JEROME RIDICULES HYLAN'S 'SOB STUFF' PLEA FOR VOTES

Continued from First Page.

name, was fined twenty days' pay for doing his duty.

And then Jerome's voice became icy and he read from the trial record of Police Headquarters the brief record of a case requiring, he said, no comment. The record was, in brief that Sergeant John A. Dunnigan, assigned on December 12, 1919, to investigate a complaint of a criminal attack upon a fifteen-year-old girl in a house in Ninth avenue, was charged at headquarters with two offences. First, he was accused of failing to make a proper report; second, of going to the house the next day and himself exposing himself indecently to the same girl. As Mr. Jerome read the record Dunnigan was found guilty on both counts. The fine was the loss of twenty days' pay. It was approved by Commissioner Enright. The penalty imposed on Dunnigan, thus charged, and on Kellar, who merely heldup the millionaire deputy, were the same.

Inspector Dwyer, former Inspector Costigan, the matter of Hylan and Coslin also figured in Mr. Jerome's speech.

Under Hylan's Hide.

At the outset Mr. Jerome referred to Mayor Hylan's assertion that Jerome is being paid $2,000 for each speech. Mr. Jerome said:

"When I was in politics once they had a saying handed down from the fathers that people do not squeal unless they are hurt. When I came to read Honest John's lucubration Saturday night it seemed to me it must have got under his hide. It was awfully unkind of him to forget to mention who it was that was going to deliver this $2,000. The other day I went up to headquarters and I said 'Henry Curran, where is that $2,000 that I was to get for Saturday night?' and I didn't get it and it was awfully unkind of him when I was so nice and gentle about my remarks about him not to tell me where I was going to go to collect.

"But I am going to go fast. I am going to get right down to brass tacks. I am going to picture as near as I can one little chapter—later more—full of interest. I am going to tell you little stories by the way which will illustrate how this plain business man has conducted the affairs of the city of New York since he was in.

"The greatest fake that has been put out as a campaign issue is this transit matter. How it is to finally shape itself I do not know. Hylan does not know, and nobody else knows that I have been able to talk with; not even Sam Untermyer. It is a tremendous problem, but there is one thing that concerns you and that concerns me and concerns everybody, and this is that the city of New York was built on the proposition that we had a 5 cent fare and that we were never going to have a greater fare, and there was never in the city of New York any idea of having anything but a 5 cent fare.

"The only possible reason that more than 5 cents will ever be exacted for fares in the city of New York may be because some Federal court would hold that the 5 cent fare was confiscatory. I do not understand, you do not understand and I do not know anybody that does understand just how the scheme is to be worked, but I have yet to believe anybody that does say the city of New York has had and the city of New York never will have more, and the man who prances around as the person who stands as the bulwark to shield and protect the poor of the city of New York is a faker, because the voters will take care of that.

Have Ears to Ground.

"I am speaking of politicians, whether they be Democratic or Republican or anything else. You know they have their ears to the ground to hear the voice of the people and the first politician who pretended he would want to make the fare more than 5 cents, he would not have to have his ear to the ground; he would hear the voice of the voters of the city of New York speaking in tones he would understand.

"You know and I know that no politician, no Legislature nor any Governor nor anybody else ever attempted to advocate anything more than a 5 cent fare. So there is no issue. How can there be an issue that everybody agrees on and everybody is for? But it is a smoke screen, the camouflage, to persuade you that he stands for the poor man who would be taxed 10 cents a ride. Why, it is the deepest insult to your intelligence that ever was perpetrated.

"There is one other feature in Honest John's campaign, and that is what newspaper men in their private dissertations call sob stuff, that is put in Honest John's speeches.

"Now the issue before the people of the city of New York is the selection of a hired man to fill the job of chief executive of the biggest business corporation in the world. And how does he make good as showing he is capable? He says, 'I was a poor boy.' Well, for God's sake, was he the only poor boy in the world?' You and I know lots of people who were poor, but we do not think because they were poor they were fitted to be the chief executive of the city of New York or the chief executive of a big business corporation.

"He says, 'I am honest.' Well, he was while he was working with his hands. Now, I speak in all sincerity. I think Mayor Hylan's record up to the time when he entered into business was very creditable. A young man with the handicap he had that would work hard enough to get admitted to the Bar, that would bring himself to what is an honorable profession, or should be, that is creditable. Let us play fair in this thing, let us hit hard, but let us hit above the belt. Up to that point his career is entirely creditable. But when he says that because I was poor and I am honest you should give me this job, that is camouflage, that is sob stuff, that is foolish. If your wife lay ill and you needed a surgeon; if your boy lay ill and you needed a surgeon, and you had the choice between Dr. Brewer and a veterinary, you would not take the horse doctor because he was a poor honest man. You would want the skilled man to handle your affairs.

