



Attempt with asbestos suit to save Mr Goodman proved fruitless.

TRAGIC FIRE

In a courageous bid to locate the seat of a fire in Egmont St. last month, Mr L.J. Goodman, deputy superintendent of the New Plymouth Fire Brigade, lost his life.

The fire broke out in the cellar of Medley and Henderson, typewriter suppliers.

Fearing that stores of white spirit would explode, Mr Goodman braved thick, choking smoke to seek the seat of the fire, but was forced to return to the street, almost unconscious.

He went back to the cellar a second time, and did not return.

Then followed a tense struggle lasting almost two hours as other firemen, using oxygen and compressed air, fought desperately to save Mr Goodman from the smoke and heat. His body was recovered at 5.40.



Brigadesman collapses from effects of smoke after emerging from cellar



Above:- Equipped with oxygen mask, fireman prepares to enter smoke-filled cellar.



Right:- Fireman being assisted into asbestos suit.

Below:- The beginnings of a huge crowd which stood silently as grim battle went on.





Above:- Firemen prepare oxygen cylinders for further efforts to save Mr Goodman. But smoke was so thick that even with masks, men could stay in the cellar only a minute or two at a time.

Top right:- This picture of the scene was taken a few minutes after the arrival of the brigade.

Right:- Ambulance was rushed to fire as soon as Mr Goodman failed to return from cellar.

Below:- Engine with fresh supplies of oxygen (left) arrives at Egmont Street intersection.

