

THE DEADLY COAL GAS.

Narrow Escape of Four Persons in a Second Street Home.

Asphyxia from coal gas has furnished many columns of newspaper material. Its season is at its height when the spring time weather induces the closing of dampers of coal stoves that have become choked by a long winter's service.

Yesterday morning four patients under Dr. Speier's care, at the corner of Second street and First avenue west, were witnesses that escaping coal gas is exceedingly dangerous. It is believed that some imperfection of the damper, chimney, must have occasioned the trouble. However that may be, the gas did escape from a Minnehaha stove, in the sitting room of the house located as above described, and occupied by Louis Roos, his two sisters, the Misses Bertha and Rosa Roos, and Max and Joe Levy, who had rooms there. Gas communicated from the sitting room to all parts of the house, filling the bedroom occupied by the young ladies, also that in which the Levy brothers slept. Max Levy, found at the Eagle clothing store last evening, suffering still from a severe headache, said that he awoke at about four o'clock as he thinks. He felt badly, but did not come to sufficient consciousness to realize what the trouble was. At nearly the same hour Miss Rosa Roos thinks she got up, and in a dazed condition roamed into another room where she fell to the floor. At seven o'clock, a dressmaker who had been engaged to sew for Miss Bertha arrived at the house, and rapped at the outer door. Indeed she rapped many times. Max Levy was the only one to hear her, and after calling repeatedly, he arose and in a condition that scarcely left him strength to act, managed to dress himself and let the caller in. As the fresh air struck him he revived to an appreciation of the fact that help was needed, and he hastened to the neighbor's, Mr. Silberstein's, giving an alarm. The appearance of his face and his actions, like those of a drunken man, were sufficient alarm in themselves, and haste was made to see to the occupants of the house he had left. Suffice it to say all will recover, though Miss Bertha is yet very weak. Dr. Speier, who was called, was satisfied that much longer delay in opening up the house must have resulted in her death. Louis Roos, whose bedroom is near the stove, was in St. Paul. He returned last evening to receive and extend congratulations. A singular feature of the affair is that while all testify to having been disturbed by feeling uncomfortable, none realized that gas was escaping, or that their lives were in danger, till the doors were opened.