

MITCHEL ASKS
FOR BAKER'S HEADCharges Police Commissioner
with Insubordination and
Falsehood.

OFFENDING LETTER IS OUT

Mayor Gets Long Report on
Stewardship During His Ill-
ness, but Is Silent on
Controversy.

Accusing Police Commissioner William F. Baker of disobedience to orders and of falsehood, John Purroy Mitchell, President of the Board of Aldermen, who was acting Mayor after Mayor Gaynor was shot on August 9, yesterday asked the city executive to dismiss the Police Commissioner.

In a long report Mr. Mitchell informed the Mayor of all that had been done with regard to the Police Department, the Park Department, the probation officers and the rapid transit contracts and then gave out for publication his letter to the Mayor containing these reports. Thus for the first time in made public the letter which Police Commissioner Baker addressed to Acting Mayor Mitchell on September 17.

The letter containing the report of his stewardship was handed by Mr. Mitchell to Mayor Gaynor just before he went to the meeting of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment. The Mayor made no comment on it, neither then nor after Mr. Mitchell gave out his report for publication.

Mr. Mitchell's report starts with the statement that on his return to the city on August 8 he was apprised by the newspapers of an "alleged condition of lawlessness and flagrant vice at Coney Island and of the general prevalence of gambling and open prostitution throughout the city."

He reminds the Mayor that he asked whether there were any police matters which required particular attention during the absence of the Mayor and that Mayor Gaynor replied that if any exigency arose the acting Mayor would deal with it in accordance with the general views and expressed policy of the Mayor.

Explains Coney Island Action.

Mr. Mitchell tells in detail of his action upon numerous complaints of the conditions of Coney Island. He was convinced that the police had been recalcitrant in their duties and applied to the office of the Commissioners of Accounts. There he learned that an investigation had taken place in July, with the approval of the Mayor. Then Mr. Mitchell directed the chief accountant, in the absence of Commissioner Poedick, to detail a number of inspectors, whom Mr. Mitchell personally instructed to investigate conditions at Coney Island and report to him.

Commissioner Baker, says the report, denied to the acting Mayor that the conditions at Coney Island were such as described in the press or in the complaints, but the report adds that after a conversation with the Police Commissioner at the hospital in Hoboken, where the Mayor was lying, Commissioner Baker promised to give his personal attention to that matter.

Commissioner Baker, according to the report, said his chief difficulty was caused by the Mayor's order that all plainclothes men be withdrawn from the precincts.

"It was at this meeting," says Mr. Mitchell, "that I first called to the attention of the Police Commissioner the fact that he had at his disposal a large detective bureau which should be employed for the detection of crimes of the nature in question."

When the commissioner said the detectives were needed for detecting crimes of violence, the acting Mayor, according to his report, pointed out that from the 11,000 officers in uniform, a sufficient number could be drawn for temporary or permanent assignments to the detective bureau to deal with vice.

Too Gross for Description.

Referring to the report of the agents on August 13, 14, 17 and 18, Mr. Mitchell says:

"The conditions found and reported by them were so gross and revolting that they will not permit of description by me in this paper," but he refers the Mayor to the affidavits now in possession of the assistant Corporation Counsel who is prosecuting the charges against former Inspector O'Brien of the Coney Island district.

Mr. Mitchell goes on to tell the Mayor that when he telephoned to Commissioner Baker on August 19 that the conditions were such that it might be well for the Commissioner to forego his vacation temporarily and personally take charge of things at Coney Island, Mr. Baker replied that he really could not leave his post, but would give the matter his personal attention before leaving.

"A few days later," continues the report, "I learned, through notices in the press, that a number of plainclothes men had been assigned to Inspector O'Brien's district. This, you will note, was contrary both to your instructions to the Police Commissioner and to mine."

Mr. Mitchell tells of his dissatisfaction with the condition of affairs at Coney Island and his sending of inspectors from the office of the Commissioner of Accounts and gives his letter to Commissioner Baker on August 26, ordering the withdrawal of the plainclothes men and the revocation of the licenses of the worst offenders, as well as the reduction of the inspector in charge and the assignment to that district of "an inspector who can be depended upon to put an end to what has already become an affront to public decency."

