

PRICE ONE CENT.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 1903.

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CITY VOTES MONEY TO PROBE THE GAS TRUST'S METHODS.

Finance Committee of Board of Aldermen Favors Application of Commissioner Monroe for \$51,000 to Enable Him to See that Gas of Proper Quality Is Supplied to Consumers.

The Finance Committee of the Board of Aldermen met to-day and decided to report favorably the resolution giving to Col. Robert Grier Monroe, the Commissioner of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity, the money he asked for to enable him to inspect the gas supply in the various boroughs.

A resolution approving of that amount was on that date referred to the Finance Committee, with the request from President Fornes, who is much interested in the matter, that they report as speedily as possible. Hence the action to-day.

ORDINANCE ALSO BEING PREPARED. "An ordinance that will act as a curb for the extortionate practices of the Gas Trust will be introduced at the meeting of the Board of Aldermen next Tuesday.

"The application of Commissioner Robert Grier Monroe for \$51,000 to enable his department to see that the Gas Trust furnishes a proper quality of gas to the citizens of New York, passed to-day by the Finance Committee, will be approved at that meeting of the Board."

William O'Connor, the legal expert designated by President Fornes to devise the plan of procedure to be submitted to the Board of Aldermen in the gas extortion matter, made the above statements to-day.

He continued: "Commissioner Monroe's request for \$51,000 has the approval of the majority of the Board of Aldermen. President Fornes will hasten its adoption at the next meeting. "President Fornes and I have examined closely into the situation and have practically decided upon what course shall be followed. "It is necessary, the President informed me, that some form of city legislation is demanded, that a curb may be put on the gas companies. The Evening World has pointed the way in this matter and deserves great credit for the work it has done in agitating against the methods employed by the gas corporation."

INSPECTOR FINDS AMPLE PROOF OF GAS EXTORTION.

Since The Evening World began its crusade against the Gas Trust and its extortionate practices the consumers of gas in this city have learned of the existence of Jastrow Alexander, State Examiner of Meters. Mr. Alexander's business has increased more than 75 per cent, and the fast meter is being located at the rate of scores a day. The tests made by Alexander's men show that the trust has added many thousands of dollars to its already bulging treasury by means of fast meters. But these tests do not account for the exorbitant bills. A meter that is 20 per cent fast would only increase a bill one-fifth. The fast meter denoted that for months, perhaps years, the consumer has been fleeced. It does not explain why a consumer's bill for November being \$4.50, the bill for December should be \$14.

NEW APPRAISERS NAMED.

Three Assistants for New York District Appointed by President. WASHINGTON, March 12.—The President sent to the Senate to-day the following nominations: To be assistant appraisers of merchandise in the district of New York: Amos M. Knapp, George Sawtor and George Robinson.

WEATHER FORECAST.

Forecast for the thirty-six hours ending at 8 P. M. Friday for New York City and vicinity. Generally fair to-night and Friday night to fresh north to east winds.

The American Man and Woman Use the Fastidious Limited because it represents the highest type of American manufacture.

FIGHT BEGUN ON HIGHER LICENSE BILL

Senator Raines Introduces Measure Raising Liquor Tax 50 Per Cent. and Saloon Men Open Attack.

HURRIED ACTION TAKEN.

Legislators Who Are Opposed to the Act Whipped Into Line by Gov. Odell—The Conflict Will Be Bitter.

ALBANY, March 12.—Senator Raines to-day introduced the higher license bill increasing the liquor tax 50 per cent. in every part of the State. It was immediately referred to the Excise Committee and a joint hearing will be given by the Senate and Assembly committees next Wednesday.

The introduction of the measure by Senator Raines to-day was the signal for the beginning of the fight by the liquor dealers and allied interests against it. Although practically every Republican in both houses of the Legislature has, with the exception of Assemblyman Evans, of Oneida, been pledged by Gov. Odell to support the measure, the liquor men say it is not sure of passage.

They say in the first place that Odell has practically broken faith with them, as he gave the representatives of the Liquor Dealers' Association to understand only two weeks ago that higher license was not to be thought of.

Letters are coming from the hop growers, real estate and business men in other lines who claim they will lose through the large number of saloon keepers who will be forced out of business by the measure. The legislators are in a tight fix. A number of them are personally opposed to higher license and sympathize with the liquor men, but they have been whipped into line by Gov. Odell, and having promised to support all of his measures cannot balk at the 50 per cent. increase in excise tax.

The fund of \$200,000 which the liquor men are reported to be raising to fight the measure may come in useful and a sensational fight be given higher license.

There is no doubt that the hearing next Wednesday will be one of the hottest on record here.

Odell speaks for Bill. Gov. Odell discussing the higher license measure to-day said: "Every decent, law-abiding citizen in the State is aware by this time that the present liquor law, if it has done nothing else, has at least succeeded in reducing the number of saloons in the State. It is said, however, that the liquor men are driving out of business thousands of places that were menaces to public morals, and has succeeded in reducing our prison population and diminishing crime."

