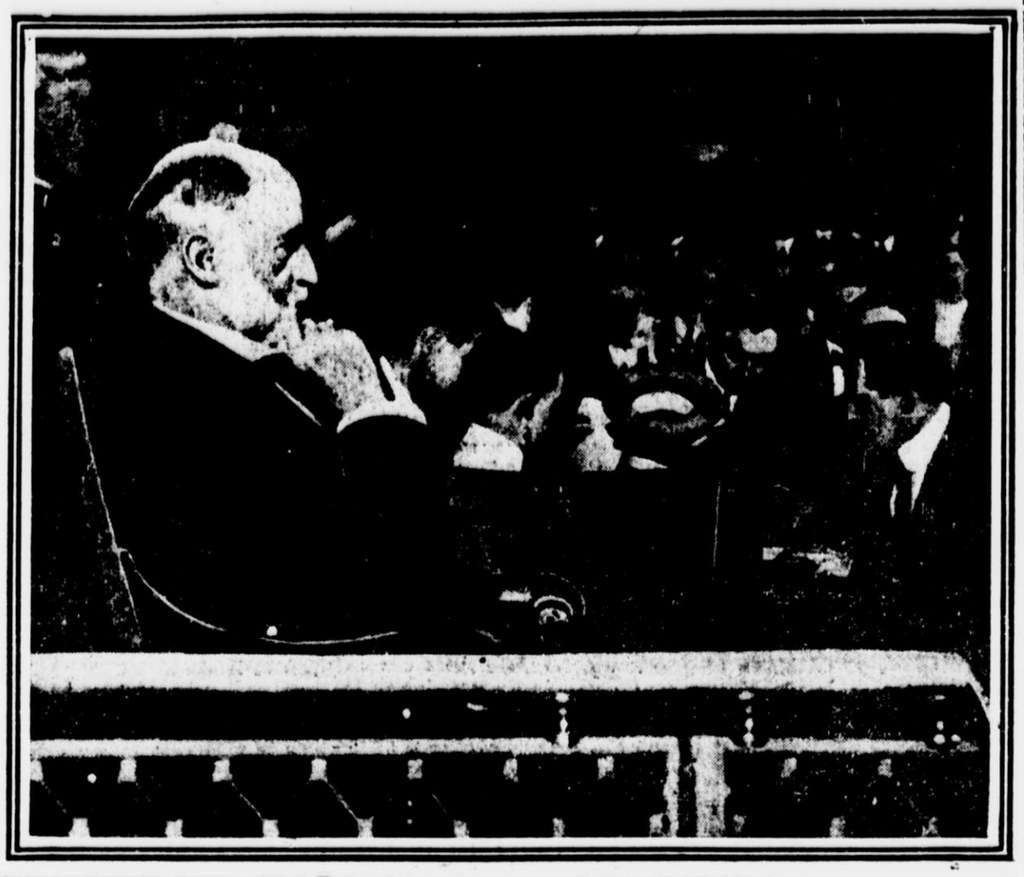
MAYOR GAYNOR ON THE WITNESS STAND



arranged by Mr. Buckner in his conversation with the Mayor in the latter's office on Monday. The question had been left to the Mayor and he had expressed himself as preferring to be sworn.

Chairman Curran turned over the conduct of the inquiry to Mr. Buckner and himself sat down.

"The committee is desirous, Mr. Mayor," Mr. Buckner began, "of ascertaining somewhat of the administrative policy of the Mayor of New York over the Police Department. In order to facilitate their inquiry they should like to know in a general way what method the Mayor has employed of keeping in touch during his administration with the administration of the Police Department."

The Mayor asked what Mr. Buckner meant. The counsel for the investigators explained by asking if the Mayor had any system of reports given him by the Commissioner.

"I have reports from time to time," Mayor Gaynor replied. He added that he had frequent reports from the Commissioner about many matters. These reports, he said, were generally made by letters. "I have instructed the Police Commissioner," he continued, "to open up all the correspondence and everything in the Police Department to you or to anybody else who wishes to read it—everything."

"And the committee has been greatly benefited by that courtesy, Mr. Mayor," Mr. Buckner replied, "and has taken advantage of it during the past week." The Mayor finished up this little exchange of courtesy with the remark that everything was there in his letters, and the questioning was resumed, Mr. Buckner returning to the matter of reports and asking if the Mayor received anything other than letters regarding specific matters.

Q. Do you have any system of reports other than letters or other than speaking to you? A. I know of no other way by which he could communicate, except by writing or speech.

Q. And have you used that way of writing and speech in an effort to keep in touch with the administration of the department? A. I do not think so. I have not made so much effort. I have been able to devote very little time—to each department just a little of my time.

