

SOME SIZZLING SHOTS FIRED AT FRIDAY'S SESSION OF COUNTY BOARD

Yesterday's session of the County Board began by Commissioner Peter Bartzen politely inquiring of President McCormick if he had not "forgotten his powder puff."

It ended with William H. Dunn, former clerk of the Superior Court, assailing McCormick as a tool of the charity trust that exploits the poor of Chicago.

But during the meeting many things transpired. All of McCormick's committee appointments were rescinded; the board passed a resolution apologizing for McCormick's insult to Judge Kersten the other day and another resolution was passed denouncing Hearst and his yellow journalism.

Dunn first sent a letter to McCormick which was not read until Commissioner Frank Ragen made a demand for it. The letter in part said:

"A. A. McCormick, president of the County Board, recently advised taxpayers to come to the board rooms and make their wants known and advise with your board, and if they did so the needed reforms would be obtained (but he failed to advise them to bring an axe if they expected him to grant them a hearing). I therefore wish to call your attention to the fact that one year ago I was given an invitation to address your finance committee on the wasteful expenditures I believed of \$180,000 to private industrial schools, some who had previously falsified their records to obtain funds illegally from Cook county.

"The reception accorded me at that time by your honorable board was courteous with the exception of your president, Alexander McCormick, who rudely interrupted me at the very beginning of my address, characteristic of the man, but knowing his affiliations I was not surprised and stated that I expected his interference. Afterward he promised to investigate my charges. He also prom-

ised the opportunity to appear and prove my charges. Although questioning his sincerity in open meeting I complied to his request by letter to him and the County Board, but was not even extended the common courtesy of an answer.

"Now, I therefore, as a citizen of the state of Illinois and taxpayer of Cook county, and not an alien, request your honorable board to answer for president of the County Board the following questions:

"First, under what authority of law under the present administration was \$9,960 of the taxpayers' money appropriated to be distributed through a department specially created for a favored few women selected in violation of all civil service rules by the county judge and paid upon his personal O. K.

"Second, why, after 13 years of the operation of the law creating county visitors, did the present administration see its way clear to appropriate thousands of dollars to the above board, who created a department for the first time in thirteen years to spend some of the county's surplus money, and, after employing out of above fund alien help, turning over all information gathered, reports, and papers to a home finding society, of which was supposed to be investigated, leaving the county in the same position as it was before the money was appropriated?

"Third, why, when a former board one which had been strongly criticized in his famous address, only had appropriated \$80,000 per year to seven industrial schools, \$180,000 under the present board was appropriated to sixteen industrial schools and \$275,000 was paid out, making \$95,000 in excess of the appropriation, and is it true that if President McCormick serves out his term he intends to pay out the balance of the money in the county treasury to the