"It is often stated, without figures to prove it, that the so-called 'Raines law' is absolutely untrue, for here are the actual figures in three of the boroughs of Greater New York: "On the 1st day of June, 1900, there were 1,210 saloons in the boroughs of Manhattan and the Bronx. On the same date in 1901 there were only 1,135, a reduction of 75 per cent.; the same date in 1902 there were 1,200, an increase of only 55 over 1901, but still a decrease of 29 per cent. from the number in 1900. In June, 1900, there were 1,664 saloons in the borough of Brooklyn, and on the 1st day of June, 1901, there were 832, a reduction of 50 per cent. On the 1st day of June, 1902, there were 725, a reduction of 56 per cent. from the number of 1900."

"Now, take the criminal statistics since the present law went into effect, and it will be found that the number of commitments for drunkenness has fallen from 61,900 in 1900 to 42,000 in 1902, a reduction of nearly 40 per cent. and it further appears that the commitments for assault, robbery and burglaries have materially diminished."

Better Moral Results. "Reasoning from analogy, it was to be expected that the criminal statistics would steadily decrease during the whole decade, even as they did during the first five years. But it is perfectly evident that some great correcting or corrective force made itself felt during the last half of the period, producing these surprisingly improved results."

"There is no doubt in my mind that it came from the diminution of the number of drinking places and the exercise of a proper State supervision. Under the present law I believe that a still further betterment of the moral conditions of the communities will result."

MORGAN GOES TO SEE PRESIDENT

Financier Gets a Call to the White House and Meets Leading Senators on Visit to the Capitol.

SILENT AS TO MISSION.

WASHINGTON, March 12.—J. Pierpont Morgan and party, consisting of his daughter and Mrs. Markoe and two other women, friends of Miss Morgan, arrived in Washington shortly before noon to-day from Jekyll Island. The party is stopping at the Arlington, but pursuant to Mr. Morgan's custom none of them registered, and all knowledge of their plans was denied at the hotel. It is known that, however, shortly after Mr. Morgan's arrival a messenger from the White House came in search of him, but Mr. Morgan was out at the time.

After paying several calls, Miss Morgan and the women in the party returned to luncheon at the Arlington, but without Mr. Morgan. Further than to say that he was on his way to New York Mr. Morgan would not discuss his visit. Mr. Morgan visited the Capitol for a short time and saw a number of Senators, including Messrs. Aldrich, Haink and Gorman. It was stated that the visit of the magnate had no significance concerning pending business in the Senate.

NEW HAVEN MEN FAVOR A STRIKE.

Note of Those in New York and Connecticut Identified with Railroad Is for Tie-Up—Massachusetts Not Heard From.

SWITCHMEN MAY NOT JOIN.

NEW HAVEN, March 12.—It was stated to-day, on unquestioned authority that the trainmen and conductors of the New York, New Haven and Hartford

"DOC" FLOWER, ARRESTED TO-DAY CHARGED WITH SWINDLING, AND ONE OF THE WOMEN WHO ACCUSE HIM.



ford Railroad located in New York and Connecticut have voted in favor of a strike on the road. The result of the vote in Massachusetts is not known. There may be a clash between the Switchmen's Union of North America and the Brotherhood of Trainmen, who are considering the calling of the strike. Frank J. Hawley, of the Switchmen's Union, is in this city and has called a meeting of the members for to-morrow night. The Switchmen's Union has not yet recognized the move against the company and it is said that as the switchmen have previously interfered in such cases they may do so in the present instance.

SPECIAL EXTRA. PANIC AT FIRE ON EAST SIDE.

Fire started in the big tenement-house, No. 948 First avenue late this afternoon and caused a wild panic among the tenants. The flames which originated in the cellar spread to the top floor with amazing rapidity. With the arrival of the firemen to building from cellar to roof was ablaze. Ladders were quickly raised to the windows and at least a score of the inmates, who had been trapped, were carried to the street. Several ambulance calls were sent in and soon a corps of surgeons were on the scene. Women and children were on the fire-escapes when the firemen went to their rescue, and amid the cheers of a big crowd carried the imperilled ones to safety. The building was completely gutted.

SCANNELL MUST STAND HIS TRIAL.

The Demurrer to Indictment Charging Him and Marks with Conspiracy Has Been Overruled and District-Attorney Will Now Act.

In a decision handed to-day Justice Scott, of the Supreme Court, overruled the demurrer to the indictments for conspiracy found two years ago against John J. Scannell and William L. Marks. This requires the District-Attorney to proceed against both defendants and call their cases for trial at an early date. The indictments against the former Fire Commissioner and Marks alleged certain irregularities in the purchase of hose and other fire department supplies whereby the city was defrauded. A second indictment against Scannell charged him with neglect of duty. Former District-Attorney Philbin presented the case to the Grand Jury that found the indictments. They were a great surprise. Scannell fought bitterly to quash the indictments and finally succeeded in getting the demurrer. The case was argued before Justice Scott and papers have been in his hands ever since. Notice of the decision was served on Edward Carroll, Chief Clerk of the Court of General Sessions, this afternoon. When informed of the decision District-Attorney Jerome said: "The action of Justice Scott pleases me. I shall make preparations to place Mr. Scannell on trial at once. The decision will be a surprise to him. I have no doubt." The demurrer was argued by De Lancey Nicoll and John D. Lindsay before Justice Scott in the Criminal Branch of the Supreme Court. They alleged an absence of facts and further that the new charter repealed the act forbidding the letting of a contract to other than the lowest bidder. In his decision Justice Scott overrules both these arguments and cites extensive authorities. Mr. Marks whom Scannell favored in the awarding of supply contracts, presented the former Fire Commissioner with his fast trotter, The Abbot.

