

Contractors Say Brindell Levied Bribes Ruined Them

One \$1,000,000 Firm and Another \$400,000 Concern Forced to Wall by Him, Probers Are Told

Cost of Building Project Trebled

Trades Council Chief Also Accused of Collecting Huge Sum by Workers; Price-Fixing Is Charged

An amazing story of the control Robert P. Brindell, head of the Building Trades Council, holds over the building industry in the city was told at yesterday's session of the Lockwood Joint legislative committee in City Hall.

The outstanding features of the testimony were:

Three contractors told of having given Brindell a total of \$3,000 for permission to carry out contracts unopposed. One of these said he twice handed over \$1,000. The other gave up another \$1,000. The second alleged victim testified Brindell had originally demanded \$25,000.

Another man testified he was asked to "produce" \$7,500 to insure the completion of work, and it was intimated that \$1,500 was demanded of another wealthy contractor.

Union Members Taxed

A contractor doing a yearly business of \$300,000 said he was driven from the industry because of his refusal to meet Brindell's terms. Another, who had "produced," but who had in some way antagonized Brindell, testified he was reduced to bankruptcy, losing a business that ran close to \$1,000,000 a year.

Some 115,000 members of 137 unions affiliated with Brindell's Building Trades Council must pay \$1 a year into a mysterious fund. Brindell, chairman of the council, it was said. How this money is disposed of cannot be ascertained. In addition, it was testified that every union must pay \$10 a month dues into the treasury of the council. For every delegate it has represented in it, making this source of revenue of the council about \$34,000 a year.

Hundreds of new men, it is charged, are being weekly inducted into the organization at an initiation fee of \$50, which must be paid in ten weeks, besides \$5 for alleged "extra disbursements."

Brindell's dictatorial methods in the contracting business sent the cost of building sky-high, it was said. In one instance, according to testimony, he used to have the cost of an operation boosted from \$275,000 to \$400,000 in behalf of a favorite contractor. Costs were inflated, it was charged, because of his demand that experienced men be replaced by incompetents who knew nothing of the work they were doing.

There were revelations of an extraordinary intimacy between Brindell and Charles J. Kelly, head of the Building Trades Employers Association. Kelly, it was charged, has been seen to have been found on the payroll of an employers' association.

Brindell at the Hearing

A housewife's union, regularly organized and affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, was smashed, according to testimony, because they were an outlaw organization by intimidating employers into discharging the men to compel them to join the new union. Upon joining this body the men, it was said, were forced to pay \$50 initiation fee at \$10 a week out of a weekly wage of \$44.

When they had paid in all their money they were dropped from jobs and their places taken by new joiners, witnesses alleged. Hundreds of the men in the old union are without work, it was charged, because they refused to pay the head tax, it is charged.

There was testimony that efforts had been made to influence the Lockwood committee, but without avail. There were reports that Brindell had been seen to have destroyed certain documents concerning an alleged price fixing agreement which might prove embarrassing to the employers if it came into possession of the investigating committee.

Brindell himself appeared at the (Continued on page seven)

Farmers May Use Corn For Fuel in Nebraska

Unshelled Product, Only \$15 a Ton, Is Held Preferable to Poor Fuel at the Same Price

OMAHA, Oct. 28.—Hundreds of thousands of bushels of corn may be burned as fuel by farmers in Northern Nebraska this winter, according to reports brought here from north line counties. High priced coal and a lousy corn and low priced corn fuel are the reasons. New corn, unshelled, now brings three quarters of a cent a pound, or \$5 a ton.

The cheapest soft coal is \$15, and there are transportation charges above that. A wagon box thirty inches high is required to hold a ton of unshelled corn, and that amount, it is said, will make a hotter fire and last longer than a ton of coal.

Burning corn as a substitute for coal is not a new procedure for Nebraska farmers, according to C. H. Gustafson, president of the Nebraska Farmers' Union.

In the early history of the state it was a common practice among farmers to burn corn as fuel, Mr. Gustafson said, but so far as he knew, they had not used such fuel since 1906, when the corn crop was over 1000 bushels. This year's estimated yield of 251,619,000 bushels.

"The alcohol and fats in corn produce a fine heat that is as lasting as wood or cheap soft coal," Mr. Gustafson said.

QUALITY AND EFFICIENCY

are two essential principles to be considered when engaging help for your office. The Nebraska Farmers' Union has a list of applicants through a Tribune Help Wanted column. Phone Breckman 3020. Go to any telephone exchange.