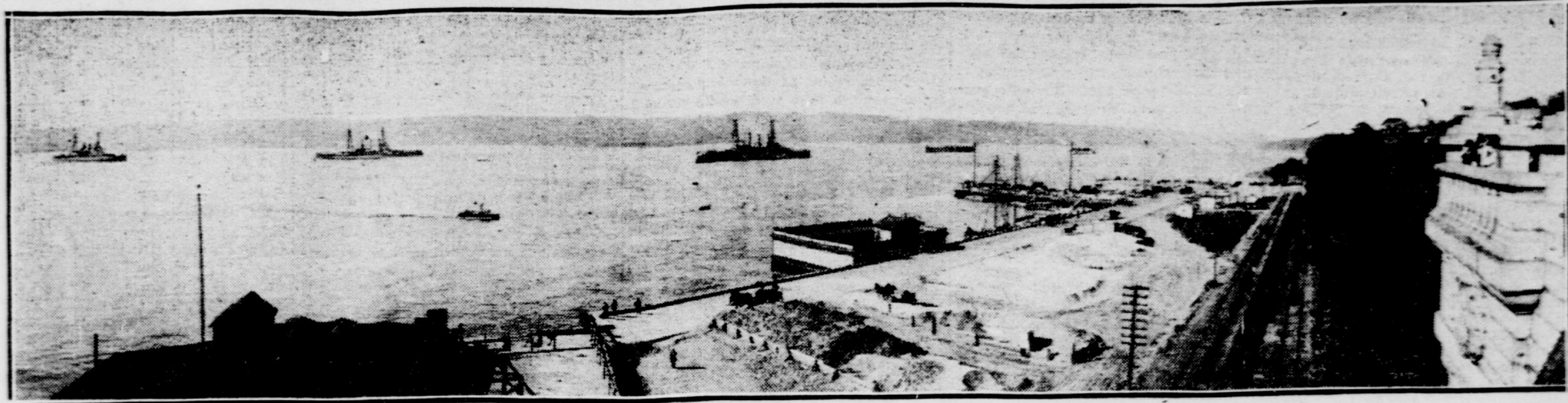
Russell's Good Work.

Mr. Mitchell tells how these orders were obeyed, and adds:

"Since the assignment of Inspector Russell, which continued through the period of the Mardi Gras, Coney Island has apparently been free from the flagrant vice reported by the inspectors of the Commissioner of Accounts and was

Continued on second page.

SCENE OF THE NAVAL DISASTER IN THE HUDSON RIVER.



THE BATTLESHIP NEW HAMPSHIRE AT THE LEFT.

(Photograph by Pictorial News Company.)

AN AUTOMOBILE RESERVE

Suggested in Report of General
F. D. Grant.

Chicago, Oct. 3.—A plan to make all private automobiles available for military service in time of necessity was suggested by Major General Frederick Dent Grant, who until July 1 commanded the Department of Lakes, in his annual report for that department, made public to-day.

"It seems to me," the report says, "it would be wise if the national government passed laws that would cause the registration of all automobiles capable of transporting four or more passengers, and that the owners of these machines be obliged legally to transfer them, on demand, to the government for military uses for a sum of money not greater than the original cost of the machine."

"If this were done the government would have at hand, and without cost to maintain, a means of transportation for the rapid movement of troops."

RESTORE CADETS' FREEDOM

Punishment for "Silence" to
Captain Longan Ends.

West Point, N. Y., Oct. 3.—The campus of the Military Academy rings again with the shouts of the cadets who were restored to all privileges to-night after they had been punished for more than a week, or since the "silencing" of Captain Longan in the mess hall. About 2 o'clock the board of inquiry ceased asking for cadets to come before it. It was then believed that the investigation was drawing to a close, but when an order was published for every cadet to report at 5:15 o'clock there was much speculation as to the meaning of the order. That they were about to hear the result of the finding of the board was the thought of the cadets, and those implicated most deeply consequently fell into line with some anxiety.

The entire corps marched to the gymnasium, where they were met by General Thomas Barry, and behind closed doors the head of the academy and his several hundred charges held a heart-to-heart talk. The superintendent said that as yet he knew nothing of the case other than what he had read in the newspapers. That there would be punishments for those whom the board of inquiry would report as implicated was assured, but that would come later, after a due consideration of the findings. There were no cheers as General Barry finished his talk.

General Barry would make no further statement, and no information could be gleaned as to just when the punishment will be meted out and what its nature would be. It is almost certain there will be no dismissals.

TWO TRAINING SHIPS

Schwab Company Gets Order
from Prince Suun.

St. Louis, Oct. 3.—Prince Tsai Suun, uncle of the Emperor of China, was in St. Louis for an hour to-day. Before he departed for Kansas City he said, through Mr. Chow, the interpreter, that he had contracted for two training ships for the Chinese navy from the Bethlehem Steel Corporation.

