

UNTERMYER STILL URGES PRISON FOR GUILTY BUILDERS

Lockwood Committee Members Wind Up Discussion as to Action on Question.

TAKE IT UP TO-DAY.

How Tammany Men Were Backing Device That Was Barred by Labor.

The Lockwood Committee on Housing meets this afternoon at the office of Samuel Untermyer, its counsel, to settle the controversy as to the form in which Mr. Untermyer wants to be authorized to go before the Supreme Court and, in the name of the Committee, as well as by his authority as a Deputy Attorney General, urge prison sentences for John A. McCarthy, James A. Philbrick, Wright D. Goss and other building material dealers who have pleaded guilty to conspiracy to suppress competition.

Early in the sessions of the Lockwood Committee Senator Kaplan, speaking in sympathy with laboring men under prosecution, asked the committee to insist that material dealers and building contractors get sentences just as severe as the representatives of working men.

He was suppressed at the time by Mr. Untermyer, who said that in the first place Senator Kaplan was talking without full information, in the second place that leniency was necessary for the cut-stone contractors in order to make certain of convicting Hettrick, Walking Delegates Doran and Chapman and Contractor Smith, and finally that the criminal prosecutions were outside the committee's jurisdiction.

Assemblyman Hamill upon whom has descended the burden of seeing that no odium is unfairly cast upon Tammany Hall, its leaders, and upon labor, since the retirement of Senator Kaplan and Assemblyman McWhin-

ney, Republican members of the committee were known to have taken issue with Mr. Untermyer in the executive session yesterday. They reminded him of his former stand against interference by the committee with the criminal processes of the courts. Many of the building material men awaiting sentence are Hudson River Valley Republicans of the old and ingrained Odell brand.

It was regarded as likely that the resolution proposed by Mr. Untermyer might be slightly modified before it is adopted. Of the eight members of the committee four are said to favor its amendment. The ninth chair in the committee, which was vacant, was filled to-day by the appointment of Assemblyman Edward G. Neary by Speaker Machold to succeed former Assemblyman Pette, now an Assistant District Attorney in Queens.

The committee will resume next Tuesday its investigation of the processes by which the Chest Iron Pipe Trust, the master plumbers and the journeymen have blacklisted the use of a money-saving type of anti-siphoning drainage trap in New York, though it is used in fifty-one cities, including Detroit, Cleveland, Cincinnati and Rochester, without criticism. The agitation to prevent its use was shown to have begun with the pipe manufacturers because the new system eliminates a "vent line" of cast iron pipe two inches or more in diameter from the top to the bottom of every building in which it is used. The journeymen plumbers and their employers turned against it, Mr. Untermyer seeks to prove, because it eliminates labor and costly repair work.

Incidentally, the investigation uncovered a purchase by which John A. McCarthy, Frank J. Farrell and Philip Donahue, the names of all of whom are familiar in Tammany circles, obtained a half interest in the Geco type of anti-siphoning trap. This trap, after impromptu tests, was approved by the New York City Board of Standards when Street Cleaning Commissioner Leo was its Chairman. Later permanent tests were formulated so severe that one expert said that no anti-siphoning device, including the Geco, could pass them, leaving the Geco a New York City monopoly, but one which was useless because of the united boycott of the plumbers and pipe manufacturers.

Among the tests prescribed—after the passing of the Geco trap—were the packing of the trap with sand and sawdust, and the requirement that it should then cleanse itself under normal working conditions.

TOO MANY WIVES; ASKS COURT RELIEF

Shropshire Seeks Annulment of Second Marriage, Says First Is Still in Force.

SHROPSHIRE, May 4.—Walter E. Shropshire of Yonkers has begun a suit against his wife, Florence, now residing in Boston, to have their marriage annulled. Justice Morschauer has directed service of summons by publication.

About 1910, at Trenton, N. J., the plaintiff says he married Madeline E. Shropshire, and the marriage is still in force. In April, 1915, he and Florence Shropshire were married in Boston. He asks that the second marriage be annulled and declared void, but that their one child—the daughter—be declared legitimate and entitled to all rights as such in the plaintiff's property.

FOURTEEN FAMILIES DRIVEN OUT BY FIRE

Blaze That Destroys Bay Ridge Tailor Shop Spreads to Two Tenements.

