

# CRAWLED ALONG FIVE-INCH LEDGE,

## Brave Deed of Lieut Allan J. Macdonald of Ladder 17 at Kingston-St Fire.

Business men in the vicinity of Kingston st as well as others have been endeavoring to learn who the fireman is who distinguished himself Friday morning at the fire on Kingston st. The fire occurred when many were on the street and they waited to see just how big the fire would be.



LIEUT ALLAN J. MACDONALD.

One of the first pieces of apparatus to arrive on the scene was that of company 17, from Harrison av, near Kneec-

land st. This was in charge of Capt Adams and the full detail. As soon as the first of the district steamers and ladders arrived it was perceived that the fire was still within the building, and Lieut Allan J. Macdonald of ladder 17 was instructed to get to the spot whence the blaze came with post haste, for the purpose of ventilating the building, as the smoke inside was dense; in fact, so thick that the firemen could not gain a vantage point from which the fire could be successfully fought.

Asst Chief Mullen, who happened to be on the spot, picked out the lieutenant telling him to gain, if possible, access to the fifth floor and throw open all the windows. This the plucky officer did, but he found that he could not make his way along the side of the building from office to office. With the smoke surrounding the lieutenant, he managed to get out on the window sill, and if he had fallen no one would have seen him until he struck the ground, for the smoke shut him off from all view.

Other men were sent to the ladders to watch the lieutenant, and he successfully crawled, hidden by smoke, from one window to the other, breaking the glass and allowing the dense volume of smoke to get into the open air.

All the while that Lieut Macdonald kept crawling from one window to another on a five-inch coping, with outstretched arms getting hold of the sides of the wall, so that he could steady himself, he could hear from the streets, "Ventilation quick"; "Are you there?" etc.

Soon the smoke raised high above the building and Lieut Macdonald was then seen for the first time after being sent into the building. Business men on both sides of Kingston st had heard of the perilous position of a fireman on the fourth floor, and many of them thought he would not be able to get to the street, but he did, although he was half choked with smoke.