

THE DAY BOOK

N. D. COCHRAN

EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

300 S. PEARSON ST. CHICAGO, ILL.

Telephones Editorial, Monroe 323
Circulation, Monroe 2024

SUBSCRIPTION—By Carrier in Chicago, 25 cents a Month, 67¢ Mail, United States and Canada, \$4.00 a Year

Entered as second-class matter April 21, 1914, at the postoffice at Chicago, Ill., under the Act of March 3, 1879.

MRS. THORNTON; LAND DEALER.—Mrs. Thornton as a school trustee seems to follow the old rule that bids us "let one hand wash the other." If the school system had desperately needed the property owned by Mrs. Thornton's sister, property on which records show her husband as taxpayer, it would have been a good public service for Mrs. Thornton's kin of blood and marriage to sell the school board that playground site. What creates the stench in the neighborhood of the Chicago school board is, for one thing, its policy of secrecy.

Along with the wrecking of civil service, a blotch on the record of Jake Loeb's administration is its persistent refusal to permit aldermen, elected representatives of the people, to examine original official records of the board. There isn't much money involved in the Thornton land deal. But the facts as uncovered show that crooked contracts and crooked real estate deals can be put over the board and its slim chance aldermen, parents of school children, citizens in general, have to get at the truth.

Credit is due in this affair to Ald. Buck, whose report uncovered the raw deal, to Chairman Lynch of the council schools committee, and the aldermen of that body who have been for the searchlight. Ald. Blaha's at-

tempt to stop action won't get him very far.

BEERLESS BEER.—What is beer is beer, and what is not beer is not beer. Nothing more simple—eh? And yet Chief Healey and Miss Sears of Juvenile Protective ass'n are deep in dispute whether wet goods at the Cadillac cafe is beerless or not. "It is real beer to us and near-beer to the police," says Miss Sears. Worse yet, says Miss Sears, the wet goods was hauled to the Lewis Institute and put through test tubes and found with 5 per cent of alcohol in it. On this evidence she says it's better than beerless beer.

Yet Chief Healey has his comeback. It is that Capt. Joe Smith of 22d-st. did a little test tube work himself and found that the beer had only about 1 per cent alcohol, "thereby making it a non-intoxicating liquor."

A bottle of Edelweiss is also to figure in evidence. On this one bottle it is proposed to build a case against Chief Healey. Bets are being made that if the suits are brought before Judge Caverly he will reply that a case of beer would make a stronger case in law than a bottle. Such are the intricacies of beerless beer.

ONE!—It is reliably reported that the uncovering of the Thornton land deal is the first one of a series of acts under the present administration of Jake Loeb which are to get the spotlight. This is a good time to get the spotlight working. The nest of officialism and wire-pulling having its headquarters in the Tribune bldg. needs plenty of light. Physically located on territory subject to the famous Tribune midnight feast, the school board has seemed under a hoodoo. Chairman Lynch and the aldermen of council schools committee supporting him have started on a good job.