

ORGANIZED LABOR SAYS BENNY MITCHELL WAS LICKED

Although the trust press says Benny Mitchell got the Democratic nomination for representative in the 21st district organized labor claims Mitchell was beaten by 71 votes.

Ed Nockels, secretary of the Chicago Federation of Labor, says that the Illinois and Chicago Federations, the railway brotherhood and the street car men combined to make a fight on Mitchell because he was a tool of Roger Sullivan and one of the most persistent foes of labor in the legislature.

He says they have checked up the vote in the county clerk's office, and that Mitchell got 5,484½ votes and George M. Maypole 5,555½, and that Mitchell is licked unless there is some monkeying with the returns.

When the labor forces started in on their fight against Mitchell they were laughed at, but they said they wanted to tackle the toughest nut there was to crack in town and see what they could do when they pulled together. And despite the fact that there are 1,400 saloons in the district and Benny had four workers at each voting place at \$5 a throw, he was beaten by the vote of the people of the district.

Labor is watching closely for any manipulation of the count.

PROTECT ART TREASURES

Paris, by Mail to New York, Sept. 11.—Unique among the protective and defensive measures which Paris has adopted are those by which the city hopes to save some of her most famous art treasures. The Louvre has been completely done over.

Great steel plates have been fixed about the ceilings and walls of a room which now shelters the famous Venus de Milo, the "Winged Victory" and "La Gioconda." Parisians fear only aeroplane bombs, so the main protection is on the roofs of those buildings which hold art objects.

BLAME LACK OF HELP FOR POOR TELEPHONE SERVICE

Chicago Telephone Co.'s traffic department superintendent, F. N. Foster, called in all chief operators of exchanges for a "conference of service" last Tuesday and told them more complaints have been coming in on bad service.

Several operators protested to Sup't Foster that with the recent lay-off of 600 girls it's impossible for them to give as fast or accurate service as they used to. "The trouble is we haven't got enough help," declared two operators who were outspoken.

Calls on newspapers for war news and other war conditions have increased the need for telephone service, operators say, and this has made good service more difficult. It was not a time to let go so large a number of switchboard people, it is argued.

Behind these present tactics, Penny Phone League men say, is some sort of a capitalization game of the C. T. C. Orders to all departments now are to reduce expenses.

Old employees of the C. T. C. phone say the company made the same sort of lay-offs with worse service in 1907 and on a basis of reduced operating expense then increased its capitalization \$4,500,000.

The time to complete a call in 1907 was doubled through running with several hundred less operators.

Reports on whether the time for a call has grown longer the past few weeks are expected from the city telephone supervisor at the first meeting of the gas, oil and electric light committee in October.

MADE A HIT

A well-known bishop, as he was going about his diocese, stopped the porter of a lunatic asylum and asked now a chaplain whom he, the bishop, had lately appointed, was getting on.

"Oh, my lord," said the man, "is preaching his most successful. The idiots enjoys hit partickler."