

BROWN'S PAYROLL WILL BE PROBED

Research Bureau Prepares for Full Investigation of Municipal Court

DEVELIN KEEPS UP FIGHT

Revelations made concerning ice men, policemen and others, nominally employees of the Municipal Court, who at least have their salaries paid by the taxpayers, will be investigated by the Bureau of Municipal Research.

"We have no prejudices one way or another," asserted Frederick P. Gruenberg, director of the Bureau of Municipal Research. "In connection with our survey of the Municipal Court it is our sole desire to conduct the investigation constructively for the good of the city and the court."

Refuses Advance Comment "Consequently we do not want, in advance of this survey, to express any settled views on the questions involved."

Mr. Gruenberg was asked if he had heard in the EVENING PUBLIC LEDGER yesterday the results of this newspaper's check-up on employees of the court.

"I replied, 'but I can make no comment on it because I know nothing about the facts. It will be our duty in making this survey to get at the facts and, of course, facts such as presented by the EVENING PUBLIC LEDGER will be investigated along with other suggestions.'

Councilman James A. Develin, who has been making a lone fight in Council against the huge demands of the Municipal Court, is known to be investigating the salary of employees in connection with the payroll as probation officers, investigators, social workers and tipstaves.

Budget Is Approved City Council last night tentatively approved the Municipal Court payroll of nearly \$1,000,000, as part of the city budget for 1921.

The payroll will be considerably smaller before it is approved finally by the appropriating body of the city government, Councilman Develin declared after the hearing.

Mr. Develin said he was able only to "scratch the surface" at last night's hearing, but that he hoped to go deeper into charges against methods of the court before final passage of the item.

The audited Judge Brown had used "his autocratic powers" to provide political berths for his followers and further the building of a personal political machine.

Virtual calm prevailed at the hearing on the payroll, which ended in the slicing of \$4000 from an extra-help item.

Other expenses of the court, exclusive of the payroll, came in for a small share of the slashing that has been the order of the day since consideration of the budget began. The cuts in those expenses even, it was said, were small when compared with the \$1,000,000 cuts made in items of the Department of Public Works and other departments.

The entire extra expenses suffered slashes of only little more than \$50,000. A request for \$8000 for motorcar hire, finally cut to \$6000, occasioned much comment and speculation from some of the members, as did items for telephone, uniforms, furniture, printing and various supplies. All were cut several thousand dollars.

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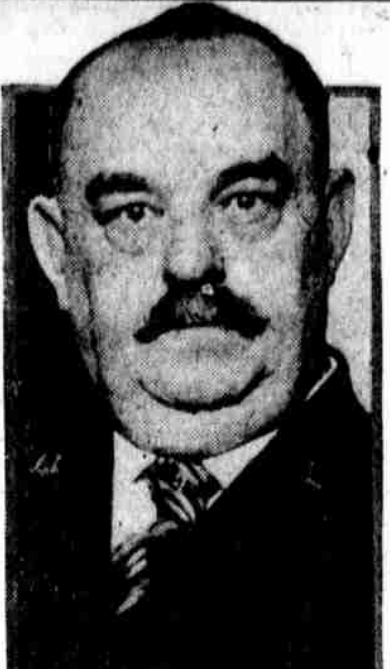
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Subject: "Man to Man"

Speakers: Senator Geo. W. Cartwright, Richard Spillane, Chairman, Ernest T. Trigg

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ELECTRIC CLUB OF PHILADELPHIA
in connection with the Industrial Relations Committee Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce



James S. Rowlings, who has been in the employ of the Union League for forty-eight years. He is now in charge of the billiard room.

TO PLAN FOR SUNDAY SPORT

Allied Athletic Meeting Will Consider Campaign Methods Plans for the encouragement of Sunday outdoor sports and modification of the Sunday blue laws of 1794 will be discussed at a meeting of the Allied Athletic Association at the Glen Social Club, Fifth street and Glenwood avenue, at 8:15 o'clock tonight.

E. M. Hackney, former president of the Suburban Baseball League, now chief probation officer of the Quarter Sessions Court, will preside. He wishes all ball teams, home or traveling, to send delegates.