The prince and suite are travelling on a special train as guests of Charles M. Schwab. They will leave San Francisco for China on October 6.

At C. M. Schwab's office here yesterday afternoon a report that Prince Suun had contracted with the Bethlehem Steel Corporation for two battleships for the Chinese navy was said to be without foundation.

TREASURE SHIP LOOTED

Gold Bullion and Banknotes
Found on Mess Boy.

Seattle, Oct. 3.—Gold bullion and Canadian and United States banknotes aggregating many thousands of dollars in value were stolen from the mail room of the steamer City of Seattle, from Skagway, Alaska, last night. T. Buckley, sailor mess boy on the vessel, in whose possession eight gold bricks and a large number of notes were found, was arrested as soon as the City of Seattle arrived to-day.

The robbery was discovered to-day by the mail clerk as the steamship was nearing Seattle. First Officer Thomas Johnson found the gold bullion on the mess boy, and after a further search recovered a large number of banknotes wrapped around the boy's legs. An examination of the mail room disclosed that almost every registered parcel on board had been rifled.

BABY HANGS ITSELF IN BED.

Plainfield, N. J., Oct. 3.—(Special.)—Henry C. Diem, the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank M. Diem, of this city, was found hanging between the mattress and the footboard of his mother's bed yesterday, and before a doctor could reach the house the child died. The child had been sleeping with the mother during the night, and during a temporary absence of the latter he slipped between the mattress and the footboard and choked to death.

DEWEY'S AMERICAN WINE HOUSE
Only half block east of Fulton St. Sub. Station
H. T. Dewey & Sons Co., 125 Fulton St., N. Y.
—A. C.

SEARCH FIVE HOURS
FOR MRS. SCHIEFFELINFour Taxicabs and Two Motor-
cycles Try to Find Aged
Woman.

BELLBOY BRINGS HER BACK

Found Her in Street—Police
Refused to Join Hunt Until
a Longer Time Had
Elapsed.

Four taxicabs, two motorcycles and fourteen employees of the Ansonia Hotel searched five hours yesterday for Mrs. Edgar Schieffelin, widow of Edgar Schieffelin, and then a bell hop who was not on the job found her at Broadway and 90th street and took her back to the Ansonia. It is understood that the bell hop went immediately after to the show-rooms of a well known automobile company and inquired the price of a six-cylinder racing roadster. The police, who refused to take any part in the search until Mrs. Schieffelin had been missing at least six hours, were using their nightsticks on each other last night.

Mrs. Schieffelin, who is seventy-five years old, returned yesterday morning with her sisters-in-law, Mrs. E. V. Schieffelin, Mrs. L. S. Schieffelin and Mrs. Effingham L. Schieffelin, from her country place in Westchester County to her apartments in the Ansonia. On account of her age and poor health she is seldom left alone, but yesterday she was left in the apartment by herself for a short time, and when Mrs. E. L. Schieffelin returned at 3 o'clock her sister-in-law was missing.

Frederick Sealing, manager of the hotel, was told at once that Mrs. Schieffelin was not in her apartments, and after a search of the hotel he sent four taxicabs, two motorcycles and fourteen employees of the Ansonia start out to search Broadway and Central Park for the missing woman. Five hours later, as one of the night bellhops was coming to work, he saw Mrs. Schieffelin at Broadway and 90th street, and asked her if she were not rather far from home.

"Yes," she told him, "but I have been taking a little walk."

The boy took her back to the hotel, and was handsomely rewarded.

Mr. Sealing had asked the police to join in the hunt for Mrs. Schieffelin, but they said that they would wait until she had been missing a few hours longer.

TO SETTLE COTTON WAR

American Offers to Pay George
Howe's Passage to America.

London, Oct. 3.—An American citizen named Theodore Wright, at present in London, makes a novel suggestion in "The Express" for the settlement of the British cotton war. He says:

"I know practically nothing of the merits of the controversy, but can realize that upward of a million human beings, largely women and children, will suffer privations beyond words should the strike continue any length of time. George Howe is the bone of contention. He has a grand opportunity to do a noble act and withdraw from the affair by emigrating to the United States. There in the Fall River district he can doubtless obtain remunerative employment at work he is accustomed to. For the sake of the wives and children of his coworkers let him do this kind and generous act, and he will receive heartfelt blessings."

"I as a citizen of the United States will cheerfully present him with a first-class ticket to New York on a steamer of the American Line sailing from Southampton, provided the offer be accepted on or before the 15th of October."

