

MERRIAM IS POWERLESS

Council Graft Committee Is Unable to Compel Witnesses to Appear

TO PROBE THE COAL RING

List of Things That May Be Investigated by Body Is Printed Below

"Our committee will investigate everything which throws light on the spending of city funds when it appears that they have not been spent to the best advantage," said C. E. Merriam, alderman from the Seventh ward.

Limitations on the Merriam committee, which is to investigate the city finances, developed this morning in that the members of the inquisitorial body will have no power to subpoena witnesses. The procedure of the committee will be made known Tuesday, when Alderman Merriam, Walter Fisher and George Tunnell will report as a sub-committee on procedure.

Speaks of Coal Ring "Take the coal ring," Merriam was asked. "Now, in investigating that, if it would develop that it was doing business with the city by virtue of the men connected with the coal ring and the city administration, could the committee look into the companies forming that ring and find out their officers, directors and stockholders?"

"I presume that we can go into anything involving the spending of city money, but as to the details for so doing I cannot say."

"Will you investigate all vouchers, requisitions and contract bids?" was asked.

"We won't investigate all," was the answer.

"Can you force people to testify?" was asked.

"No, but we can call on the heads of city departments," was the response.

World Waysmen Give Aid? "Suppose that some department head would leave town when he heard he was to be called. Could you get him back?"

"Not by the power of the committee," said Merriam, "but there might be another way," intimating that may be the state's attorney would do it.

"We will look into everything which looks as if the city money had been improperly expended," said Merriam, "but I can't give details of procedure now."

Few Things to Investigate Charges which the Merriam committee would do well to investigate are to the effect that the municipal government is being run for the private profit of officeholders and their business associates. In further detail these charges are:

That the City Fuel company, in which Mayor Busse may still have a financial interest growing out of his sale of the Busse coal company to Francis Peabody, has a monopoly of city coal contracts for schools, pumping stations, police stations and the city hall, and that substitution is being practiced in the grades of coal furnished.

That a political ring controls the street paving work.

That the Cummings Foundry company has the machine monopoly.

That the city purchasing agent's office buys a great amount of material and supplies annually without competitive bidding.

That the McLaughlin Construction company has a monopoly on building material of a certain character.

That a favorite firm sells all the hay and oats to the fire department.

Politicians Get \$50,000 That the Chicago Railways company paid out \$50,000 to each of two big politicians in the campaign of 1907.

That there is a pool which controls the laying of water service pipes.

That there is a brick combine, the Illinois Brick company and others.

That the bankers have made a combine to hold down interest rates paid on city deposits.

That the city is losing \$25,000 annually because the \$3,000,000 traction trust fund is drawing only 2 per cent interest, when the regular rate on savings deposits is 3 per cent.

That Elton Lower is drawing more salary than the law provides.

That a political ring is making \$60,000 a year out of the temporary city hall lease, having acquired the building for \$50,000 and then rented it to the city for \$80,000 a year.

That in its five years' lease the city will pay to the owners of the Municipal court building \$500,000 in rent more than the building cost.

That the whole sewer and street paving systems are below specifications.

That the municipal system of book-keeping is expensive and makes it difficult for the revealing of true conditions.

That there was petty graft on an extensive scale in the lettering of doors and windows in the temporary city hall.

The work of the committee will extend over many weeks. Its report is expected to be ready, however, before the city asks for verification of a bond issue in the spring.

MISS KIDNAPS AGED MAN TOSE MONEY SHE WILL GET

Ariz., Sept. 25.—Lawyers leaked neatly by Miss Marian Tose, 18 years old, when she kidnapped Scanton, her aged charge, across the border into Mexico.

Miss Malarky has been made Scanton's heir, and will inherit stocks and real estate valued at about \$100,000.

W. F. Cooper, an attorney, who, acting as Probate judge, appointed August Kelgel guardian of Scanton and his estate, maintains that the girl is guilty of abduction, and has obtained a warrant for her arrest, but the warrant is good only in Arizona.

WAYMAN MAY SEND BUSSE'S CRIMINAL CLIQUE TO PRISON

IT LOOKS LIKE "THEY'RE AFTER YOU," MR. UNION MAN



HEARST SLUGGER STABS NEWSBOY

Because he refused to take orders from the Daily News and Hearst's American slugging gangs and give those papers the best display places on his news stand, or perhaps because he refused to pay petty graft to the sluggers for the privilege of not doing so, Nick Ferrara, a newsboy at Washington street and Wabash avenue, was brutally assaulted with a razor in broad daylight. A slash three inches long was cut in his neck by a man whom he declares he recognized as an employee of the Chicago American. At the same time a young boy named Roy Genazzi, who was assisting Ferrara at his stand, was struck a violent blow in the face.

COOK ASKS GUIDE TO HASTEN EAST

New York, Sept. 25.—Friends of Dr. Frederick A. Cook, whose claim that he discovered the north pole has been challenged by Commander R. E. Peary, anticipate a bitter attack on his record. The announcement several days ago that a lawyer, representing the Peary Arctic club, had been retained at Seattle, Wash., to fully investigate all the details of Dr. Cook's reported ascent of Mount McKinley, is followed now by Dr. Cook's effort to have one of the guides who accompanied him on that expedition come to New York. He has sent a telegram to this guide, Edward Burrill, at Hamilton Mont, asking him to lose no time in getting here.

Explorer Summons Man Who Aided Him in Climb of Mount McKinley

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Wayman Ready to Spring

New Sensation in His Probe of Jury Fixing Scandal

NINE BENCH WARRANTS READY TO BE SERVED

Secrecy Observed, but the Names of Politicians and Big Men May Be on Documents

Nine new bench warrants are ready for serving in the jury fixing cases according to an inadvertent admission made early by one of the attaches of the courts in the Criminal court building.

