

INVESTIGATION INTO DISAPPEARANCE OF LIQUOR
FROM CITY HALL

Council Chamber, City Hall,
February 12th, 1918.

s p. m.

Hearing resumed before His Worship the Mayor.

His Worship the Mayor explained that since the last enquiry a letter had been received from the Social Service Council asking that the case be investigated by a County Court Judge. The answer to this request was that there was no case to be brought before a judge as no specific charge had been made. A letter, dated February 5th, 1918, was received from Rev. F.E. Barrett, Secretary of the Social Service Council, containing the following statement:--

"In reference to our request for an investigation before a County Judge of the charges made publicly in the press of this City of misdemeanour on the part of certain city officials, which charges seem to have been substantiated by an investigation begun before the Mayor, and to your reply to our communication dated Jan. 24th ult., I am instructed to write again to the Board of Control and say x x x x. The serious charge has already been made both in the public press of the City and in the sworn testimony of one of the witnesses who gave evidence at the police investigation recently held, that on the evening of December 6th last and on the days immediately following, which was a time of unusual excitement, distress and suffering in this City, calling for exceptional vigilance and watchful care on the part of the city authorities, a member of the Board of Control and other city officials were so intoxicated as to be incapable of efficiently discharging their duties."

His Worship said that no such sworn statement as that mentioned in Mr. Barrett's letter had been made, and when Mr. Barrett published that he published a falsehood.

Mr. R. H. Murray, Solicitor for Inspector Tracey, said that he had no recollection of such evidence being given.

Mr. F. H. Bell, City Solicitor, said that there was no such evidence.

D. J. McLEAN, Superintendent of the Water Department, called --

To The City Solicitor --

Q. You are connected with the Water Department?

A. Yes.

Q. And your duties are partly in the City Hall and partly in connection with the streets?

A. Yes.

- Q. Were you about the City Hall on the sixth of December?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Tell us how much you were in the City Hall and what you did that day?
- A. I was in the City Hall once that day in the afternoon for about half an hour. I was in my own office in the north end of the Hall on the ground floor. In the north-west corner of the building.
- Q. Were you on the floor where Mr. Tracey's office is?
- A. No. I do not know where Mr. Tracey's office is.
- Q. Did you see anything to lead you to believe that anyone was taking liquor?
- A. Nothing whatever.
- Q. Do you know anything about the patrol station below?
- A. I know where the place is.
- Q. Do you know anything about liquor being stored, or taken away from, there?
- A. No.
- Q. Do you know anything at all in connection with this investigation?
- A. No.

EX-ALDERMAN ISNOR, called --

To His Worship the Mayor --

- Q. You occupied my office for a week or so after the disaster?
- A. Yes.
- Q. A charge has been made that there were nine bottles of whisky used in my office during the few days that you were there. Do you know anything about it?
- A. There was no whisky used in your office during the six days that I was there, to my knowledge. The blanket committee had the office.

To The City Solicitor --

- Q. The Mayor's office was taken by the blanket committee?
- A. Yes.
- Q. You were in charge of it?
- A. Yes.

Q. You were there how long?

A. From the 9th to the 15th.

Q. Was there any liquor used in the office during that time?

A. Not to my knowledge.

Q. You would know?

A. Yes. I was there continually during the day.

Q. The City Hall was pretty well given up to the relief committee, was it not?

A. Except the Engineer's and the Clerk of Works' offices.

Q. Wasn't this floor too?

A. Yes.

ROBERT THEAKSTON, City Collector, called --

To The City Solicitor --

Q. You are the City Collector?

A. Yes.

Q. Were you about the building the day of the explosion or afterwards?

A. I was there the morning of the explosion and in the evening and then again on Saturday and from that continuously.

Q. Your office is on the ground floor?

A. Yes.

Q. I think your office was taken by one of the committees?

A. My office was taken over by three of the committees. I came there Thursday evening and Mr. MacIlreith said if he wanted me he would let me know and I went home and fixed up my house.

