

sued Hettrick wrote to the Mayor complaining that the Board of Education was "still thinking" of using terra cotta in Public School 57, even in the face of Mr. Hylan's instructions on the subject.

Text of Hettrick Letter Copied by Mayor and Sent to the Board of Estimate

THE Hettrick letter as copied by the Mayor and sent to Frank D. Wilsey, vice-president of the Board of Education and chairman of the building committee, and to members of the Board of Estimate was dated February 8, 1919, and was as follows:

Dear Sir: Information has been conveyed to me that a condition exists in the construction of the public schools of this city which may need immediate attention. The city is about to begin the work of erecting a number of school buildings and if mistakes in methods of construction have been committed in the past they should be remedied now.

My attention has been called to the condition of this terra cotta in the College of the City of New York, also in the Bureau of Fire Alarm Telegraph Building in Central Park, and also to a claim that the imitation stone used in the arcade of the Municipal Building of this city shows rapid deterioration, although only a few years in place.

It has also been brought to my attention that this class of material is manufactured by non-union labor and in plants outside of the city of New York, and that within our city boundaries there are fifty plants employing men in good standing now without business on account of the depression in building construction.

The question must be determined whether it is better to have permanent construction of our public school buildings in natural stone fabricated by citizens of this city, rent payers and taxpayers, rather than in material produced by labor in New Jersey and elsewhere.

Very truly yours, JOHN F. HYLAN, Mayor.

"As a good Mayor you might have put Goss off the committee." "Well, anyhow, Goss is off the committee and I am willing to give you full credit," the Mayor rejoined.

"We don't want credit, we want facts." At this point the committee adjourned for luncheon.

Quizzed on Hettrick Letter. Resuming after the luncheon recess, Mr. Undermyer said he wanted to clear away a few more cobwebs.

"I may have sent it: I send out lots of letters; I don't remember." "Mr. McCooey doesn't take the trouble to deliver many letters in person to you, does he?"

"No, not many." The Mayor could not remember a letter of January 30, 1919, sent by Hettrick to the Mayor regarding labor trouble.

"Uses Union Labor Plan." "We know of your interest in organized labor, and the splendid work you are doing for the city of New York, notwithstanding attacks by special interests, and my people are firm in the belief that you will give their appeal your attention and support."

"Cancelling of Contracts." "So that the fact appears that it was not until after Hettrick had testified, and after his papers were seized the court house contracts were actually cancelled?"

"But you said in a statement on November 7 that my statement that you had held back the letter was false?" "I say that now, I sent it to the Commissioner of Accounts. You are trying to mislead the public."

"Then Mr. Undermyer asked the Mayor about Nathan Hirsch's activities as chairman of the Mayor's Housing Committee, and when Mr. Hirsch resigned, the Mayor could not recall why the chairman had resigned."

"While Hirsch was chairman weren't you advised that I was asked to become counsel for the housing committee?" Mr. Undermyer asked.

"I remember Hirsch told me something like that, but I don't remember the name of Goss," the Mayor replied.

"Questioned About Goss." "Didn't you immediately afterward appoint Goss to the housing committee?" "Yes, I appointed him on the committee at the suggestion of Commissioner Mann."

"Couldn't identify Hettrick." "Don't know him by name?" "I couldn't identify him if he was here in the room."

"Behind The Red Curtain of Russia." "Tells What Is Going On NEXT SUNDAY in THE NEW YORK HERALD"

Behind The Red Curtain of Russia. Tells What Is Going On NEXT SUNDAY in THE NEW YORK HERALD. Capt. Francis McCullagh The First Trained Correspondent to Get out of Moscow

"Dear Sir—Attached is a copy of a proposed letter, prepared according to your instructions of last evening. I beg to say that the statements contained therein are correct, and the labor union representatives of the stone industry are ready to sign them by documentary evidence at any time."

"Very respectfully yours, John T. Hettrick." "Attached is a copy of proposed letter prepared according to your instructions of last evening," Mr. Undermyer quoted.

"No, I explained that this morning." "Never you?" "Yes, I have."

"Did Hettrick give you any instructions, or did you give him any?" "No, I think Hettrick or some one, possibly, and probably it was Hettrick, but I didn't at the time get the name or remember the name. He talked with me about terra cotta or wrote me about something."

"Doesn't that letter of February 8, saying that he is attaching copy of proposed letter, prepared according to your instructions of last evening, refresh your recollection as to whether you gave him any instructions on the 7th of February, 1919?"

"To the best of my recollection, probably Hettrick had called here and talked with me about terra cotta and about the workmen, and I said, 'Prepare some memorandum and submit it to me.' That is the best of my recollection of it," the Mayor said.

"Your memory is bad, Mr. Mayor. Now it is not possible, is it, that if you instructed a man to prepare a proposed letter on the 7th of February, 1919, and the next morning he wrote you saying that he had prepared the letter, and enclosing the proposed letter, and then you wrote him the one you just gave him, had received his letter with enclosure, would that fade entirely from your memory?"

"Well, it faded entirely from memory until I saw these letters." "But it is still faded? It has not come to life yet?"

"No, no, I remember these letters." "No, but talking about a man?" "I don't remember the man; still I may know him if you produce him here."

"Tests the Mayor's Memory." "Have you any doubt that you had seen him frequently before?" "Oh, maybe I have seen him many times before and since, but I can't recall him."

"Do you remember being present when this committee convened?" "Yes, sir."

"You heard Mr. Hettrick testify for a while here on the 7th of February? You were there and heard him testifying?" "I was there and heard somebody testifying."

"No, you heard Hettrick testifying. Don't you remember you stayed about an hour?" "I don't remember the name."

"The testimony was quite interesting to you, wasn't it?" "Yes, it was interesting; but I didn't remember the name, Mr. Undermyer."

