$50,000 VICE GRAFT TO POLICE EXPOSED

Swarm of Underworld Men Tell Swann of Paying Protection Money.

ON TRAIL OF 'HIGHER UPS'

"Red" Levine, Informer, Attacked in Street, Accuses Plainclothes Men.

A swarm of men of the underworld, persons who acknowledged themselves as business agents for women conducting disorderly houses, went before District Attorney Swann and his assistant, James E. Smith, yesterday to tell of paying protection money to policemen.

It has been developed from their statements and other information in hand that twenty houses thus far known paid $50,000 in the last year and a half for their shame. It is the belief in the District Attorney's office that this is but a thin slice of the total graft collected.

Slowly the trail is mounting higher; two lieutenants now are on the list of suspected sharers in the vice pool. The upward steps have brought within vision men of higher rank in the department. Their identity will be revealed later in the week, it is surmised, judging from the progress made thus far.

From what has been revealed a certain brand of honor obtained among the grafters; they respected territorial rights in certain districts. For instance, one group collected its toll from Lexington avenue eastward and Seventh avenue westward, while another group gathered its tribute from the section between Lexington and Seventh avenues. The only men not bound by this unwritten agreement were the special vice hunters, who picked their levy promiscuously.

"Stool Pigeons" Used.

In the ramifications that have been unfolded it has been learned that "stool pigeons"—men of such vicious character they had the entree of all houses—were enabled to operate on fictitious authority, written, however, on Police Department stationery.

Leo Halperin, one of the District Attorney's informants, produced one of these documents yesterday. It was in the form of a report made to an inspector telling of investigations of certain houses. In it Halperin, who has no official connection with the Police Department, is named as a detective. He admitted the document was written by a policeman, and with it he was able to spread a message of police fear. The piece of paper was as effective as a detective's shield, he acknowledged.

There were many other men who acted as "detectives" for the policemen. They reported all newcomers to the crusaders and bore to the arrivals messages from the policemen to report next day at an East Side hall. There the fee for immunity was fixed. One group of grafters would have no direct business relations with the women; their men protectors had to negotiate terms.

Instances have come to light that prove certain women who planned to establish themselves in a certain quarter were warned off by the grafters. They were kept out of sections where inspectors and inspectors' men were known to be incorruptible. With these warnings, however, the vice fighters would inform them of more favorable locations.

Although in some instances women paid as much as $200 a month to one set of grafters this tribute failed to satisfy their greed. They were forced to buy tickets for "raffles" and "balls" that never were held.

However, the big parasites—after the manner of the verse about the fleas—had smaller parasites who fed upon them. It is known that of the horde of men sent out to sell tickets for these "balls" and "raffles" the majority of them cheated their police masters. Frequently they told house keepers they would have to buy a batch of tickets. Where no inclination was evinced to use these tickets after purchase, the salesmen resold them to other women.

One new case of assault, that of "Red" Levine, came to notice yesterday. "Red," who had been served with a subpœna last week, made it known in his neighborhood that he would not be a scapegoat; that he would tell all he knew for his own safety. Therefore it occasioned little surprise in Levine's circle yesterday when they heard that on Sunday he had been struck from behind while walking in First avenue near Eighth street. "Red" says three plain clothes men hit him. The attack has served only to increase his ardor to inform against the policemen he knows as grafters.

Halperin, already mentioned, lives in Barrett street, Brownsville, Brooklyn. Sunday last two men he knows as detectives accosted him in the street and inquired whether he had changed his address. He gave them his street number. Afterward he heard of the violence that had befallen informers. As a result he held himself in seclusion all Sunday night and yesterday, although several times men knocked at his door.

Bail Not Sanctioned.

Officials at police headquarters yesterday repudiated the suggestion that any sanction had been given Detectives William J. Enright or David Foley to conduct the bail they held at Arlington Hall in the name of the Arlington Boat Club.

It was made manifest that the recent indictments have brought no breach in the friendly relations that exist between Commissioner Woods and District Attorney Swann.

"I have kept myself in close touch with the situation," said the Police Commissioner yesterday. "The department is no different now than when I first took the job. If there are dishonest policemen on the force we want to find them out just the same as we want to find out dishonest citizens.

"It is needless to say that I shall feel very deep resentment against the men who are shown to be dishonest. I think I am safe in saying also that the honest men of the force—who are in the overwhelming majority—will share my resentment."

Enright, David Foley, Arthur B. Dallas, Thomas L. O'Brien and Robert E. Goldman, all policemen who have been indicted for bribery, pleaded not guilty before Judge Mulqueen yesterday. Foley and Enright were released in $6,000 bail set on their previous indictment for perjury, and the others were freed after filing bonds of $2,000 each.

