

Chicago Eagle.



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ROB THE PEOPLE

Chicago Job Holders Organize to Treble Burden of Taxation and Confiscate Property of the Poor

Rents and Taxes Will Soar and Many Workingmen Will Lose the Savings of a Life Time

The coldest blooded robbery of the public ever planned is in the request made by the City Council of Chicago to the Legislature for permission to treble the tax on the small property owners of Chicago.

The request is made in the interest of the city job holders unions, the members of which hold life jobs under the Civil Service and who are organized to get the last drop of blood out of the people.

Rents will soar. The property of the poor will be confiscated.

But the job holders unions will get what they are after.

Few people realize the strength of the unions as fostered by the Civil Service laws.

City job holders can be members of the legislature and still hold their city jobs—merely taking a furlough until the legislative work is over.

City job holders can be Aldermen and still hold their city jobs.

So the city job holders can get all the legislation they want while the pockets of the taxpayers have anything in them.

The people are powerless. They have no organization. There are a couple of real estate "boards" in the city.

Outside of giving dinners to themselves once in a while or talking about the Torrens law or the weather real estate boards never do anything.

So the taxpayers of Chicago can prepare to be skinned alive.

A boost in the tax rate of \$1.65 per \$100 of assessed valuation was recommended by the city council committee on finance, which approved an appropriation bill providing for expenditures of \$35,396,469 out of the corporate fund. At the same time the committee completed an alternative "baby" budget totaling a little over \$15,000,000, proposed in the event there is no legislative authorization of the increased tax rate. This would cut thousands of city employes out of their jobs.

The court will have to approve the larger program and the state legislature will have to act favorably before any provision of this budget can be carried out. A roar is expected on the tax increase proposition, as it means this:

If you live on the south side and

have a home worth \$3,000, you pay on \$1,000 of assessed valuation. The rate now is \$58.50 for the south town. The rate proposed would be \$75 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, a boost of \$16.50 per \$1,000. Residents of other parts of town will be similarly hit.

The city's corporate fund is limited by state law to \$1.10. The recommendation made by the committee means increasing this to \$2.75 if legislative approval is obtained. It is expected that the increased tax rate will be fought bitterly, as it means higher rents for homes and apartments and more taxes for all who pay taxes, including persons and estates that are large and likewise small holders of real estate and buildings.

COMMISSION TO RULE CHICAGO

The corporation counsel's office has drafted five bills at the request of the council finance committee which if passed by the state legislature will give Chicago a commission form of government. The five bills provide: A city manager. Changes in the selection of city clerk, treasurer and comptroller. Creating a new department to have charge of the city comptroller's and city treasurer's office. Nonpartisan election of aldermen. Amendments to the act consolidating the local governments. The bills have been sent to the finance committee for action. If they are passed upon favorably they will be sent to the legislature for action.

FEDERATION OF LABOR PROPOSES JOHN FITZPATRICK FOR MAYOR

John Fitzpatrick, president of the Chicago Federation of Labor, is now before the public as labor's candidate for mayor.

Four hundred delegates of the new independent labor party named him for that office at a nominating convention at Hodcarriers' Hall, 814 West

Harrison street. Immediately he announced that no contributions for the party campaign would be received except from labor sources.

Other nominees of the new party selected by acclamation are: John Kukulski, Polish organizer of the stock

REINBERG BALKS SQUANDERING OF PEOPLE'S MONEY

Patronage seekers among the members of the forest preserve commission were reported to be planning to pad the rolls of that body and take care of the pressure for jobs they are being subjected to. Peter Reinberg, president of the commission, announced that he would oppose any unnecessary expenditure of money, particularly in view of the fact that the county commission, the membership of which is identical with the forest preserve commission, is preparing to move on the legislature at Springfield with a demand for more money for county purposes.

It is reported that a list of appointments for the forest preserve commission has been prepared, and that it calls for many more employes than are employed at the present time and an increased expenditure of about \$50,000. Among the new employes wanted are six district superintendents. There are no such superintendents at present.

LATHAM HEADS IROQUOIS

The following are to be the officers

UNITE ON OLSON

Brundage and Deneen Republican Factions Bury Hatchet Get Back of Judge for Mayor

Merriam Will Contest at the Primary, but Will Support Olson at the Polls if Beaten by Him

Harry Olson, Chief Justice of the Municipal Court is the choice of the Brundage and Deneen factions of the Republican party for Mayor.

He will lead the fight on Thompson. Captain Charles E. Merriam will contest for the nomination at the pri-

sits firmly on the throne, supreme over private interest and privilege.

