

GAMBLING MEN GRUMBLE.

TAMMANY LETS TOO MANY INTO THE GAME, THEY SAY.

CITY IS FAIRLY OVERSTOCKED WITH LAW BREAKING RESORTS, AND THE PROFESSION IS KICKING.

There are strong indications that the men who run poolrooms, crap games, policy shops and gambling houses of all kinds in this city under the protection of the police are in a surly and dangerous mood just now, because the irritating conviction has dawned upon them that they, whose pride and boast it is that they grow rich by fleecing the "sucker," are themselves being fleeced and played for "suckers" by the leaders of Tammany Hall through the agency of a Board which does not appear in the City Record, but is much more active and powerful than some which do. This Board draws no pay from the municipality, issues no reports, holds no open sessions, but gets through a great deal of business and produces a great deal of revenue. It is known in all the dark corners of the city as the "Gambling Commission," and its members do not display any badge of membership or court undue notoriety because of their connection with it. In fact, they might sue any one for libel who published their names as "Gambling Commissioners."

But the gambling house keepers know, it is said, that this Board consists of at least one, and some say two, State Senators, the Commissioner of a big city department and the king pin of the poolroom gamblers. Now, if curiosity should prompt any reader of this article to ask the "Gambling Commission" how they know about this "Nothing at all." But the gambling house keepers declare they know it too well. At first the gamblers thought it was a fine institution, conducted on sound business principles, giving good value for the tax it imposed, and really the friend of the profession. Now they recognize that the Board is "doing" them, and they are threatening to make a "kick."

HOW THE "COMMISSION" WORKS.

This is how the "Gambling Commission" performs its functions, according to information given by some of its "squealing" victims: When any one wants to open a gambling house he first applies to the police captain of his precinct. This application must be accompanied by a fee ranging from \$300 for a poolroom down to \$50 for an "envelope" game. The captain then investigates the ability of the applicant to pay his monthly dues and his reputation as a "sport" who can be relied upon to stand by the game and keep a close mouth, etc. If the captain is satisfied that he can safely vouch for the "character" of the applicant to the "Gambling Commission" the application is forwarded to that Board. If the Board rejects the application, the \$300 is returned to the disappointed applicant, but if the application is granted the \$300 goes to the captain for his services, and thereafter the gambling house proprietor has nothing more to do with the police. He now begins to pay a monthly fee direct to the Board through its accredited representatives and collectors. The scale of monthly fees runs about this way:

Table with 2 columns: Fee type and Amount. Includes entries for Poolrooms (\$300 a month), Crap games (\$150 a month), Policy (\$100 a month), Envelope game (\$50 a month), Monthly total (\$233.75), and Yearly total (\$2,805.00).

So long as these fees are forthcoming regularly and promptly there is nothing to apprehend from the police, and this is considered by the gamblers a great improvement on the old system, where the captain, the sergeants, the detectives, the roundmen and the patrolmen had to be propitiated, each having a certain power of blackmail arranged on a sliding scale in proportion to his ability to "make trouble." Now it is "hands off" for the police so long as fees are paid to the "Gambling Commission," and the policeman who would attempt to molest a gambling house keeper in good standing would be promptly punished for it.

This system has been working to the satisfaction of both sides for months and months, and the revenue collected by the "Gambling Commission" from these sources has been estimated as approaching \$3,000,000 a year. This may be considered too high a figure, but the complaining gambling house keepers allege that it is not. They found it on the following figures from all the boroughs:

Table with 2 columns: Borough and Revenue. Lists Manhattan, Bronx, Richmond, Queens, and Kings with their respective monthly and yearly revenues.