"And if you want sob stuff I can fill your clubhouse with tears about Henry Curran, also a poor boy. I never heard him say he was honest, but I never heard anybody say he was not. He does not capitalize his honesty.

"What is so unique in this city as that a man has been poor and that he was honest? Now, Henry Curran was a poor boy and he was honest, and he got his education by working for it. He went through Yale College and he paid his way through, and he had a widowed mother at the same time. The sob stuff is just as good for one as it is for the other and, my gracious, how I could deal up a lot of this sob stuff about Henry Curran when he was a magistrate here and he had a wife and was living in a five room flat when the war broke out, and Henry Curran didn't claim any exemption.

"Now, if I am right, the issue is this: we are asked to choose for ourselves for the next four years a man to be the chief executive of the biggest business corporation in the world. It is germane to that inquiry to ask what his ability is; what his business record is; what his business record was before he came to that office and what his business record has been since. And, as I say, up to the time that he laid down manual labor I believe he was not only perfectly straight but I also believe that his record was fine and was highly creditable to him. There isn't a thing, in my opinion, to be ashamed of until he got into the clutches of the people, and that was the time that he weakened.

"In other words, he didn't weaken until the pressure came. Up to that time he was a good crackerjack young man and had a highly creditable record up to the time he was admitted to the bar and got in this game right here in Brooklyn. But he couldn't go as Henry Curran did, along the straight and hard way. He couldn't continue to make his living in the way that Curran had to do and most any of us have had to do who have not been born with a silver spoon in our mouths in this world, where they don't give you anything for nothing and where you have to work for anything to get it."

Mr. Jerome next repeated the story told in his speech last week of Hylan and the Black Diamond Automobile Company and of the alleged connection of Alfred Goslin.

"Shades of old Tim!" exclaimed Mr. Jerome. "How he must have turned in his grave when he saw Honest John getting away with thousands of votes for $3,200 when he always had to pay at least $3.50 for those he got in his own district. You see this bunk game is contagious. Why did he lie? Why did Hylan say he did not know this man Goslin? Most questions put to candidates are simply cheap trick questions. They ask questions such as Untermyer is asking Curran. He is trying to put across the same sort of cheap trick. He is trying to ask questions about rapid transit that cannot be answered and then say that he cannot support Curran."

After exhibiting the checks alleged to have been made out by Goslin to Hylan Mr. Jerome said:

"Mr. Hylan goes out and says Jerome was a bad man. He betrayed the people. Well, I am not running for Mayor, and wicked man as I am, as I know myself to be, I do not see why my being wicked should qualify Honest John Hylan to be Mayor of the City of New York. And, you know, I hate this honest stuff. Because I always think of my old acquaintance, Honest John Kelly, the notorious gambler in the City of New York. I raided his place and found a false front 53 card faro box in it. Now, John Kelly was not originally Honest John. He was a poor boy originally.

"And after a while you heard all about Honest John Kelly, and a lot of the Western comeons and others were attracted because he was Honest John Kelly, with the false front fifty-three card faro box. But one day a fellow came along and punctured the thing. He said, 'There is nothing honest about him but his name,' and that punctured Mr. Kelly.

"Now, I do not think this man is so honest as he would have us believe. I do not mean to charge that he has got graft. But he does not think honest and he was not honest with the electors of this city when he got our votes by denying his knowledge of Goslin, when there is evidence in his own handwriting against him; and will he answer except by saying that I am to get $2,000 somewhere, without telling me where to collect I suppose my money would be f. o. b. along the ringside, but I cannot find the fellow who has got the mazuma.

Not Fitted for Mayor.

"But I do not think that quite fits Hylan for Mayor of the City of New York, because I am promised $2,000 a night. Will he answer? No, he will not answer, because in days gone by in Tammany Hall they used to have what were called fool killers, to go out and stop these performances. People believed that a man should not squeal, because that was a sure sign that he was hurt. They had one great and witty sage, and that was William Devery, and he gave them the soundest piece of advice when he said to the young cop that got into trouble. He said, 'Young man, when you are caught with the goods on you, you don't want to say nothin'.' And that is what I think will be Mr. Hylan's answer to these specific charges.

"Good God, can you stand a man being charged with having a foul and disreputable record coming out and denying it and then not taking advantage of an opportunity to prove it in court by sworn testimony if it wasn't true? He quit. He quit. And then having the effrontery to come before you people as 'Honest John.' A 'foul and disreputable record,' Mr. Hylan's own characterization of what the *World* charged him with.