Q. You have not then devoted any particular time to the Police Department as distinguished from other departments? For example have you employed the Commissioner of Accounts from time to time to make investigations into any phases of the Police Department? A. I think so.

No Recollection of Inquiries.

Q. What kind of investigations have you had the Commissioner of Accounts perform? A. I have no recollection about it.

Q. Have you any system by which you have been able to ascertain the condition or the efficiency of, let us say, inspectors or lieutenants or captains, or have you interested yourself in that detail?

The Mayor said he did not understand. Mr. Buckner explained by citing the methods employed by a manufacturer to ascertain the efficiency of his organization and asked if the Mayor had had any system of general reports by which he could tell what his inspectors or captains were doing. Mr. Gaynor said they were reporting constantly to the Commissioner. The method by which the Mayor found out these things was all in the Police Department, he said.

Q. But in your own office have you any way? Supposing this afternoon you wanted to find out the efficiency of your inspectors of the city, could you do that without calling on Commissioner Waldo? A. Well, I would have to—my own knowledge I suppose would go a certain way. Are you asking me whether there is a staff in the Mayor's office charged with running the Police Department? If that is it I should only say to you, "No."

Each department, the Mayor continued, is run by a Commissioner, and he reports to the Mayor.

Q. Have you had any system of reports for the purpose of ascertaining what in any week of any month were the general conditions of the city? A. The Commissioner makes his annual report.

Q. Outside of the Commissioner's annual report have you had any way of ascertaining the general conditions of the city at any week or any month? A. Oh, yes.

Q. How? A. Oh, I have eyes and ears and hands and feet.

Q. Have you had any other method than your personal investigation? A. The Commissioner is the head of the department, and I consult with him.

Here the Mayor began his protest against the line of questioning a protest which he repeated many times before the hearing was over and which he several times emphasized by starting to rise from his seat as if to leave the committee and the chamber altogether.

Complains About Questions.

"Now, gentlemen," he said, "I am willing to come here to give any facts within my possession and I come voluntarily and with pleasure showing any lack of enforcement of the law in the Police Department. That is what I have come here for. I don't want to say that in the way of displeasure at all. On the contrary, that is what I come for, and I would like to have you come to that, because I am ready to give you the facts of it."

Q. Yes. In attempting to find out, Mr. Mayor, as to the extent you keep in touch with the conditions of the city, I am inquiring as to the facts, and I understand that you have no way except conversations with your Commissioner and occasional letters; is that right? A. If you understand it that way you can do so. I have not said so.

Mr. Buckner replied "All right," as he replied half a hundred times in the hearing when the Mayor's replies were of a similar nature.

Mr. Buckner then mentioned former Commissioner of Accounts Fosdick and asked the Mayor if he ever directed Mr. Fosdick, "through his comprehensive investigations outside of the Police Department," to conduct any comprehensive investigation for the Mayor.

"I don't recall," was the Mayor's answer.

Q. To refresh your recollection, is it true that Mr. Fosdick, the Commissioner of Accounts, has been largely employed or directed by you looking after cases of individual patrolmen such as for alleged clubbing batteries? A. I don't think many.

Q. Has he done anything else? A. I think very seldom has he done anything in the Police Department, I think.

Q. Well, he has made into the Police Department some twenty-five or thirty investigations at your direction, has he not, in two and a half years? A. I couldn't say. I don't think as many. He has the report of each case on file here.

Q. You have not directed him, have you, to ascertain at any moment the general conditions of the city so as to check up the reports you have received from your Commissioner? A. The general conditions of the city? He has nothing to do with that at all.

Q. It would be his duty to do it if you directed him, wouldn't it? A. I don't know, as his office extends to that. I think not.

Fosdick's Probe in 1910.

The Mayor replied in the negative to a question whether Commissioner Fosdick had made an investigation into general conditions of the city in 1910, in the Mayor's absence from the city, and said that he did not recall hearing on his return that the Commissioner of Accounts had made an investigation into the conditions at Coney Island at the direction of the acting Mayor.

"I do not recall that," the Mayor said. "I think he did something. I was not at that time in a condition to know what was going on."

Q. Did you afterward learn that Commissioner Fosdick made an investigation into the general conditions of Manhattan and Brooklyn at that time with reference to vice? A. I do not think he did, no. I do not recall it.

Q. Did it ever occur to you that it would be a good thing to have the Commissioner of Accounts make an investigation, so as not to trust entirely the reports of the Police Department? A. I have had him do so occasionally. I have just as much confidence in Mr. Waldo as I have in the Commissioner of Accounts. I did not need to. He is a thoroughly honest man, a man of high intelligence and he has my absolute confidence. I never found him lacking yet.

