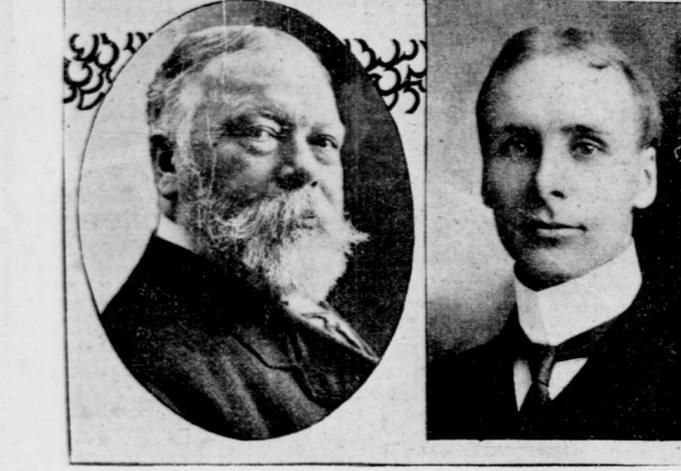


MEN PLAYING PROMINENT PARTS IN THE EFFORT TO MAINTAIN A HIGHER STATE OF EFFICIENCY AMONG THE POLICE OF ROCHESTER.



JAMES G. CUTLER, Mayor of Rochester.



THE REV. P. M. STRAYER, Pastor of the Third Presbyterian Church, Rochester.

THE REV. B. J. McQUADE, Bishop of Rochester.

C. N. HOWARD, President of the Prohibition Union of Christian Men.

JOSEPH P. CLEARY, Chief of Police, Rochester.

THE REV. DR. D. D. McLAURIN, Pastor of the Second Baptist Church, Rochester.

IS THE ROCHESTER POLICE FORCE CORRUPT? EXCISE LAWS VIOLATED, SOCIAL EVIL SPREADING, THEATRES OPEN ON SUNDAY.

Rochester, like New-York, is now confronted by a question concerning "the lid." It is on or about this lid that the Police Chief says the laws can be enforced by officers in uniform without recourse to questionable methods of obtaining evidence. The present system of dealing with alleged offenders against the excise laws, as outlined by the chief and the Mayor to a Tribune correspondent, is whenever a complaint is received against a liquor license holder to station an officer in uniform before the premises of the holder, with instructions to maintain a strict surveillance over the place. As a result of this system it is said that a large number of saloons have been closed, and the offender, if, indeed, he has offended, is soon ready to observe the letter of the law.

Chief Cleary, when seen by The Tribune correspondent, was unable to say just how many arrests for violation of the excise law, other than those on evidence procured by the Anti-Saloon League, had been made recently. Mayor Cutler frankly admitted his dissatisfaction with the work of the Police Department, but disavowed the force from any attempt to secure "graft." The Mayor was especially desirous of seeing the situation, and was especially desirous of being placed in the light of criticizing the grand jury. He authorized, however, the publication of this statement in The Tribune.

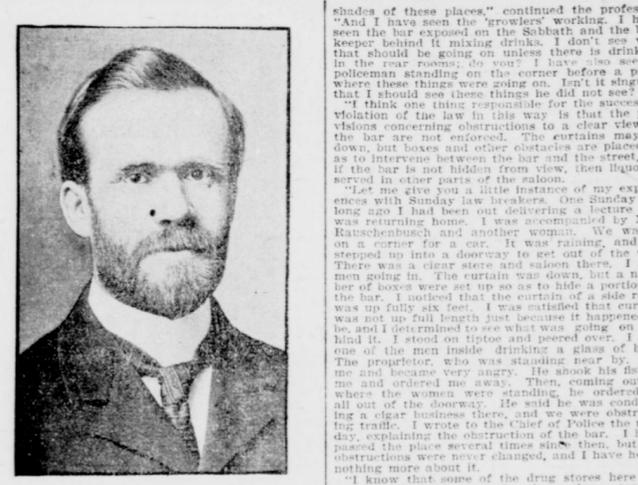
I have no reason to suppose that there is any considerable violation of the excise law in Rochester at the present time. In the three months since I assumed office, on January 1, I have had only one complaint of a saloon alleged to have been open on Sunday. It would, of course, not be true to say that the police work in Rochester is satisfactory, because I do not believe that the present system of dealing with alleged offenders against the excise law, other than those on evidence procured by the Anti-Saloon League, has any foothold in Rochester.

