

SLEUTHS MUST STOP NAGGING MRS. YERKES

Lawyers Appeal Against Annoy- ing Espionage of the Re- ceiver's Detectives.

AFRAID TO LEAVE HER ROOM

Fifth Avenue House Has Been Prac- tically a Prison, According to Her Counsel.

The United States Circuit Court of Appeals decided yesterday to continue the receivership of Harrington Putnam for the estate of the late Charles T. Yerkes in this jurisdiction pending the decision on the appeal from the original order, which is set down for argument on June 15. At the same time the court yields a point to Mrs. Yerkes in ordering that she be allowed to come and go at the Fifth Avenue home of the dead financier without hindrance by the detectives which the receiver has placed there.

On the argument yesterday James Russell Soley, counsel for Mrs. Yerkes, repeated the charges in substance which were made by him on the original attempt to get the receiver's guards withdrawn, that the privacy of Mrs. Yerkes's residence was being invaded and she herself subjected to indignity.

"One of my clerks went up there the other day," he said, "and found a guard putting on a pair of sneakers. He asked the guard why he did this, and he replied that he didn't want to be heard when he moved around."

"Mrs. Yerkes has recovered from her late illness, but she has been afraid to leave her home up to this time for fear that the guards should prevent her from entering on her return. Why, only a few days ago some of the servants started to roll up some valuable rugs to put them away for the Summer, and the guards told them to leave the rugs where they were."

Mr. Soley said that the order of the court appointing a receiver was unprecedented, and that the invasion of the house by the detectives was an outrage.

"They have invaded a house occupied by a lady," he declared, "and have been camping there since April 5. She has absolutely no privacy. We ask that this receivership be stayed and that the invasion be brought to an end. If you can't give us this relief, then give a lady whose privacy has been invaded by an order of the court such protection as you can."

William P. Hornblower, also on behalf of Mrs. Yerkes, said that there had been no precedent for the action of the court in 120 years of judicial decisions. For the receiver, Joseph Cotton, Jr., said that the receiver was under a heavy bond to keep intact the entire property, and that he could not discharge this obligation unless he has full possession of the house.

Judge Adams announced the decision of the court after a short consultation. Mr. Soley filed with his briefs an affidavit made by a clerk in his office in which it was said that the only way Mrs. Yerkes had of maintaining her privacy during the espionage of the detectives was by remaining in her sleeping apartment.

SLID THROUGH ZONE OF FIRE.

How Firemen Rescued Watchman Who Couldn't Speak English.

Fifteen minutes of flame burned out the second floor of the five-story brick building 251 and 253 Canal Street last night and caused a loss of about \$2,000 to the Empire Postcard and Novelty Company. The Favorite Skirt Company, which occupies the upper floors of the building, had a slight damage from smoke, and water damaged the Minetta Café on the ground floor to a small extent.

There was only one man in the building above the first floor when the fire started, and the manner of his escape excited a crowd of about 2,000. He appeared on the fourth-floor fire-escape landing after the fire was well started, and stood there shouting for help. By that time flames were shooting out from the second-floor windows and smoke was pouring through the upper floors. To get to the street it was necessary to go through the flames at the second-floor landing.

The man was clad very lightly. Two firemen went up and wrapped him in a coat, and by a quick slide through the flame zone on the second floor they got him to the ground.

At the Elizabeth Street Station the rescued man said he was Solomon Bernstein, watchman for the Favorite Skirt Company. He couldn't speak English and didn't know his address.

PLUCKY RESCUES AT A FIRE.

Firemen Overcome by Gas in a Cellar Dragged Out by Others.

Several firemen were overcome last night in a fire in the cellar of the five-story tenement house at 332 East Sixty-first Street, and some of them gave a fine display of pluck in rescuing others who had been made helpless.

Lieut. Kratochevil of Engine 2, but assigned last night to Engine 39, in East Sixty-seventh Street, the Fire Headquarters, was taken to Flower Hospital suffering from gas poisoning. Fireman Nygray of Truck 16, was another sufferer, but went back to quarters.

The house is occupied by many Italian families. The blaze started in some bedding in the cellar. The damage was only \$500. There was the usual quick exodus of the tenants.

Kratochevil sent Truckmen Monahan, Illium, Peterson, and others down into the cellar. The heat had parted a gas pipe, and there was a deadly mixture of gas and smoke. Kratochevil finally told his men to get out, and, himself the last to do so, fell unconscious. When his men reached the sidewalk and found him missing Monahan and Illium went back. They dragged him out, and then Truck 16 had its turn. They went down into the cellar, and Parker, Murphy, and Nygray were overcome, but were soon rescued.