FIREMEN PAY $500 FOR PROMOTION

Commissioner Finds Evidence of Timeworn Swindle.

AFFECT LIEUTENANT'S LIST

Five Men, Said to Have Paid Money to Clerk in Highways Department, Are Suspended.

The Fire Department has been affected by what Fire Commissioner Joseph Johnson terms "the time worn swindle practised upon candidates for civil service places," and the promotion of all firemen who recently passed successfully the examination for lieutenant will be held up until a new and unexpected "graft" investigation has been completed.

In correspondence between the Fire Commissioner, Mayor Gaynor and James Creelman, president of the Municipal Civil Service Commission, it was asserted that certain firemen had paid $500 each to Henry C. Clark, a clerk in the Brooklyn Bureau of Highways, on his assurance that his influence would put them among the first one hundred men on the list of eligibles.

Five men have been suspended and will be put on trial. They refused to accept immunity and in return tell what they knew, says the Commissioner. Two other firemen have exposed the scheme in detail.

Mayor Gaynor has written that he "feels hurt to have this thing happen," and characterized the scandal as "outrageous to the last degree." He says that unless the list of prospective lieutenants can be purged of suspicion it should be held up altogether.

The letter Commissioner Johnson wrote to the Mayor follows:

President Creelman informed Chief Kenlon on November 18 he believed that about a year previous effort had been made by some one to persuade candidates for lieutenant to pay money to attain a place in the first hundred on the list. Creelman gave Kenlon the name of Fireman Henry Kennedy, of Hook and Ladder No. 25, as a candidate who had been solicited.

I started investigation. Kennedy confessed that, following an introduction by Fireman Behler to Henry C. Clark, clerk in the Highways Bureau, Brooklyn, he had in September or October, 1911, paid Clark $500. That, having failed to attain a place in the first hundred, Clark had, November 18, 1912, returned the cash.

Behler corroborated in detail the transaction. He said that he had acted as Clark's agent, and had introduced the following, who, he understood, had paid the following sums: Fireman Kennedy, $500; Fireman Boylan, $500; Fireman Chalmers, $800; Fireman Rousseau, $400 or $450; Fireman O'Toole, $500. Fireman Eagan had been approached, but paid nothing. Engineer Kiernan had been approached, but Behler did not know how much he had paid.

After these developments the matter was immediately placed in the hands of the Police Department and the District Attorney of Kings County.

Mayor Gaynor replied:

Your letter of November 22, showing certain members of the Fire Department paid money to an outsider, namely, Henry C. Clark, who agreed with them that in the civil service promotion examinations he would see that they got on the eligible list among the first one hundred, is at hand. I cannot express to you how much this matter has distressed me.

Mr. Creelman, president of the Municipal Civil Service Commission, laid the matter before me Friday. I instructed him to withdraw the list from you, so that no promotions could be made from it until the whole matter had been thoroughly gone into.

My disposition is to have the whole list killed. That will be done unless proof is conclusive that nobody who paid money got advantage.

More than that, I think the list will have to be freed from all suspicion in order to stand. It is not only necessary that the eligible lists be free from all dishonesty but that they have also the appearance of being so.

After all that I have done to assure the members of the Fire Department that the payment of money cannot secure appointment or promotion, I feel hurt to have this thing happen. It is outrageous to the last degree.

So let us now make the closest possible examination, and if this list cannot be entirely freed from suspicion, even, let it be killed and a new one made up. The department members who have paid money must be put on trial forthwith, excepting, of course, any to whom you have promised immunity in order to obtain the facts.

Commissioner Johnson explained the alleged transaction fully in his letter to Mr. Creelman, saying that Kennedy, after a positive denial, confessed that he had paid Clark $500 and received a receipt, which provided the return of the money in case Clark was unsuccessful in putting the fireman in the position sought for. Kennedy did not get in the first one hundred and Clark repaid him $500.

Kennedy said that Behler had approached other firemen. Behler, after a stout denial, confessed he had made the proposition to the men named. Assistant District Attorney Henry Anderson and Detective Lee Sharpe were present at the inquiry with Commissioner Johnson and Chief Kenlon.