Q. But of course Commissioner Waldo might easily be deceived by his subordinates in making his reports? A. I do not know what I have to do with this. I come here to give facts to this committee. If they do not wish to ask them I will have to retire. I might as well be plain with you.

Q. The particular question I am asking you now is if you have used Commissioner Fosdick for any kind of an investigation except small, petty cases? A. I do not know what he has been used for.

Q. For instance, in the latter part of July of this year you did not employ the Commissioner of Accounts to make any investigation, did you, into allegations that were spread broadcast at that time?

Mayor's Anger Aroused.

This question caused the Mayor to straighten up quickly and assume an attitude considerably more belligerent than he had yet shown.

"Spread broadcast by whom?" he asked. "I do not know what you are talking about. I must again say that I shall withdraw unless you come to some facts about the failure of the police department to enforce the law. That is the inquiry here."

Q. Did you ever employ Commissioner Fosdick to make a general investigation into the alleged conditions of graft in the Police Department after the murder of Herman Rosenthal? A. He was not employed at all.

Q. Did you know at that time or did you hear that he had material in hand on that subject? A. No, sir.

Q. Going back for a moment to the summer of 1910, did it occur to you after the disclosures made by the investigation of Commissioner Fosdick under the direction of the acting mayor, that perhaps your system of keeping in touch with the conditions of the city was defective? A.—I decline to answer. I shall go no further with this business unless you come to some failure of the Police Department to obey the law. I had nothing at all to do with that matter. I think the whole world knows that, and that I should not be asked a word about it here.

Q. You do not think then that your system was defective? A. I do not tell you what I think at all. I come here to produce facts.

Q. All right. After the disclosures made with reference to the condition of Coney Island in 1910 did you change, improve or modify your system of keeping in touch with general conditions in the city of New York? A. I have nothing to do with that matter.

Q. Do you think the Mayor of New York should keep in touch with general vice conditions in the city? A. I shall not state what I think on that subject.

Mr. Buckner then let the question drop and took up a line of questioning that had to do with the police commissioners and one deputy commissioner, Mr. Bugher, who have been in office under Mayor Gaynor's administration. When Mr. Buckner, in an effort to have Deputy Commissioner Bugher's letter of resignation identified, asked the Mayor if "the following, to the best of your recollection," was the text of Mr. Bugher's resignation, the Mayor interrupted him when he had got to the date, October 19, 1910, with "I do not need to recollect at all; if there is a record, there it is."

Mr. Buckner continued reading the letter. "I have for some time remained in the department with very great reluctance, as you know. Twice before—"

Mayor Knows to Contrary.

"I know the very contrary," interrupted the Mayor. "He was trying to get me to appoint him commissioner. He was worrying the life out of me to get appointed to be the head of the department."

Mr. Buckner continued reading the letter, in which Mr. Bugher told of twice placing his resignation in the hands of the Mayor, and continued:

"'Since the first of the year I have seen the department become increasingly demoralized and the violation of the law more and more flagrant, until now I am convinced that I cannot retain my position with self-respect.

"'Nothing short of a complete reorganization of the department and the appointment of a Commissioner who will make it clear that he intends to enforce discipline and will support the honest and self-respecting members of the force in enforcing the law will, in my opinion, give to the city the kind of police administration it should have.

"'Many months ago, and repeatedly since, you indicated to me that you intended to make such a change.

"'I have remained in the department in the hope that you would recognize the gravity of existing conditions and deal effectively with them. I cannot see how matters can continue much longer as they are without a complete breakdown of police control.

"'The limitations of my power as First Deputy make it impossible for me to further risk apparent responsibility for such conditions.'"

Q. Now after receiving that letter did you institute any investigation into the Police Department to see whether the allegations were true or false? A. I have no recollection of what was done. I only know the allegation was chiefly untrue; worse, it was untruthful.

Q. Did you direct Commissioner Fosdick or anybody else to ascertain that it was untrue or did you know of your own knowledge that it was untrue? A. I knew very well it was untrue.

Q. Did you know at that time that it was not true that the force was demoralized and that the law was not being enforced? A. I know I came in and took possession of a demoralized police force as Mayor, and I went to work systematically to do the best I could to lick it into shape, and it took time, it all took time. I am not through yet. It would take all of my time. I suppose the decent people of the community remember what I have done to lift up the police force. Certainly those who have lived here for any length of time have taken note of it, and very well too. I began before I was Mayor.

Asked if he inaugurated any "independent investigation" to learn what conditions were at that time, the Mayor said he did not know what an "independent investigation" was. To Mr. Buckner's question whether the Mayor had the same system of keeping touch with vice conditions in the city that he had before Deputy Commissioner Bugher resigned, the Mayor replied "If you say so."

