



Fig. 17. Wood tin-clad fire door in elevator shaft.

and No. 2, many melted pieces of cast iron were found that were originally machine frames. On all the standing walls there are large patches of melted brick work. In Elevator "A" and the Cleaning Mill practically all the visible inside area was affected in this manner. Figure 18, showing a portion of the elevator shaft in the Concrete Warehouse, gives an excellent illustration of this condition and Figure 19 shows one place in the Concrete Warehouse where the brick was melted to a depth of over $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches. This was not because of the inferior quality of the brick, for in all buildings, well-made machine-moulded clay brick was used. In the second and third story windows of the Concrete Warehouse, quite a number of completely melted cast-iron sash weights were found, while in other places in this building the heat was so intense that the ash from the burned cereals was melted into a phosphatic glass. Some of this material may be seen hanging from the ceiling in Figure 15. The roof drain which ran about two-thirds the length of the building was expanded by the heat and on cooling contracted, leaving the swing joint connection as an evidence of the amount of expansion.

On account of concrete having fused at the "Edison Fire," particular care was taken to see if any of the concrete had fused here, but nowhere throughout the plant was there evidence of fusion having occurred. The only effect of the heat on the limestone aggregate was to calcine those stones near the surface.

The complete dehydration of the 9-inch floor slabs together with the other items just mentioned proves that the fire at the Quaker Oats plant was of at least equal intensity and of far longer duration than the fire at the Edison plant.