Q. Then you were practically out of your office for how long?

A. Until Saturday morning.

Q. Were you about the City Hall during that period?

A. No.

Q. Can you throw any light on this subject as to liquor being extracted?

A. No. I went to the Inspector's office on Monday, I think, and it was occupied by the Medical Board.

Q. Do you know anything about it?

A. No, I do not. I did not have any of it at all.

P. R. COLPITT, City Electrician, called --

To The City Solicitor --

Q. You are City Electrician?

A. Yes.

Q. You have an office on the same floor as Mr. Tracey?

A. Yes.

Q. Were you about the building on the day of the explosion?

A. I was.

Q. What time?

A. I was there about half-past nine, immediately after the explosion. I was there for probably an hour and a half and back again about twelve o'clock, and then was there about three in the afternoon and at five and came back in the evening and stayed until twelve o'clock.

Q. You were busy?

A. Yes, I was very busy. My system was demolished

Q. What were you busy at?

A. I was trying to get the fire alarm system going.

Q. Was your office taken over by any of the committees?

A. No.

Q. Perhaps you can tell us what offices were taken over by the different committees?

A. The library was taken over I think, I dont know by what.

Q. Was it taken over by the food committee?

A. The food was in the assessor's office I know.

Q. Was there some distribution made from the library too?

A. There may have been. They were going in and out there.

Q. That occupies the whole corridor opposite you?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you know if the Solicitor's office was taken over?

A. Yes I fixed alight in there.

Q. That was the V.A.D office?

A. I dont know.

- Q. The committee room and Council Chamber were taken over?
- A. I dont know.
- Q. Then the Inspector's office -- The Medical Board were there?
- A. I dont know anything about that.
- Q. Were there many people coming and going?
- A. Yes. It was difficult to get into my office.
- Q. Do you know anything at all as to the abstraction of liquor from Mr. Tracey's office?
- A. Nothing whatever.
- Q. Can you throw any light or assistance on this subject?
- A. I know nothing at all. I have my own troubles.
- Q. Do you know whether Mr. Tracey's office was broken into?
- A. I dont know.
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- A. F. MESSERVEY, Clerk of Works, called --
To the City Solicitor --
- Q. You are Clerk of Works?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Your office is on the ground floor?
- A. Yes, on the ground floor, south side.
- Q. Were you here the day of the explosion?
- A. Not the day of the explosion. I was attending to duties at home. My house was badly damaged and some of my family injured.
- Q. When did you come to the City Hall?
- A. I was here on Friday and succeeding days.
- Q. Where were you?
- A. In my own office.
- Q. Was your office occupied?
- A. Yes, by the Relief Committee, distributing clothing, etc.

Q. Were you in any other part of the building?

A. Through the building generally.

Q. Were there many people in the building?

A. Quite a number.

Q. Were you on this floor?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you know anything about Mr. Tracey's office?

