

GOVERNOR FRANTIC AT BERRY'S EXPOSE

If only Mr. Berry should remain after the coming election to stand for the people in Harrisburg, he would, of course, accomplish much, but he would remain hampered, as he is in the present board of public grounds and buildings, with Governor Pennypacker and Auditor General Snyder refusing to answer his pointed questions about the enormous graft. But with William T. Creasy as Auditor General, Emery as Governor, an anti-machine majority in the legislature and Jere Black presiding over the senate, there would be a clear track to complete exposure, not only of the original \$25,000,000 conspiracy, but also of all particulars of the \$9,000,000 for "extras."

"Let us confound that booby" (Berry), said Pennypacker to Snyder, just after Berry made the first disclosure. But the Governor has confounded himself and the bosses whom he has served. Berry is charitable enough to say that the Governor did not know he was being fooled by such graft as paying for the \$2,000,000 chandeliers by the pound, at a rate about eight times their value; or the clear "steal" of \$400,000 by Congressman Cassel's "company" in net profits on the metal work which that "company" did not really do nor furnish. But the fatuous Governor continues trying to cover up all the "steals." This is shown by his having invited three editors, one of whom, Charles H. Heustis, editor of the Gang organ, the Philadelphia Inquirer, is Pennypacker's appointee as health officer, and draws \$7100 a year pay out of the taxpayers' money, to examine the minutes of the board of P. G. and B., and see if everything is not right—just as if looking at the minutes could make black white, the public already possessing the proofs of deception and graft, and only waiting to ascertain into whose pockets the abstracted millions went.

How Stuart and Young Would "Probe."

There was far more in Pennypacker's record, as a judge and a scholar, to warrant expectation of good things from him as Governor than there is in Stuart's. Pennypacker has been at least bull-headed enough to have his own way in a few things. But Stuart is shown by the official records of his five years' career as Select Councilman to have been an absentee or dodger whenever any particularly important measure, or even a slight matter affecting any sort of corporation came before the chamber. He also dodged in Councils everything raising conflict between the people and the bosses. At the beginning of the municipal and state revolution he was waited upon twice by committees of representative workmen and businessmen, who requested him to either attend or let his name be used at the town meetings of protest against the "gas lease," passenger railway grabs and other plundering, but he flatly refused, and betook himself to the cyclone cellar, pulled down the door upon himself, and remained fastened in until Penrose, McNichol and Martin nominated him for Governor.

And now Stuart is striving to make Robert K. Young Auditor General. Young was paid by the state as legal adviser of the capitol commission throughout all the grafting, and remained mum when the Gang, in order to influence the coming election, was boasting that the capitol had been finished within the original \$4,000,000 appropriation. He was officially a party to the scheme to keep the people in ignorance of the secret but steady march onward toward the \$25,000,000 goal of graft. Yet a single word from Young any time since 1901 would have halted the entire series of official crimes and misdemeanors, and shown the people that he was honestly entitled to the money they were paying him. Now he wants to be elected to the position in which, above all others, he could guide a legislative investigation of the capitol plundering. Young, as Auditor General, he inclined to convict himself?

They Back White-Slavers' Friends.

Not only is Stuart backing Young, but both Young and Stuart are sustaining the candidacy of more than 50 of the worst members of the last legislature, who are now renominated, despite their having voted against everything good, and supported all that was vicious, including the bills that aimed to protect the white-slavers, speak-easies and all sorts of vice dens in Philadelphia by putting D. C. Giboney and the Law and Order Society out of business. The kind of capitol investigation that would be had if those "roosters" were re-elected can be easily imagined. Stuart professes to want an investigation, but he wants it to be done by the derelict and delinquent "Bob" Young and the renominated legislative henchmen of Penrose, McNichol and Martin.

It is argued by the Gang that there is not a whisper against the personal honor of Stuart. But the same was to be said of Pennypacker before he became Governor, and Pennypacker's backbone, plant as it has proved itself, is infinitely stronger than Stuart's. Yet Pennypacker has been, from first to last, in humiliating and most dis-

creditable subjection to the Gang "system." He has sanctioned some of the worst of its legislation, and he has connived, without a protest, at the gigantic wrong perpetrated by the man who squandered \$9,000,000 upon "extras" in the capitol. If Stuart, with an equally good character, but with nothing in his known qualities to prove that he is even as strong as Pennypacker, gives better promise of sound policy than Pennypacker did, the basis of that promise remains hidden.

Penrose the Real Governor.