"We may see a city where the sinister system linking the machine of the boss with the predatory public utility, and the hideous gangs who trade in vice and crime is shattered and dispersed; where the machinery and tools of government that do the people's will shall be sharp and bright and clean, adapted to the work they must do; where the range and scope of the city's power shall cover the needs; where men and women shall share alike the grave responsibilities of governing their common affairs; where the acts and agents of government shall always be subject to the people's will; where the public pay rolls and purchases serve the public and not a party, a faction or a person."

made an attack upon Alderman H. D. Captain and the traction interests. Health Commissioner John Dill Robertson also spoke and as an added attraction a complete bill of vaudeville acts was staged.

When Mayor Thompson and Judge Olson met in the 1915 primaries the latter was considered a favorite. The nomination went to Thompson by a narrow margin, the Second Ward with its large Negro vote being the determining factor.

MCCULLOCH DECLINES

Charles A. McCulloch in the following statement declined to become a candidate for the Republican nomination for mayor.

"Recently my name has been included in a list of men as a candidate for mayor on the Republican ticket.

"My name has been put forward by friends with whom I have been associated for years. I thank them for the compliment which they have thus bestowed upon me, but I wish to say that I am not a candidate. My business connections take up all of my time, and the sacrifice involved seems to be one which I hardly could make."

LOOKS LIKE McANDREWS

Many Democratic leaders are of the opinion that in the interest of harmony the Organization may agree to the suggestion of Congressman Sabath, Frank Paschen, Alderman Kostner and other strong Harrison men and name Congressman James McAndrews for mayor.

THOMPSON CONFIDENT

Mayor Thompson and his friends are confident of winning the Republican nomination over Olson and Merriam.

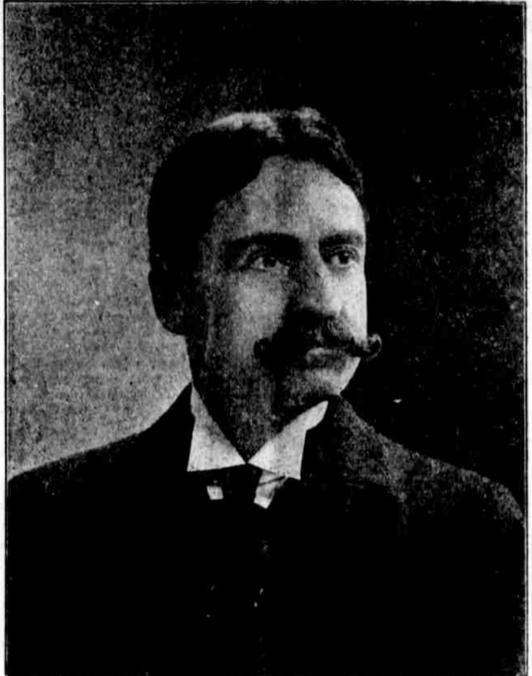
Mayor Thompson opened his campaign for renomination and re-election with a mass meeting Tuesday night in Arcadia Hall at Broadway and Sunnyside ave. The petition with its 200,000 signers asking the mayor to make the race was formally presented. The mayor in his initial speech

QUINLAN FOR TREASURER

Twenty-fifth Ward Democrat Boosted for Nomination.

Friends of William F. Quinlan of the Twenty-fifth ward are boosting him for the democratic nomination for city treasurer.

Mr. Quinlan is a pioneer of Edgewater and is president of the Edgewater Coal company.



COLONEL B. A. ECKHART. Popular Miller and Republican Leader Who Declined to Become a Candidate for Mayor.

IN THE LEGISLATURE

Work of Illinois Lawmaking Body

By a vote of 84 to 66 the Illinois house of representatives ratified the federal prohibition amendment. The senate passed the resolution last week.

Both Speaker Shanahan and the committee on committees of the senate are at work on the committees. It is understood that there will be few changes in either house. The wisecracks are forecasting that Speaker Shanahan will head his most important committees about as follows:

Appropriations—Edward J. Smejkal of Chicago.

Judiciary—William P. Holaday of Georgetown.

Public Utilities and Transportation—Carl Mueller, Chicago.

Judicial Department and Practice—Gotthard A. Dahlberg, Chicago.

Temperance—Norman F. Flagg, Moro.

Liberal—Thomas Curran, Chicago.

Agricultural—Israel Dudgeon, Morris.

Roads and Bridges—Homer J. Tice, Green view.

