson Constable*  
Superintendent of Buildings.

(Dict. S.C.)

77

the 16th, 1897.

Mr.

from

city

to

Oscar Hammerstein

**DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,**

**NO. 220 FOURTH AVENUE,**  
S.W. CORNER 18<sup>TH</sup> ST.,



SED

*New York,* June 21st, 1897. 189  
4

Hon. William L. Strong,  
Mayor, City of New York.

Dear Sir:

In answer to yours of June 19th, in re sheds at foot of East 26th Street, would say I have examined into this matter, and find that as the construction as applied for must under the law come up before the Board of Examiners of this Department, who meet every Tuesday, said matter does not come up until to-morrow afternoon, (the 22d) at the next meeting of said Board. Particular trouble has been taken to notify the architects, Messrs. Withers and Dickson, to this effect, and to request them to appear before said Board, which they have not thus far done. You may feel assured that every courtesy will be extended them.

Yours respectfully,

*Stevenson Constable*  
Superintendent of Buildings.

(Dict. S.C.)

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1891  
and List, 1897

ST. LOUIS

CITY

ST. LOUIS

at foot of

**DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,**

**NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,**  
S.W. CORNER 18<sup>TH</sup> ST.,



EA.

✓

*New York,* June 21st, 1897.

*M 4*

Hon. Wm. L. Strong,  
Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

In further reply to yours of the 9th inst. in re houses on block on 60th Street, between Columbus and Amsterdam Avenues, totally lacking fire escapes, would say I have had examination made and enclose herewith copy of report of my inspector.

Yours respectfully,

*Stevenson Constable*  
Sup't. of B'ldgs.

(Dic.R.O'B.)

(Enc)

EA.

REPORT.

"I made an examination of all the houses on the W.S. of 60th Street, bet. Columbus and Amsterdam Ave. and found that each house contains four families on every floor and that there are fire escapes on rears and in the light courts at front of buildings.

And that the means of escape are ample as each family is provided with an escape."

74

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**DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,**

**NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,**  
S.W. CORNER 18<sup>TH</sup> ST.,



S.A.U.

*New York,* June 21, 1897.

*M.*

Hon. William L. Strong,  
Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:--

I submit herewith a synopsis of the operations of  
this Department for the Week ending June 19th, 1897.

Respectfully,

*Stevenson Constable*  
Superintendent of Buildings.

Dic. W.H.C.

72

DINGS

June 21, 1897

M

# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,

S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,



S.A.U.

*New York,* June 21, 1897

## Operations for the Week ending June 19, 1897.

Plans filed for New Buildings - Main Office	33
Estimated Cost	\$1,126,500.
Plans filed for Alterations - Main Office	28
Estimated Cost	\$69,071.
Plans filed for New Buildings - Branch Office	31
Estimated Cost	\$301,300.
Plans filed for Alterations - Branch Office	14
Estimated Cost	\$83,500.
Buildings reported as unsafe	95
Buildings reported for additional means of escape	11
Other violations of law reported	190
Unsafe building notices issued	211
Fire escape notices issued	18
Violation notices issued	416
Fire escape cases forwarded for prosecution	11
Violation cases forwarded for prosecution	86
Iron and steel inspections made	5,785
Complaints lodged with the Department	86

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**DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,**

**NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,**  
S.W. CORNER 18<sup>TH</sup> ST.,



EA.

*New York,* June 24th, 1897

*m-4*

Hon. William L. Strong,  
Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 23rd inst. requesting report on tent at the foot of East Houston Street, to be known as the Apollo Circus, application having been made for license to give vocal and instrumental concerts,

The matter will be given immediate attention and report sent you as soon as possible.

Yours respectfully,

Sup't. of B'ldgs.

(Dic. R.O'B.)

57

June 24th, 1897

My

strong

of it

**DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,**

**NO. 220 FOURTH AVENUE,**  
S.W. CORNER 18<sup>TH</sup> ST.



EA.