The Commissioner announced last night that he had suspended Boylan, Chalmers, Rousseau, O'Toole and Kiernan, and while promotions and appointments of battalion chiefs, captains, engineers and firemen will be announced, as planned, to-morrow afternoon, the appointment of no lieutenant will be announced.

District Attorney James C. Cropsey, of Kings County, said last night that he had been investigating the charges against Mr. Clark for the last few days. Beyond this he said that he did not care to make any statement.

Clark, when seen at the office of the Bureau of Highways, at the Borough Hall, Brooklyn, yesterday afternoon refused to discuss the case in any way.

JAILED IN VICE CRUSADE

Albany Judge Sentences Man Convicted as Result of Senate Inquiry.

Albany, Nov. 25.—Convicted on evidence before the Senate committee which investigated Albany city and county affairs, James W. McNamara was sentenced to-day by Judge Addington in the County Court to six months' imprisonment in the Albany penitentiary and was fined $250 for leasing a house for immoral purposes.

HYDE'S ANSWER TO ROBIN AN ALIBI

Continued from first page.

report that some bonds had been stolen from the Carnegie Trust Company, which led to a little run on the bank. I asked them if anything troubled them now and they said, 'Nothing. Everything's fine and everybody's well.'"

"How long did the whole conversation last?" asked Max D. Steuer, Hyde's lawyer.

"Ten or fifteen minutes, I suppose."

"Then what did you do?"

"I got into my car, which the chauffeur had announced was ready, and went to Roslyn. My mother was there. She had come on East from California, and had been visiting one of my sisters in Canada. She had been staying alone at my home in Roslyn for two weeks, and left us two days afterward."

"Robin has testified that in your talk with him that night you said the Carnegie Trust Company had to have $130,000 and that he must furnish it or lose his city deposits. Did you have any such conversation?"

"Absolutely nothing of the sort was mentioned."

"Was the subject ever brought up between you and Robin?"

"Never."

"Not a Word About City Deposits."

"Was anything whatever said at this meeting about city deposits in banks?"

"Not a word."

And a little later Steuer asked:

"Did you ever ask Robin to lend the Carnegie Trust Company $130,000?"

"I never did."

"Did you ever tell him that you would draw out every cent of the city's deposits in the Northern Bank?"

"No."

"Did you ever have a conversation of that sort with Cummins, Reichmann and Robin or any one else?"

"I never did."

Frank Moss, Assistant District Attorney, the moment he opened his cross-examination of the defendant tackled the alibi. Hyde repeated that he had left his office about 6 o'clock, as near as he could remember.

"Was nothing said," asked Moss, "as to why Robin had come to see you?"

"Why, they said Robin wanted to meet me, that's all."

"And what did Cummins and Reichmann come to see you about?"

"They had no particular object except to greet me on my return."

"Did you call up LeRoy Baldwin?"

"I did not."

"He was called up from your office, was he not?"

"I don't know."

"Did you ever call LeRoy Baldwin up at his residence?"

"No."

"What time did you arrive home at Roslyn?"

"About 7 o'clock."

Moss Reverts to Alibi.

Mr. Moss reverted to the alibi again after he had consumed an hour asking Hyde why he had trusted Cummins and the Carnegie Trust Company with so much city money. He asked him:

"When you left your office on August 22, did you leave anybody in your office?"

"I don't know."

"Did you leave an office boy there?"

"I don't remember."

"Did you leave Cummins or Reichmann or Robin or all three there?"

"I can't recall."

"How long have you been thinking about this indictment, Mr. Hyde?"

"Thanks to your office, sixteen or seventeen months."

There followed a wrangle between the prosecutor and the witness about who had caused the delay between the indictment and trial, which Moss cut short by asking Hyde why it was he couldn't remember these things if he had been giving the subject of the charge against him such a lengthy consideration.

"To be perfectly frank with you, Mr. Moss," said the witness, "the question of this meeting has given me a great deal of thought. I have gone over it and gone over it, and I am not able to say to-day who left the office first and whether anybody remained there after I had gone."

