City Store Drama As Gale Havoc Threatens Shoppers

A Police cordon kept shoppers away from a five-storey Sheffield store today as fireman John Hague scaled a 45-foot ladder to remove dangerous coping stones and ridge tiles.

The drama began at a peak shopping period on The Moor. A '999' call from Jays furniture store sent the giant 100ft. turntable ladder from Sheffield fire brigade to the scene.

The stonework dislodged in the gales and high winds was reported to be in danger of falling onto shoppers.

Crowds Held Back

Shopper were held back by police with the arrival of the turn-table ladder, manned by a crew of three and led by leading firemen Jack Foden.

Mr. Edward Hewitt, assistant manager of the store told The Star: "There was a serious danger to shoppers passing the premises.

"We called the fire brigade as soon as we realised the danger. The stonework could have fallen any minute."