A. Only the joke that was there.

Q. What was that?

A. An empty bottle hung up and a card "Gone but not forgotten."

Q. Do you know anything about liquor being taken from there?

A. No, being strictly temperate, I know nothing about it.

Q. Do you know if Tracey's door was broken in?

A. No.

Q. Do you know anything about the patrol ~~room~~ room?

A. I have been in it.

Q. Do you know anything about any liquor being taken from there?

A. No.

Q. No knowledge at all?

A. No knowledge at all.

W. W. FOSTER, City Auditor, called.

To The City Solicitor --

Q. You are the City Auditor?

A. Yes.

Q. You have an office on the main floor?

A. Yes.

Q. Joining the office of the Clerk of Works?

A. Yes.

- Q. On the day of the explosion were you in your office?
- A. I was in my office when it happened.
- Q. Was your office wrecked at all?
- A. Smashed up considerably and I got a blow over the head that knocked me out for a while.
- Q. Did you stay in your office, or did you go home?
- A. As soon as I came to my senses I went home.
- Q. How long before you came back to your office again?
- A. I came back the next morning, and went through the Hall and saw the state of things and then went home. I went all through the building.
- Q. Your own office was occupied for relief work?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Do you know who took that over?
- A. I have forgotten now.
- Q. Was it taken over by the Acting-Mayor?
- A. I think it was taken over first by one committee and then changed to another. It was taken over so I could not occupy it.
- Q. You went through the building. Were there many people coming and going?
- A. The place was jammed. Everywhere, even in this room there were a great number of people.
- Q. Was the building wrecked?
- A. Badly. Everything was wrecked.
- Q. What about the doors?
- A. They were all twisted off their hinges.
- Q. Did you happen to notice the Liquor Inspector's door?
- A. No, I can't say that I did. In fact, I don't know where the Inspector's office is, but I presume it is where the License Inspector had his office. I was never in it.
- Q. Do you know anything about liquor being taken from there?
- A. No, I don't know anything about where liquor is stored.

Q. Did you hear or see any person take liquor or know of any liquor being taken from that office or any part of this building?

A. No, I did not see anything. In fact, I was not here long enough to see any such thing at all because I was very much worried over other things.

Q. Your office was occupied for a considerable time?

A. Yes. I got to work the morning that there was a meeting of the Board of Control held -- I think Monday or Tuesday.

J. J. HOPEWELL, City Treasurer, called.
To The City Solicitor --

Q. You are City Treasurer?

A. Yes.

Q. You have an office on the ground floor?

A. Yes.

Q. Adjoining the Mayor's and Collector's offices?

A. Yes.

Q. Were you here the day of the explosion?

A. I was here in the morning when the explosion took place.

Q. In your own office?

A. Yes.

Q. Was your office damaged?

A. Yes.

Q. How long did you stay after the explosion?

A. Probably for half an hour. Then I went home.

Q. Was your office taken over by any committees?

A. It was used as a restaurant.

Q. Were there any spirituous liquors served in your restaurant?

A. Tea and coffee and bread and ham.

Q. Nothing more spiritual than that?

A. Nothing that I saw.

Q. Do you know anything of what went on on this floor?

A. No. I was on this floor only once to see Miss Hunter in connection with the pay list of the Works Department.

Q. Where was she?

A. In this room.

Q. Do you know anything of the liquor being taken from Tracey's office?

A. I know nothing of my own knowledge.

P. J. McMANUS, City Assessor, called --

To The City Solicitor --

Q. You are City Assessor?

A. Yes.

Q. You have an office on this floor?

A. Yes. Two offices.

Q. Opposite the City Electrician?

A. Yes. Two rooms.

Q. Were you here the day of the explosion?

A. Yes.

Q. The time of the explosion?

A. Yes.

Q. Was your office wrecked?

A. Partly. One window broken and the ceiling down and one door blown off.

Q. How long did you stay after the explosion?

A. I stayed for about an hour.

Q. Was your office taken over by the Relief Committee?

A. Yes, by the Food Department.

Q. How long did that continue?

A. For nearly three weeks.

Q. While that continued were you able to carry on your own work?

A. No.

- Q. Were you in about the building?
- A. I was working in the Food Department myself.
- Q. Your office is on the same floor as Mr. Tracey's?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Do you know anything about Mr. Tracey's office? Were the doors along this floor generally smashed?
- A. I did not notice his office particularly until it was occupied by some of the outside committees.
- Q. Do you know anything about any liquor being stored there and taken from it?
- A. Not to my knowledge.
- Q. You did not see any liquor being taken from there or know anything about it?
- A. No.
- Q. Can you throw any light on this investigation?
- A. None at all.

L. F. MONAGHAN, City Clerk, called --

(R. H. Murray, Solicitor for Mr. Tracey, asked that witness be placed on their oath. The City Solicitor said that witnesses could be heard under oath only on any matter connected with the Police Department.

His Worship the Mayor said that the members of the Police Force will be put on oath.