*New York,* June 25th, 1897

- 4 -

Hon. Wm. L. Strong,  
Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

In answer to yours of June 24th in re non-payment of rent by William Sheehan, Plumbing Inspector in this Department, would say that as far as I can ascertain the case stands thus: The City took title to the property occupied by Mr. Sheehan on the first day of May of the present year, and for the two months during which time said property belonged to the City he has refused to pay rent to Mr. McGrade, the original owner.

As this is a matter entirely outside of the Department I feel that it is not my duty to interfere as I have made it a rule since I have been in charge of this Department that as long as an employe of the Department attended to his business in the office and while on duty I have nothing to do with his private affairs, unless they were so discreditable or careless as to reflect upon his character and this Department.

If you desire any further investigation it will give me pleasure to make it at once.

Yours respectfully,

*Stevenson Constable*  
Sup't. of B'ldgs.

(Dic.S.C.)

76

DIRIGES

June 25th, 1897

non-payment of rent

**DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,****NO. 220 FOURTH AVENUE,**S.W. CORNER 18<sup>TH</sup> ST.

EA. J

New York, June 26th, 1897

Hon. Wm. L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

With reference to your letter of the 14th inst. and in confirmation of telephone message in re application for license to give vocal and instrumental concerts, etc. at premises #18 West Street, I would state that upon examination I find that all the requirements of this Department have been complied with at this date, and license can therefore be granted.

Yours respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Stevenson Constable".  
Sup't. of B'ldgs.

(Dic.S.C.)

77

June 26th

one

of 3

**DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,**

**NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,**  
S.W. CORNER 18<sup>TH</sup> ST.,



✓  
BW

*New York,*

June 26, 1897

4

Hon. William L. Strong,  
Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

In answer to your letter of May 27th, in re license to give vocal and instrumental concerts and to sell ales, wines and beers during the performance, on premises 207-209 West 125th Street, would say until the following conditions have been complied with, no approval can be given by this Department:

The stage of said hall must consist simply of the stage without the following: No curtain, borders, drops, movable wings, rigging loft, border lights or movable scenery.

Under the law there can be one set of fixed scenery fixed to the wall, with fixed wings and footlights.

Yours respectfully,

*Stevenson Constable*  
Sup't of B'ldgs.

(Dic. S. C.)

78

June 26, 1897

P

**DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,**

**NO. 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18<sup>TH</sup> ST.,**

*STEVENSON CONSTABLE  
SUPERINTENDENT.*

HJH

*New York,* June 28th, 1897

4

Hon. William L. Strong,  
Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

I submit herewith a Synopsis of the Operations of this Department for the Week ending June 26th, 1897.

Respectfully,

*Stevenson Constable*  
Sup't. of B'ldgs.

(Dic.W.H.C.)

**DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,**

**NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,**  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,



HJH

*New York,* June 28, 1897  
4

Operations for the Week ending June 25th, 1897.

Plans filed for New Buildings - Main Office -	41
Estimated Cost	\$1,432,000
Plans filed for New Buildings - Branch Office -	19
Estimated Cost	\$ 107,450
Plans filed for Alterations - Main Office -	25
Estimated Cost	\$49,858
Plans filed for Alterations - Branch Office -	10
Estimated Cost	\$5,750
Buildings reported as Unsafe	64
"    "    for additional means of escape	18
Other Violations of Law reported	293
Unsafe Building notices issued.	207
Fire Escape    "    "	30
Violation    "    "	667
Unsafe Building cases forwarded for prosecution	3
Fire Escape    "    "    "    "	10
Violation    "    "    "    "	127
Iron and Steel Inspections made	5,564
Complaints Lodged with the Department	110

**DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,**

**NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,**  
S.W. CORNER 18<sup>TH</sup> ST.,

STEVENSON CONSTABLE,  
SUPERINTENDENT.

EA,

*New York,* June 30th, 1897  
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Hon. William L. Strong,  
Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 29th inst. requesting report on premises located at No. 460 East 57th Street, application having been made for license to give vocal and instrumental concerts and to sell ales, wines and beers during such performance.

The matter will be given immediate attention and report sent you as soon as possible.

Yours respectfully,

*Stevenson Constable*  
Sup't. of Buildings.

(Dic.S.C.)

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DNF

NGS

1897

LONG 3078

3170

of 1