Making Changes All the Time.

Pressed further, he replied: "Of course I have not. I have a new staff and a new Police Commissioner and changes of all kinds." Mr. Buckner persisted in trying to find out whether or not there was a new system.

"What new system?" the Mayor retorted. "The law establishes the system. I have changed things constantly, or the Commissioner has. They are changed from week to week and month to month; all sorts of safeguards. All the time something new has been done."

Mr. Buckner persisted, putting his question in a different form.

Q. For example, have you any method now of ascertaining from your own office the conditions of the Police Department or conditions in the city generally which you did not have at the time Commissioner Baker resigned? A. I have answered that all I intend to. I have a Commissioner at the head of every department. I appoint a man that I have thorough confidence in and I guess the whole community say I appointed a good lot of them, too. This government, good or bad, is in my possession and not in your possession or in the possession of anybody outside the Mayor's office—that community knows everything. But of course I can give very little time to the details of any departments. I appoint, I say, thirty-six heads of departments and I give each one all the time I can. Since I was hurt I have not been able to do as much as I did before, but I certainly have not spared myself.

Q. You have not given the Police Department then any unusual personal attention or interference in any way? A. I don't know what you mean by unusual. Do you mean such as some other Mayors have before come in?

Mr. Buckner put his explanation of the question in three other questions, inquiring whether or not the Mayor had called men to his office without the Commissioner's knowledge to examine them with regard to clubbing; ordering transfers peremptorily without the Commissioner's knowledge, or appointing deputy commissioners without consulting the Commissioner. To all these the Mayor replied in the negative.

Nor did the Mayor think that he had paid particular attention to the decrease of crimes of violence as distinguished from other crimes. He did not recall ever directing the Commissioner of Accounts to find out whether the Police Commissioner was being imposed on by his subordinates in the matter of reports, nor had he ever heard of any practice of not reporting crimes reported to the station house in order to make the statistics better.

Q. Would you be surprised to learn that after remaining stationary for eight years burglary insurance has increased 35 per cent. during the last twelve months? A. I won't express any surprise on any opinion about anything nor do I take your word for the truth of any such statement.

Commissioner Absolute Head.

In reply to a question regarding the freedom he gave his police commissioner in running his department Mr. Gaynor said that the Commissioner was the head of the department and had a free hand in the administration of it. Commissioner Baker, he said, was present when he interviewed a number of policemen in the Mayor's office or else Mr. Baker sent them in. The Mayor continued:

"He might not always have been present. I recollect he was sometimes present. I do remember from the first month I was Mayor, the first thing I said when I became Mayor, I would do away with the lawlessness and violence of the police force in this city. I took that up and I did away with it too. There are a lot of other things I did, but I am not able to do everything at once. I have to bide my time and act as best I can. That was the time that the men clubbed. They thought nothing of going to your house, smashing your front door in and ransacking your house. I called them in for that and for these lawless things that they were taught to do. If that is what you have reference to, that is what I did on that subject."

Q.—Did your experience show that these policemen misunderstood you and became demoralized and refused to use their clubs even when necessary because of the interference with the Police Commissioner? A.—I know of no such thing. It is not necessary to use a club except to protect yourself. I do not think they misunderstood me at all. I think they well understood me. The result shows it. Now, I must say once for all I will have to withdraw from this line of examination if it continues. I came here; I suppose you had some facts to show that there was some violation of the law in the Police Department by the Commissioner or somebody. I am the Mayor of this city and I run the Police Department through a Commissioner. The details of it I cannot follow. I feel as though I were brought here under false pretences if this line of questioning continues.

Q.—You do not think it is impertinent for me to inquire of you if you ever heard that the policemen understood from your action— A.—I don't think it makes any difference whether I heard it or not. No policeman ever told me any such thing. If I were to go by what I heard from the newspapers and cutthroats of the city, the newspaper proprietors and others, I would vacillate every hour in the day. But I pursue my own course even in the boiler shop of the city now, with every ex-convict or newspaper proprietor or whoever wishes, attacking me. I have not varied an iota up to this time and I hope I shall not until I get through.

Refers to His Letters.

Mr. Buckner asked the Mayor if he had ever heard of a patrolman named Devon, concerning whom the Mayor had written to the Commissioner with reference to clubbing.

"If I wrote there is my letter," the Mayor replied. "I turned everything over to you."

The questioner then asked the Mayor if he remembered writing a letter as to Patrolman Gebhardt.

"What is the use of my recalling it?" the Mayor asked, shortly. "If I wrote, I wrote, and I have never written a thing that I am unwilling to see published. I guess the whole world knows that."