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3 Once Wealthy Contractors Trace Their Ruin to Tactics of Brindell

The alleged power of Robert P. Brindell, head of the Building Trades Council, in the building industry here was attested to by three once wealthy contractors who yesterday at the Lockwood committee hearing laid their ruin at the labor leader's door.

Charles H. Wallis, who did a yearly business of \$400,000, hasn't had a job since August, and has no hope, he says, of obtaining contracts in the future.

Jacob Fradus, who counted his yearly business at nearly \$1,000,000 says he is bankrupt.

William Waixel, another contractor, who did an annual business of about \$300,000, has been hunting work for months. Contractors everywhere, he says, refuse him jobs because of pressure from Brindell.

Indict McGraw MacSwiney Kin On Charge of Fight for Body Having Liquor At British Dock

Federal Grand Jury Acts on Alleged Purchase of Whisky by Giants' Manager Before Row at the Lambs

Plea Is Expected Today

Accusation Based on Unsubstantiated Confession Will Not Hold, Says Lawyer

John J. McGraw, central figure in the recent Lambs Club scandal and manager and part owner of the New York Giants, was indicted yesterday by the Federal grand jury on a charge of violating the Volstead act. The chief allegation is that he possessed one bottle of whisky contrary to law.

The indictment grew out of the quarrel in the rooms of the Lambs Club on August 8 last, after which John C. Slavin, an actor, was picked up in front of McGraw's home with a fractured skull.

It was said yesterday that if Mr. McGraw were to be convicted under the indictment as charged the extreme penalty which could be inflicted would be a fine of \$500, the offense constituting a misdemeanor.

Quarrel Remains Mystery

Little if any light has been shed on the exact nature of the quarrel. It is known, however, that Assistant United States Attorney Ben Matthews and Reynolds have been trying for weeks to substantiate McGraw's alleged admission to the effect that he purchased two bottles of whisky at the club.

Immediately after the indictment, Mr. McGraw's counsel, Eugene McGehee, announced that his client would voluntarily appear today and plead. No warrant of arrest was therefore issued.

Commenting on the indictment, Mr. McGehee said:

"It will never stand. It should not even come to trial. All they had to base it on was McGraw's unsubstantiated confession that he had bought whisky. No confession is conclusive. No one can be convicted on the word of one man who says he will corroborate it. The indictment or McGraw's confession does not prove that it was whisky which he bought within the meaning of the law or that it was even an intoxicating beverage."

McGraw Ousted from Club

After the quarrel William A. Boyd, an actor, who admitted that he came to blows with the Giants manager, was suspended. Other members were expelled. McGraw was expelled from the club.

While Mr. Slavin was recovering from his wounds in St. Luke's Hospital a club employee was arrested while carrying away several dozen cases of wine, whisky and brandy. He is still held in bail.

Professor Falls Down Mine Shaft to Death

Body of Hackley Faculty Member Sought by Diver in Water 250 Feet Under Ground

The police of Peckskill, aided by several state troopers and William Delamater, a professional diver, worked for hours yesterday dragging the water at the bottom of the 250-foot shaft on the ground of the abandoned Manitowish copper mine in an effort to recover the body of Professor Hugo C. A. Schmitt, of the Hackley School, Tarrytown, who fell down the shaft late Wednesday afternoon.

The water was dragged from a shaft which was lowered into the rock. The depth of the pool is estimated at thirty feet.

Professor Schmitt had gone to the copper mine shaft with a party of students of the Hackley School to make a study of mineral compositions. Several specimens of ore were examined by the students. Professor Schmitt went toward the mouth of the shaft, which has its opening on a hill, and leaned forward to grasp a particle of ore that protruded from a wall of the shaft. In one hand he held a lantern. Suddenly his foot slipped and he lost his balance, plunging downward through the shaft. Professor Ernest Pierce, of the Hackley School, notified the Peckskill police and a search for the body continued all night. Delameter was summoned yesterday. The water is being dragged with grappling irons. The abandoned copper mine is a short distance from Peckskill.

Professor Schmitt was sixty years old and unmarried. He was educated at Breslau and Griefswald, Germany, and came to America thirty years ago. Before joining the faculty of the Hackley School he taught at the West Newton School, in Massachusetts. He had been a member of the Hackley faculty twenty years.

Attell to Return—Maybe Ex-Pugilist Says He Will Tell All in Baseball Scandal

MONTREAL, Oct. 28.—Abel Attell, formerly a pugilist, named in connection with the 1919 baseball scandal, will return to the United States voluntarily and give testimony, he said in this city today.