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HOW TO DO IT

There is no doubt in anyone's mind that hundreds of thousands of dollars are collected annually from Chicago's vice. There is no doubt, either, that the bulk of this money finds its way into the pockets of the political rulers of Chicago.

State's Attorney Has Gone

So Far That Back Down Now Seems to Be Impossible

FLIGHT OF SHIPPY TO EUROPE MAY HINDER

Former Chief Would Be Useful in Tracing Red Light Graft to Hands of the Bosses

WITNESS GONE

Jimmie Leathers, Twenty-first and State streets, a saloon keeper, said to know too much about the connection of Inspector John Wheeler with the South Side levee, left town last night.

Political Bosses Are Hit?

Ever since serious charges have been openly made against certain high officials in the city hall it is known that these men have been taking an unusual interest in grand juries and it is quite possible that some of the nine warrants may reach Busse's ward.

Truth Withheld From Readers

This move was only made after it was seen that the two Jewish newspapers of Chicago, The Press and The Courier, had conspired all news regarding both Julius Frank and his brother, Louis Frank, with such success that the west side's moral filth king was recently re-elected to the head of the Jews' religious organization in spite of all the opposition to the contrary.

Fail to Influence Wayman

That several attempts have been made to see Wayman and argue with him is known but they have all met with failure. The state's attorney is plodding steadily ahead and keeping his mouth shut.

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THE CHICAGO DAILY SOCIALIST

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By carrier in city of Chicago... Daily, per month, \$2.00... Outside Chicago, one year, \$21.00...

The publication of a signed article does not mean endorsement by the Daily Socialist of opinions expressed therein.

After McCann, What?

Inspector Edward McCann has been convicted of grafting. It is probable that the verdict is deserved.

But there is one thing that is supported by far stronger evidence than that which condemned McCann to the penitentiary.

One of the points offered as evidence that McCann must have been a grafter was the possession of a ranch in Texas.

The logic sounds good. Let us apply it further. Inspector "Nick" Hunt owns property in Chicago valued at somewhere between five hundred thousand and a million dollars.

"Paddy" Lavin has been shown to be the possessor of a large block of stock in the corporation of Swift and Co.

When it comes to the operation of the Upham coal and tax combine with the smoke inspector annex the profits reach staggering figures.

Here the same power fixes taxes, sells coal to the taxpayer and decides whether the coal he burns violates the smoke ordinance.

McCann has been convicted. So far, so good. But McCann served upon the south side before he went on the west side.

The Daily Socialist has shown that the trail of tribute on the south side leads straight through police channels up to the highest officials in the city government.

THE CHALLENGE

BY ROBERT HUNTER August Belmont asks his friends for \$50,000 to fight Socialism. I have no doubt that \$50,000 will be easily obtained.

On the Firing Line

BY MONSIEUR When uplifting, get underneath, says George A. S. the Jeweler. That is what the workers have been doing right along for ages.

1,000 Women for Socialism

One thousand women for Socialism in the city of Chicago in the next year is the watchword of the campaign.

Some New Books

THE PSYCHOLOGY OF THINKING. Irving Edgar Miller, Ph. D., of the Department of Psychology and Pedagogy and Supervision of Practical Teaching in the State Normal Schools, Milwaukee.

Imperialism and Social Progress

The defenders of existing conditions call individualism the motive power in society, the cause of our advanced civilization.

YEARS WITHOUT KNOWLEDGE

BY R. J. CALHOUN

It is seldom that so much is crowded into a few words as appeared in a letter published in one of the Chicago dailies a few days ago from one who signs himself "Old Man."

These may separate, but only the homeless and irresponsible victim of capitalism can desert. And the separation of a mother and her children is even worse than the fate that may befall the aged.

It would seem that this old man would now be ready to listen to the message of Socialism, but if we should explain to him how Socialism would enable those who do the work to provide the best of everything for themselves not only during old age but all their lives.

Charitable "old people's homes" look so much more attractive and his children have grown up in his footsteps to take the same view.

be made, through the results of his own activities, to confront and handle new problems, the nature of which he can then understand and the solution of which is necessary for the completion of some concrete work.

Our Barometer

The mail is the barometer of the Daily Socialist. It is the standard by which the power and energy and possibilities of the paper are measured.

It furnishes the economic base upon which the life of the paper rests. You know this. You know it, but you do not FULLY REALIZE IT.

That barometer has fallen during the last few days. You did not mean it should fall. You thought someone else was doing the work.

For this barometer can be changed by changing the weather. If you do something today, if you save the price of a scab cigar (which, of course, you would not smoke anyhow) for the next ten days.

Table with 3 columns: I donate \$5 a day for 5 days, I donate \$5 a day for 10 days, I donate 10c a day for 10 days. Includes a list of names and a total amount raised of \$3,394.31.

Aeroplane View of the World Exploitation War, Past, Present and Future

BY DR. AXEL GUSTAFSON The exploitation war between exploiters and exploited, which has been going on for more than half a century, is now becoming so defined in its character, its extent and results, as to make it possible—taking into consideration the past and the present—almost evolutionary certainty, to forecast its future.

OF INTEREST TO WOMEN

Washington street, Saturday evening, September 25, by the Socialist women of Cook county.

New York Delegates to Women's Trade Union League Convention

A party of women delegates to the National Convention of the Woman's Trade Union League leaves New York for Chicago Saturday, Sept. 25.

proletariat of Europe look upon Socialism and labor unionism as the two arms with which to work out their deliverance from capitalist exploitation. The two general strikes of the Belgium workmen marked the new departure in the conduct of war.