"You have talked with Cummins about it?"

"Yes."

"And you've talked with Reichmann about it?"

"I have."

"And still you're unable to say whether you left them there or they left you there?"

"To tell you the truth, Mr. Moss," said the defendant, "there is not a single thing about that meeting which made any impression upon me whatever. If it hadn't been for the newspapers and the fact that I got home from Europe the Saturday before, and that my mother was here, I wouldn't remember a thing about it to this day."

Mrs. Hyde on the Stand.

But Mrs. Hyde, on her cross-examination, said yesterday afternoon was the first time she had been asked about the incidents of that evening.

"And you remember that on August 22, 1910, two years and a half ago, that your husband came home and took dinner at 7 o'clock, though the subject had not been brought to your attention until this afternoon?"

"Yes," answered Mrs. Hyde, but then she hastened to explain before Mr. Moss asked her another question:

"You see, it was two nights after we got home from Europe, and Mr. Hyde's mother was there. Those two things fixed it in my memory. If it had been two weeks later I might not have remembered anything about it. Mr. Hyde was there every night to dine with his mother."

Young George, with his rosy cheeks and boyish voice, made a very self-contained witness just the same. He, too, had been asked about his father's movements on that night for the first time yesterday afternoon, and he remembered about them for the same reasons. Mr. Moss asked him if he had been in court while his father and mother were testifying and he said he had.

Then he stepped down from the stand and went over and sat with his mother.

Incidents and decisions of the utmost importance to the fortunes of the former City Chamberlain crammed the afternoon and kept the courtroom well filled until 6:40 o'clock. The prosecution had rested just before the noon recess with the testimony of John V. Smith, Hyde's private secretary, whom Steuer declined to cross-examine.

Stanchfield Moves to Dismiss.

John B. Stanchfield, Hyde's other lawyer, opened the afternoon's proceedings by introducing again the motion to dismiss the indictment against his client on the ground that it did not specify wherein he had benefited by the alleged crime.

Both prosecution and defence had submitted briefs to the court on this point at Justice Goff's request when he overruled the motion temporarily at the beginning of the trial. Since then the people had introduced evidence to show that Hyde had borrowed $13,500 from the Carnegie Trust Company through notes of John V. Smith, which he paid after the bank had failed.

Mr. Stanchfield not only contended yesterday that the indictment in not specifying wherein Hyde had benefited failed to set forth a crime, but that in paying interest on the loans mentioned and in settling the debt the defendant had removed the possibility that these might be considered payment for favors alleged to have been done by him for Cummins and the Carnegie Trust Company.

He asked Justice Goff to instruct the jury to acquit the defendant on the further ground that Robin was an accomplice in the crime, if any were committed, and that the law prescribed that the evidence of accomplices be corroborated, which had not been done in this case. He said Robin's testimony required corroboration on the further ground that he had been convicted of a felony. He continued:

"Let us look at the record and see what it shows. Why, at the time specified in the indictment the Carnegie Trust Company had $800,000 of city money on deposit. Is it not to Hyde's credit, rather than a crime, if he insisted that Robin come to the rescue of the Carnegie Trust Company? Is it not to his credit if he did everything in his power to keep the Carnegie Trust Company afloat with $800,000 of city money in it?"

Mr. Moss contended that the section of the Penal Code under which the indictment had been drawn did not require the statement in dollars and cents of the benefit derived by the defendant; that it referred to the unlawful act of a public officer, in which obviously Robin could not be considered an accomplice legally, and the state constitution exempted from punishment a briber who would testify to his having bribed a public officer.

But in the matter of corroboration, he said, the Robin transaction was only one of a "connected line" of transactions, every one of them with the same object and result, and that of the evidence of this series the court had ample corroboration in the testimony of the several bankers concerning the coincidence between the loans by their institutions to Cummins or his friends or companies and the receipts of city deposits.

Both Mr. Stanchfield and Mr. Moss had argued with vehemence and eloquence, while Justice Goff sat quietly regarding them over the top of his desk, as immobile as a statue and with no more change of expression. Mr. Moss finished amid an ominous silence.

