

Officials Grin Under Fire at Writers' Feast

Hylan and His Cabinet See Father Knickerbocker Robbed at Stunt Dinner of City Hall Reporters

Enright Alone Missing

Board of Estimate, Garbed as Gunmen, Amuse Notable Gathering at Astor

The Association of City Hall Reporters held its annual stunt dinner last night at the Hotel Astor. More than eight hundred persons, including most of those who in officialdom of the state, county and city...

Governor Miller and other state officials came down from Albany to laugh at the local officeholders and politicians who were the targets of the reporters' verbal batteries.

Dry, but Reminiscent

The party leaders of the other boroughs were there: Jacob A. Livingston and John H. McCooney, of Brooklyn; Arthur H. Murphy and Richard W. Lawrence, of the Bronx; Maurice E. Connolly and Joseph H. De Braga, of Queens; Matthew J. Cahill and former Senator George Cronwell, of Richmond.

Although the dinner was dry—most of the diners appeared to be dry themselves—Haag and Hague were present in the persons of Joseph Haag, secretary of the Board of Estimate, and Mayor Frank Hague of Jersey City.

Mayor Hylan and practically all the members of his cabinet, with the exception of Police Commissioner Richard E. Enright, submitted gracefully to the snuff and gibes of the City Hall men who put on one of the best shows of the kind seen in recent years.

No one went away with any doubt in his mind that there is a wave of crime in this city. Father Knickerbocker was robbed in City Hall Park and stripped of all his garments—down to his union suit—right before the eyes of the whole audience.

Speaking of crime waves, Comptroller Craig under the stage name of "Smooth Charlie, alias Gravy," was apart from the other members of the Board of Estimate at the meeting at which Father Knickerbocker's garments were divided.

An untoward incident threatened to mar the early stages of the evening's entertainment and gave all of the politicians present a few moments of decided uneasiness.



Illustrated—A Finely Conceived and Splendidly Upholstered Day Bed, Covered in Silk Damask and Low Toned Figured Velour, 2 Pillows with silk edging, 1 Roll; Legs in Antique French Grey Enamel. \$552.00

Rimone Galleries 42-44 East 49th St. Near Madison Avenue

the room with flashlights to raid the place. A threatened stampede was averted by a quick return of the lights and the music of the Police Band...

Lyric Advice on Crime The opening song followed when the troops had reached the stage. The air of the Sousa march was maintained. One verse, with the chorus, ran:

To stop all kinds of crimes Against every species of thief, Don't be sneering, And show yourself intellectual.

When you see after thieves And carry a trumpet or a drum; His job each robber leaves Whenever he hears "toot" or "tun-tun-tun."

CHORUS Oh, hat to the tunes of the band, The guardian of all the city; Under its sheltering hand Every citizen is safe.

The program announced that "The Assassins of City Hall" would present their own "Crime Wave," a mystery play of the present administration, consisting of a prologue and six acts.

"Red Mike" confessed that he was "the best Mayor that ever burgled this little old burg." He accused Borough President Curran, who appeared as "Frank the Manhattan Burrower," of playing politics when the latter called the Mayor "a regular vacuum cleaner."

Board Splits the Spoils

The Board of Estimate met in Act 2 to apportion the garments of the city. They still wore their hold-up clothes. It was then that the Police Commissioner dropped in to deny the wave of crime again and got the laugh, even from the Tammany members of the board.

Act 3—"A New Leader" opened at Fourteenth Street with Deputy Police Commissioner Harris regulating traffic. He had trouble in convincing "Al" Smith, who made his entrance sitting on a keg of beer (?) on a truck drawn by a tiger's skin.

After the real Al in the audience had been served with some of the brew from the truck, Tom Smith appeared and told the other Smith the sad story of the plot which he intended to oust Charles E. Murphy from the leadership of Tammany Hall.

Masochist Unmasks Murphy Murphy appeared, a tottering old man with long red whiskers to his knees, his political days numbered and his mind wandering.

The fourth act displayed Sing Sing Prison, with the warden in the reception room complaining about the big rush of business caused by the results of the Lockwood and Whitman investigations here.

Act the fifth was given over to singing old New York songs, with settings and stunt accompaniments. One was dedicated to "Al" Smith and went to the air of "The Sidewalks of New York." The words to these songs were

thrown on a screen and all joined in the singing. For Charles F. Murphy there was a parody on "Maggie Murphy's Home."