One of the chief features of the changes in the management of the police force to which the Mayor alludes is his scheme to build and equip five new police precinct stations with dormitories and establish a reserve system. For the execution of this plan of the Mayor, the City Council recently authorized the sale of \$300,000 of the Genesee Valley Railroad stock. It was during the discussion over the sale of this stock that Alderman William Ward made some interesting statements concerning the management of the Police Department. He said he was opposed to the building of more precinct stations because he thought it would put many men up in the houses. The alderman said he believed that policemen were originally intended to be more useful than ornamental. In 1891, with 120 men on the police force, there were seventy-five men on night duty, he said, while in 1903, after the precinct stations were established, there were two hundred policemen and only sixty-three men on night duty. The alderman said he wanted a policeman within call when needed. He did not like to have to telephone for one. The Mayor is confident that his plan will put the force on a better working basis than it now is, and put an end to criticism of it.

Chief Cleary says that outside of New-York City there is not a better police force in the State than that in Rochester. "In no city," said the chief, "is the law enforced more rigidly than right here in Rochester. We do not claim, of course, to go ahead of New-York City's Police Department, but outside of that city we have a department second to none in the State, and far ahead of most of them. This city is in every respect as well regulated as can be expected in a city of its size. We have a force of about two hundred men, and although the city is scattered, it is well patrolled."

Speaking of the alleged non-enforcement of the excise laws, the chief said: "I suppose there are some persons who would like to have us follow a course of inaction in the enforcement of the law, but we do not. Well, unfortunately, we cannot do that. We can go so far, no further. It is next to impossible for a Rochester officer to get evidence in such cases, even if he were sent in civilian dress. We are not concerned with what is taking place in the privacy of a man's house unless it is in violation of the law. Now, take these Raines law hotels, over which there is so much discussion. One of them may comply with the provisions of the law respecting the removal of obstructions from before the bar. Some of them do not. The police are not to go into a room, order a meal, and perhaps get what they want to drink. They order a meal, mind you. Now, no jury is to suppose that any system under which police officers are to go into a man's house and search for evidence has any foothold in Rochester."

There is nothing in it," said the chief. "There is no great amount of immorality in Rochester. We have no 'Red Light' district here." Of the Rochester clergymen, who consented to express their views to The Tribune representative concerning the existing conditions in that city, one of the most interesting was Bishop McQuade. He recently returned from the South, where he had been for his health, and when seen at first pleaded ignorance of recent conditions. He had not been informed of the action of the grand jury, and became deeply interested when the subject was called to his attention. After listening intently to the explanation of the grand jury's caustic comments upon the efficiency of the Rochester police, the general opinion of the venerable clergyman gave place to an expression of deep thought. "I have little knowledge of the real conditions



PROFESSOR RAUSCHENBUSCH, Chairman of the Young Men's Christian Association investigating committee, Rochester.

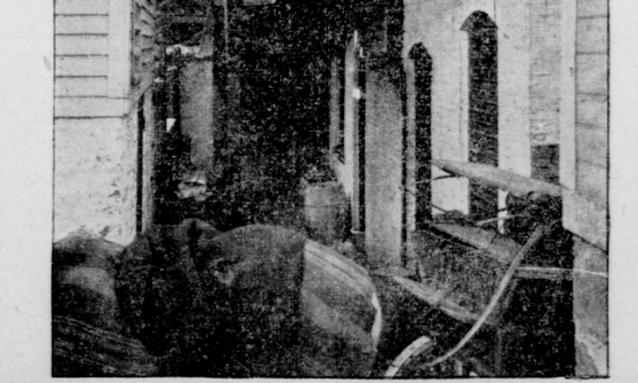
existing in the city at present," said the bishop. "The active work has been largely delegated to others. More than that, I have been out of the city some time. I am only recently returned from the South. From my own experience, I can honestly say, however, that I believe Rochester to be better than the average city of her size. But if there has been a serious violation of the excise law here, who is to be blamed? Surely not the police. No, not the police, but those behind and above them—the politicians. The laws themselves are faulty. I have faith enough in the Rochester police to believe that they will rigidly enforce the laws as they stand upon the statute books. But that is not the point. These excise laws are farcical, and the politicians who cause their enactment are the real ones to be blamed."

Professor Walter Rauschenbusch, the chairman of the Young Men's Christian Association committee now investigating conditions in Rochester, and the real head and front of the movement for the betterment of the city, did not mince his words when seen by The Tribune representative. Although Professor Rauschenbusch plainly believes that the revelations of the Young Men's Christian Association committee will, when made public, result in a popular movement for good government, he wishes it distinctly understood that the association's investigation is not being made with that end in view. "This investigation is being made by the Young Men's Christian Association," said the professor, "simply for the purpose of helping the association in its work here. Please do not connect it with what I tell you I know to be true of present conditions here. I was born in Rochester, and, with the exception of eleven years, including years spent in study abroad and in a West Side tenement district in New-York City, my life has been spent here. You see, I know Rochester, and I know what I am talking about. I have always been deeply interested in social problems, and I have made the situation here a subject of close study. You ask me if it is true that the excise laws are being violated here in Rochester. My answer to that is, 'Yes, they are.' As far as the selling of liquor on Sunday goes, I have seen it going on with my own eyes. How have I been able to do this? Well, for one thing, the professor settled back in his chair in a way that displayed to advantage his six feet of stature. "Yes, that's it. I have looked over the window