Goff Overrules the Motion.

Without moving, the venerable jurist began to speak. He said a very few words, the only one which penetrated beyond the rail dividing counsel from the rest of the courtroom being "Overruled."

Immediately Mr. Steuer was on his feet to make his opening address for the defence to the jury.

He began with Hyde's first meeting with Cummins, when the latter called on the City Chamberlain at his office about March 1, 1910, with W. J. Harrington, a friend of Hyde's, and Martin J. Condon, president of the Americana Snuff Company, and one of the Cummins group in the Carnegie Trust Company, to solicit city funds.

Hyde didn't give them any city money and Cummins called three weeks later at the defendant's home in Roslyn, bringing with him a eulogistic letter of recommendation from Jordan J. Rollins, counsel for the State Banking Department. This letter has been printed several times. It was offered in evidence yesterday.

This letter brought the money, Steuer said, and Hyde bore him out later on this point on the witness stand. The lawyer told of the friendship that sprang up and ripened between the two men.

He told of Hyde's trip to Europe in the summer of 1910, and of his return when he heard that Mayor Gaynor had been shot. He described Hyde's leaving the incoming steamship Philadelphia on a tug to be taken to Hoboken that he might go immediately to St. Mary's Hospital, where the Mayor lay.

Then he outlined the alibi, going briefly over the ground which was covered a little later in the testimony. He explained the Norcross notes as money forwarded to a friend who had discovered, he thought, a decidedly valuable and efficacious cure for consumption, which he wished to bring to the attention of the hospitals of the country. And then he came to Robin.

"We are going to show you, gentlemen of the jury," pursued Mr. Steuer, "that on December 26, the same day the Northern Bank closed, Robin instigated the filing of a petition by which he was committed by a Supreme Court justice to an asylum for the insane. We are going to show you that he had a guardian appointed for his person on the ground that he was insane.

To Prove Robin Insane.

"We are going to show you that he went into the District Attorney's office and there threw a fit and so conducted himself that he was held as insane and sent to Bellevue Hospital by his honor here for observation, and that he remained there two weeks and so conducted himself that he was considered by the doctors there to be insane. We are going to show you that in the Court of General Sessions one alienist chosen by Robin's counsel and twelve selected by the people declared him insane. We are going to call these alienists and others to prove to you that Robin is insane.

"His narrative concerning the defendant is a part of his disease, a delusion. When Robin was confronted with his father and mother he repudiated them. It is one of his delusions that he comes of noble stock in Russia. We will call his real parents to the stand.

"He has claimed that he was the subject of persecution at the hands of Morgan and the Standard Oil interests. He said in court in the presence of the District Attorney that Mr. Whitman was in a conspiracy to put him in an insane asylum because the Morgan interests wanted to get rid of him. He swore that the head of the Clearing House once fired a shot at him.

"We are going to show you that while Robin was in the Tombs he wore rubbers because he said Morgan had employed Nicola Tesla, who could electrocute people as far away as Denmark, to put an electric light into his cell and kill him with the current, and he wished to insulate himself. While in the Tombs, also, he said his food had been poisoned at the instigation of the Morgan interests.

"Is Hyde safe in the mouth of that man?"

Hyde remained cool throughout his cross-examination. He even broke into a quiet laugh now and then, as if impelled to by the fury with which Mr. Moss went at him, and, even after the court had reproved him for this tendency, a smile on occasion twisted the side of his face in an effort to break forth into audible mirth.

Moss spent the greater part of his time trying to find out if the defendant, as City Chamberlain, had done a thing to find out the rotten financial condition of the Carnegie Trust Company, to which he had intrusted $1,000,000 of the city's money.

Hyde assured him over and over again that he had made no investigation, no inquiries, had not even discussed the troubles of Cummins and his companies with the promoter. He insisted that he had relied upon the recommendations of Jordan J. Rollins and Clark Williams, and had never investigated the financial strength or responsibility of the Cummins group.

