

Enright Holds Arrests Solve Murder Cases

Thursday of Mr. Enright's list of fifty-two cases, which he said had been solved, The Tribune, by referring to the records of the District Attorneys in the five boroughs found:

That in 12 cases where the police had made arrests the prisoners were discharged by city magistrates.

That in 10 cases no arrests had been made, despite the fact that the Commissioner stated arrests had been made.

That in five cases in which Mr. Enright said arrests had been made the prosecutor's office had no records of the cases.

That in only seven cases were convictions obtained.

That in eight cases the grand jury failed to indict the men arrested.

That in two cases the suspects were acquitted after trial; in three cases the men are still awaiting trial; that in one case a material witness is being held; that in one case the suspect jumped his bail; that in another case the suspect died in jail before trial.

Thus in at least twenty-seven cases out of fifty-two, the arrests did not solve the murders, unless the fact of an arrest is considered a solution.

Refuses Examination of Books The Tribune's second question was: "Will you allow a Tribune investigator to examine your record of murders committed since the first of the year?"

Commissioner Enright says that the police records are not open to the public, but that the Legislature from the obligation imposed upon other departments to furnish records upon proper application; that typewritten statements are prepared on all matters of public interest which may be published without detriment to the efficiency of police work.

Under previous administration all records were open to the public, except in cases where the ends of justice would be defeated by premature publicity or where the city might become involved in a civil suit.

The Tribune's third question was: "Is it not true that unless there is visible evidence of a crime, under the present policy of the Police Department, reports of crimes are not listed but are considered merely in investigations? Do you deny that as a result of this policy it is possible to produce figures favorable to your administration as against previous administrations?"

The only answer to this question is offered by Fourth Deputy Commissioner Gray, who says: "I am not certain what is meant by 'visible evidence of crime.'"

Mr. Tribune quoted burglary insurance underwriters as saying that under the present system a crime was not considered a crime unless there was absolute tangible evidence, a crime had been committed. In the absence of such evidence the complaint was not entered in what was known as the "black book," a blotter maintained by the detectives.

Deputy Commissioner Gray verifies this when he says, "When a complaint is filed that a crime has been committed, a record of the crime will be made upon a card, which is given to the Detective Division for investigation."

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tioner. It showed that twenty-one men of the squad were sent to uniform work or detective duty foreign to the work in which they were found and four resigned when they found that they were to be transferred from their special work.

The Tribune's seventh question was: "Will you explain why Cassassa, Muge and other pickpocket experts are now assigned to work other than that in which they were trained?"

This question is also answered in the letters of Faurot and Gray. It is said that Cassassa and Muge are still specially assigned to pickpocket work, but it is admitted that they carry on their operations "in conjunction with other duties."

This bears out the Tribune's contention that these men are not permitted the "roving" assignments that they had under the administration of Arthur Woods, and that the detection and suppression of pickpockets is now only a sideline with them. The Tribune only said that the "other duties" for which these men are now held responsible preclude the possibility of their doing efficient pickpocket work.

The Tribune's eighth question was: "Will you explain why the chief of the bureau in the crusade against vice was taken from the control of experts like Inspector McDonald and Captain Costigan and placed in the hands of Inspector Belmont?"

Commissioner Enright failed to reply to this question.

The Tribune's ninth question was: "Will you explain why Chief Inspector Lahey was picked for the post and what caused you to amend the department rules so that Lahey's power is greater than that of chief inspectors under previous administrations?"

Commissioner Enright says that Lahey "has more power because he is in charge of both the uniformed force and the Detective Division during most of the time."

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furnishing of news to press reporters. Typewritten statements are prepared on all matters of public interest which may be published without detriment to the efficiency of police work; these are furnished to each newspaper; thereafter queries for additional information are considered with special regard to the effectiveness of police action in each case.