The association was formed a month ago. About seventy-five clubs have joined the movement, and a petition has been circulated which now bears thousands of names of citizens favorable to modification of the Sunday laws. The club representatives feel their freedom has been restricted by small groups of people.

SPROUL AGAIN ATTACKED

Dr. Grammer Says Governor Favored "Movie" Interests

Governor Sprout, it is alleged, wrote a letter to a Philadelphia physician stating, over his signature, that the motion picture interests desired the removal of Dr. Ellis A. Oberholtzer from the Pennsylvania State Board of Censors.

The Rev. Carl E. Grammer made that charge yesterday, replying to a speech the Governor made Friday night at Gaston Presbyterian Church in which he said Dr. Grammer's charges respecting the censorship controversy were "unjust, unkind, ungentlemanly and untrue."

Dr. Grammer told of the letter at the semiannual meeting of the Philadelphia Federation of Churches in the American Sunday School Union Building, 1814 Chestnut street.

"The incident is closed," declared Harry S. McDevitt, secretary to the Governor, when asked what Mr. Sprout had to say concerning Dr. Grammer's charge.

SCHAFFER MAY GO ON SUPREME BENCH

Attorney General Likely to Be Appointed to Succeed Dead Justice Stewart

TO DISCUSS SPEAKERSHIP

Attorney General William I. Schaffer may be appointed justice of the State Supreme Court by Governor Sprout to succeed Justice John Stewart, killed Thanksgiving Day by a trolley car near his home in Chambersburg.

The appointment is not expected for a month or more, as the attorney general is occupied with administration bills to be submitted to the Legislature.

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To Confer on Speaker Senator Penrose's improvement in health has had the effect of bringing prominent politicians to the city for a conference on the speaker's term.

W. Harry Baker, secretary of the state committee, was with Senator Penrose last evening. The state situation was discussed at the conference. As a result of the discussion, Mr. Baker feels both the senator and Governor Sprout will be satisfied with the outcome of the speakership race, no matter who wins.

The Governor and State Chairman Crow are to confer with Senator Penrose next week on plans for the Legislature, which convenes in January.

Saturday Meeting Off

The assembly of governors at Harrisburg beginning tomorrow, which will continue for three days, will prevent the Governor from seeing Senator Penrose this Saturday as had been planned.

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Those who will lead the delegation are Samuel Melnick, of 1327 South Fifth street, president of the Welfare League, and William Goldberg, 1322 South Lawrence street, the secretary.

KELLER ASKS PARDON

Convicted Slayer Denies Guilt of Murdering McNichol

An application has been filed for the pardon of Edward F. Keller, who is serving a ten to twelve-year jail sentence charged with the murder of Daniel J. McNichol in the famous Frankford trunk case.

According to C. Oscar Beasley, who filed the application, Keller was innocent of the crime.

"Keller declares that he did not kill McNichol," says Beasley. "No motive was shown at the trial. He was convicted on an circumstantial evidence. I never heard of a prisoner who was convicted as Keller on the charge of voluntary manslaughter on such evidence as was produced."

The application for pardon will be acted on by the state Board of Pardons December 15. Assistant District Attorney Joseph Tulline declares that he will oppose the plea.

McNichol, a second cousin of the late State Senator James P. McNichol, who was a partner with Keller in a leather novelty manufacturing plant at Twelfth and Hamilton streets, disappeared on March 30, 1914, and his body was found in December, 1915, by workmen excavating a cellar at 4022 Frankford avenue. It was covered with strips of leather and with lime, which had not, however, entirely destroyed the flesh.

Keller is said to have made more than \$1000 selling leather novelties, which he has made in prison.

"HARDBOILED" FARED WELL

Smith Never Sent to Fort Leavenworth, Says Murdock

According to Major William J. Murdock, state adjutant of the American Legion, Frank H. "Hardboiled" Smith, lieutenant, who was sentenced to eighteen months' confinement and dismissal from the service for alleged cruelty to soldier prisoners under his charge, "never saw the inside of Leavenworth Prison."

Major Murdock quotes an extract from a letter sent him by Adjutant General P. C. Harris, to the effect "Smith was in confinement at Fort Jay, N. Y. from July 21, 1919, to March 20, 1920, when he was granted parole."