To The City Solicitor --

- Q. You are City Clerk?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Your office is on the ground floor?
- A. Yes.
- Q. On the front of the building?
- A. On the south side.
- Q. Where were you on the day of the explosion?
- A. I was here about half past nine.
- Q. Was that after or before the explosion?
- A. After.
- Q. When you came to the office in what condition did you find the office?

A

- A. The door was off the hinges, lying across the doorway. The windows were out. My office was very much like the rest of the building -- badly wrecked.
- Q. Was there anyone in your office when you came?
- A. No.
- Q. Were you able to go to work?
- A. No.
- Q. Were any of your staff there -- your stenographers?
- A. One of my stenographers came with me.
- Q. The Assistant Clerk was not there?
- A. No.
- Q. How long were you in the office?
- A. I went around the building to see if anybody was hurt or if there was anybody around here and I had not been here very long when the Deputy Mayor came along. I don't know where I met the Deputy Mayor. I think it was up here.
- Q. Was your office taken over by any of the relief committees?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Which one?
- A. The registration.
- Q. How long after the explosion was it before your office was taken over?
- A. I don't know whether it was that afternoon or the next morning.
- Q. After it was taken over were you able to carry on your work?
- A. No.
- Q. How long did that continue -- your office in charge of the Registration Committee?
- A. It must have been about a fortnight.
- Q. During that time were you able to continue your work at all?
- A. No.
- Q. In what condition was the building then?
- A. Generally wrecked.

Glass broken everywhere. Doors off hinges. Windows out.

- Q. Were there many people coming and going in the building?
- A. Not until the meeting, about eleven o'clock on the day of the explosion.
- Q., There was a public meeting here, was there not?
- A. Yes.
- Q. And they began administering relief from this building?
- A. Yes, the committee started work here.
- Q. After that were there many coming and going?
- A. Yes. The crowd was getting larger all the time for days. The crowds were growing instead of lessening day after day. We had to have police in the hall keeping them to the right and to the left.
- Q. Would that be true of both floors?
- A. Yes.
- Q. You say you went around the different offices. Speaking generally, what condition were the offices in?
- A. The windows were out. A number of doors off the hinges. Fastenings of doors were broken.
- Q. Did you happen to notice the condition of Mr. Tracey's office?
- A. I dont remember the condition of it, but I was in there the morning of the explosion as I was in every other office. The door was open that morning when I went in.
- Q. About what time would that be?
- A. I think it must have been after the Deputy-Mayor, the Chief of Police and I came back after consulting the Military authorities.
- Q. Were the Deputy Mayor and the Chief with you when you went into that office?
- A. No.
- Q. You say the door was open when you went in?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Did you notice whether the glass was out or the lock broken?
- A. No.

- Q. Did you see any liquor in Mr. Tracey's office when you went in?
- A. I saw some packages there.
- Q. Do you know anything about its being taken by anyone?
- A. No.
- Q. Do you know of anybody abstracting any liquor from that office?
- A. No.
- Q. How long before the Medical staff went in there?
- A. The first of the week some time. I dont recollect that Mr. Tracey's office was taken over for some two, three or four days after the explosion?
- Q. Do you know whether it was open during that period or not?
- A. I done remember. I have a distinct recollection of being in there the first forenoon. It was open then.
- Q. And you say you saw some packages which contained liquor?
- A. I presume they were whisky cases or something likethat.
- Q. Do you know anything more about them than just seeing them there?
- A. No.
- Q. You were about the building for the next fortnight, more or less?
- A. I was here all the time. I did not leave for four days after the disaster, except about three hours the first day.
- Q. Do you know anything about liquor being taken from Inspector Tracey's office?
- A. No. I remember passing there one night and I saw his office open and I looked in and saw that there was nothing there. I had heard stories that it had all been taken by someone; but Mr. Tracey said in his evidencethe other day that he had taken it up stairs.
- Q. Do you know whether the Medical people were asking for liquor?
- A. Mr. Sullivan came to me and said he was looking for Mr. Tracey to get some released or something.
- Q. You dont know whether the doctors were making enquiries about it?
- A. I heard the man who was running the medical stores go to Captain Kinley and he said he could not get any from the vendor. Captain Kinley said he had none.