He had never heard a whisper to the effect that Cummins was trading on his, the City Chamberlain's, friendship to get help for his bank, and in the case of each of the banks which had lent Cummins money and had received city deposits he named the man who had solicited the city deposits, denying in each instance that Cummins had ever asked him to deposit city money in the bank in question.

The Assistant District Attorney asked him about various letters which passed between him and Cummins, in some of which Cummins referred to him in endearing terms. They made Hyde laugh, but most of them he didn't remember. He explained his trip to Florida on his houseboat in the fall of 1910, denying emphatically that he had fled from the Merritt committee, which was investigating racetrack legislation corruption. He denied knowing that Cummins had had a hand in getting bail for ex-State Senator Gardner.

"Didn't you know," asked Mr. Moss, "that your brother-in-law, Mr. Engelmann, had arranged with Cummins to get bail for Gardner?"

"I did not."

"And didn't you hope by that means to keep Gardner's mouth shut concerning you?"

"No!" shouted the witness, with the only real heat he showed on the stand. "I had no interest in keeping his mouth shut."

The defence will call to-day the thirteen alienists who declared Robin to be insane.

U. S. TRIES MINING MEN

Prosecution Charges They Used the Mails to Defraud.

The trial of Albert Freeman, promoter; Julian Hawthorne, novelist and son of Nathaniel Hawthorne; Josiah Quincy, former Mayor of Boston, and Dr. William J. Morton, a nerve specialist, charged with using the mails to defraud, was begun yesterday before Judge Hough, in the United States District Court. A provisory jury was selected, but the defence may use nine and the prosecution six peremptory challenges this morning.

The indictments include John MacKinnon, secretary of the Julian Hawthorne Mining Company, but it was agreed he should be tried separately, and the belief prevailed that he would be called as a witness for the government.

The instrument alleged misrepresentations made with the use of the mails as to the prospects and values of the Canadian mines the defendants promoted. According to the government it was Albert Freeman who originated the idea of utilizing the name of the novelist as a special attraction for purchasers of mining stocks.

Julian Hawthorne, it was charged, became interested in Mr. Freeman's schemes, and wrote most of the pamphlets and other literature sent broadcast by the promoter. Josiah Quincy, who had been the legal adviser of Mr. Freeman, became counsel for the promoting companies, and the government charged that he had knowledge of the schemes of alleged misrepresentation worked. Dr. William J. Morton, of this city, was said to have financed the starting of the enterprise, and he was charged with taking a share of the proceeds gained through the sale of stock.

Thomas W. Proctor appeared for Mr. Freeman, Roderick Wellman for Julian Hawthorne, Joseph H. Choate, jr., for Dr. Morton, and the law firm of Hurlbut, Jones & Talbot, of Boston, represented Mr. Quincy. Henry A. Wise, United States Attorney, and his assistants, G. H. Dorr and C. A. Thompson, represented the government.

Unusual precaution was taken in the examination of the jurymen as to their possible bias in the matter. One of the questions asked by the prosecution was whether a distinguished name would influence the juryman in returning a fair verdict.

TRUST GOT RICH ASSET

Harvesting Concern Made $500,000 Yearly.

Chicago, Nov. 25.—Fred Robinson, vice-president and general manager of the Case Thrashing Machine Company, of Racine, Wis., a $40,000,000 corporation, was the principal witness for the government to-day in the suit for the dissolution of the International Harvester Company. He was once connected with the Milwaukee Harvester Company, absorbed by the International in 1902.

Profits of the Milwaukee company, said the witness, who negotiated the option of the property to J. P. Morgan and George W. Perkins, averaged $500,000 a year for two years previous to the acquisition of the property by the combination.

"Who besides yourself controlled the Milwaukee Harvester Company at the time?" asked Edwin P. Grosvenor, government counsel.

"Steven Bull, Frank K. Bull, R. T. Robinson and Charles L. McIntyre," replied the witness. "The Milwaukee company was purchased for the International Harvester combination for approximately $3,000,000."

SCHRANK GOES TO ASYLUM

If Cured He Will Be Tried for Shooting Colonel Roosevelt.