"When I am ready," Attell said, "I will go back of my own free will and tell all I know."

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English Coal Strike Ends in Compromise

Formula Offered, Acceptable to Owners, Miners and Government, Brings Provisional Settlement

Men Will Take Ballot at Once

Wage Advance Pledged and Workers Will Try to Add to Fuel Output

LONDON, Oct. 28.—The last obstacles in the way of a settlement of the coal strike were overcome this afternoon at a conference between representatives of the government and of the miners. A basis of agreement was reached that will be submitted by the miners' executive to the workers next Tuesday for their approval or rejection. Indorsement is expected and it is probable that the mines will reopen the middle of next week, but it will be longer than that before the industries hit by the strike can resume their operations.

The submission of the terms to all the miners instead of to a congress of delegates will delay the process somewhat, but the fact that the agreement reached with the government has the complete approval of the miners' leaders is expected to prevent any further complications.

Agreement Increases Wages

The agreement, which was read in the House of Commons this afternoon, gives the miners an immediate increase in wages of two shillings a day, in consideration of which they pledge themselves to help increase production.

The plan provides for an investigation preliminary to reclassifying wages in the whole industry. This reclassification is to be completed by March 31, 1921, and thereafter the fixing of wages will devolve upon a national wage board, which is to arrange a sliding scale that takes into consideration not only the output of the mines, but also the profits of the business. In a part of the surplus profits, the workers will share.

The agreement provides for a machinery for adjusting wages between now and March 31 and takes various contingencies into consideration.

The settlement of the strike heralds any contemplated action by the organized labor, representing all or organized labor, and the showdown which was desired by the extremists on both sides is now imminent.

Wage Issue Complex

LONDON, Oct. 28.—(By The Associated Press.)—The fixing of the miners' wages is the most complex problem of the day. It is not only a matter of the output of the mines, but also of the profits of the business. In a part of the surplus profits, the workers will share.

The settlement of the strike heralds any contemplated action by the organized labor, representing all or organized labor, and the showdown which was desired by the extremists on both sides is now imminent.

Only 1,000 in Procession

Among so many people the thousand or so in the procession seemed pathetic. It was a procession of the living and the dead. The men who were in the streets for the sake of their country, but who expected trouble, but there was none.

Across the river in the poorer sections, through which the cortege had to pass to reach the Union station, the police stood almost shoulder to shoulder. The mourners marched with mounted police at the head of the procession and a double line on either side. Throughout the line of march the crowds were kept back by police.

As they marched, the mourners looked neither to the right nor to the left. (Continued on page seven)

Sylvia Parkhurst, Sent To Jail, Preaches Revolt

Sentenced to Six Months for Sedition, She Threatens Unrelenting War on Capital

From The Tribune's European Bureau. (Copyright, 1920, New York Tribune Inc.)

LONDON, Oct. 28.—Sylvia Parkhurst today was found guilty of sedition and was sentenced to spend six months in prison. The charge against her was based on an issue of a Communist magazine in which she was the editor.

The former militant suffragette delivered a long harangue in court in which she threatened to preach revolution until the capitalist system had been destroyed.

Since Sylvia Parkhurst was arrested last week it has been made known by the government that letters she had written to Nikolai Lenin, Premier of Soviet Russia, were in its possession. In one of these was quoted as saying, alluding to her arrest:

"I expect six months' imprisonment. I have considered the hunger strike, but I am afraid that weapon has been destroyed, since the government is letting the Irish hunger strikers die."

In another letter to Lenin Miss Parkhurst was declared to have written:

"The situation is most acute; not ready for revolution yet."

Twenty-Barrel Oil Well Struck in City of Olean

OLEAN, N. Y., Oct. 28.—Oil struck in the heart of the city is estimated to be good for twenty barrels a day, according to drillers working on a large lease here.

After the bailing out of the well shot production between 400 and 500 feet of drilling was in the pocket.

Drilling operations stopped after a depth of 1,117 feet had been reached. Sixty feet of Bradford sand being encountered. Work of lowering tubing was started shortly after bailing, and it is expected that pumping will commence at once. The well is on a lease in the rear of a large wholesale house on the city's main street. This is the company's second venture on this lease.

Hole Drilled in Rear of Wholesale House on the Main Street of the Town

From The Tribune's European Bureau. (Copyright, 1920, New York Tribune Inc.)