Q.—Do you know whether any patrolmen who were dismissed by the Police Commissioner on charges concerning which you wrote to the Commissioner, have been reinstated by the courts? A.—I do not know of any, but I would not be surprised to learn of it though. I know how they reinstate them. That is one of the crying evils of the police force. In my judgment it ought to be taken away from the courts entirely, and I hope your committee will so report.

Q.—It is very demoralizing to the Police Commissioner's discipline, is it not, to have people reinstated by the courts? A.—Sometimes, yes.

Mr. Gaynor said that he thought he had ordered some rehearings himself, which had resulted in those dismissed being reinstated by Commissioner Waldo. He did not think a reinstatement by the Commissioner as inimical to the discipline of the force as a reinstatement by the courts.

To an inquiry whether he recalled that the Charter in providing for rehearings to be ordered by the Mayor excepted cases of insubordination, conduct unbecoming an officer, cowardice or intoxication, Mayor Gaynor replied, "I do not need to recall it. If it is in the law, it is in the law whether I recall it or not."

Q. The committee would like to know if it is your idea that a Police Commissioner should be the real head of the department or whether the Mayor should be the real head of the department. A. My opinion? Q. Yes. A. I will express no opinions here at all. By law the Commissioner is the head of the department. That is all I can say.

Asked if he would want to say whether three Commissioners in thirty-two months is a proper or improper term for a Commissioner, Mr. Gaynor replied:

"I do not say anything about it at all." Mr. Buckner then asked what the Mayor's policy had been with reference to appointments to the force or promotions inside it.

$15,000 to Get a Captaincy.

"Why, everybody knows," he answered. "When I became Mayor you could not get on the police force without paying for it. Don't you know that?"

Q. No. A. You could not get appointed captain without paying from fifteen to seventeen thousand dollars. Don't you know that well enough?

Q. I want it in the record. A. You could not get anything, either an appointment or a promotion, and I thought that everybody knew that I laid down the rule that the first man on the list should be appointed throughout, doing away with the possibility of such iniquities, and yet you bring me here to catechise me about things like that.

Q. I want it for the record. A. The record? Why, it is in the record of this whole community and you cannot take it out of their minds, either. I have absolutely stopped it all and you know it. I don't know why I should be badgered about it here.

Q. Did you put that policy into effect in the Police Department as soon as you became Mayor? A. No, I did one thing at a time, and I have several things to do yet, if you people will give me a chance to go up stairs and work them out. I often said in everything about policy in the Police Department I put it in writing, and they were generally belied in the newspapers—I mean the corrupt newspapers—and I published them so that the world at large and the police force and everybody might know what I was striving for, one thing after another; but dealing with ten thousand men I knew I could not do that all at once, but I did them by driblets, one thing at a time; I think about twelve things have been done so far, and I have some left.

The counsel for the committee and the witness went at some length into the matter of a change instituted by Mr. Gaynor in the Police Department by which the first man on the civil service list is appointed instead of following the rule of taking one out of the first three. This was done to do away with political influence and the payment of money, the Mayor said.

"When you have the first man on the list," the Mayor said, "he don't care for Sam Koenig or Murphy or anybody on earth, only those who put him at the top. That is what I mean. Everybody knows what I mean except you. That is what I did it for. I did not propose to be Mayor and have some one else run the city, if you want to know. If it is run badly here is the man"—indicating himself—"that is responsible, right here; just look at me. If it is run badly I am to blame."

Q. But you are willing to have the Police Commissioner run the Police Department? A. Sure, he does run it, and run it well too. He recently met with a great misfortune, one of his own staff was found to be a grafter and every dog in the community is at his heels now. That don't change me a particle, not a particle.

The Mayor said he had received letters concerning "that person" within the last year and that he had called them to the attention of Commissioner Waldo.

"I have had letters about them all," he said, "mostly anonymous ones, and I always attend to them. No letter comes to my office that is not answered and attended to forthwith."

When Mr. Buckner wanted to know whether or not the Mayor had thought that it was safe to keep "that person" in charge of an important position notwithstanding the anonymous letters received regarding him the Mayor said "You wouldn't care to have me credit an anonymous letter about you unless I found it to be true, would you?" and continued:

"My experience in the Police Department is that those who do their duty best have the most enemies and the most people to bark at their heels, and I happen to know that personally myself as Mayor."

"But, judging from what you have just said, this was done because there was some basis for the anonymous letters. Is that right?" "I have not said any such thing."

Returning to the matter of appointments and in that connection the investigation of the men already certified by the Civil Service Bureau, Mr. Buckner asked: "That was the trouble with Commissioner Cropsey, wasn't it?"