Banks and Banking—Richard Meents, Ashkum.

Democrats expect no committee chairmanships.

The same committee in the senate probably will be headed as follows:

Appropriations—Edward C. Curtis, Grant Park.

Judiciary—Richard J. Barr, Joliet.

Public Utilities and Transportation—John Dalley, Peoria.

Judicial Department and Practice—W. S. Jewell, Lewiston.

Temperance—Charles L. Wood, Keons.

Liberal—Francis P. Brady, Chicago.

Roads and Bridges—Henry M. Dunlap, Savoy.

Banks and Banking—Clayton C. Perrier, Sheffield.

Agriculture—Simon E. Lantz, Connersville.

yards workmen, for city clerk; Knute G. Torkelson, a carpenter, for city treasurer.

SENATOR SHERMAN WILL RETIRE

An Associated Press dispatch from Washington says that Senator Lawrence Y. Sherman of Illinois intends to retire from public life at the end of his present term, March 3, 1919.

One of the very best Aldermen in the City Council, is Edward F. Cullerton. He has been longest in the public service of any member of the City Council and his usefulness to the people has been demonstrated over and over again.

of the Iroquois Club for the ensuing year:

President—Carl R. Latham.

Vice President—William A. Doyle.

Treasurer—Oscar G. Foreman.

Secretary—George L. Reker.

Board of Managers—John W. Eckhart, Edward D. Hulbert, William E. Dever, Roswell B. Mason, Otto Kubin, William A. Tilden, Henry B. Chamberlin, Henry Horner, Julius F. Smetanska, Morgan L. Davies, Michael L. Ince, Oscar Mayer, Benjamin J. Alheimer, Harry R. Gibbons and Joseph Sabath.

Mr. Latham, who is a brother of the late H. H. Latham, former president of the club, who died of influenza recently, is the candidate for president on both the regular and members' tickets.

Thomas J. Webb is coming to the front as a mayoralty dark horse on the Democratic side.

maries, but will support Olson if he wins the nomination.

MERRIAM FIGHTS GRAFT

Capt. Charles E. Merriam, republican, candidate for the mayoralty nomination, urged citizens to keep up the fight for good government and to keep in sight at all times what they are fighting for. Capt. Merriam addressed the League of Cook County Clubs in the Fine Arts building.

"In the tumult of the struggle for better government, we must not lose sight of the goal," he said. "From time to time we must lift up our eyes to see where we are moving. We may see a city where graft and greed have been led captive; where privilege and its shadow, poverty, have been driven out through the city's gates. We may see a city where the public interest

Legislative action boosting the Chicago tax rate \$1.65 per \$100 of assessed valuation will be sought by the city council if a recommendation passed by the city council is approved by the entire body of aldermen. A "baby budget," calling for the discharge of thousands of policemen, firemen and other city employes has been submitted as an alternative should the city fail to get relief from the legislature.

The budget based on the income for 1919 now in sight calls for an expenditure of \$15,680,437 as compared to \$25,272,980, the revised appropriation for 1918. The appropriation bill worked out on the assumption that the legislature will provide for a greater corporate income for a 1919 expenditure of \$35,396,469. This will continue in effect the salary increases given city employes last year and provide for additional employes called for by department heads.

The "baby budget" worked out by the finance committee cuts the police department from \$7,872,537 to \$5,250,965 and the fire department from \$3,772,318 to \$2,934,044. The corporation counsel's office is cut from \$270,850 to \$28,900, leaving only the head of the department and a few employes.

The election commission, which received nearly \$1,000,000 last year, is cut off without a cent, and the department of public welfare and the bureau of statistics are also abolished.

Chicago's appropriation bill for 1919, providing for expenditures from the

corporate fund of \$35,396,509, was sent to the city council last night by the finance committee, which has been working on the budget for several weeks.

The ordinance for the Ogden ave. extension was referred to the streets and alleys committee, where it will be formally approved.

The Council approved a contract with the government for all vacant space on the Municipal Pier for storing automobiles and war equipment. The city will receive \$130,000 annually as rental.

Alderman Maypole's order changing the hours at which automobiles are prohibited from parking in the loop was passed. The new hours are from 7 to 9 a. m. instead of 7 to 10 and from 4:30 to 6 p. m. instead of from 4:30 to 7 p. m.

Cars will be permitted to park otherwise for one hour instead of a half hour.

Mayor Thompson was directed to extend an invitation to Cardinal Mercier of Belgium. Alderman Richert suggested this.

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