DEAD; STEAM CLOUDS ROOM

Woman Suffocates as She Sleeps
While Clothes Boil.

Suffocated by steam from a wash boiler, Mrs. Marie Cleggs was found dead last night in the kitchen of her home, at No. 12 St. Mark's Place, Brooklyn. She was last seen about 3 o'clock in the afternoon. The neighbors grew uneasy when she did not appear as usual during the evening, and notified a patrolman from the Bergen street station. He crawled in through a window of her apartment, and on opening the door to the kitchen he was almost knocked down by the volume of steam which burst forth.

When the atmosphere had cleared sufficiently to allow him to enter the kitchen, the patrolman found Mrs. Cleggs sitting as if asleep in a chair near the stove, while clouds of steam were rising from a boiler of clothes.

Dr. Scinnyerson, of the Long Island College Hospital, who was called, thought the woman had apparently been

FALLS DOWN THE PALISADES
One of Three Would-Be Climbers
Badly Injured.

Dudley C. Cashmore, president of the Livingston Mall Company, of East 23d street, was badly injured in a seventy-foot fall Sunday during an attempt to climb the Palisades.

Robert Romelin, a clerk in the National Park Bank, and another companion essayed the feat with him at a point opposite Inwood, where the Palisades rise nearly three hundred feet. They used the usual rope and other climbers' equipment, and had ascended nearly the entire distance when Cashmore, who was last man on the rope, was missed. The others retraced their steps and they found Cashmore in the branches of a rugged bush, his clothing torn and blood streaming from his head.

The young men then had to seek help to extricate their companion from his perilous position. Members of the Knickerbocker, Inwood and Fort Washington Canoe clubs, at Hermit's Point, headed by "Doc" Davis, a first-aid-to-the-injured canoeist, responded to their appeals, and after much work the unconscious Cashmore was rescued and carried in a launch to Cox's Point.

The injured man was still unconscious last night, and he is believed to have received internal injuries.

FIRE STARTS HOTEL RUSH

Guests at the Victoria Hasten
Away from Blaze on Roof.

When six or seven little lamps glowed all at once on the central switchboard in the corridor of the Hotel Victoria, at 1150 Broadway, last night at 7 o'clock Miss Olive Harriman, the telephone operator, thought she was a pretty busy young woman, but when she realized that they were all calls from the top floor of the hotel she became alarmed. In a few seconds she got so many more calls from the same floor and about a dozen persons tried to tell her that the hotel was on fire.

Miss Harriman called George Sweeney, the night manager, who sent in an alarm. In a few minutes the elevators began to bring down the greater number of the 200 guests. Many of them did not wait to dress, in their haste to get out of the hotel.

The trouble was due to an overheated chimney. Sparks and tongues of flame darted out on the roof, but the blaze was subdued before much damage was done.

WAGON SETS OFF EXPLOSIVE

Early Morning Mystery Startles
Mail Street.

As a fish wagon clattered through Mail street, behind the postoffice, at 2 o'clock this morning, one of the wheels struck an explosive, and in an instant there was a vivid flash and a stunning report.

A dozen or more horses attached to mail teams started to bolt, but luckily the drivers were on the seats of the vehicles and soon pulled the frightened animals to a standstill.

Patrolman Cunningham, of the Elizabeth street station, made a careful investigation, but he could find no fragment of a bomb. There was some red dust upon the pavement where the flash of flame was seen, but the street was not torn up, nor had either horse or driver suffered from the mysterious explosion.

PURSE OVERBOARD, HELP!

The Momus Hove To While Gal-
lant Tars Rescued It.

New Orleans, Oct. 3.—Eight husky sailors from the steamship Momus manned a lifeboat at sea this morning, and under command of First Officer William Woods, rescued the purse of Miss Louise Nutting, a passenger from New York to New Orleans, who had dropped it overboard when she slipped on the lower deck.

The Momus was just entering the jetties at the mouth of the Mississippi River when the cry of "purse overboard" was raised. The vessel hove to until the gallant seamen could be lowered. The purse contained \$500 and valuable diamonds and other jewelry.

Miss Nutting is the daughter of L. H. Nutting, general passenger agent of the Southern Pacific Company at New York.

NOMINATION COST PAYNE \$150.

Albany, Oct. 3.—Representative Seno E. Payne, of Cayuga, to-day filed in person a statement of expenses incurred in connection with his renomination. He certified that he received no money in behalf of his renomination, and that his expenses were \$150 for printing notices of the convention which were sent to the delegates.