Francis P. Garvan, counsel for Enright and Foley, said "the District Attorney may try his case in the newspapers as much as he wishes. We will make our answer on trial."

ONE PIECE SUITS OUTDONE.

French Women Refugees Wear Trousers, but No Stockings.

ELIZABETH, N. J., July 24.—Free Acres, a community of single taxers whose residents are principally women, has opened its gates to a colony of French women refugees.

Neighbors said to-day that the costumes of the new arrivals are even more objectionable than the one piece suits worn by the original settlers of Free Acres.

The French refugees have announced that they will become permanent residents of Free Acres. They have already subscribed to the single tax creed and are voters in community government affairs.

One of the women is a stone mason by trade and is doing contract work for Free Acreites. Another is a carpenter. All wear short trousers, no stockings and light blue skirts.

ELLIS ISLAND GUARD BEATEN IN REVOLT

Attacked by "White Slavers" When Maintaining Segregation Order.

As a result of the segregation order which was put into effect on Ellis Island last week, when Representative Isaac Siegel and John B. Densmore, solicitor of the Department of Commerce and Labor, made an investigation, a revolt among the confined "white slavers" last Sunday resulted in the serious injury of an immigration guard named Connelly, it was learned yesterday.

The inquiry into conditions at the detention station followed a criticism made in the House of Representatives by William S. Bennet of New York. He said immorality was rife on the island. Siegel and Densmore, after their investigation, ordered that undesirable women and men convicted as "white slavers" and awaiting deportation be separated from the other immigrants.

Also they augmented the force of night watchmen on the island. Connelly was one of the men assigned to the duty of keeping the segregated men and women apart. The trouble followed his zealous execution of orders.

When Byron H. Uhl, acting Commissioner of Immigration, was questioned last night he refused to discuss the circumstances.

"It's true that Connelly was hurt," he admitted, "but he is all right now."

GIRL HELD FOR $5,000 THEFT.

Daughter of Once Wealthy Man Accused by Employers.

Miss Dorothy Barnholtz, 508 West 136th street, whose father was once a wealthy leather importer of this city, but whose fortune was lost just before his death, was arrested yesterday charged by Klauber Brothers, lace importers of 867 Broadway, by whom she was employed as assistant cashier and bookkeeper, with the larceny of $5,000.

It is said this sum represented a number of small thefts, spreading over a considerable period, and that Miss Barnholtz was able to keep them up by juggling the books. The alleged losses were discovered during her absence on vacation.

NO GREEN ESTATE FIGHT.

Heirs Will Not Oppose Distribution of Big Fortune.

Frank B. Washburn of the law firm of Glover & Washburn, who represents heirs of Gideon Howland, said last night:

"We have been informed by attorneys for the Howland estate that representatives for the Hetty Green estate will in no way contest the right of descendants of Gideon Howland to receive the fund left to them at the death of Mrs. Green.

"The trustees of the Howland fund will file their account in Massachusetts, and under order of the court the fund will be distributed to those furnishing proper proof of relationship to Gideon Howland. Blanks for proof of descent will be sent to all known parties in interest."

The fund is expected to liquidate $1,250,000.

Lotterhead Will Probated.

The will of Jason C. Lotterhead, who died last fall leaving considerable property, including numerous patents, was admitted to probate yesterday by Surrogate Cohalan. This property was so tied up that the widow tried to have the will set aside. At the trial witnesses said Lotterhead had a fondness for opening beer bottles with his teeth, for clipping his baby's eyebrows and pawning the family bed clothes.

Stocks Found to Be Worthless.

When the referee's report on the will of Mrs. Ara D. Scott, formerly John D. Rockefeller's housekeeper, was filed yesterday seventy-five shares of Caledonian Crude Oil Company and seventy-five shares of Johannesburg Gold Mining Company stock which she owned were listed as worthless. Mrs. Scott left other property worth $3,051.

WILLS AND APPRAISALS.

CHARLES G. CRAWFORD in his will leaves his entire estate to his widow, Vandella B. Crawford. Decedent left a collection of art objects and tapestries, among them a tapestry "The Last Supper," and a collection of antique silver. The value of the estate is not given.

ALPHONSE H. ALKER, a lawyer, died January 12, 1912 (appraiser John J. Lyons). Total assets, $919,117; net estate, $656,021. Mrs. Florence A. Alker, widow, receives one-half of the estate outright and a life estate in a similar interest. The will provides that the remainder interest in the life estate shall pass to the four sons and two daughters of decedent in equal shares.

MRS. AGNES DANIEL LUCAS, who was the wife of Col. Eugene Van C. Lucas, chief, Engineer Division, N. G. N. Y., died January 29, 1916 (appraiser John J. Lyons). Total assets, $288,230; net estate, $59,856. Her husband and Eugene Van C. Lucas, Jr., and John Daniel Lucas, two sons, each received $19,785.