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It has often been said that any community gets about the kind of government it deserves, and republics, especially, get just about the kind of government they deserve. Again and again the newspapers of this city have exposed with a wealth of detail the brazen way in which the Tammany Police Commissioners allow lawbreakers of certain kinds to ply their trade wide open, and little has come of it. The police hide behind the old pretence that they will suppress any lawbreaker against whom complaints are filed, but add that nobody files such complaints. If an attempt is made to lay four cartrucks in Amsterdam-ave., for instance, mass meetings are held, a powerful agitation is aroused and results are accomplished. Cooper Union can be crowded for a week to hear discussions on "trusts"; citizens will turn out in crowds to shout out their sentiments about a war in South Africa, but the number of people who feel outraged to the point of raising a vigorous protest by the fact that their paid police wink at the violation of the gambling law is significantly small. Possibly a decrease at least in the number of these lawbreakers may now be effected by the great law of supply and demand.

When President York of the Police Board was asked what he had to say to the statement that \$3,000,000 a year for protection he refused to discuss the matter. The Police Commissioners yesterday afternoon held an executive session, and it was said that the subject of the wide open town was discussed. Commissioners Hess and Sexton were the first to come out of the President's room, where the conference was held, and they declared that they had nothing to say. Commissioner Abell and President York, who followed, preserved as dense a silence as their colleagues. Chief Devery was equally uncommunicative, and nothing could be learned of what the Board intends to do, if anything, toward the suppression of wide open gambling.

RESTRICTIONS ON TRUSTS.

MR. DILL'S ADDRESS BEFORE MASSACHUSETTS REFORM CLUB.

Boston, March 9.—The subject under discussion by the Massachusetts Reform Club this evening was "Possible Legal Restrictions in the Formation and Conduct of Large Corporations or Trusts." About seventy-five members assembled at Young's Hotel, where they entertained at dinner two guests, who were the chief speakers of the occasion—James B. Dill, of New York, and Edward S. Keasbey, of Newark, N. J. Moorfield Storey presided.

Mr. Dill's subject was "The Proposed Corporation Act of New York." He said in part: "In 1832, in the State of New York, with a New Jersey charter, with New Jersey powers and more rapid New Jersey freedom of State incorporation and publicity, and at New Jersey's rate of incorporation tax, there was incorporated by special act a New York corporation, the General Electric Company, with a capital of \$1,000,000, and approved by the Governor upon the ground that, if New York refused these citizens of New York a right to form a corporation, they would incorporate at the cost of a New Jersey corporation \$25,000 less than the New York rate, they would incorporate at New York and not in New Jersey. The announced reason the General Electric Company was granted by Chapter 23 of the Laws of 1832, was that it was a corporation of the same extent as an individual might do—authorized to borrow money without limit and on such terms as the directors might see fit, to issue mortgages and other securities, and to do anything which its debts did not exceed, and the amount which its assets at least equal, a purely nominal amount of capital actually issued, and an amount exempting the company from the usual restrictions of the New York law.

The corporation organization tax upon the capital issued to-day of this corporation would amount to \$2,538. At the rate fixed by its charter, the company would have to pay \$18,000, and thus saved itself, and the State has conceded, \$3,462—a concession granted by the legislature in the year 1832. The corporation organization tax could be obtained in the State of New Jersey. What is still more significant, Governor Roosevelt, P. Flower, a man of wisdom and vision foresight at that time were well known, and they are almost worldwide, in approving the bill said: "The measure is approved, because it is claimed that the objects to be secured by the proposed general laws, and because its approval will keep within the State a corporation ready to invest a large amount of capital in the State, and the concession allowed by its proposed charter, would be incorporated under the laws of New Jersey. The bill is a concession to the State of New Jersey, the eighth of 1 per cent upon the capital stock to one-twentieth of 1 per cent to make the tax uniform with that required by the laws of New Jersey, far as this corporation is affected. There is a growing sentiment in favor of less severe restrictions on incorporation laws, and that the investment of capital may be encouraged within the State. This is in line with the recommendation of my annual message, and reveals a sentiment which, in my judgment, is wise, and will result beneficially to industrial and commercial interests."

