

## ROTTEN TACTICS IN GAME OF FALSE ARREST ARE USED BY CHICAGO POLICE

Each year thousands of people are "taken into custody" by the police department. More than 95 per cent of these men are later released. They are held from 2 to 24 hours in the police "lockups." Of course, the law prevents the department for holding anybody on suspicion for more than 24 hours without booking him, but this law is flagrantly violated, and whenever the relatives or friends of a prisoner learn that he is locked up "on suspicion" they usually arrive just after the patrol wagon leaves through the alley to another precinct. Sometimes this game of hide and seek is kept up for days. It is to prevent a writ of habeas corpus from being taken out to liberate the prisoner.

Section 95 of the criminal code of Illinois provides a \$500 fine and a year's imprisonment for "the unlawful violation of a person's liberty with legal authority." According to Chief Justice Olson of the municipal court, this is practically the same thing as "being taken into custody," as the police call it, and "bonehead arrests," as they are styled by the judge.

"Of course, some of these arrests are necessary, but a great many of them are not," said the chief justice. "The police department has a great many clever, capable officers and a still greater number of patrolmen who seldom use anything but their hands and clubs in making an arrest. We see this in every branch of our courts everyday. The police howl about our discharging 67 per cent of the people brought before us. Eight years ago we only discharged 55 per cent. This was due to the fact that there are more unnecessary arrests now than there ever was.

"Americans have a mania for passing laws and I have been told by some friends who recently visited Russia that the personal restrictions there were less than in this country.

And here every citizen is a king unto himself. Each day our sheets are crowded with clothesline fights and petty violations of petty laws which could be easily settled out of court if the state's attorney, the city prosecutor and the police department would work in harmony with us.

"I have suggested to the police, the state's attorney and city prosecutor that they keep their men on the job at the police stations to work up cases before they are brought into court to waste the time and try the patience of our judges.

"I have suggested to the chief of police that he invite good criminal lawyers to talk to his policemen on how to gather evidence, especially circumstantial evidence, and to define the law so that less bonehead arrests will be made. A very interesting volume could be written upon the blunders of the police department along these lines. A policeman should find out sufficient reasons to make the arrest before doing so. If we could all work together we would accomplish much."

### THE JOKE WAS ON THE PEOPLE AND NOT THE DAILY NEWS

Department managers had a lot of fun at the expense of The Daily News during their banquet at Hotel LaSalle, Saturday night. An original playlet, entitled "The Dropped Type, or the Tragedy of the Brass Bed Outfit," was the feature of the banquet.

Recently The News made a mistake in an ad run for The Fair, advertising a bed for \$1.50 when it should have been \$11.50. Neither the store, The Fair, or The News made good the difference in advertised price to hundreds who flocked to the store to grab supposed bargain.

Uniontown, Pa.—15 persons injured by explosion that demolished house of Tony Tassons, Republic.