Q. That is all you know about it? Is there anything else you can tell that will throw any light on this investigation?

A. No.

TO INSPECTOR TRACEY --

Q. What was it you said about Sullivan talking about releasing supplies?

A. He said he was out of supplies, or something of that kind.

Mc. F. HALL, Manager, Provincial Exhibition -- called --

To The City Solicitor --

Q. You are Manager of the Exhibition Commission?

A. Yes.

Q. You have an office on the ground floor opposite that of the Board of Works?

A. Yes.

Q. Were you in your office the day of the explosion?

A. No, not in the City Hall.

Q. Where were you at the time of the explosion?

A. In my office at the Exhibition Grounds.

Q. I believe you were seriously hurt?

A. Enough to keep me in my house for some weeks.

Q. You were not in the building afterwards?

A. They tell me I was here the next day, but I have no knowledge of it. (Nothing in Mr. Tracey's office had anything to do with it) I was not here until the morning of the 21st December.

CONTROLLER J. J. HINES, called --

To The City Solicitor, --

Q. You are one of the controllers of the City?

A. Yes.

Q. On the day of the explosion, you were where?

A. Right after the explosion I started for the north end of the city to assist the Fire Department.

Q. Where were you at the time of the explosion?

A. In front of the Heralf office. I made right for the north end of the city. I stayed there during the forenoon superintending until after the alarm went in for the second explosion. Immediately

- after that I came to the City Hall
- Q. About what time did you come to the City Hall?
- A. I think about half past eleven.
- Q. Was there a public meeting?
- A. No. No one except the Deputy-Mayor and the Governor. I told the Governor and the Deputy-Mayor that it was urgent to get assistance at once and I went to Colonel Thompson's office to get assistance. I was not back here until late in the afternoon, about five o'clock, when I came to meet the firemen from Truro.
- Q. What part of the City Hall were you in?
- A. In the City Clerk's office and Mr. Johnston's office.
- Q. Were you on this floor at all?
- A. Not that day.
- Q. You did not see the Inspector's office that day?
- A. I did not.
- Q. After that, the next two or three days, will you tell us what you did?
- A. I was here pretty regularly day and night until the 10th.
- Q. Were there meetings?
- A. Saturday I think was the first session. It was practically a continuous session.
- Q. Where were the meetings held?
- A. The first I think in Mr. Theakston's office. The other meetings in the Auditor's office. I was here practically all night right straight along. The reason for my being here was that the head of the Department was gone and I had to take the Chief's place until a new Chief was appointed.
- Q. You are head of the Fire Department. A number of your men were killed and you busied yourself in Fire Department matters?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Were you on this floor at all?
- A. The first time I was here I came to a public meeting and was asked by Miss Hunter to help her out in the work she was undertaking and I came to offer the assistance of the firemen, and went back again.

Q. Do you know anything about liquor being in the Inspector's office?

A. I was in a few days before the explosion and I asked the Inspector if he had any good stock on hand. I asked this because I am Superintendent of the City Home and we needed some stimulants. He said he had nothing worth anything, I said "If you get anything let Mr. O'Bryan know" and he said he would

Q. Do you know anything about any liquor being there at the time of the explosion, or afterwards, or being taken from there?

A. Only what I saw in the press. I have no knowledge of any liquor being taken from Mr. Tracey's office by anybody.

CONTROLLER A. J. FINLAY, called --

To The City Solicitor --

Q. You are one of the controllers?

A. Yes.

Q. Where were you the day of the explosion?

A. At the City Hall and Home.

Q. At the time of the explosion?

A. Home.

Q. You came to the City Hall pretty soon?

A. I did not come here until after dinner.

Q. What condition was the Hall in?

A. In the condition of most buildings -- more or less wrecked.

Q. Were there many people here when you got here?

A. No. I was here early. I was at a meeting.

Q. Many people during the afternoon?

A. Oh, yes.

Q. What did you do when you came here?

A. We had a public meeting in the City Collector's office. I attended that. I was appointed to the transportation committee.