PAPERS TAKEN OUT IN NEW-JERSEY. Mr. Dill went on to outline the features of the Stock Corporation law of 1890, and quoted the new section added to it in 1893, practically doing away with all publicity. Continuing, he said in part: "At the beginning of 1900 \$200,000,000 of New York capital had been incorporated in New Jersey, returning to New York State to do business in New York, to be listed on the stock exchange, and to be incorporated under the laws of the State of New York. The attitude of the great commercial associations, was distinctly hostile to the policy of the State toward these corporations."

After quoting Governor Roosevelt's remarks in his annual message of this year, urging that the laws of this State should be so drawn as to protect and encourage corporations which do their honest duty by the public, and making the point that laws for the supervision and publicity of the affairs of corporations are needed quite as much for the sake of the honest corporations as for the sake of the public, Mr. Dill proceeded to discuss the pending corporation bill, which embodies the Governor's views, saying in part: "The question arises at the outset whether the act is pro-trust or anti-trust, in the common acceptance of the term, and whether it is in favor of or in opposition to competition. The answer to this question is that the bill is framed in conformity to the message of Governor Roosevelt, 'that our laws should be so drawn as to protect the honest duty of integrity which do their honest duty by the public. The converse of this proposition has been made of primary importance, every precaution that careful study could suggest has been taken against dishonest capital and dishonest management. So far as anti-trust, commonly taken, means opposition to dishonesty in any form, opposition to monopoly control of the market, or to the improper diversion of, or rather, diversion of, profits which honestly belong to the stockholders, so far as overcapitalization, fictitious value in the issue of stock for consideration, fraudulent promotion, vicious financing, concealed speculation in the stock by officers because of secret information the stockholders do not possess—so far as these features, with their attendant train of evils, are concerned, the bill is vigorously anti-trust."

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LABOR TROUBLES IN CHICAGO.

UNION AND NON-UNION MEN CLASH AT VARIOUS POINTS.

Chicago, March 9.—Efforts of contractors to-day to place non-union men at work on buildings in various parts of the city, work on which had been interrupted by the strike, resulted in several encounters between union and non-union men, and but for the presence of strong guards of police serious trouble might have occurred. At the new Ogdenburg Wharf the contractors succeeded in getting eighteen men through the picket lines of the union men, and put them to work. A few bricks were thrown around in promiscuous fashion, but no one was hurt, and the police quickly suppressed the disorder.

Overcome by smoke in a tunnel. Engineer and fireman on the Queen and Crescent Road prostrated—Train delayed. Somerset, Ky., March 9.—The engineer, named O'Brien, and the fireman of Train No. 5, of the Queen and Crescent Railroad, which left Cincinnati at 6:30 a. m., were overcome to-day by smoke while passing through the long tunnel at King's Mountain, Tenn. Several members of the Gentry Dog and Pony Show were also overcome, but no one was killed and there was no wreck. Officials say the train was only delayed an hour. The tunnel is about a mile long.

FOUND DEAD IN HIS ROOM.

Washington Irving White, forty years old, who occupied a room in the house of Mrs. John Devaux, at No. 74 Madison-ave., was found in his room last evening by George Sawyer, a friend, of No. 113 West Thirty-fourth-st., who had called to see him. White was employed in the office of Badger & Winslow, lumber merchants, at No. 13 Broadway. Dr. Roberts, of No. 1672 Broadway, was called and said he had been dead twenty-four hours, and that death had been caused by heart disease. White had a sister living in Stamford, Conn. He has a living living in Stamford, Conn. She was reported to the East Sixty-seventh-st. police station.

THE MINERVA HEARD FROM.

Philadelphia, March 9.—Word was received here to-day that the Spanish steamer Minerva, which has been on the missing list for some time and had been given up as lost, had been towed into Bermuda by the Spanish steamer Ambeto and the German steamer Skyros. The Minerva sailed from Formosa, Spain, for Baltimore, with a cargo of iron ore. She encountered heavy gales, and after all her coal had been consumed her machinery became disabled. On February 21 off Cape Hatteras a steamer bound for New-York sighted her and made an effort to tow her.