The Mayor said no such trouble arose in Cropsey's time.

Holds Nothing Against Cropsey.

"Now what has this to do with Commissioner Cropsey?" he asked. "I don't want to say anything about Commissioner Cropsey. I don't think he meant to violate the law but by some inadvertance he appointed a lot of policemen and overlooked the rule of law as to their appointment. I don't think he meant to do it.

Q. You mean by passing over people whom he had investigated? A. He appointed a great big batch of people and when he came to figure it up it didn't tally with the numerical order of the civil service list, but I think he did it inadvertently. Of course it would be—I never thought otherwise.

Q. Did Commissioner Cropsey promote and appoint in numerical order? A. Yes.

Q. Don't you recall, if I may call your attention to it, that this was precisely what he didn't do which led to Mr. Creelman's letter? A. That is what I am telling you, but inadvertently once he had a large number to appoint and did overlook the rule in some way. He couldn't square it, and he sat down, I think I sat down with him, and tried to square it to make it lawful, and we couldn't do it; but I don't harbor that against Cropsey at all.

Mr. Buckner told the Mayor certain men had been appointed by Commissioner Waldo after Commissioner Cropsey had passed them over because of false affidavits. The Mayor said that Commissioner Waldo in conjunction with the Civil Service Commissioners had investigated every case before making the appointment.

"You are asking all these things," he said, "trying to gratify the notion here that these people were appointed policemen with bad records. I will state now that there is not a word of truth in what you have been going over. Mr. Waldo didn't appoint any convict or disreputable person to the police force."

Mr. Gaynor denied that Commissioner Cropsey had told him that if he wanted Lieut. Peabody made a captain he would have to get a new commissioner, or that Cropsey's refusal to promote lieutenants under orders or to appoint those who had been passed over for falsely swearing had anything to do with his resignation.

Mr. Buckner kept on with his questions regarding the investigation of the records of these applicants until the Mayor finally burst out with:

"I tell you again that I know nothing of this investigation and yet you keep asking me over and over. It is not on honesty. It is for scandal. It so happens that I have a reputation in this community and you cannot scandalize me. So I will be as patient with you as I can. I was engaged in purifying the government here long before you came in sight. If I knew a single thing about those investigations they would be facts and I would give them to you with pleasure, but I say to you now that I do not know a thing, that they were done by the Police Commissioner, and my confidence in Mr. Waldo is so great that I know he gave you an account of every one of them."

Mayor Gaynor said that he had instructed the Police Commissioner to let him know when the man then at the head of the civil service list had a record which was not clean. He said he did not think the law was that the Commissioner should take one out of three.

"At least, I have assumed to say that I can, as a matter of policy, have been appointed in numerical order," he continued. "I am well aware that there is a court decision, which I have never subscribed to for one moment, and do not now, that destroyed the civil service of this city, and opened it up to graft and dishonesty of all kinds.

"So when I became Mayor I said to myself that I could tell my Commissioners that they must appoint them in numerical order and if they did not want to do it they could resign and I would appoint a man who would."

The Mayor objected to being questioned as to whether or not he had told Commissioner Cropsey that he wanted Inspector McClusky demoted.

"I am quite certain I never told him that," he said. "You are going right now into the confidential matters between the Mayor and the Commissioner.

Q. We want to find out the interrelations between them in order to see who is the head of the department if we can; not with any idea of criticism. A. You are not holding an inquiry here to find out who is the head of the Police Department.

Q. Did you complain to Commissioner Fosdick that McCluskey was hurting the department? A. I do not think we ever talked on the subject. I have no recollection of it.

The Mayor said he didn't know whether or not he had said that he had learned from members of the Liquor Dealers Association that they are paying from $2,000,000 to $3,000,000 a year in graft, and continued:

"I know the way they were treated and blackmailed was absolutely infamous under the régime I came into. I know I put an end to it all."

The Mayor said he kept watch of the excise situation the best he could and did not allow members of the uniformed force "to go into saloons right and left and collect graft—to put down a dollar bill on the bar and get $19.95 change after buying a glass of beer."

Q. And you understand that has been done away with? A. Why, can I say that there is absolutely nobody now paying? I have been told all along the people may pay to keep open after 1 o'clock.

Q. For instance, do you think that the only way of reducing the graft in the saloon business is by suspending the excise law? A. I have never thought of any such thing at all. I only know this, that just as soon as you send spies into a back room, whether of private societies or the police force, those spies are corrupted and take graft. The worst takers of graft in the city are the agents of private societies in years gone by, and we allow the police to go in under the greatest precautions and under officers.