Q. Where was the office of that committee?

A. We did not have an office. We adjourned immediately to the Treasurer's office and then we had a meeting of the Transportation Committee. Alderman Gillis was Chairman and there were Mr. W. A. Black and myself.

- Q. What meetings were there of the Board of Control?
- A. I think the first meeting was Monday. All the Controllers were about the building on the job.
- Q. Would it be right to say that the Board of Control was practically in continuous session?
- A. I would consider that they were in continuous session after the first two or three days. After that first meeting we considered that we would be in session continuously and at the call of the Chair.
- Q. Were you on this floor?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Did you notice the doors and windows on this floor?
- A. No, I am not very strong on doors. I was all over the building.
- Q. Do you know anything about Mr. Tracey's office more than any other office in the building?
- A. Not at all.
- Q. Do you know anything about any liquor being there or taken from there?
- A. Not at all from personal knowledge.

To Mr. R. H. Murray --

- Q. You were here during the disaster?
- A. Not just at the time of the explosion. I was on duty at this Hall after noon of the first day.
- Q. Had you an interview with any Naval gentleman during that time?
- A. Oh, that would be the next week. We had two men from the Navy at a session of the Board of Control.
- Q. Did you ever notice Controller Taylor's condition at any of these times?
- A. I do not know that I can answer that question.
- Q. Did you ever notice that he was under the influence of liquor at any time?
- A. That is a hard thing to say. One may be of this opinion or that opinion, but it is pretty hard to know if a man was under the influence of liquor. I might do a man an injustice.
- Q. What is your opinion?
- A. To give my opinion might be doing a man an injustice. A man may be excited. He may have been working hard and probably would not be in that normal condition that he would be otherwise.

- Q. Apart from that, you have an idea when a man is under the influence of liquor, dont you?
- A. Do you mean a man staggering?
- Q. Not quite steady on his feet?
- A. I cant say that. It is a pretty hard thing for you to expect me to say as to whether he was under the influence of liquor.
- Q. What is your opinion?
- A. In giving that opinion I might do a person an injustice, which I have no right to do. I have a right to keep that opinion to myself.
- Q. You think that your opinion would do him an in-justice?
- A. I think if I did not express my opinion I would feel better myself. I will put it that way. Whatever you are driving at, there is no doubt you know it, and I know that it has emanated from the press. Well now, the press have charged Controllers and Aldermen and all the rest of us. If they would name a person then we could have an investigation under oath.
- Q. Then it is a matter of loyalty on your part to the Controller?
- A. I think it is not a fair question.
- Q. Did you find Mr. Taylor a little more excited than the rest? Didn't you get the impression that he was under the influence of liquor?
- A. I would not say that. I might be doing a man an injury.
- Q. Have you ever had occasion to complain about the administration of the liquor problem in the city of the inspection problem?
- A. I dont know.
- Q. Have you had occasion to complain yourself personally about the enforcement of the law?
- A. I think I did at a meeting of the Board of Control.
- Q. Were there any special cases compelling you to do that?
- A. I would be led to that through the press
- Q. Was that the only thing?
- A. I think so. I think on a couple of occasions at the Board of Control I expressed myself that the police should be more energetic, but that was public.
- To the City Solicitor --
- Q. Was Controller Taylor attending meetings of the Board of Control?

- A. Yes, he was in and out.
- Q. He has charge of the Police Department, has he not?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Do you know whether or not he was attending to police work and relief work?
- A. Yes, he did well. In the days of the big rush Taylor did his share of the work.