PENELIN A. PIERCE, died January 1, 1916 (appraiser Berwin), a resident of Morristown, N. J. Value of entire estate not disclosed. Assets taxable in New York State, decedent's one third interest in Palmer & Capron, manufacturers of gold rings. Deductions reduce net value of New York estate to $8,028. Charles A. Pierce and Lucy M. Pierce, brother and sister, named as beneficiaries.

$86,000,000 NOW IN POSTAL BANKS

Increase in Deposits Caused by Countrywide Prosperity of Wage Earners.

The countrywide prosperity of wage earners has caused a marked increase in postal savings deposits, according to reports from postmasters throughout the country for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1916. For the month of June alone the reports show an increase of $3,800,000, thus eclipsing the record for any June in the history of Uncle Sam's bank and quadrupling the figures for June, 1915.

As a secondary cause for the increase the postal reports point to the act of May 18 last, which removed the limit on deposits of $100 a month and increased the amount that may be accepted from a single depositor to $1,000. The 7,701 postal savings stations in the United States, Alaska, Porto Rico and Hawaii now have an aggregate of 603,000 depositors, who have on deposit $86,000,000.

The largest gain for the month of June was registered by the New York Post Office, with an increase of $528,912 in deposits. The Brooklyn office stands second with a gain of $262,205. The other large increases are reported in the following order:

Detroit, $167,252; Chicago, $123,042; Boston, $91,069; Pittsburg, $88,304; Butte, $76,171; Cleveland, $74,754; Buffalo, $52,946; Milwaukee, $48,497; Philadelphia, $47,088; Portland, Ore., $46,448; Newark, $40,337; St. Louis, $39,139; Bisbee, Ariz., $32,229; Kansas City, $32,012; San Antonio, $28,551; Los Angeles, $28,406; Leadville, Colo., $27,876; San Francisco, $27,724; Bridgeport, Conn., $26,900; Pueblo, Col., $24,014; Jersey City, $23,550; Akron, $23,082; Columbus, $22,766; Tacoma, $22,430; Toledo, $20,772; Erie, Pa., $19,552; Gary, Ind., $19,509; San Diego, $18,631; McKeesport, Pa., $17,439; Uniontown, Pa., $17,437; Waterbury, Conn., $17,213.

Eight post offices have passed the million dollar mark in the banking end of their business. They are New York, Brooklyn, Chicago, Boston, Detroit, Pittsburg, San Francisco and Portland, Ore. These eight offices hold approximately 42 per cent. of all the deposits.

At Uniontown, Pa., the deposits increased from $26,312 on June 30, 1915, to $114,886 on June 30, 1916, a gain of $88,574, or 337 per cent.

MULQUEEN ASSAILS DETENTION PRISON

Judge Orders Special Grand Jury to Probe Stories of Vermin and Bad Food.

Judge Joseph F. Mulqueen of General Sessions yesterday directed the additional Grand Jury to investigate a complaint by witnesses detained in the West Side prison, in West Fifty-third street, that the food served to them is bad and that living conditions are not what they should be. He said that if the conditions complained of exist the persons responsible should be indicted.

Following the complaint a game of "passing the buck" began among city officials. P. A. Mallon, warden of the prison, was the last person to be heard from. He insisted the food was all right, but that "some of the inmates wish their steaks, chops, &c., well done, some want them rare and some medium. They also complained that the meals were cold."

Judge Mulqueen took action on a letter signed by nine detained witnesses. It was not the first complaint he had received, he said, and in his remarks to the foreman of the Grand Jury, Maurice Gomprecht of 445 West 153d street, he made it plain that the witnesses are not charged with any crime, but are held solely to insure their presence when their testimony is desired.

This is the letter the Judge received: "Terrible conditions exist in our place of abode. There is vermin in the cells. There are no opportunities to bathe and the food is bad. If we want anything extra, such as hot water, we have to pay for it. If we refuse to pay, we are called 'rats' and 'stool pigeons.' At night we are locked in cells as if we were regular prisoners."

Judge Mulqueen called in District Attorney Swann and Burdette G. Lewis, Commissioner of Correction. Both agreed that the present system is far from admirable.

Swann said he had protested to the Governor against the law, which became operative June 1 last, abolishing the old House of Detention. The District Attorney said he had installed many witnesses in hotels to avoid sending them to the city prisons, the county paying the bills.

Both Swann and Lewis urged the conversion of the two top floors of the nine story building at the southeast corner of Leonard and Lafayette streets into a place of detention. The building is owned by the city and the change could be made, it was asserted, at a cost of about $1,000.

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English Grammar & Composition	60	Elementary Algebra Complete	60-70
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