

THE GREATER CHICAGO FEDERATION WANTS REFERENDUM ON AUTOMATIC PHONE

Call for a referendum and protest against aldermen jamming through the Automatic phone ordinance is contained in a resolution of the Greater Chicago Federation.

It says about as plain as words can say that the phone deal is a grab the people don't want, and the alderman who chokes off a referendum is one bum alderman, so far as the voters are concerned. Resolution was passed Jan. 28 at federation meeting and is being mailed to aldermen this week. It reads:

"Resolved, That we protest to the city council against the passage of the ordinance as recommended by the gas, oil and electric committee, and that we urge every alderman to vote against it when it comes up for final action, as the federation believes it has the right to make this demand from the aldermen, as it is generally conceded that the large voting public is against the consummation of this proposed sale, and the least aldermen could do would be to provide for a referendum before the people and let them decide."

Sixteen business and civic organizations are members of the federation. They were leading agitators against the "comprehensive" subway decisively beaten on referendum two years ago. Board of directors and their organizations are:

Christian See, South Side Business Men's ass'n, president; Tomas F. Deuther, North-West Side Commercial ass'n; C. W. Randolph, Lake View Property Owners' and Improvement ass'n; G. H. Cuny, Retail Merchants' ass'n; Harold M. Bruun, West Side Commercial league; Albert Kakuska, 10th ward Taxpayers' ass'n; Albert Schroeder, North Avenue Merchants' ass'n.

John C. Kennedy spoke at 15th ward Rodriguez headquarters last night and said:

"From start to finish the Automatic

phone in Chicago has had trickery connected with it. The tunnels were dug before proper legal consent had been obtained from city council. A city clerk and printer were indicted for falsifying council proceedings so as to give the tunnel company more than was voted by city council. There were lies and lies for years about how many subscribers the phone company had.

"Those of us who went to gas-oil committee meetings two years ago remember distinctly how Sam Ettelson, then attorney for the Automatic company, used weasel methods to evade direct answer to the question of how many subscribers the company had.

"The stench of this deal is already permeating Chicago. Every alderman who votes for this will be reminded of it in every campaign where he is a candidate."

BRANDEIS HEARING DEVELOPS CONTRADICTIONS

Washington, Feb. 10.—Senate investigators of Louis D. Brandeis' fitness to sit on supreme bench, who yesterday heard him criticised as too friendly to capital, today heard him criticised as too unfriendly to capital. Thomas C. Spelling of New York was first witness to latter effect and he made 1910 rate case, in which Brandeis appeared for government, ground for his belief.

Preceding Spelling on the stand, J. W. Carmalt, interstate commerce commission examiner who took part in both the 1910 and 1913 rate cases, flatly contradicted Clifford Thorne's statement of yesterday. Thorne had no reason to be surprised at Brandeis' stand that the railways ought to have more money, he said, and Brandeis had not concealed his stand until final argument. He said he himself had informed Thorne of Brandeis' intention.