Fire destroyed Harry Cohen's tailor shop in the one-story building at No. 5722 Third Avenue, Bay Ridge, at 4:30 A. M. today and spread to the three-story tenement at No. 5720 and the four-story building No. 5724.

The fourteen families occupying the two buildings were safe in the street before the flames reached their homes, so no one had to be rescued. The damage to the two tenements was slight.

CITY LOSES DAMAGE SUIT.

Justice Tierann Wins \$925.25 for Auto Hit by Municipal Trolley.

New York to-day lost the first damage suit in which it has been a defendant since Mayor Hylan inaugurated 5-cent trolleys on Staten Island. County Judge Tierann was awarded \$925.25 for damages sustained by his automobile Jan. 25, when, he charged, it was struck by a municipal trolley car going thirty miles an hour in East Richmond.

In his opinion Municipal Court Justice Tierann, in the First District, Case 119, held that "driving a trolley car at thirty miles an hour while approaching a street intersection constituted negligence that is chargeable to the city."

Assistant Corporation Counsel Draper said the city would appeal because the original papers were "insufficient."

Fined for Obstructing Sidewalk with Tombstones.

For leaving tombstones on the sidewalk in front of their marble works, Henry Gottesfeld, No. 12 Seigel Street, and Martin Weiraup, No. 22 Leonard Street, Brooklyn, were fined \$10 each today in Bridge Plaza Court. Magistrate Brown directed a policeman to accompany each of the men and see that the tombstones were moved. He said there was only one proper place for a tombstone, and that was not on a sidewalk.

Held on Girl's Complaint.

Arthur Michaelis, twenty-three, an electrician, who said he lives on Bay Street, Tompkinsville, Staten Island, was held to-day in \$500 bail for trial in Special Sessions on the complaint of Alice Wade, eleven years old, of No. 4 Pearl Street, Stapleton Heights, Stapleton, S. I. The girl accused Michaelis of persuading her to enter a Boy Scout hut on the heights, where, she said, he attempted to kiss her.

PRAYERS HALT CLUB BUT NOT THE POLICE

Unexpected Visitor Takes \$2 Watch in Order Not to Sleep Too Long.

Mrs. John Restivo, No. 366 Bond Street, Brooklyn, was awakened at three o'clock this morning by a noise in the kitchen. Thinking it was her son returning from a party she called out:

"What time is it?"

"There was no response, and so she called again. This time a quaking Ethiopian voice came back, saying:

"How come?"

Mrs. Restivo nudged her husband. He went to the kitchen and found a diminutive black man, who afterward gave the name of Eugene Jones, and said he was wanted in Atlanta for bootlegging. He began to pray when Restivo menaced him with a club, and kept on praying until the police came.

In the Fifth Avenue Court to-day Jones said he had entered the house because he saw an open window and was tired. He said he took possession of a two-dollar watch hanging on the wall so he would not overleap. He was held in \$2,000 bail on a burglary charge.

WEALTHY MAN A SUICIDE.

John B. Place Was the Inventor of Many Useful Articles.

TUNKHANNOCK, Pa., May 6.—John H. Place, 60, a wealthy retired farmer, manufacturer and inventor, of Vosburg, committed suicide here to-day in the rear of his manufacturing plant, by pulling the trigger of a double-barreled shotgun with a slender bamboo cane. The charge lodged in his heart.

Two notes placed on a chair in the room gave the reason for Place taking his life. One was addressed to his wife and stated that "I need a rest. I am tired of living." The other asked any one finding his body to see that it be given proper burial and that the gun be returned to its owner.

Place was the manufacturer of a brand of insect powder and was the inventor of an envelope sealer, a postage stamp moistener and an apple barrel header, as well as many other useful articles. He was the owner of vast tracts of farming land in this country and also owned a large apple orchard near Stroudsburg.

Five Hurt in Ferryboat Crash.—CAMDEN, N. J., May 6.—Five persons were injured when the ferryboat Beverly of the Pennsylvania Railroad crashed head-on into its dock here to-day. Between 200 and 400 were on the ferry, and most of them were congregated at the front of the boat in the two passageways for passengers. A mild panic followed the crash. Two women fainted. The boat piles between Camden and Philadelphia.

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