

Roof.—Timber-framed, covered with corrugated iron, with skylights.

Ceilings :—

Basement : No ceiling.

Ground Floor : Matchlining.

First Floor : Matchlining covered with Pinex.

Second Floor : Matchlining.

Third Floor : No ceiling except over telephone-exchange.

Partitions :—

Basement : Wire mesh on wooden framing.

Ground Floor : Nil.

First Floor : Nil.

Second Floor : Matchlining, Pinex, and glass.

Third Floor : Matchlining and Pinex.

In the basement a dustproof partition of Pinex on wooden framing and fitted with a plywood-covered door had been erected to prevent dust reaching stock from a place where workmen were engaged in cutting an opening in the basement wall.

Fire-escape.—Steel and cast-iron stair with steep flights and landings accessible through sliding metal-clad doors from second and third floors. Also gave access through sliding metal-clad door to second floor of Block 3, and through wooden door to lavatory above strong-room of second floor of Block 3.

Stairs :—

Basement to Ground Floor : Timber enclosed at top with wooden door with spring closer.

Ground to First Floor : Timber stair not enclosed.

First to Second Floor : Timber stair not enclosed.

Second to Third Floor : Timber stair not enclosed.

Lifts :—

	Shaft.	Doors.
Basement to ground ..	Timber frame enclosed with wire mesh ..	Timber covered with wire mesh.
Ground to first ..	Timber frame enclosed with Pinex to height of 7 ft.	Wood with wire-mesh panel.
First to second ..	Timber frame enclosed with Pinex to 7 ft. high	Wood with wire-mesh panel.
Second to third ..	Timber frame enclosed with Pinex to 7 ft. high	Wood with wire-mesh panel.
Third floor ..	Pinex hardboard	..

Hoisting-gear in roof ; counterweights against south wall ; cage, wood-panelled, with telescopic gate.

BLOCK 3 (KNOWN AS PRATT'S BUILDING)

A three-story block with basement, situated at the corner of Colombo Street and Cashel Street, separated from Block 2 by two solid-brick walls with a space of 3 ft., forming an alleyway in between and occupied by the steel and cast iron fire-escape stair mentioned under Block 2.

Openings

This block was accessible from Block 2 through the following openings :—

Basement.—No access, though an opening was being cut and had been pierced between Block 2 and the alleyway enclosing the fire-escape.

Ground Floor.—Indirectly through the alleyway, one window and one door giving access to an otherwise enclosed space under the stair.

First Floor.—A large opening 9 ft. by 17 ft. cut through walls on both sides of alleyway, and boxed around with reinforced-concrete slabs to provide access between buildings. Opening unprotected by fire or smoke-doors. One window opening into alleyway.

Second Floor.—Indirectly through alleyway occupied by fire-escape by means of doors on opposite sides of fire-escape landing. Door, metal-clad, fire-resisting type.

Third Floor.—Indirectly through alleyway occupied by fire-escape. A doorway with a wooden door gave access from the fire-escape to the women's lavatory erected in timber on top of the strong-room.

Further details of window openings into the fire-escape alleyway will be given under "Fire Escapes."