Milwaukee, Nov. 25.—John Schrank, who shot Colonel Roosevelt, was taken to the Northern Hospital for the Insane, near Oshkosh, to-day. Schrank has not changed in demeanor since sentence was pronounced. His disease, called by alienists chronic paranoia, and probably incurable, may confine him to prison for life. Should he ever be considered cured he will be returned to Milwaukee and tried for the shooting of Colonel Roosevelt.

SAY MATCHES KILL THREE BABIES A DAY

Women Point to Statistics in Fight on Lucifers That Poison.

ONE'S GRIEF NEAR HOME

Miss Wald's Loss Has Stirred Her to Work in Saving Other Children from "Pitty Can'y."

"Pitty, pitty! Can'y!"

Baby's bright eyes spied the little pink objects on the table. She left dolly sprawling by the window and toddled over to the "can'y," which some careless person had left within reach of the short arms. Nurse had left the room for just a moment. When she returned the darling of the family was in convulsions and in a short time she was dead, for the pretty pink "can'y" had been matches—poisonous, white phosphorous matches.

This is the reason why Miss Lillian D. Wald, of the Henry Street Settlement, has been working all summer in support of the law to keep these matches out of New York City. The baby who died was one dear to her, and with that terrible lesson in her heart she has used her influence to save other little children from a similar fate.

"It is such a common occurrence," she said yesterday. "Any one is likely to leave a child alone in a room where matches are within reach. Any child who is so little as not to know better is likely to want to eat the little pink heads. Children want to eat anything. I don't know just how much of the phosphorous poison is necessary to kill a child, but I have heard that two matches are enough. We never knew how many matches were sucked by the little child I told you of, it could not have been many.

Afraid "Trust" Will Win.

"That is why I have done what I could to secure the passage of that ordinance. Yes, I have heard that the 'match trust' is making efforts to have it repealed. I am afraid they will, though, of course, we are watching them all the time."

The social worker spoke of other cases of children being poisoned by matches which came within the range of her own personal experience.

The danger in these white phosphorus matches is that, in addition to being pink, and therefore attractive to the child eye, they have a slightly sweet taste, so that a young child who tries one likes and reaches for the next. It is said that there is absolutely no cure for phosphorus poison. Another element, it is pointed out, which adds to the danger is that these matches are not labelled. No other poison is so common, and all other poisons which are sold into homes are required by law to be marked plainly, it is explained.

It is said that there is considerable danger even to grown-ups, who do not eat match heads, in the tiny particles thrown off by the matches. If they are left in the kitchen or in a closet near any receptive food, such as butter or cream, these poisonous particles lodge in the food. Many cases of ptomaine poisoning have been traced to this cause. The only sure way to keep matches is in an airtight box, for the volatile particles penetrate common wooden or paper boxes.

There is another danger to be guarded against—fire. The housewife who keeps her matches in a tin box to secure them against nibbling mice also prevents them from injuring food.

Three Victims Every Day.

According to Mrs. Eva McDonald Valesh, editor of "The American Clubwoman," who has been prominent in the match fight with Miss Wald, one thousand children every year, or three every day, die from phosphorus poison. The figures, she said, were the result of investigation by the government Department of Commerce and Labor. Her crusade against the poison match began fifteen years ago, when she heard of the work in Europe along those lines. It was the horrible conditions among workers in the factories where these matches were made—the fact that three-fourths of the women and children employed in these factories suffered from the loathsome disease known as "phossy jaw"—which first led to the investigations in the course of which it was discovered that these matches were dangerous likewise to children.

The fact that their manufacture had been prohibited in Europe for fifteen years, Mrs. Valesh said, was significant in view of the tolerant attitude of the American public toward them. The manufacturers, she said, were just as able to make the non-poisonous kind, only they had not enough of the new machinery to make their whole output of this kind. The fight against the new law was simply a fight against the expense of new machinery, she declared.

"We don't want to put the match makers out of business," she added. "It costs no more to make safe matches when once the machinery is installed."

STATE MAY OWN BARGES

Waterways Association Suggests Plan to Canal Board.