SNUFF INTERESTS CONSOLIDATED.

A new company formed under the laws of New-Jersey. It was announced in Wall Street yesterday that the negotiations for consolidating the snuff interests of the country had been carried to a successful conclusion, a new company having been formed under the laws of New-Jersey, with a capital stock of \$25,000,000, divided equally into common and preferred shares. This new company will take over all the snuff business of both the Continental Tobacco and American Tobacco companies, as well as the Atlantic Snuff Company and Helme Snuff Company. The former merger of the two last named companies with the new company, it is said, was made on Thursday. It is reported that George A. Helme, head of the Helme Snuff Company, will be president of the consolidated company.

Advertisement for Washburn-Crosby's Gold Medal Flour. The ad features a large illustration of a flour sack with the words 'Washburn-Crosby's Gold Medal Flour makes the bread that makes the man.' Below the illustration, it says 'Milled Only By WASHBURN-CROSBY CO. MINNEAPOLIS.' The ad is surrounded by various notices and advertisements for other products and services.

Sporting Goods. HENLEY AND HENLEY B. Golf Balls. SAM'L HUCKLEY & CO., 100 William St.

Ocean Steamers. NORTH GERMAN LLOYD. FAST EXPRESS SERVICES. SOUTHAMPTON, BREMEN. BREMEN, SOUTHAMPTON, BREMEN.

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Overcome by smoke in a tunnel. Engineer and fireman on the Queen and Crescent Road prostrated—Train delayed. Somerset, Ky., March 9.—The engineer, named O'Brien, and the fireman of Train No. 5, of the Queen and Crescent Railroad, which left Cincinnati at 6:30 a. m., were overcome to-day by smoke while passing through the long tunnel at King's Mountain, Tenn. Several members of the Gentry Dog and Pony Show were also overcome, but no one was killed and there was no wreck. Officials say the train was only delayed an hour. The tunnel is about a mile long.

FOUND DEAD IN HIS ROOM.

Washington Irving White, forty years old, who occupied a room in the house of Mrs. John Devaux, at No. 74 Madison-ave., was found in his room last evening by George Sawyer, a friend, of No. 113 West Thirty-fourth-st., who had called to see him. White was employed in the office of Badger & Winslow, lumber merchants, at No. 13 Broadway. Dr. Roberts, of No. 1672 Broadway, was called and said he had been dead twenty-four hours, and that death had been caused by heart disease. White had a sister living in Stamford, Conn. He has a living living in Stamford, Conn. She was reported to the East Sixty-seventh-st. police station.

THE MINERVA HEARD FROM.

Philadelphia, March 9.—Word was received here to-day that the Spanish steamer Minerva, which has been on the missing list for some time and had been given up as lost, had been towed into Bermuda by the Spanish steamer Ambeto and the German steamer Skyros. The Minerva sailed from Formosa, Spain, for Baltimore, with a cargo of iron ore. She encountered heavy gales, and after all her coal had been consumed her machinery became disabled. On February 21 off Cape Hatteras a steamer bound for New-York sighted her and made an effort to tow her.

SNUFF INTERESTS CONSOLIDATED.

A new company formed under the laws of New-Jersey. It was announced in Wall Street yesterday that the negotiations for consolidating the snuff interests of the country had been carried to a successful conclusion, a new company having been formed under the laws of New-Jersey, with a capital stock of \$25,000,000, divided equally into common and preferred shares. This new company will take over all the snuff business of both the Continental Tobacco and American Tobacco companies, as well as the Atlantic Snuff Company and Helme Snuff Company. The former merger of the two last named companies with the new company, it is said, was made on Thursday. It is reported that George A. Helme, head of the Helme Snuff Company, will be president of the consolidated company.

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