Your request, therefore, will be treated in accordance with the law, rule and policy as stated in preparing copy of current press information herewith attached, which, inter alia, shows that the statement published in The Tribune, and repeated in your letter, that 100 murders committed in the City of New York during 1920 remain unsolved, is false. The truth is that only 21 murders committed in the City of New York during 1920 remain unsolved.

The Tribune's eleventh question was: "You have repeatedly said that your refusal to give out information to reporters was caused by knowledge that newspaper men were in league with the underworld. Can you identify the newspaper men?"

Commissioner Enright ignored this question despite the fact that he and Mayor Hylan in numerous public speeches and statements have repeatedly charged that the secrecy maintained at Headquarters was for the purpose of flogging crooked newspaper men who "tipped off" gamblers, etc., when raids were to be made or other drives inaugurated by the department.

The Tribune's twelfth question was: "Will you explain why you feel it necessary to inaugurate motorcycle supervision of the patrol system?"

Mr. Enright ignored this question. The Tribune in its story showed that recently \$50,000 was appropriated for the purchase of side-car motorcycles for such drivers by a patrolman assigned by a lieutenant to check up on patrolmen.

The Tribune's thirteenth question was: "Is the statement that it (the motorcycle supervision of the patrol system) is a revival of the shoe-fly system approximately correct?"

Mr. Enright ignored this question also. The Tribune's stories said that Chief Inspector Lahey had failed to obtain voluntary consent of the patrolmen to drive the side-car motorcycles. The patrolmen claimed that it was a revival of the dreaded "shoe-fly" system, and therefore they would have nothing to do with it.

The Tribune's fourteenth question was: "Will you give The Tribune a list of men assigned to special duty? The number of these special details has contributed to the under-policing of the city."

The Commissioner in his reply did give the list of details, containing himself with the statement that there were fewer details now than under any other administration, and that the details were held by men totally or partially disabled, who if not assigned to this character of work would be on the sick list.

City Under-Policed, It Is Proved In the Tribune story, which showed the city was under-policed after midnight, many of the commanding officers at the station houses said that the fault could be found in the large number of special details and in the grant of complaints of crime by the Borough President Curran asked for and was issued but has not yet received from Commissioner Enright a list of the details when Curran agreed to vote for an increase in the police budget providing for 500 additional patrolmen.

Police Commissioner Enright's Reply To Questions Asked of Him by The Tribune Mr. Enright's statement, including his letter to The Tribune, follows:

"During my recent absence from the city on a vacation trip abroad there appeared in The New York Tribune a two page article under a conspicuous, false statement emblazoned across the front page of that newspaper presenting a bold falsification of the official records of this department respecting crime conditions in this city. I took occasion on my return to expose the falsity and malice of this article in a statement issued to the press on December 8.

"That newspaper falsely stated, repeated and reiterated in various forms of words that there were 100 unsolved murders in this city during the present year.

Calls Questions Smoke Screen "After the dishonesty of this publication was exposed by the official records of this department a smoke screen in the guise of a rambling letter from the Editor of The Tribune, addressed to the Police Commissioner, was published in various newspapers throughout the city.

The Tribune's fifth question was: "Will you explain the staff of experts like Faurot and Gray to work entirely foreign to crime detection?"

Mrs. O'Grady Says She Feared For Children at Film Shows

Mrs. Ellen O'Grady, who threw her shield at Commissioner Enright on Monday and thus dramatically ended her career as Fifth Deputy Police Commissioner, denied herself to callers all day yesterday. Reporters who climbed the four flights of stairs leading to her modest apartment at 249 New York Avenue, Brooklyn, found a large sheet of paper hanging from the door knob on which was written in pencil: "Mrs. O'Grady will not see any reporters today."

Persistent ringing of the doorbell brought the ex-Deputy Commissioner to the other side of the door, but she refused to open it for newspaper people.

In the evening, however, when her daughters had come home to dinner, the ex-Deputy Commissioner related, "If Commissioner Enright is not satisfied that I have not resigned officially enough I can write him a letter," she said. "I had not supposed that I left any doubts in his mind. I would not return to that office unless the whole administration were changed."