CONTROLLER J. T. MURPHY, called --

To The City Solicitor --

- Q. You are one of the controllers?
- A. Yes.
- Q. On the day of the explosion where were you?
- A. At the time of the explosion I was at my home on Bruhswick Street.
- Q. Your own house was damaged?
- A. Pretty badly.
- Q. How long after the explosion did you come to the City Hall?
- A. About twelve o'clock.
- Q. You were occupied I suppose up to that time in fixing up your own home?
- A. No, I was occupied in helping to dress the injured at Dr. Chisholm's and Dr. Thomas', at the Convent and the Deaf and Dumb Institution,
- Q. Then you came to the Hall?
- A. Yes.
- Q. What was going on?
- A. Nothing much at the time. There were very few in the City Hall. I do not know that I can call up the surroundings when I came here. I do not, know that there is perhaps any individual who had more personal demands on his time from the outset than I had both at the time I reached the City Hall and after I arrived here, and for that reason early circumstances are not very clear to my mind. I was here continuously the whole of that night and I think for four or five days afterwards. For two or three nights I slept in the City Hall. I think that in a general way I was more around the building than the average individual because I was assisting in straightening out several little departments that were beginning.

- Q. Perhaps you can tell us what offices were taken over by different committees? The Mayor's office?
- A. I think the Mayor's office was so cold that it was difficult to utilize it. The little office off the Mayor's office where the Board's stenographer is was utilized for the distribution of blankets. The Treasurer's office at first was given to Mrs. Fielding who was to take charge of the arrival and distribution of nurses and other medical help. That was the beginning of the work. The City Treasurer's office was found to be too small to accommodate her and they were afterwards moved to an office upstairs. The Treasurer's office was then utilized for the preparing of little light lunches for those who were unable to go out.
- Q. Did you get anything there?
- A. I think on one or two occasions I had a cup of coffee and sandwiches.
- Q. You saw nothing stronger there?
- A. No.
- Q. The City Collector's office?
- A. The Emergency Shelter and Transportation.
- Q. Then the next office?
- A. The City Clerk's office was the information bureau.
- Q. The Stipendiary Magistrate's office?
- A. I don't know what that was utilized for. The doctors were put in the next office.
- Q. The Exhibition Commission office?
- A. It was opened as a Fuel Department.
- Q. The Auditor's office?
- A. The Auditor's office was used as an Executive office.
- Q. The Clerk of Works' office?
- A. Orders were issued from there for special emergency requirements -- clothing and things of that kind.
- Q. The office in the north-west corner -- the plumbing office?
- A. We put there a lot of materials, such as tar paper. It was used very largely as a store room.
- Q. The Library?
- A. The Library was utilized for putting in cases of food where they were opened and brought into the Assessor's office. The inner office of the Assessor was used largely for preparing and in the outer office the people were received and their orders filled.

- Q The Electrician's office?
- A. The Electrician's office was not utilized.
- Q. The Board of Health?
- A. I do not know if the Board of Health was specially utilized.
- Q. Then the Solicitor's office?
- A. The Solicitor's office was used by the Medical Department when they took this little outer office for the general preparation of medicines and the other for stenographers.
- Q The Inspector's office?
- A. The Inspector's office opposite the City Solicitor's was not utilized for the first few days. I had occasion to go into the Inspector's office. The blanket and bed department was moved upstairs and was still in charge of Lieutenant Isnor. I happened to have a special order for blankets and mattresses to be called for later in the day and I was looking for a place to safely store them and in locking down the hall I thought that Mr. Tracey's office would be as good a place as any to put them.
- Q. What day would that be?
- A. Probably the second day.
- Q. Had you noticed the condition of the door in Tracey's office?
- A. There was no lock on the door.
- Q. Could you tell whether it had been blown off?
- A. I only know that I could not lock the door.
- Q. Do you know about the glass in the door?
- A. I dont think the glass was in, but I think that part of it was enclosed in some way by tar paper or something. There was not an open view into the room. The lock was gone and there was no way of locking it.
- Q. Did you get in?
- A. Yes.
- Q. What did you see there?
- A. I happened to look up and see this bottle X X X and this inscription -- "Gone but not forgotten." It was empty.
- Q. Were there any cases lying about?
- A. No. I put the mattress inside.