The \$9,000,000 capitol robbery is not an isolated and exceptional incident. It is the culmination, the full, final fruition of practices of graft, of reckless extravagance, of manipulation of public funds, which have been followed for years by the gangsters who have misruled Pennsylvania. Nothing quite so daring and monstrous has been attempted at one coup heretofore. No single act of graft upon a scale so gigantic has been done, because never before was there so favorable a chance and pretext. But the Gang "system" has perpetuated larceny, from "petty" to "grand," as a familiar, everyday practice, year in and year out. As a little instance, it may be mentioned that it was not surprising that Paul W. Houck, treasurer of the pharmaceutical examining board, was \$12,000 short in his accounts. Houck is a typical product of the system which put Stuart and Young on the state ticket, and made "Joe" Hunter head of the state highway department. Hunter was expected to give the farmers good roads with the \$6,500,000 appropriated to his department, but his most notable achievement, as exposed by Mr. Emery's showing a letter signed by Hunter, is in confessing his crawling subservency to Boies Penrose, whose word is proclaimed by Hunter to be law in the state highway department.

It turns out that Houck is the man who won over by hook or crook—no doubt by crook—the renegade Democrat, William J. Galvin, of Schuylkill county, to support Quay for United States senator in 1901. Ever since that time Penrose has strained his influence and his resources to keep Houck in a comfortable office. On account of his embezzlement he must get out of his present office, but if the Republican ticket were elected Penrose would find him another place elsewhere, very likely under "Joe" Hunter. The recreant Galvin is said to be on the payroll of the department of agriculture. The Gang is not ungrateful to the rascals who serve its ends.

No Good Roads From Gang.

Hunter, who is not in the scoundrel class, may have meant as well in regard to the public roads as Stuart says he does, as to the Governor's office and the capitol investigation. But Hunter, in confessing over his signature that he "made no appointments until I had consulted Senator Penrose," prompts the query: "What has Penrose to do with road building?" The answer is: "Nothing more than this, that the Gang claimed the highway department as its perquisite, and Hunter could not be permitted to give a trained engineer a place into which Penrose could thrust a ballot box stuffer, a thug, a briber, or some other knave whom the Gang wished to repay for service rendered. Naturally the farmers will ask if their representatives would dare vote in the coming session to give \$5,000,000 to a department controlled by Boies Penrose and by creatures who do his bidding. In the very hour when Emery was exposing Hunter, Stuart's colleague, Murphy, candidate for Lieutenant Governor, with Stuart complacently listening, declared that "bossism no longer existed in Pennsylvania."

There is no telling how many more such reputations as Hunter's, Pennypacker's and Stuart's would be wrecked by the Gang bosses if William H. Berry's election and success as a "lid lifter" had not done so much toward assuring the people that Stuart will not get the chance to destroy himself, and that a full array of trusted and competent servants of the taxpayers will soon be officially installed in Harrisburg.

Berry's Word, or the Machine's?

An opera-bouffe turn is given to the capitol controversy by the "Republican State Advisory Committee," which is one of the "eminently respectable" elements that have attempted to keep a cloud of dust in the people's eyes until after the election. This committee, which is an annex to Wesley R. Andrews' state committee, collaborated with Candidate Young, and then gave out a statement denying that the abstraction of the nine millions had been secretly done. The people's answer to this is that they knew nothing about it until Berry spoke out. This "statement" declared also that there was "no extravagance." Is the word of that committee to be taken against Treasurer Berry's assertion that "there was at least \$1,000,000 of graft in the \$2,000,000 chandeliers?" that "more than \$1,000,000 in the \$1,500,000 for metal-filing cases was graft?" that "a metal-filing case was graft?" that "a bunch comprising T. Larry Eyre, Congressman Cassel and William W. Griest composed the metal-filing case company, which had no plant to do the work, and yet after they got the contract, received an advance payment from the state?" that "the item of wood floors, \$7100, in the original contract was waived, and a floor costing \$167,000 substituted by the board of P. G. and B.?" that "sculpture, wainscoting, decorating glass mosaic, fireplaces, tile floors, wood floors, mantels, vaults and glass, drinking water plant, telegraph system, thermostats, etc., were all specified in the original building contract, and yet paid for the board

of P. G. and B., and that the prices of these, with the \$303,693 for fitting up the eighth floor, made a grand total of \$3,236,121 spent by that board in defiance of the plain mandate of the law?"