She was informed of the statement made by Sydney S. Cohen, president of the Motion Picture Exhibitors' League, in which he said that she had refused to cooperate with the league in providing women attendants at motion picture houses.

"Of course I opposed that bill," she said. "And so did every organization for public welfare. At that time the conditions in the motion picture business were such that I did not approve of giving them any more privileges until they had changed the character of the pictures they were showing. If that law had gone into effect it would have encouraged children's going to the pictures without their parents, and I thought children ought not to be so encouraged. The indirect evils of the suggestive motion pictures are seen in the increase of child crime of all kinds."

She refused to go into details in answering the statement of Commissioner Enright in regard to her resignation. If she replied to it at all she said it would be in writing.

The question as to the necessity of Mrs. O'Grady's sending in a formal resignation was raised at Police Headquarters yesterday. Commissioner Enright on Monday said he did not consider her action a resignation, as it was not accompanied by a written letter.

Yesterday, when questioned, he merely replied: "She is no longer a member of the department."

uniformed policemen, with whom they work in close cooperation.

"I do not believe that the present districts and precincts being located in department buildings, the city is saved the cost of maintaining separate buildings, rented from private individuals as formerly."

"As regards the uniformed branch of the service, no change in organization has been made.

"There has been no radical change in the special squads of the detective division during this administration. Changes in personnel, where required for the good of the service, were made."

Considers His Change Promotion "The elevation of Commissioner Gray and myself to deputy commissionerships I have always regarded as promotions to higher positions of responsibility, in recognition of good service. These changes can hardly be classed as transfers."

"Many of the old Bomb Squad entered the Federal service during the war. Their places were taken by other men and those of them who made good still remain."

"Detectives Cassassa and Muge are still specially assigned to pickpocket work in conjunction with other duties."

"Upon the elevation of Inspector Gray and Faurot to deputy commissionerships they necessarily assumed important new duties. Chief Inspector Lahey, having satisfactorily served for almost three years as head of the detective division, was thereupon placed in sole command."

Officers taken from civil life, who had no previous training whatever in police or detective work, and their numerous amateurish ideas and innumerable fads and fancies did much to render the bureau force inefficient.

"Men of experience in this department and many citizens familiar with police work believe that the detective division and the uniformed force should be under one commander, and that the commander should be an experienced policeman in both branches of the service. This is a return to the conditions that existed in the days when the Chief of Police, or Superintendent of Police, as the position was then called, Thomas E. Byrne, handled both the police force and the detective division of this city in a manner which attracted world-wide attention and caused him to be recognized as the greatest police officer and the greatest commander of detectives in the world."

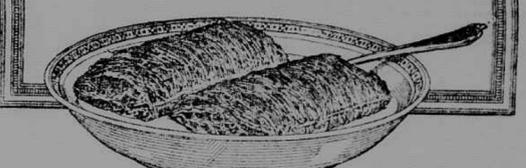
"The job hunters, lawbreakers and members of the underworld, their exploiters and supporters seem to be at the bottom of these attacks but this gang will not be permitted to run this department while I am Police Commissioner."

"Considering that the police of this city are the peace guardians of a resident population of more than 6,000,000 people and an additional million who

are made up of countenances and strangers in the city, the amount of crime committed in New York will show that the police officials are doing excellent duty, and the results will compare more than favorably with any other city and any former police administration, irrespective of The Tribune's daily abuse. The Tribune will not be permitted to use this department to advertise itself. I have police work to do instead of miswriting wild newspaper yarns."

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(Signed) "JOHN J. GRAY, Fourth Deputy Commissioner." "The Tribune asks whether or not the present chief inspector has more power than his predecessor. He has more power because he is in charge of both the uniformed force and the detective division during most of the time. During most of the time for several years past the detective division was in charge of deputy commis-

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