of some of these places," continued the professor. "And I have seen the 'growlers' working. I have seen the bar exposed on the Sabbath and the bar-keeper behind it mixing drinks. I don't see why that should be going on unless there is drinking in the rear rooms, do you? I have also seen a policeman standing on the corner before a place where these things were going on. Isn't it singular that this is still continued to the Raines law hotels?"

"I think one thing responsible for the successful violation of the law in this way is that the provisions of the law are not clear, and the street, or if the bar is not hidden from view, then liquor is served in other parts of the saloon. Let me give you a little instance of my own experience. One Sunday not long ago I had been out delivering a lecture and was returning home. I was accompanied by Mrs. Rauschenbusch and another woman. We waited on a corner for a car. It was raining, and we stepped into a doorway to get out of the wet. There was a sign over the door that said 'Liquor Sold Here.' The curtain was down, but a number of boxes were set up as a hindrance to the bar. I noticed that the curtain of a side room was up fully six feet. I was satisfied that liquor was not up full length just because it happened to be behind a curtain. I stepped out to see what was going on behind it. I stood on tiptoe and peered over. I saw one of the men inside drinking a glass of beer. The proprietor, who was standing near by, saw me and became very angry. He shook his fist at me and ordered me away. Then, coming out to me, he said, 'You are a damned nuisance. You are out of the doorway. He said he was conducting a clear business there, and that the law was not intended to apply to his place. I have passed the place several times since then, but the proprietor's instructions were never changed, and I have heard nothing more about it."

"I know that some of the drug stores here are misusing their licenses. One large drug store I know of has recently had liquor exposed for sale in a glaring way. Recently a big show window was filled with liquor. Of course I cannot assert that it was sold without authority, but the sale of liquor by drug stores is more deadly in its effect than the saloon, since it affords a big show window for the sale of liquor. Women here in Rochester who would not degrade themselves by purchasing liquor at a saloon will buy it at one of these drug stores and take it home. In this way the liquor evil gets at the very freshest. With regard to the responsibility for this continued violation of the law, I have no doubt that the police are not wholly responsible. They would get into trouble if they enforced the law. The fact is that the men ostensibly responsible are not in reality responsible. We have here, in Rochester, a dual machine, one part of which does the deciding, while the other part goes through the motion. As to the remedy, if Rochester wants a short term remedy, think public opinion is the most effective. Let me give you an illustration. When this committee of mine was first formed it was a dual machine, one part of which does the deciding, while the other part goes through the motion. I was born in Rochester, and, with the exception of eleven years, including years spent in study abroad and in a West Side tenement district in New-York City, my life has been spent here. You see, I know Rochester, and I know what I am talking about. I have always been deeply interested in social problems, and I have made the situation here a subject of close study. You ask me if it is true that the excise laws are being violated here in Rochester. My answer to that is, 'Yes, they are.' As far as the selling of liquor on Sunday goes, I have seen it going on with my own eyes. How have I been able to do this? Well, for one thing, the professor settled back in his chair in a way that displayed to advantage his six feet of stature. "Yes, that's it. I have looked over the window



BACK ALLEY OF A ROCHESTER TENEMENT. Showing the beginning of a slum system that may grow into a serious menace to the public health if not rooted out before the city grows larger.

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SHED TO TEST ACOUSTICS.

Winsted, Conn., March 25.—To test some theories of his own regarding the musical acoustics of buildings, Carl Stoessel, a millionaire of Norfolk, Va., has had a shed erected in the rear of his home a temporary "shed," 90 by 20 feet and 25 feet high. About 25,000 feet of timber, or enough to build four 2,000 houses, will be used in the construction of the building, which is estimated to cost about \$20,000. If the shed is as he pleases to call it, comes up to his expectation in musical acoustics, it may serve as a model for similar buildings in size and proportions, but of better architecture and material. Mr. Stoessel proposes to give a musical entertainment in the shed, and to convert the lumber into a barn building—(Philadelphia Ledger).

PAY IN JAPANESE ARMY.

The pay of a Japanese general is \$3,000 a year. Lieutenant-general, \$2,000; captain, \$1,500. A first class private soldier gets about 15 cents a month; second class, 4 cents. Promotion is entirely by merit. A private soldier may become a field marshal—(Philadelphia Record).