TUSTIN WILL ASK NEW BIDS FOR TAR

Alleged Monopoly by Ransley Firm in "Correction" Product Stirs Welfare Director

SAYS AWARDS IRREGULAR

Alleged monopoly of the firm of Dunlap, Slack & Co., in bidding for coal tar, produced at the House of Correction, led Director of Public Welfare Tustin to announce today he will re-verify bids December 1.

Congressman-elect Harry C. Ransley, former sheriff and a lieutenant of the Vane organization, is a member of the Dunlap, Slack & Co. This firm, according to Mr. Tustin, has been the sole bidder of the coal tar for the last four years.

Dunlap, Slack & Co., with offices at 126 North Front street, has been receiving the coal tar produced at the House of Correction at a contract price of \$1.26 per barrel of fifty-two gallons.

The United Gas Improvement Co. is said to receive approximately twenty-five cents a gallon for its coal tar product. Awards of the contract to Dunlap, Slack & Co. in the last four years, Director Tustin stated, "were irregular" because, under the law, when

only one bid is received it is legally necessary to readvertise for bids. The new bids are to be opened December 13 at noon.

Edward A. Noppel, assistant director of public welfare, stated today he learned a prospective bidder for the coal tar had been "warned" not to compete for the product. Mr. Noppel would not disclose the man's name.

J. B. Dunlap, senior member of the firm, defended his company's course in buying the coal tar and denied all implications that it had been profiteering at the city's expense.

"Director Tustin has distorted the facts," he said. "We are not selling for any such money and it is mighty unjust for the Mayor and director to impute that we are guilty of such profiteering. Our books are open to inspection at any time. We pay that \$1.26 a barrel for the coal tar in bulk. Then we have to supply the barrels, which cost from \$1.75 to \$2 each. Then we have to pay \$1 a barrel for cartage from the House of Correction down here and it is a long haul."

"Further, there is the labor of filling the barrels. Our cost, therefore, is about \$4.00, and we sell for \$7.50 a single barrel and \$6 a barrel in carload lots. We can buy all we want in the market for \$5 a barrel. The reason the U. G. I. charges such a high price is because it wants to use the tar themselves and hence make a prohibitive figure. I have been in business here for thirty-five years and it galls me to see such statements made without full investigation."

Boy Shoots Companion on Dare Scantlon, Pa., Nov. 30.—Albert Gallo, fifteen years old, dared Albert Birtle, fifteen, to shoot him with a Florentine rifle here today. Birtle took the dare, seized the gun and shot his companion. Gallo is dying at a hospital. Birtle is in jail.

3, TAKEN IN CAVE, ACCUSED OF THEFT

Police Say Boys Robbed Refrigerators and Germantown Schools of Many Articles

Three youths arrested by the Germantown police today are accused of a series of robberies and pilfering of food from refrigerators in Germantown and Logan schools and homes. The boys, reported missing by their parents, were found early today in a cave at Eighteenth and Rittenhouse streets by Patrolman Vazgor and District Detective Macfarland.

The boys were cooking a breakfast of bacon and eggs, coffee and other viands, said to have been stolen from complaining residents.

James O'Shea, fourteen years old, of Portico street, boasted the police

say that this was the eighth time he had been arrested. His most serious offense has been the hold-up of several Friends' school pupils. His companions are John Walker, eleven years old, also of Portico street, and William Ross, the same age, of Wister street. These boys have also been arrested several times, the police say.

A quantity of loot was found in the cave, including three sleeping bags, four blankets, a mandolin, shoes and rubbers and a quantity of canned goods and other provisions. The blankets, mandolin, shoes and rubbers are said to have been stolen from the Friends' School, Maplewood and Germantown avenue.

Another boy, Frank Oresto, twelve years old, of East Rittenhouse street, Germantown, but not a companion of the other prisoners, was also arrested, charged by Miss Eleanor Sticker, a teacher at the Harmer School, on Rittenhouse street, of which he was a pupil, with robbing pockets of overcoats in the cloakroom.

Oresto was arrested before, according to the police, for joining a student at a teacher who remonstrated with him for scaring other pupils with the gun, which turned out to be a cap pistol.

All the young prisoners were sent to the House of Detention for a hearing.



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