

## FIRE DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK MUNICIPAL BUILDING



For Release March 22, 1963

A special meeting and demonstration to emphasize fire safety in factories will start in the Roosevelt Auditorium, 100 East 17th Street, New York City at 5:30 P.M., Tuesday, March 26, 1963.

This demonstration is jointly sponsored by the International Ladies Garment Workers Union and the New York Fire Department. It will commemorate the 5th anniversary of the Monarch Undergarment fire of March 1958 in which 24 garment workers died and the 52nd anniversary of the Triangle Shirtwaist fire in which 146 persons perished. The meeting will also mark the 5th anniversary of the establishment of the ILGWU Fire Warden Corps and a shop safety program for fire prevention.

Since the inception of the Fire Warden program five years ago more than 50,000 factory workers have been addressed by members of the Fire Department who have stressed the need for better fire prevention practices in these occupancies and approximately 20,000 workers have been enrolled as fire wardens after being taught their duties. The Fire arden program is now included in all ILGWU collective agreements to promote greater fire safety as part of normal working conditions, and should serve as a model for all labor-management agreements.

The meeting will be addressed by David Dubinsky, president of the ILGWU. It will be presided over by Fire Commissioner

Thompson who will conduct demonstrations of defective wiring and various inflammable products which could cause fire. Also representing the ILGWU will be labor publication editor Leon Stein, sub-committee chairman of the Citizens Committee for Fire Prevention.