"No, I didn't recognize him as anybody you had ever seen before?" "No, I didn't."

"He is not the man to whom you suggested or instructed to prepare a proposed letter, is he?" "Well, I couldn't say. He may have been."

"The Mayor could not recall the conference referred to 'the evening before,' nor could he remember giving any instructions. He did not know about the 'enclosure' mentioned by Hettrick as having been in the letter."

"In that letter to Wilsey you begin by saying, 'Information has been conveyed to me. To whom did you refer?' the Mayor was asked."

"I referred to the information given to me by the man who spoke about terra cotta and the workmen."

"And Hettrick gave you the information the previous evening?" "The city had a programme for building forty-one schools."

"I would not say forty-one, but a good many." "Schools to cost \$16,000,000, wasn't it?"

"I think about \$15,000,000." "But it was increased to \$16,000,000, wasn't it?" "I am not sure about that."

"Contracts for the Schools." "And they had theretofore been using in the construction of schools, largely, terra cotta, had they not?"

"I presume so." "I never received any information on it until I got the information through the communication, and whoever talked to me about it?"

"Well, the contracts for the schools had not yet been given out at this time—February, 1919?" "No, I do not think so."

"And you were on the eve of a big improvement in schools?" "Yes, sir."

"You say, 'It has been brought to my attention that this class of materials is manufactured by non-union labor and in plants outside of the city of New York.' Who informed you of that?"

"From whoever called. If it was Hettrick, Hettrick."

"And you mean to say that upon a statement of that kind of an interested party you would go on and put the Board of Education in motion on an improvement involving millions of dollars without making any sort of inquiry?"

"No, I wrote the letter for their information to look into it."

"Well, they looked into it and changed their terra cotta to limestone on every building, didn't they?"

Brindell's \$50 Cards Conferred Right to Work

THE Building Trades Council, of which Robert P. Brindell was president, issued privilege cards to workmen for prices ranging from \$30 to \$50 each. These cards were certificates that the workman had Brindell's stamp and was therefore entitled to earn his living. The cards bore a stamp with the face of a man grinning and in the circle around the face were the words "Thanks, Call Again."

"Not that I remember." "You don't know whether they did or not?"

"I am not sure whether they changed or not."

"What is your best recollection: don't you know the limestone building is going on in the city?"

"I don't know that they ever changed from terra cotta to limestone."

"Do you mean to say that you cannot tell us as Mayor of the city whether any of those new schools are finished and occupied?"

"I don't think they are absolutely finished."

"Mr. Undermyer was pressing the Mayor hard and the latter was getting nervous and answering with some confusion. Senator Kaplan again interposed and insisted counsel was indulging in too many side remarks. Kaplan said he thought the committee should go into the investigation of the building trust and not bother the Mayor any longer."

"No, no, I remember these letters." "No, but talking about a man?" "I don't remember the man; still I may know him if you produce him here."

"Produces Missing Letter." "Now I will show you the letter you sent to Mr. Wilsey after receiving Mr. Hettrick's letter of February 8, with enclosure, and ask you whether it is not a verbatim copy, word for word, of the letter Mr. Hettrick sent for you to send?"

"Yes, it is," the Mayor said, examining it.

"Is that a copy of what Hettrick told you to write?" "Yes, sir, what somebody who I think was Hettrick submitted to me."

"And told you to write?" "I don't say he told me to write it; I told him to submit whatever he had and I would send it along."

"And you took it and swallowed it, hook, line and sinker? You didn't send it as somebody else's memoranda?"

"You took the statements of a man whose name you don't now know and you wrote it over your own signature, sent it to the Board of Education and they acted on it and changed from terra cotta to limestone?"

"I don't know that they acted upon it."

"Did you see Mr. Wilsey about it?" "I may have talked to Mr. Wilsey about it."

"Don't you know that the statements in that memorandum that Hettrick sent you and you embodied in the letter to Wilsey were a pack of fabrications?"

"No, I don't."

"Do you know whether it was or not?"

"I sent it to Mr. Wilsey for his information and investigation." "Taking up one after another the statements set forth in the letter, Mr. Undermyer brought from the Mayor admissions that he knew practically nothing of the relative qualities of terra cotta and limestone. He did not know that terra cotta was a high grade building material; he admitted he had not seen the terra cotta in the College of the City of New York or the Bureau of Fire Alarm; that he had not inspected the Municipal Building, said to be fast disintegrating."

"Do you know whether terra cotta is used in the Municipal Building?" "No," the Mayor said.

"For whom did Hettrick say he was acting when he came to you?" "I don't remember that it was Hettrick, but whoever it was didn't tell me who he was acting for, or anything of the kind; just merely brought information about the condition."

"No, but you asked him to put it in the form of a letter?" "Yes, in the form of a memorandum, because I was not familiar with it."

"Is it possible that in a matter of such grave importance to the city as the statements made to you in that letter, you copied a man's letter and sent it on as your own without knowing for whom he acted?"

"I act upon all information that comes to me, and send it on to the heads of departments for their investigation and consideration."

"Mayor Makes Admissions." "Now, Mr. Mayor, just look at this situation. You know now, don't you, that Hettrick was representing the limestone ring?"

"Yes, I know now he was representing the limestone ring."

"And that limestone ring got together and had one man bid on the contract?" "I know one man bid on the contract."

"Don't you know now, from what has come out and from the admissions of that man Hinkle on the stand, that he had a circle of nine men?" "Yes; I saw it in the press."

"And that Hettrick was getting a commission on the job?" "Yes, sir."

"And that he was acting for them?" "Yes."

"Don't you see now that he was just playing the labor union game in the interests of the limestone ring?" "Yes, sir."

"And he was just working up the law?"

Continued on Ninth Page.

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