Q. But do you know whether your Commissioner has been detailing people or whether he has been paying any attention to it? A. Oh, I guess he has done pretty well. Waldo is a pretty able chap.

Q. And you would not believe that day before yesterday 344 out of 400 saloons were open? A. No, I do not believe it, and you do not believe it either. I will bet you that there were not ten barrooms open last Sunday.

"When you use detectives you have got to do it with the utmost caution," the Mayor said. "All over Europe they are allowed to sell liquor on Sunday the same as any other day except in England. In England they close only during the church hours.

"Why, in the city on Sunday the hotels from the Waldorf-Astoria down to the little hotel over in Brooklyn at Coney Island puts a sandwich before you as an excuse for selling it and every time I see one of these sandwiches I say to myself: 'It is only teaching everybody how easy it is to evade the law.' If you can tell me how with 10,000 policemen you are to prevent any liquor at all to be drunk in the 13,000 saloons of New York you will give me a lot of knowledge.

"I expect the churches and the preachers and the schools and the temperance orators and so on will gradually incline people's hearts to hate liquor and less and less of it will be sold. When that time comes which you are praying for there is no doubt that there will be none at all.

"The law with regard to theft, with regard to murder, with regard to adultery, with regard to the Ten Commandments, is not being fully enforced and never will be while there are wicked people in the world, and you know that. All the preachers in the world have not yet got the Ten Commandments obeyed, let alone the excise law.

"All the clubs in the city are open and in full blast, aren't they, where the rich people go, and they swig whiskey and wine all day? Do you think you can do that and that the poor people won't drink anything on Sunday?"

Talks on Disorderly Houses.

Mayor Gaynor was asked what his policy was with regard to disorderly houses.

"I have never laid down any policy with regard to them," he said. "When I became Mayor they were going on in the humdrum way dealing with that evil. At one time these women were scattered all over this city in our flats and in our private places and corrupting the daughters and the wives of the city. I never have laid down any policy with regard to it except one: that is, I insisted on keeping the streets decent and orderly."

"We have to deal with it the best we can under the law and minimize it and put it in the hearts of people, of men, not to seduce women, and as to the merchants and storekeepers and manufacturers, to put it into their hearts to pay women wages that don't drive them on the town and into prostitution, and things like that we have got to do by slow degrees until the evil is done away with entirely.

"But for a man to pay a woman three dollars a week and then accuse me and say that there are too many prostitutes in the city of New York is infamous, and there are people here who are doing just that thing."

About Becker's Grafting.

Of his effort to cope with the gambling situation by means of a special squad on the theory that this would tend to eliminate possibilities of graft, the Mayor said:

"A. I suppose it is impossible to get 130 men and three lieutenants without getting a certain percentage of grafters among them. When it happened that Becker turned out to be a grafter, I immediately surmised that he himself was the head and front of the grafting, and I have since learned to my satisfaction that this is so, that he held no place of being an underling, and while I was awfully hurt, I was not a bit surprised.

"I had been expecting all along to find some person in the Police Department guilty of that kind of graft. They have been at it for forty years to our common knowledge."

In response to questions the Mayor said that he called Waldo's attention to a lot of anonymous complaints against Becker a year ago.

Mayor Gaynor yesterday directed the acting Commissioner of Accounts to make an investigation into the award of the contract for the stenographic work of the Aldermanic committee's inquiry. An unsuccessful bidder complained that he had offered to do the work at a price lower than that put in by the bidder who got the contract.

ORDER TO ARREST BRIDEGROOM.

Ex-Wife Gets It Because Her Alimony Is in Arrears.

An order of arrest for John M. Spargur, leader of the Seattle Symphony Orchestra, was signed yesterday by Supreme Court Justice Newburger on the application of Mrs. Augusta Spargur, who obtained a divorce from the musician in 1911 with alimony of $25 a week.

Her petition stated that although Spargur was prohibited in the decree from marrying again he has married a resident of Seattle and is now in New York on his honeymoon, spending a few days with his mother at Liberty, N. Y.

Mrs. Spargur declared that her ex-husband has refused to pay her any alimony and that $450 was due her until she got an order recently directing the Philharmonic Society of New York to turn over to her $357 as her ex-husband's share of a fund being distributed. He is still $200 in arrears, she said, and if he is permitted to leave New York without paying anything she will be unable to collect at all, she said.

The order of arrest will be turned over to the Sheriff of Sullivan county to be served. The court directed that Spargur be released if he gives $1,000 bail.

REINHARDT IN BANKRUPTCY.

Curb Broker in Porcupine Left 1,500 Creditors.