The climax came with the sixth act, which showed the "Koo Koo Klan" in action. Despairing of help elsewhere, Father Knickerbocker appealed to the Supreme Wizard of the Koo Koo for the recovery of his garments.

A mysterious detective snopped in and out of the various scenes of the six acts and nobody knew who he was. He revealed himself in the last act as "Samuel Undermyer" and restored the lost garments to Father Knickerbocker.

Those Who Took Part The cast of characters was: Trombone Tom, a band leader; Smooth Dick, a police officer; Red Mike, the Bushwick Terror; Sick Charlie, alias Gravy; Tony, alias Spaghetti; Happy Jack, a Salvation Army leader; Salvation Ike; Desperate Dan, a safe blower; Dirty Dick, another safe blower; Terrence, the Cop; The Mayor; Father Knickerbocker, a poor job; William J. Hawkshaw, a detective; Noney, a reporter; Billy Moo Bill, a Rogues' Gallery Guide; Hustling Harris, a traffic expert; Tige, a thief; Al, a truckman; Tom, a public administrator; Charlie, a political leader; Bill Handensome, a prohibitionist; The Warden; Trusty, a trusty; First Officer; Second Officer; Third Officer; Fourth Officer; Fifth Officer; Sixth Officer; Seventh Officer; Eighth Officer; Ninth Officer; Tenth Officer; Riders.

James A. Hagerty, of The Times, wrote the lyrics, and the book was contributed by various members of the association, with most of the credit going to Charles G. Hambridge, of The Times. Rec Battle was the musical director of the production, and was assisted by his Hotel Astor orchestra.

Immigrants' Employer Stricken With Typhus

Manufacturer Vermin Infested Through Contact in Shop

Dr. Somerset Believes

Morris Carlin, thirty-eight years old, of 225 Hoyt Street, Brooklyn, was taken to Willard Parker Hospital yesterday, a sufferer from typhus for ten days. Announcement of the case was made by Health Commissioner Copeland, who said that Carlin, a native of Russia, has lived in this country eight years. He is in business at 460 West Broadway, where he manufactures women's pocketbooks and, according to information obtained by the Health Department, he has employed from time to time recently arrived immigrants.

Commissioner Copeland believes Carlin may have become vermin infested through contact with these employees. Dr. William L. Somerset, chief diagnostician of the Health Department, diagnosed the case after the man's physician became suspicious and notified the department.

Dr. Copeland said a typhus clinic would be held this afternoon at Willard Parker Hospital from 2 to 3 o'clock for physicians interested in the disease and its diagnosis. Dr. Somerset and others of the department's staff will explain the symptoms of the malady. There are several cases of the disease in the hospital.

Centralized City Rule Advocated By Prendergast

Saxe Says at Present Rate Municipal Budget Will Mount to \$900,000,000 Ten Years From Now

Condemns Transit Control

Metz Advises Against Habit of Spending Money and Then Trying to Get It

Centralization of the city government as a means of minimizing municipal expenditures and holding down the tax rate was advocated by former Comptroller William A. Prendergast yesterday, in an address before several hundred members of the Lawyers' Club, 115 Broadway.

Mr. Saxe, in opening the discussion, said that in little over a decade the city's tax rate had increased more than 110 per cent; that in the same period the per capita cost of local government had risen 75 per cent, and that at the same rate of tax increase the city could expect the budget to amount to \$900,000,000 ten years from now, as compared to the present budget of \$345,000,000.

Mr. Metz advised the city to stop spending "I don't believe," he said, "that the city should attempt a solitary thing that private enterprise can do. The city pays no taxes. It pays no interest. The city's function is to spend the money that it gets, not to spend more than it gets."

FLINT'S FINE FURNITURE GUARANTEED. Good-will counts more with us than present profit. In the retention and growth of good-will we believe it essential at this time to ignore the altogether reasonable margin that Flint Quality Dependable Furniture justifies, and adopt a price level which, though far below the ruling values of the present market, will enable us to widen our circle of customers and keep our stocks moving.

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Several chauffeurs brought a mandamus proceeding complaining that Commissioner Gilchrist had refused to

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Justice Bijur decided that the matter of trademarks, patents or colors used by the Town— not within the official scope of the 12th Century Taxicab Association, Commissioner.

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