"The second adventure of his business career is something that you people in Brooklyn also know all about—that malodorous Eagle Loan and Savings Bank in which he was for many years a director and which Judge Greenebaum said was rotten and fraudulent from the word go. The head of the loan department of that institution committed suicide, and no one was bonded in the bank, and things of that sort. Some 6,000 of you people lost money in that adventure, so you may know something about it and we will come to that another time.

"I would like to tell you some short stories, by the way, just to give you a view of the goings on, choice morsels of what we have had handed to us during the last four years in the city of New York, and we have sat down supinely and stood for it all.

"My first little story, No. 1, concerns the police. There was a fellow by the name of Tighe on the police force. He was found one night dead drunk three blocks off his post.

"He was found guilty and his sentence was a reprimand. He has since gone to State's Prison for not less than two years and not more than four years, sent there by a Tammany Hall Judge, and it stands forever to the credit of Judge Crain of General Sessions that he had the courage to send that fellow where he belongs.

"I want to contrast that little story with the story of Sergeant Ezekial Keller. Well, the day of the Liberty Day parade Ezekial Keller was stationed at Forty-second street and Fifth avenue, and his orders were to keep that line right up to the curb. And one Harriss, a millionaire Deputy Special Police Commissioner—and have you ever noticed how this Police Department governed by this man of the plain people, this man a friend of the poor, by Honest John, is filled by police deputies all millionaires? They carry "P. D." on their automobile plates, and where you and I drive our Fords at the rate of fifteen miles an hour, they drive their Rolls Royces at any rate they please.

"And according to the testimony Mr. Harriss rode right up and flashed his badge and says he wants to go across. Ezekial says, "You can't go across." "I am a Commissioner, a Deputy Police Commissioner." "Then you ought to know better," says Ezekial, and he put him back, and they brought charges against him for that. Ezekial is convicted on Harriss's testimony.

"Hear this plaint of the Special Deputy Millionaire Police Commissioner—oh, this is good stuff. This is an extract from Harris's testimony at Headquarters on the trial of Ezekial: 'And he didn't let me through until the line was open, and then I went with the other pedestrians across Forty-second street.'

"Oh, infinite humiliation—that I should have rolled around as Deputy Police Commissioner flashing my badge on the subway guards when you and I are on line. Oh, the humiliation of it—that I should have to go across with the other pedestrians.

"It appears that in certain testimony of Harriss—and I am quoting this—this is a peach. Harriss assigned, had assigned an automobile to Richard Enright, Esq., and Richard Enright, Esq., under oath testifies as follows. Q. And he, Harriss, has not given it to you? A. Not yet. He would have given it to me if I wanted it. I told him I would discuss that with him after I got through with the office and this is some time away.'"

Here Mr. Jerome interjected: "Wait a moment—what is his name? John A—— John S——. I have an awful ragbag of a mind sometimes. I said I did not want to make any statement that I could not back up, but I say that you boys should go to-morrow for your papers to one Richard Enright and ask him if he knows Strossneider. Big Bill Strossneider, I think. It may not have the right Harriss. Ask him, Harriss, if he ever knew him. Strossneider is a complicated name. Harriss might forget that, but if he does forget it, then all right, ask him if he knows Champ Andrews—ask him if he knew Champ Andrews. Ask him if he is the Harriss that ought to remember Magistrate Olmstead. Ask him and see and if he does not he will say so and if he does he won't say yes. And if he does there will be another little story by the way. Just try it on and see what happens.

Mr. Jerome then told his hearers what he termed "Little Story No. 2." He reviewed first Capt. Dan Costigan's record as a hunter of vice with the rank of inspector, and then said that Costigan had been demoted without explanation and at a time he was doing his duty. And then he said:

"Now remember the drunken loafer Tighe, now in Sing Sing, who got reprimanded and the decent sergeant who told my friend Harriss to go back where he belonged got twenty days. Dan Costigan is demoted.

The name of Inspector Dwyer was brought into the speech next, Mr. Jerome calling attention to the fact that he is still an inspector, as he was at the beginning of the Administration. He asked his hearers to remember that in 1919 Inspector Dwyer bought a half interest in a hotel in West Forty-ninth street and told them the place always had had a bad reputation.

He recalled that the name of the hotel had been changed soon after the inspector took an interest in it, and then Commissioner Enright has testified this hotel has been under police surveillance during his entire administration of the Police Department.

"But let us see what this signifies to the people of New York. Costigan had been demoted. Dwyer was running a house which was on Enright's testimony a disorderly house, and it had been constantly under Enright's surveillance for four years, lacking these few months. But Dwyer had never been demoted, nor, as far as Enright's testimony shows, never had he been jacked up.

"My gracious, how old Devery must squirm! What opportunities he missed! You know that if it did not make you so boiling mad it would be positively funny, grotesque. Why, it gets your goat. You know you cannot stand for such things."

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