

tips, or taps, on the telephone in other cases."

Senator Thompson left the chair and started back toward the committee's ante-room. He paused a moment.

"I want to say," he added, "that the responsibility for all this rests on the Mayor."

The Mayor was ready to go before the committee at noon, and before he left the City Hall for the Municipal Building he announced that he would be heard in public or not at all.

When the Mayor arrived in the Municipal Building he did not go to the Coroners' Court, where the committee sits, but to the office of the Corporation Counsel, on an upper floor.

The committee had been in secret session for half an hour, examining policemen about Brooklyn pedroom wire-tapping.

District Attorney Lewis of Kings County, in commenting on Mayor Mitchell's criticism of the indictment of Commissioner Kingsbury and Lawyer Hotchkiss, said:

"Most of the accusations of Mayor Mitchell are based on hearsay and are of no value in a court of law and the Mayor knows it."

"He appeared before the Kings County Grand Jury as a witness. I assume that he told the Grand Jury all that he had to say or he would not have been there."

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SAW BURNS TAKE PAPERS FROM SEYMOUR'S OFFICE, SAYS WITNESS AT INQUIRY

Lawyer Whose Place Was Searched by Men Morgan Hired Still Hesitates at Making Complaint Against Detective.

Bartlett Smith, a youthful electrician of No. 10 South Hills Avenue, Glenwood, disclosed in a long narrative to-day his installation of a detectaphone in the law offices of Seymour & Seymour in the Equitable Building, at the instigation of the W. J. Burns Detective Agency.

Smith was the first witness called in the investigation of the wire-tapping which District Attorney Swann has begun before Chief City Magistrate McAdoo in the Criminal Courts Building. One of the spectators in the courtroom was Deputy State Comptroller William Boardman, who said he was there to learn whether the Burns agency had violated the law, as the Comptroller's office has power to revoke a detective's license upon evidence of unlawful acts.

In the course of his testimony Smith not only told of the installation of the detectaphone but said he saw William J. Burns open a desk in Seymour & Seymour's office, take papers and cards from it, read them and have James Lynch, the Burns stenographer, make short hand memoranda from them. Smith also stated that his father had sold a telephone "tap" to Burns for \$75. It was a device to be hooked on to telephone wires inside or outside a building.

Smith said that he and his father, Gullard Smith, and I went to the Burns office in March, and my father was asked in a roundabout way by Mr. W. J. Burns if he would tap some telephone wires. He said he had some work for us to do at No. 120 Broadway, but he didn't tell us the name at that time. My father said it was a felony and wouldn't let me do it. He said he'd rather have a Burns man do the work, so it could be covered up.

"In the latter part of March I went again to Mr. Burns's office, and Sherman Burns, his son, Jimmy Lynch, a Burns stenographer, and I went to the twenty-seventh floor of the Equitable Building. We went to the office of the Belgian Relief Society, next door to the office of Seymour & Seymour, on the Cedar Street side of the building."

Q. What was said to you when you got there? A. Well, first of all I found there was a quarter inch hole bored part way through the wall of the Relief Society's office. It was just over a typewriter table. I bored the hole the rest of the way and a detectaphone was set up in the Seymour & Seymour office. I had matches while Jimmy Lynch fastened the transmitter to the wall. It was about 9 o'clock at night. We didn't light the electric lights. The transmitter was put against the wall and behind a heavy desk in the Seymour office.

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As the President's party emerged from the elevator, flanked by secret service men and police, the delegates applauded and waved their handkerchiefs furiously until the Chief Executive entered his automobile and was driven to Miss Gordon's home at No. 12 West Tenth Street.

Accompanying President Wilson and in his wife in the President's private car were Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo and Mrs. McAdoo, the President's daughter, and Mrs. Helen Woodrow Bones, the President's ordinary secretary. When a man hires me I don't think. But the secretary of these instruments in operation to-day in law and brokerage offices and private homes where there is suspicion of disloyalty or theft, have installed great numbers of them.

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GAINS BY GERMANS AT TWO POINTS ON THE VERDUN FRONT

(Continued from First Page.)

Artillery will soon gain the preponderance.

CUMIERES CAPTURED BY STORM, GERMAN WAR OFFICE REPORTS

BERLIN, May 24 (via London).—The capture by Thuringian troops of the village of Cumieres, east of Dead Man Hill on the Verdun front, was announced by the War Office this afternoon. The village was taken by storm. So far no prisoners or other trophies, including 8 officers, have been taken by the Germans in this operation.

Intense fighting on the east bank of the Meuse the Germans recaptured lost ground near Douaumont, taking 100 prisoners.

An enemy attack on the southwest slope of Dead Man Hill was repulsed. Following is the text of the War Office report:

"To the left of the Meuse we completely repulsed a heavy attack and machine gun fire an enemy attack on the southwestern slope of Le Mort Homme."

"To the east of the Meuse the enemy repeated his furious attacks in the Douaumont region and suffered most severe losses by our fire."

"The ground temporarily lost by us was almost entirely recaptured by our brave regiments, and they made more than five hundred and fifty prisoners. The fighting still continues, supported by very heavy artillery fire from both sides."

WOMAN IS BEHEADED FOR TRIPLE MURDER

Execution in Berlin Performed by Headsman With Broadax—Two Others Await Same Fate.

BERLIN (via London, May 24). May 23.—Henriette Holstein, the wife of a Koenigsberg farmer, was executed here to-day for the murder of her husband, daughter and stepson by arsenic. The execution was performed in the traditional manner by a headsman with a broad ax.

YOUNG BURNS UNBOLTED DOOR TO GET INSIDE

Q. (By Magistrate McAdoo). When you carried it to the Seymour office, how did you get in? The door was open by the Seymour office and those of the Belgian Relief Society was unwatched on the Seymour side, Sherman Burns went through a partition and unbolted a second communicating door.

Q. When did you see William J. Burns in the Seymour office, and what did he say to you? A. He never said very much to me, but I saw him there the time I made my second visit. While Jimmy Lynch and I were looking for a place to set up the second transmitter in the last room of the law firm Mr. Burns opened up one of the big desks, took out a lot of personal cards and papers and took them into the Belgian Relief Society's office. There he read them. There were names on the cards.

Q. Why do you hesitate to make a complaint when it would seem that this man has done you a grievous wrong? Why throw the burden on me? Why don't you do your part as Col. Roosevelt calls it? A. I am not only willing but anxious to give the District Attorney all the help I

can, but it seems to me that in this matter, of which I know so little, the District Attorney, if he has the power, is the one to bring action. But if you decide that you need me as a complainant, I'll set aside my own wishes as to a contemplated civil action and sign the complaint.

Q. Is it not of sufficient interest to you to inquire? A. Yes, but I did not know I got any information from Burns. I got any information from Burns.

BRITISH TROOPS FIGHT WAY INTO THE GERMAN LINES

"Immediately Slaughtered," Says the Berlin War Office—Other Attacks Repulsed.

BERLIN, May 24.—British troops attacked the German lines near Givency, Hulluch and Blairville in yesterday's fighting, the War Office announced this afternoon.

Southwest of Givency a few English soldiers penetrated German trenches, but were immediately slaughtered. The attacks at Hulluch and Blairville were repulsed.

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