FLOWER AND HIS MAN MELOY HAD PLAN TO BRIBE.

The Mining Stock Manipulator Charged His Partner with Obtaining \$2,500 from Him Which Was to Be Used, It Was Said, as a Bribe for Capt. Titus, of the Detective Bureau.

This Testimony Caused the Arrest of Both Partners on the Charge of Conspiring to Bribe a Public Official—Flower Had Been Arrested Earlier on a Charge of Swindling.

Surprising developments took place to-day in the war being waged between Dr. R. C. Flower and Andrew D. Meloy, former manipulators of mining corporations, which have brought the two unenviable notoriety, and as a result Dr. Flower was arrested for grand larceny and placed under \$2,000 bail.

Meloy was one of his chief accusers, and Dr. Flower had no sooner furnished bail than he turned around and made an affidavit in which he accused Meloy of blackmailing him by inducing him to give \$2,500 for the purpose of "bribing" Capt. Titus, of the Detective Bureau, to allow them to continue to solicit subscriptions to mining companies.

A warrant for Meloy was immediately issued upon this affidavit, in which he was charged with misappropriating the \$2,500.

Then the District-Attorney stepped in and secured another warrant for Flower, charging him by his own confession with attempting to bribe a public officer.

MELOY MADE HIM GIVE \$2,500.

In the affidavit Dr. Flower swore to before Mr. Garvan he charged that in 1902 Andrew D. Meloy came to him and told him that he would have to fix the detective bureau and Capt. Titus before he could do any business or float any of his schemes in New York. He told the doctor, however, that he could fix Capt. Titus and the bureau by paying him \$2,500. He said that the matter was urgent, and the only way he (Dr. Flower) could escape from a serious predicament was to turn over the money at once. The affidavit continues that Dr. Flower gave the \$2,500 to Meloy and he left his office presumably to go to Police Headquarters. He returned a short time afterward and entered the office breathlessly and said: "I was just in time. There were four stockholders in Capt. Titus's office making a holler. A warrant was going to be issued against you. I gave him the \$2,500, though, and fixed it up all right."

FLOWER TURNS ON HIS PALS.

After Dr. Flower had signed the affidavit he sent for about a dozen lawyers, among them all the members of the firm of O'Hannon, Hannicker, Stuart & Silk, of No. 235 Broadway; Joe Moss, Lawyer Mills, and his son, Jewell Flower. Through their aid he secured affidavits corroborating the one he had made attested to by the following: John S. Manfell, P. L. Looker, William H. Donnelly and his son. Then with his fleet of attorneys and several members of the District-Attorney's staff he went before Magistrate Barlow for the purpose of securing a warrant for the arrest of Meloy, who was brought to the court-room upon the request of Mr. Garvan.

These affidavits were presented to Magistrate Barlow, who promptly granted a warrant for the arrest of Meloy on the charge of misappropriating \$2,500. In granting the warrant, Magistrate Barlow said:

"Not only will I grant a warrant for the arrest of Mr. Meloy, but I will make out another warrant for Dr. Flower, for by this affidavit he has confessed that he paid \$2,500 to Meloy for the purpose of bribing a public officer, which he should know under the statutes is a crime. It is well known that in a previous difficulty, that brought these men before a Magistrate, Capt. Titus swore that he knew neither Dr. Flower nor Mr. Meloy, and had never been approached by either of them."

MELOY PITIES THE INVESTORS.

After Meloy had been notified that a warrant had been issued for his arrest, he struck an attitude of resignation and said plaintively:

"Too bad, too bad. Now, hundreds, yes, thousands, of innocent persons will be made to suffer for this, for while we are carrying on this war what will become of the Lone Pine Company? The only thing that can save the poor stockholders from serious losses on their investments is the appointment of a committee to take charge of the mine and run it. I will earnestly advocate some such action."

Before he could carry his sympathetic outburst any further he was arrested by Detective-Sergt. McConville and arraigned before Magistrate Barlow. Dr. Flower joined him at the rail. The Magistrate then fixed Dr. Flower's bail on the second warrant in \$3,000 and Meloy's at \$1,000.

Dr. Flower beckoned to Mrs. Cornelia Storrs, his bondswoman, who was present in court, and she came forward to qualify as surety. Meloy pulled out a roll of bills about a foot in circumference, peeled off one of \$1,000 denomination and handing it to Lawyer Gleason, his counsel, bade him run to the City Chamberlain's office and deposit it as cash bail. As it was but a few minutes before the closing time of the City Chamberlain's office the lawyer had to sprint all the way, but he made it all right, though he was somewhat apologetic when he returned with the bail certificate. Meloy stated that Dr. Flower's affidavit was false to the core, though

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