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COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

When Mayor Hiram Charles Gill stood up in the regular meeting of the city council last Monday and called one of the members thereof a liar, he probably did something, the likes of which was never done before save in some rude mining camp just incorporated, when the mayor thereof was at the head of a vice syndicate and was being opposed by a member of the council at the head of another. Such language should be so far below the dignity of a mayor of a city occupying the position in the commercial world that Seattle does, that the mayor doing so, should be impeached at once. How much of the report made by the council committee is true it is not ours to say, but we do know, it is an old adage that says: "throw a stone in a bunch of canines and the one that gets hit always yelps."

The present mayor of Seattle is by the general public considered a man without a bridle to his tongue and from whose mouth the vilest language known to the perverted man flows without regulation, but the public was not prepared to listen to the mayor of Seattle give the lie in a public meeting of the city council, to a member thereof, however vulgar it had considered him to be, when not acting in his official capacity.



HIRAM C. GILL

your own political grave by losing your temper. Mr. Mayor, you are driving those persons away from you that were inclined to believe that you are being imposed upon, by losing your temper. You may not be a dignified gentleman in your ordinary walks of life, but as mayor of Seattle you are not Hiram Gill, but Mr. Mayor, and when you permit yourself to drop from that exalted position, you may expect every one else to treat you as you would be treated. You may not have done anything prior to last Monday evening that warranted your recall, but that one utterance directed to Councilman Kellogg, should be sufficient to remove you from the mayor's chair.

After weeks of investigation the city council committee has made its final report to the council and it created a furor from the opening to the closing of the council meeting. Strange to say the report was adopted by the city council with but two dissenting votes and those came from James Conway of the First ward, who seems to have been the spokesman of the vice gang from the very outset. Councilman Hart opposed the report only in part, and yet he seems to have believed everything it said. Nothing can come of the report and it will be filed away and be forgotten in less than ten days. Not because it, perhaps, does

not recite facts, but because nothing legal can be done. If there is sufficient evidence in the report to warrant the superior court to call a grand jury Mayor Gill, Chief Wappenstein and a number of others might be indicted and tried for malfeasance in office, and perhaps for accepting bribes. But though nothing can come of the report directly it is sufficiently strong to defeat Gill for re election, when he has to face the recall, which he will have to do within a few days from now. It looks as if public sentiment is sufficiently worked up to not only defeat Gill, but demand that every trace of his administration be wiped out.

The committee handed Superintendent Arms a bunch, but the council would not accept that part of the report and voted to exonerate him from any evil intention, and attributed the demoralized condition of the city lighting plant to his lack of experience rather than a studied effort to wreck the plant in the interest of a rival concern.

That the present administration in Seattle was chosen for the express purpose of making Seattle the dumping grounds for the renegades of the country there is no doubt, and the report of the committee fully justifies such a conclusion. The whole escapade is a sad commentary on the civilization to which those responsible for the condition boast of being leading members, and it is high time that a recall be put in force to clean it up root and branch.

LARGE ESTATES

It begins to look as if your Uncle Sam is rapidly getting into the large estate condition and it will not be many years before the estates in the United States will be the most gigantic in all the world, if they are permitted to accumulate as they have within the past two decades.

A few days ago the death of Michael J. Cudahy, the Chicago packing house king, was announced and last Monday his will was admitted to probate and it was found that he had left an estate valued at eleven million dollars, the bulk of which is to be held in trust by the executors of his estate for five years, when it will be distributed to the legal heirs, unless they, in the meantime, form a pool and incorporate the same with the view of permitting it to continue to pile up fortunes for generations unborn.

The heirs of that estate, if they will only hold it together, cannot possibly use up the annual income much less disturb the principal. Such gigantic estates may be accumulated legitimately in so short a time as Mr. Cudahy was in getting his together, but it is very doubtful.

We are of the opinion that such estates should be either taxed to death or the law regulate them in some way to prevent the accumulation. No one man can accumulate so vast a sum of money, in so short a time, if he deals squarely with his fellow man. It is the consensus of opinion that the founder and builder of that estate not only took advantage of the consumers of his articles of food and family necessities, but he robbed the workmen, that is to say, he forced them to work for starvation wages while he piled up a fortune that would bankrupt the general government to duplicate.

While talking of big estates, we are reminded that Andrew Carnegie declared some years ago that he meant to give away all his wealth and die poor. He has given away a good many millions of dollars, and to the poor man, it looks as if he were making a big, bold stagger in that direction, but it is said by those who are in a position to know, Mr. Carnegie's annual income amounts to almost as much as all he has given away, and if he expects to give himself poor, he will have to make greater strides in that direction in the future than in the past.

It was but last Monday that the Associated Press told of the completion of the residence of W. A. Clark in New York city, which has cost its builder in round numbers seven million dollars, and the taxes on the same amount to \$200 per day or \$73,000 annually. There is no excuse for such mansions, and if the government would impose a heavy tax on them there

would be no such mansions erected, and the owners of those ill-gotten gains that allow them to build such, would gladly distribute them rather than see them eaten up by taxes. Notwithstanding the fact that that mansion is reported to have cost seven million dollars, it is more than likely it is not assessed for over two million dollars, if that much. Say what you will or may, the men, who by chicanery and bribery, accumulate vast fortunes at the expense of the poor, do not pay their share of the taxes of the land, and unless some more decided steps are made in the equalizing of taxation in the United States, serious trouble will sooner or later arise over it.

EDITORIAL EDICTS

Twinkle, twinkle little Star, up above, the city so high.

Mr. Kleptomaniac is always worked overtime this season of the year and all because Christmas is so near.

Jim Corbett might save time by ceasing to look for a man to whip Jack Johnson and try him a whirl himself.

If the Insurgents in Congress will not grow too impatient they will soon see a complete change in the rules of the house of representatives.

If restaurant waitresses will only marry the male customers that they make dates with, then let's encourage more girls to take positions as waitresses.

Whether Mullen or Revelle got more election campaign notoriety out of that little tilt in the council remains to be seen, but the honors seems to have been about even.

Senator Lorimer has been exonerated, so comes a dispatch from Chicago. The dispatch, however, was silent as to how much that exoneration had cost the Chicago pork packers.

President Diaz is said to be afraid of being assassinated. The fear of his republic being overthrown should worry him more than himself being assassinated, for those fellows are after the real thing and not Diaz.

Arizona is getting real anxious to become a state and to that end the governor is hurrying the election for the adoption of the constitution. Evidently the "interests" must think that they are losing something by being a territory instead of a state.

Dr. Fake A. Cook is now in New York City and it begins to look as if he is going to work just as smooth a fake on the press of that city as he did on his return from the north with the discovery of the North pole lie in his mouth.

Before a Chicago audience Jack Johnson offers to box with a local merchant of that city for sweet charity New Year's night. We believe that Jack did something like that the 4th of last July, only he felt himself the needy one.

The United States wants the farmers of this country to raise a few more horses in connection with the other farm products, May perhaps a horse farm in Washington state would pay even better than an apple farm and it would at least be a diversion.

Col. Lafe Young, a premature senator from Iowa, said in a speech in the senate not long since, "the press and not congress controls the destinies of this country." And just to think Colonel Blethen is a part of the press. If he is a sample of the press that controls this country we fear it will be an Arcade dance hall on a gigantic scale.

Some time ago Jim Morrison announced that no more of the political game for him, even if the state went prohibition, and now he announces that no more refereeing prize fights for him. All these things make his friends think that Jim has reaped his harvest and is looking for no more worlds to conquer.