ACCUSE CAPTAIN OF COLLIER.

Norfolk, Va., Oct. 3.—Acting on instructions from the Navy Department, Captain J. P. Parker, commanding the Norfolk navy yard, to-day swore out a warrant for the arrest of Captain W. C. Finch of the naval collier Ajax, on the charge of misappropriating \$5,000 of government funds. He was released on his own recognizance for his reappearance to-morrow.

Great Battleship Fleet seen at close range from Day Line Steers. Autumnal foliage.—Adv.

14 MORE MEN REPORT
ABOARD NEW HAMPSHIRESix of This Number Were Among
Those in the Ill Fated
Liberty Party.

TWO OTHER SAILORS DROWN

Inquiry Proceeds, Board of In-
quest Is Formed, and To-day
Memorial Services Will Be
Held for Lost Men.

Fourteen names were removed yesterday from the lists of sailors which Captain Rodgers of the New Hampshire made public Sunday night as presumptive victims of the disaster when the sailing launch of his ship was swamped on Saturday night.

The court of inquiry which is investigating the affair has gone far enough to be reasonably sure of the cause of the accident, though no statement of the findings will be made, as custom prescribes that the official statement shall come from the Navy Department.

Of the twenty-nine men whose names were mentioned Sunday as "men missing, known to have been in launch," six brought to Captain Rodgers yesterday: BLIGHT, N. C., captain, Roxbury, Mass.; BONNER, J. A., coxswain, Green Creek, N. J.; BONNALL, T., ordinary seaman, Philadelphia, Pa.; GREENE, J. A., officer, Cleveland, Ohio; SEEBER, E. M., ordinary seaman, Chicago, Ill.; TURNER, E. J., seaman, East Liverpool, Ohio.

Of the thirteen men described as "absentees of liberty party not seen to board the launch," eight were accounted for, as being alive and unhurt:

CHAMBERS, A. R., marine private, Worcester, Mass.; DWINNELL, A., buzzer, Peabody, Mass.; HERBERT, E. A., ordinary seaman, Volunton, Louisiana; JOHNSON, L., coopersmith, Wilmington, Del.; LEGEL, J. A., coal passer, Philadelphia, Pa.; MAHONEY, D., ordinary seaman, Wilmington, Del.; THOMPSON, C. G., fireman, Bloomington, N. Y.; VAN PEER, J., fireman, Paterson, N. J.

Two More Drownings.

While the victims of the tragedy of Saturday night were being thus partly accounted for, however, two other single drowning cases became known on the Louisiana, the flagship.

Eugene Audit, a sailor of the Kansas, who was one of a boat crew which carried a party from the Kansas to the landing dock at 157th street shortly after midnight yesterday morning, lost his life when he plunged in to aid a young woman who fell from the dock.

The young woman, who had been one of the party entertained by Ensign Blackburn, of the Kansas, fell into the water when a sudden wave bobbed the launch up as she was stepping from it. Ensign Blackburn plunged in and Audit, the sailor, was only a second behind him.

The officer managed to bring the young woman to the dock, but in the mean time Audit, who was said to have been a strong swimmer, floated away on the tide. His body was not recovered.

The second tragedy of the day came late yesterday afternoon, when Carl Ehrens, a seaman of the naval auxiliary service, of the hospital ship Solace, fell into the water from a launch and in spite of the efforts of his companions, one of whom jumped in after him, sank into the depths. His body was not recovered.

Court of Inquiry in Session.

About half the sailors who were aboard the ill fated launch of the New Hampshire were called before the board of inquiry yesterday. Midshipman Chevalier, who was in charge of the launch, was still in such danger of a nervous breakdown that it was decided to put off calling him before the board until the last of the sailor witnesses had been examined. It seemed likely last night that the board would not finish up its work to-day and that the midshipman would not be called until some time to-morrow afternoon.

From the sailors who had testified before the board or who are under summons it is understood that the majority of them agree on the causes of the catastrophe being substantially as follows:

The party returning to the New Hampshire, it was admitted, were many of them in a roistering mood. In chaffing one of them, it is said, a sailor's hat was knocked overboard, and the group who were laughing at his discomfiture as he leaned over the edge of the launch to recover it crowded near him, many of them with their feet and weight directly on the gunwale.

Just at that moment a stiff wash struck the boat from that side, with the result that the swell came into the boat broadside, and the man who had been reaching for his hat went overboard.