LONDON, Oct. 28.—(By The Associated Press.)—Applause and shouts of "Bravo!" from the spectators in the courtroom today greeted Signor Franchini during his summing up of the case against Alfredo Cocchi, who is charged with the murder in New York City of Ruth Cruger, an eighteen-year-old high school student.

Signor Franchini asked for the conviction of the prisoner for murder in the first degree, attempted assault, falsifying passports and false enrollment in the military service, with the maximum penalty on all of the charges.

The prosecuting attorney reviewed the evidence at length in his efforts to refute the plea of insanity entered by the defense. He disposed of the claim of the defense that Cocchi was not sober at the time of the commission of

Coolidge Cheered by 75,000; Assails Wilson's War Waste; Harding Unpledged, Unbossed

France Is Ready to Negotiate League Change to Bring in U. S.

Jusserand Is Instructed to Take Up With Next Administration America's Entry Into a Concert of Nations

By Ralph Courtney
Special Cable to The Tribune
(Copyright, 1920, New York Tribune Inc.)

PARIS, Oct. 28.—The Tribune correspondent has good reasons for saying that Jules Jusserand already has received instructions concerning his return to the United States as ambassador. Under these instructions he is to take steps to start negotiations with the next Administration in Washington, whether Republican or Democratic, with a view to coming to an arrangement which will permit America to resume her collaboration in world concert.

The semi-official statement issued here this afternoon, characterizing as absolutely groundless rumors about French plans for an alliance with America, The Tribune correspondent understands, represents nothing more than a desire on the part of France to be perfectly correct in her attitude toward the United States in the present electoral battle.

Wishes To Be Courtiers

France desires to be free from the charge that she had formulated any definite plans in anticipation of a Republican victory next Tuesday. But she does not deny that she is perfectly ready to negotiate with the next Administration, of whatever party it may be, in her desire to obviate the

Defies Democrats to Find Contradictions in His Words on Covenant

AKRON, Ohio, Oct. 28.—In an address to an overflow crowd outside the Akron Armory to-night Senator Harding told a crowd huddled beneath dripping umbrellas that he believed he was the freest man ever nominated by any party for the Presidency.

"I am not anybody else's candidate," said he. "I am unpledged; I am unbossed; I am unbossed. I haven't made any promise save one which isn't in the Republican platform, which is my covenant to the American people."

Social Justice for America

"The only additional promise is that we're going to write the conscience of America into a notable program for social justice in America."

Above the applause of the crowd sounded the voice of a man in the crowd, shouting:

"I want to say to my friend," said the Senator, indicating the man, "that's a mighty good sentiment for America."

In the armory Senator Harding told an enthusiastic crowd that America does not intend to accept the League of Nations as negotiated at Versailles. The Republican candidate again denied any Democrat in America to find a contradiction in his statements on the covenant.

Leaving Cleveland in a pouring rain, after a night at a hotel and a morning spent at the County Club, Senator Harding arrived in Akron, the center of the rubber industry of the United States, in the middle of the afternoon. The candidate will leave here to-morrow morning for Cincinnati, safely Republican this year.

A steady downpour of rain failed to dampen the ardor of crowds that stood about the depot and hotel waiting for a glimpse of the Ohio Senator.

"There is a very unusual situation in the world," the candidate said in his speech to-night. "Humanity is trying to find itself once more. Civilization has been in a state of flux, and no man or woman knows what the crystallization is going to be on the morrow. If we are to have a preserved civilization, if the world is going to face about on the forward right track again, there is a great responsibility on our Republic, where we have proved representative democracy to be a safe and sane way for adjusting mankind."

U. S. Seeks World's Consensus

Telling of his plan for an association of nations that will not infringe the Constitution, but will yet satisfy the aspirations of the world for a society of nations that will endeavor to prevent war, Senator Harding said:

"America wants to bring the world consensus to common understanding. America wants to turn the right of world opinion on probable controversies or causes of conflict. America wants to join the nations of the world in promoting and preserving peace. I have said I favor that sort of thing. I say it now. But I will never have it at the cost of surrendering American freedom, or American honor, or American pride in accomplishment, or American independence of action."

"And I know, my fellow countrymen, that the world, noting the failure of the Paris league—which is existing but not functioning—the world, recognizing that America's leadership is essential, and must be had if we are to have a workable association amongst nations to be directed by the light of justice rather than the sword of force, expects America to take the lead, and we are willing to do it."