J. Thomas Reinhardt, the curb broker who disappeared suddenly from his office last April, leaving behind him about 1,500 creditors, was adjudicated a bankrupt yesterday by Judge Hough on a petition filed on April 23, after he had gone to Europe to raise money. Judge Hough made N. A. Prentiss referee.

Reinhardt had an office at 38 Broad street and was one of the chief exploiters of the Porcupine mining stocks. He employed more brokers in the outside market than any other house. It was the failure to get the high price for his Porcupine stocks that caused his downfall. When he went to London he carried 450,000 shares of this stock with him, expecting to dispose of it there.

HAPPY NEW YEAR IN JAIL.

Sheriff Will Let Hebrew Prisoners Feast on a Cash Basis.

Sheriff Harburger announced yesterday that he has arranged to permit the occupants of Ludlow street jail who are orthodox Hebrews to observe the Jewish new year, which begins tonight. By order of the Sheriff the prisoners may do as much feasting as they like providing their food is paid for.

The Sheriff made it plain to his guests that none of them can send out for food or drink and have it charged up to the Sheriff.

Capt. Martin's Will Attacked.

The first step to attack the validity of the second will of Capt. John Calvin Martin, retired coal operator, which was executed before Capt. Martin was committed to a sanitarium this summer, was taken yesterday when Daniel E. Wing, an executor under the first will, filed a notice of contest of the second will.

The Company We Keep

¶ The world has been divided into two classes—those who have rheumatism and those who are going to get it.

¶ New York men are made up of those who wear Saks clothes now and those who are going to wear them later on.

¶ Meanwhile, a word or two about those in the first-named category will not be out of place.

¶ If we could with propriety throw open our books to the public, there is not a tailor in this city could match the Saks clientele, either in number or character.

¶ Among the satisfied wearers of Saks clothes are judges, lawyers, actors, newspaper editors, magazine writers, dramatists, railroad executives, presidents of banks and great business institutions, and a percentage of the leisure classes which would open some people's eyes.

¶ Now, what does all this mean but that the merit of Saks clothes is such that they meet the requirements of every man, no matter how liberal his income, no matter how exquisite his tastes, no matter how exalted his station or profession?

¶ And since this holds good with respect to men with whom price is a secondary consideration, it follows that the man of limited means can also find a maximum of satisfaction at Saks', for our prices, all things considered, are the lowest obtainable in stylish ready-for-service clothes.

Suits.....17.50 to 50.00
Overcoats..15.00 to 38.00

Saks & Company

Broadway at 34th Street

FINLAND BROUGHT STOWAWAY.

Young Price Left Pennsylvania Training Ship Abroad.

A straw vote taken in the first cabin of the Red Star liner Finland, in yesterday from Antwerp, in which universal suffrage was allowed, showed this result. Wilson, 36; Taft, 13; Roosevelt, 11.

The Finland brought in as a member of the engine room force Albert C. Price, 22 years old, of 1409 North Twenty-first street, Philadelphia. Young Price was found early last Sunday morning just after the Finland left Dover wandering on deck by a quartermaster, who questioned him and learned that he was a stowaway.

He had made his quarters under a bench in the first cabin smoking room, and it is thought that he was smuggled aboard by a friendly countryman who kept him provided with provender from the smoking room lunch, as remains of sandwiches were found under the bench which he occupied as his quarters.

He was brought before Capt. Barman, who told him that he might send him ashore with the pilot, who hadn't yet left, but young Price begged the captain not to send him off, as he was an American citizen and wouldn't have any trouble with the immigration people here, and so he was set to work trimming fires.

Price had been a member of the crew of the training ship Adams of the State of Pennsylvania, and at Rotterdam he left the ship and tried to stow away on the Holland-America liner Rotterdam, but was watched and didn't succeed. He then pawned his watch and went to Antwerp. When he landed here he had $3.

POSLAM REAL FIRST AID WHEN THE SKIN AILS

Any abrasion of the skin, cut, boil, blister, rash or open sore spot, is dangerous as a possible source of infection leading to serious skin disease, and should be treated promptly with Poslam, the antiseptic healing remedy.

Poslam readily shows its power to kill germ life by stopping all itching and causing the trouble to disappear. Poslam acts in this manner in any skin disorder, including all eczemas, acne, salt rheum, psoriasis, skin-scale, seven-year itch, barbers' itch, and similar diseases. Minor affections, such as pimples, rashes, hives, etc., are quickly driven away.

POSLAM SOAP keeps the skin secure against disease, improves its color and texture, soothes tender skin, makes complexions clear, hands soft. The best shampoo for dandruff.

All druggists sell Poslam (price, 50 cents) and Poslam Soap (price, 25 cents). For free samples, write to the Emergency Laboratories, 32 West 25th Street, New York City.