It appeared yesterday from the testimony of the men that the big boat from which the wash struck the launch had gone by on the New Jersey side of the Louisiana, and was therefore not noted

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BIG FIRE CAUSES
LOSS OF \$1,500,000Finally Yields to Apparatus
Throwing 25,000 Gallons of
Water a Minute.

FLAMES RAGE FOUR HOURS

More Territory Covered by
Spectacular Blaze than by
Any in Experience of
Chief Croker.

A fire which raged for four hours mowed down several buildings, burned out lumber and coal yards and threatened other property in 24th and 25th streets and Eleventh avenue last night. It was the most spectacular blaze seen in many years, according to Chief Croker, and covered more territory than any in his experience. He said the damage would probably amount to about \$1,500,000. There were no fatalities, however, and no one was seriously injured. An accumulation of apparatus, throwing twenty-five thousand gallons of water a minute, finally stopped the spread of the flames.

It was about 6 o'clock when employees of the United States Express Company at work in the firm's depot, at Nos. 549 and 548 West 24th street, saw flames mounting skyward from Moore Brothers' lumber yard, directly across the street on the northeast corner of Eleventh avenue and 24th street. Some of the men ran over with extinguishers and got a line of hose. One turned in a fire alarm.

When engines reached the scene the lumber yard and the buildings in it were in flames. Gallons of water were thrown on parts of the plant which had not caught, but the heat was so intense that the efforts of the firemen were in vain. Second and third alarms were sent in, and more engines, under Chief Croker and a squad of battalion chiefs, responded.

Flames Leap Across the Street.

In the mean time the flames had burned their way along the lumber inclosure to the north end and then leaped across the street to the Pennsylvania Hotel, on the corner of Eleventh avenue, and directly west of the express depot.

When the hotel caught fire it was crowded with patrons, most of them sea-faring men. A general stampede ensued, during which everybody got out except one woman, whose name was not obtained. She was penned in a room on the second floor by fire and smoke. She screamed for help and Patrolman Daniel J. Phelan, of the old West 20th street station, ran into the building to her rescue. He stumbled through the hallways and finally reached the second floor. The woman was in hysterics when he got to her, and it was with difficulty that he persuaded her to accompany him.

When the fire had consumed most of the hotel building, a tenement house adjoining it to the south was threatened. Firemen wet it down with tons of water. In one of the apartments, and cut off from the street by thick volumes of smoke, was Mrs. Helen Madden, sixty-five years old. She yelled for help, and Patrolman Frank W. Silver, of the old West 20th street station, fought his way to her side. He carried her to the street and she was attended by Dr. Baker, of Bellevue Hospital, where she was taken. Silver and Phelan had burns about their faces and hands, and after being treated went to their homes.

From the hotel the fire spread east to the express station and to the coal yard of Dart & Co., at the southwest corner of Eleventh avenue and 24th street. Every building owned by the company was burned to the ground. In the stables were a number of horses. They were rescued with difficulty by policemen and employees.

Fight to Keep Fire from Pier.

While the firemen were fighting the fire and trying to prevent its spreading in a southerly direction or westward to the piers along the North River in the section the cry suddenly went up that the top floor of the building at Nos. 337 and 341 West 24th street, just east of the lumber yard and occupied by the New York Metal Ceiling Company, was afire. At the same time word reached Chief Croker that the flames had worked back in the Moore lumber yard to a space used for the storage of scrap iron, just north, and to a saloon near the southeast corner of 25th street and Eleventh avenue.

Alarmed at the sudden turn of affairs Chief Croker ordered most of his men to keep the fire from spreading to a building north of the saloon and used as a branch storehouse by the Standard Oil Company.

Quick work on the part of the firemen saved the structure and averted an explosion that would have driven the fire northward and beyond the control of the force on the scene. The ceiling company's building was saved, with the exception of the two top floors. The saloon was burned to the ground and one or two huts were destroyed.

High Wind Carries Sparks.

There was a high and cold wind blowing, and it took the sparks, some of them as large as a man's arm, in all directions. Some of them landed on the roof of a stable at Nos. 533 and 535 West 24th street, owned by J. J. Duffy, a contractor, and 350 horses in the place were in danger. They were saved by firemen employed by Duffy and by policemen, who risked their lives to get them out.

At the northwest corner of 24th street and Eleventh avenue was the lumber yard of Clark & Wilkins. It was early seen that the plant was in danger, and firemen and employees were put to work wetting it down. The intense heat of the fires burning around it turned the water into steam, and despite the preventive measures the whole outfit went up.

By that time five alarms had been sent in and there were enough engines to pump sufficient water on the burning lumber to float a ship, but the fire had