Explaining his reasons for not giving details of a specific plan, Senator Harding declared that he was not the sort of candidate who believed he could run the world.

"I have said repeatedly and I say now that after I am elected I am going to consult the leading minds of America—I am going to consult the women as well as the men."

Senator Harding's speech in part follows:

How He Stands on League

"They say: 'You cannot tell where Harding stands on the league.' Well, (Continued on next page)

Crowds Cry Bravo! as Extreme Penalty Is Asked for Cocchi

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275,000 Tons German Ships Awarded Allies

Reparations Commission Fixes That Penalty for Sinking of the Fleet in Scapa Flow

PARIS, Oct. 28.—Germany must deliver 275,000 tons of shipping to the Allies as compensation for the sinking of the German fleet in Scapa Flow, the Reparations Commission decided today.

Germany, according to dispatches submitted to the council, will strictly observe the Allies' interpretation of the clause in the peace treaty providing that the Kiel Canal shall be free to international traffic. This is a reversal of the German government's previous attitude under which vessels carrying arms to Poland were stopped.

64 Indicted for Theft Of Express Shipments \$1,018,722 Stolen in the South During the Last Few Years; Conspiracy Alleged

MACON, Ga., Oct. 28.—Federal grand jury indictments were returned here today charging sixty-four express messengers, express agents, railroad conductors and others with a general conspiracy to steal and sell express shipments.

The American Railway Express Company presented evidence to the jury that \$1,018,722 in goods moving by express through Southern states during the first six months of this year had been stolen. It was also alleged that operations started several years ago, and that furs, silk goods, hardware and food products had vanished in wholesale amounts.

According to accounts given the grand jury, messengers changed destination tags on goods in transit and reissued them to one of the conspirators. The recipient would divide receipt of sales with the express company. Nearly all the indicted men are residents of Macon, Montgomery, or points along the Central of Georgia Railroad.

A properly functioning system of political parties furnishes a substitute for resolution. The people of the state divide themselves into parties, partly by inheritance, partly by conviction, into two great groups, one of which stands as a watchman over the

Shipping Board Disastrous Failure
The espionage act, still in force, was enacted in 1917. It was amended in 1918 and would be intolerable to any people not at war, yet it was almost two years since American forces had been engaged in war. The Shipping Board, he said, had been a failure since the armistice. Although the Administration had promised the people that their investment in ships during the war would be returned in peace by the reluctant merchant marine, he said, "now \$1,000,000 worth of ships are idle, with no opportunity to sell them."

A to the League of Nations, Governor Wood of Massachusetts said, "America would not tolerate any super-government, yet the Republican platform and the utterances of Senator Harding in regard to the League of Nations, and in that regard, the existing or amending those things which are not consonant with American traditions and habits, surely the League of Nations is a thing to be feared, surely the public utterances of Senator Harding permit of such a course."

The utterance caused an outburst of applause which compelled Governor Coolidge to stand silent until it had subsided.

Lincoln Set Example for Youth

Governor Coolidge said:

"There is an abundant satisfaction in recalling the life of Lincoln as the life of the young Republic. Unless a party can renew its youth like the eagle it perishes. The wisdom of age is vain unless it is supported by the compelling enthusiasm of youth. Every work of man calls constantly for re-juvenescence. Ever must we renew our resolution that this nation under God shall have a new birth of freedom. But there must be a satisfaction to young Republicans in the knowledge that they can look not only to Lincoln in his maturity, but to the Lincoln of his youth, for a principle that may guide all of us as it guided him."

"As the patriots of '76 did," said he, "to the support of the Declaration of Independence and to the support of the Constitution and laws, let every American pledge his life, his property and his sacred honor—let every man remember that to violate the law is to trample on the blood of his father and bear the charter of his own and his children's liberty." Here was a man who early in life put the supremacy of the law above all else, who was not afraid of defeat, who demonstrated over and over again that the greatest power in public affairs is the moral force of the nation. He loved his fellow men, but he directed his life by great principles.

"The spirit of America is in its institutions. It is to them we pay allegiance. There is a portentous significance in the glorification of a man in the preamble of the Democratic platform, while the preamble of the Republican platform reaffirms a reverend devotion to the Constitution of the United States and to the guarantees of civil, political and religious liberty therein contained."

"A properly functioning system of political parties furnishes a substitute for resolution. The people of the state divide themselves into parties, partly by inheritance, partly by conviction, into two great groups, one of which stands as a watchman over the