Governor Dix's commission on barge canal operation met yesterday in the board of managers' room of the Produce Exchange. Ex-Judge William J. Roche, of Troy, chairman of the legislative committee of the New York State Waterways Association, urged the commission to safeguard the canal from the control of the railroads by means of direct or indirect ownership of the barges on new state waterways. He referred to the situation now confronting New England resulting from the monopoly, as he called it, of traffic by the New Haven road. Judge Roche recommended amending the Public Service Commission law so as to extend its jurisdiction over navigation companies engaged in transportation of property.

"I am told," he said, "that the New York Central Railroad is about to acquire control of all boats operating on the Hudson River. It would not surprise me to see this great corporation controlling not only the two railroads on either side of the river but the river craft also. We should by legislative enactment make this condition impossible."

The commissioners present were C. E. Troman, of Ithaca; John G. Partridge and Winslow M. Mead, secretary. The Waterways Association was represented by Judge Roche; George Clinton, of Buffalo, a grandson of De Witt Clinton; E. Platt Stratton, of Flushing; F. S. Witherbee and H. B. Herbert, of New York. H. B. Hadley and F. S. Hardner represented the Board of Trade and Transportation of New York.

MUSEUM TO MAKE ROOM FOR MORGAN COLLECTION

Continued from first page.

museum, said yesterday that Mr. Morgan had naturally been growing impatient at what might have appeared the indifference of the city authorities to Mr. Morgan's magnificent offer to place his entire European collections in the museum upon condition that adequate and suitable space for their exhibition would be provided.

Storerooms of Museum Filled.

The application for the appropriation for the new wing, the director declared, was submitted to the city authorities in January, 1912.

"We had reason to hope," said Mr. Robinson, "that action would be taken early in the last summer, and made our plans accordingly. The summer arrived and passed, however, without any action, and all preparatory work and planning for the installation of collections, including those of Mr. Morgan, have been necessarily delayed."

Mr. Robinson said the storerooms of the museum were filled to overflowing and contained a large number of objects of art which it was desired to place on exhibition, but for which there was no room, even with the completion of the new north wing.

While admitting the seriousness of the situation, Mr. Robinson said:

"I do not think that Mr. Morgan will make any final decision regarding the ultimate destination of his collections until the Board of Estimate has made its decision in regard to the application of the trustees of the museum for an appropriation to build the southern extension of the museum. If that decision should be unfavorable it would place the museum in a grave predicament. Rather than lose the collections the trustees of the museum would undoubtedly agree to withdraw other collections now on exhibition or intended to be placed in the north wing, which is nearing completion, should Mr. Morgan consent to such an arrangement, but such withdrawal could only result in loss to the public of valuable and important works of art and would mean a serious sacrifice to the people of New York and to all students of art in this country."

Controller Prendergast made it plain yesterday that the city should, in his opinion, provide for the erection of the wing needed to house the Morgan treasures. He said, however, that he was not certain just when the addition should be built.

"I believe," he added, "that provision should be made for these art treasures as soon as possible, but it is a question as to just what is most needful, socially, at present. With hospitals and recreation centres and schools demanding attention, we have got to take things in the order of importance as we see it."

Members of the Board of Estimate are of the opinion, it was said yesterday, that the criticism that has arisen as a result of their failure, as yet, to provide for the construction mentioned, is an attempt to push forward the making of an appropriation and the issuance of corporate stock by agitation.

TALL TOWER NOT AFIRE

But Men in the Street Think Woolworth Building Ablaze.

Clouds of smoke that curled from the upper windows on the eastern front of the Woolworth tower and were whipped to shreds by the high wind that prevailed yesterday afternoon gave rise to an alarm in the downtown district that the highest building in the world was burning.

Pedestrians along Park Row and Broadway paused and craned their necks, while one excited citizen rushed into Precinct A station of the traffic police in the City Hall and announced that the top of the tower was about to fall.

A patrolman learned that the smoke was caused by burning rubbish in the new furnaces. The smoke stack, it was said, had not been completed to the roof, and the wind had carried the smoke through the upper floors of the tower.