



TENANTS RESPONSIBLE—Landlord Leopold Weiss, owner of this building at 351 St. Nicholas Avenue, claimed, less than a month ago, that Harlem tenants were to blame for bad conditions in slum houses. Mrs. Dumbrow, daughter of Mrs. Elizabeth Valentine and sister of Miss Aileen Valentine, both injured in the accident, points to the damaged ceiling in the bathroom of their apartment.

Falling Ceiling Hits 2 Tenants On Heads

By **KAY KERBY**

Months of water leakage in the ceiling of a bathroom at 351 St. Nicholas Avenue took its toll as the entire ceiling collapsed last Thursday night, injuring Miss Aileen Valentine and sending her mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Valentine, to bed with severe shock, according to the tenants of the address.

The apartment, on the second floor of a building owned by Leopold Weiss, a member of the Uptown Chamber of Commerce, was said by both Mrs. Valentine and her son-in-law, G. Dick, to have been in bad condition for several years, with various other violations occurring without correction by the various landlords.

Miss Valentine, according to her mother, was struck on the head by

falling plaster when the ceiling collapsed, causing both superficial head injuries and a persistent pain that has required much medical care. Mrs. Valentine, a diabetic suffering from extreme low-blood pressure, has been bed-ridden due to shock brought on by the incident.

To Force Repairs

The United Harlem Tenants and consumers organization stated that every effort would be leveled at Weiss in an attempt to force him to repair not only the damaged ceiling, but the other defects in the apartment. Among them were listed: the need of a new paint job, the persistent leakage of water in the bathroom walls from defective pipes on upper floors, and the condition of the floors which are badly in need of scraping and finishing.