Will the public believe that gang campaign committee as against Berry in his assertion that, in addition to the foregoing count of a terrific indictment, there has been spent \$4,562,252 for "furnishings" in accordance with the letter of the law, of which at least "\$2,000,000 was overcharge?" that the items thus overcharged were "chandeliers and brackets, becarat cut glass panels, bronze decorations, filing cases and furniture?" that a "proportionate overcharge is probable in the other \$4,000,000 of expenditures, but nothing short of a rigid investigation by experts, empowered to subpoena witnesses, will reveal the whole truth?" that "some of the chandeliers were made to weigh as much as 4,000 pounds, and costing more than \$20,000 each?" that more than 300,000 pounds of bronze was put into these chandeliers, costing the maker 30 cents a pound, or \$90,000?" that the work upon them cost, say twice as much more, making \$270,000, and sold to the state for \$1,600,000, showing an overcharge of at least a million dollars in this one item?" that "the glass globes and panels were 'extra,' and cost \$138,757.09?" and that "every item on this schedule is open to the same criticism and the estimate I have made of the total overcharge is extremely conservative?"

Berry's Appeal to All Voters.

The following concluding remarks of Mr. Berry, in his Bellefonte speech, after going into the minutest details of the foregoing exhibit of overcharges and violations of the law, are sufficient, without any figuring at all, to decide the coming election for the anti-graft candidates, state and local:

But, gentlemen, a carpet or a capitol may be very fine, and yet have woven into every fibre of its structure the figures of graft and corruption by the people who build it. Just so a state. And, grand and glorious as is our commonwealth, she has been permeated from centre to circumference with graft and corruption by those who have figured largely in the recent history.

Nothing is too good for Pennsylvania. I believe in liberal expenditures of public money, when collected from the right sources and spent for proper purposes; and yet I read as the final count in this indictment the charge of gross extravagance.

Conceding, for the sake of argument, that the expenditure has been legally made, and that no graft or overcharge can be traced in any part of it, I hold that the erection of such a palatial building for the use of a few men, and the gratification of the pride of a larger number, is without excuse, while many worthy charities and necessary public works are denied the support they need. My sense of comfort in the sumptuous quarters we occupy is marred by the thought that the helpless wards of the state are suffering for common necessities, and the indigent insane are sleeping and dying in the corridors of the over-crowded asylums of the state, appropriations for which have been denied and voted to keep the money in the treasury, so that this building scheme and the farming out of the surplus could continue.

This whole matter needs to be investigated. We are about to choose the men who are to do it. Shall we choose the men whose political interest lies in exonerating the politicians who have made it possible? For instance, Mr. Young, the candidate for Auditor General, whose head appears in bronze upon the door, and who drew a salary of \$2000 per year as attorney for the commission. Is he the man to put in charge of the records from which alone the facts may be ascertained? I do not think so.

Will Go to Court, All Right.

The "Advisory Committee" (Wesley R. Andrews' annex), in its ridiculous effort to make the public believe that a real argument is being put forth by the Gang for a "suspension of popular judgment until all the facts shall be known," plays the pitiable bluff of challenging Mr. Berry to take the matter into either the civil or criminal courts, or both. It should not be necessary to remark that the courts could not do anything with such a case before the election, occurring a little more than three weeks from the date of the frantic challenge of the affrighted bosses. The cases will be taken to court, all right, and there is little fear that the people will let a Penrose-Martin-McNichol Governor, Auditor General, state legislature and other state officers prepare the case for the courts after laying bare the criminals and beneficiaries of the stupendous graft.

While Pennypacker, as head of the board accused by Berry of the tramping upon the law, and of squandering the \$9,000,000, was either sanctioning the vast plunder or was blind to it he vetoed in 1905 bills upon bills for worthy charities, until the total amount thus denied by him amounted to \$2,500,000. All this was wanted for graft and could not be spared to the deserving unfortunates of the state. He signed bills for the multiplication of sinecure offices and salaries, but when a charity bill came before him he wrote: "Vetoed for the reason that the finances of the state do not warrant such expenditures at this time." No not at that time, when the Gang had their arms up to the elbows in the treasury, scooping out the millions of capitol plunder in the light of the dark lantern.

Inhumanity to State's Wards.

While those millions were being thus grabbed for the private benefit of mercenaries of the Gang, the patients of the hospitals for the insane were suffering for want of sleeping accommodations. Investigations made within the last few days show those institutions to be shockingly overcrowded, the helpless creatures being obliged to sleep in the corridors. The sanitary conditions are such as to endanger the health of patients and nurses, and there is a woeful lack of facilities to care for the unfortunates. The records prove that these facts were be-

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