

Fire 706 Binford St - Molony

Source: Crawfordsville Review Feb 5, 1918 p 6

Fire at 706 Binford street brought out the Central Station Fire Department shortly before midnight to extinguish one of the worst blazes in recent years. The house was so filled with smoke that Fire Chief Krug stated after the firemen had performed their heroic work that he smelled the smoke over the telephone. With the house flooded with light (from the chandeliers) and with clouds of smoke rolling from the doors and windows the fire department drew up at the curb in front of 706 Binford ready to battle the flames there the remainder of the night. Frantic searching parties from the basement to the garret and back again could not locate the source of trouble and it was feared the fire would gain too great headway before it could be found. It remained for Chief Krug to do the gold medal stunt for it was he who found the fire and put it out. In spite of evidence confirming his guilt, it is probable that no affidavit for arson will be filed against James Molony who was directly responsible for the midnight disturbance. In firing the kitchen range he had left a rag on top of the stove and the alarm had been sounded after the smoke awakened the family. Chief Krug made notation in his record book as he waved the firemen back to the station, "estimated loss: one hour's sleep." -- kbz