

## Poisoning of 2 Women Is Laid to Refrigerant

### Fumes Also Rout Tenants in Apartment Building

The collapse of two women attendants yesterday in the Eleanor Beauty shoppe, 1739 West 63rd street, was laid to fumes leaking from a mechanical refrigerator. Dr. Charles L. Ahner, 6255 South Ashland avenue, who treated the victims, said the gas was methyl chloride. This was the refrigerant that received official blame for the death of Mrs. Viola Clark, 28 years old, an artist, on June 29 in her apartment at 926 Eastwood avenue.

The women who collapsed yesterday are Miss Eleanor Bauske, 28 years old, 1522 West Marquette boulevard, and Mrs. Betty Jarm, 25 years old, 2521 West 66th street. Dr. Ahner said last night that they were seriously ill, but that they would recover.

#### Policeman Rescues Women

The women were carried from the building unconscious by Policeman W. C. Quigley and were revived by a fire department inhalator squad and by stimulants administered by the physician.

A second refrigerator leak during the day drove the occupants of twelve apartments into the streets from a building at 8249 Ellis avenue, owned by A. W. Brittain. In this case, it was stated, the gas was sulphur dioxide.

Sulphur dioxide has a strong odor that acts as a warning of its presence in the atmosphere. Methyl chloride, which is also used as a refrigerant, has little odor and is colorless.

In the Ellis avenue apartment building, according to reports to Health Commissioner Kegel, the occupants at the time, mostly women and children, suffered irritations of nose, throat, eyes, and lungs, but no serious effects.

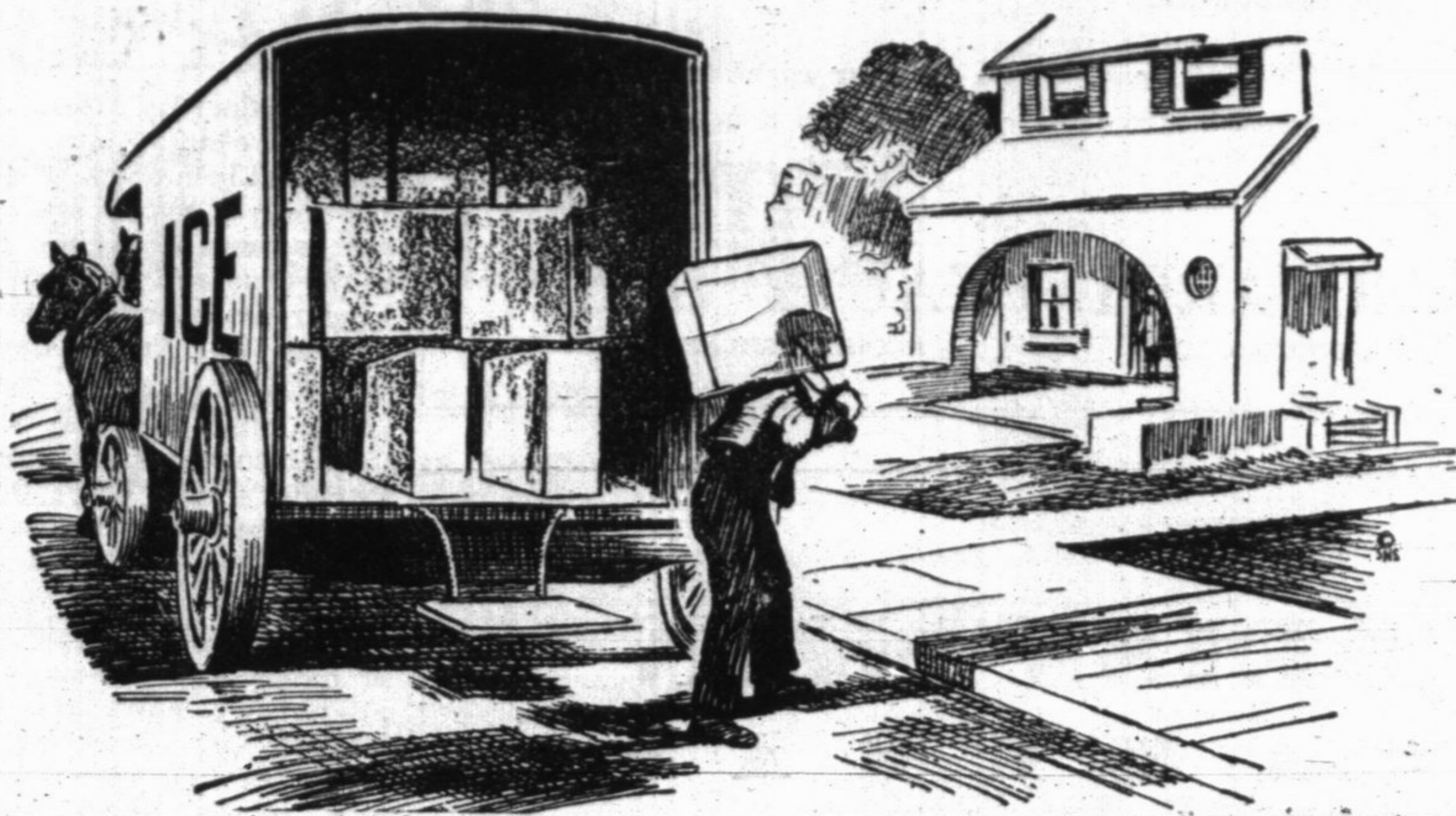
#### Two Women Overcome

In the hairdressing shop the two employes went to the basement, where the refrigerating mechanism is located, to investigate a slight odor. They became dizzy and, after staggering back to the main floor, they screamed for help and fainted. The policeman carried them to the open air. They were unconscious about two hours.

While the inhalator squad was working over the women firemen under Capt. Thomas J. Cannaven donned gas masks and entered the basement. They found a broken and leaking valve on the refrigerator machine.

At the Ellis avenue apartment inspectors for the health department reported that the stuffing box of the gas compressor, used in furnishing iceless refrigeration to half of the building, had sprung a leak due to deterioration of the packing. The mechanism had become soaked by a flood in the basement two weeks ago, the inspectors were told.

—Chicago Tribune, July 11, 1929.



# Why Take Chances

WHEN YOU CAN SECURE PURE ICE DAILY

at such fair prices? Why take chances with dangerous refrigerants? Cases such as the one described in the column to the left are becoming all too common—while there has never been a case of illness caused by use of pure ice.

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2. ICE never gets out of order—never fails in an emergency.
3. ICE keeps food in the best condition—moist and palatable.
4. ICE preserves the flavor as well as the food.
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6. ICE produces a constant circulation of air in the ice-box.
7. ICE, in melting, expels all odors and impurities thru the drain pipe.
8. ICE, used with outside icing facilities, is unexcelled for convenience.
9. ICE requires no machinery, no gases, no electric current—it is safe and silent.
10. ICE is much cheaper than other forms of refrigeration.

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