

GROSS MISCONDUCT SAID THE COURT

Eighteenth Ward Election Board in the Sheriff's Custody.

RETURNS ARE IN CHAOTIC SHAPE

Wide Discrepancies Between the Open and Sealed Returns and Between the Tally and Triplicate Sheets of the Latter—Members of the Board Were Drunk and Permitted all Kinds of Irregularities. List of Voters Missing.

Flagrant violations of the laws governing the conduct of election officers were unearthed yesterday in the official count of the returns from the Eighteenth ward. It would be not at all surprising if the whole vote should be thrown out.

There were startling discrepancies found in the return sheets; the test of voters was missing, and from the evidence that was adduced at an investigation instituted by court, it would appear that certain of the officers were not in a condition to perform their duties, one having to give up his position and put on a substitute as early as 10 o'clock in the morning. It was admitted by the board that the voters forced their way in during the progress of the count and were permitted to assist in making out the returns; also that one did all the signing and attesting of such of the papers as were signed.

The bitter fight for select council between Thomas O'Boyle, Independent, and John J. Hoban, Democrat, was the cause of the trouble. Attorneys M. J. Donohoe and C. C. Donovon, representing O'Boyle, who are returned as elected, and Joseph O'Brien representing Hoban, the candidate returned as defeated, indicated by being present during the progress of the official count, that the board was not irregular.

IRREGULARITIES APPARENT.

When the Eighteenth ward sealed return was opened by Comparing Clark J. Elliott Ross the irregularities were at once apparent. The open returns gave O'Boyle 186 votes and Hoban 159 votes. The tally list read O'Boyle, 61 votes; Hoban, 61 votes. The triplicate sheet credited O'Boyle with 35 votes and Hoban with 28. In addition to all this it was found that the list of voters was missing; that the forty-five affidavits which accompanied the return, were, every one, incurably defective; that the handwriting of the signatures on the triplicate and tally sheets indicated that all were made by the one person, and that the open return sheet was not signed at all.

When Judge Gunster's attention was called to the matter he sent for the sheriff and ordered him to bring in every member of the election board, which was made up of Martin McHale, Judge; John McHale and S. A. Moser, inspectors; Patrick Minahan and W. F. Hsieh, clerks; John Jones and Patrick Dougher, overseers; John Burns, who was charged with Minahan, when he "look sick," was also summoned.

All were on hand, with the exception of Jones, at the reconvening of court in the afternoon, and the investigation was proceeded with.

Judge Martin McHale and Inspector John McHale avowed that they knew nothing of the whereabouts of the list of voters, but believed it was stolen after the watchers left. They denied that they were drunk on the board or that they in any other way violated the laws they had taken an oath to observe.

Patrick Minahan said he was appointed clerk by Inspector McHale, and was engaged in performing his duties when he was taken ill and had to vacate in favor of Burns. This was about 10 o'clock in the morning. He denied that he was drunk that day, but admitted that when he relinquished his post on account of illness that he did not go under a physician's care, but remained about the office all day and until the count of the votes was completed.

MINAHAN EXPLAINS.

When asked what had become of the list of voters, Minahan said he believed it was in the ballot box. He remembered having helped put it there. He didn't sign any of the returns, but supposed that Burns signed them for him.

Inspector Moser, who next called to testify, swore that John McHale and Minahan were both drunk, and Minahan was an intolerable nuisance all day long around the polls, and McHale was worse. After the watchers left the list of voters disappeared, he said, and he had cause to suspect that it was stolen. It was, he said, the most disgraceful and corrupt election that had ever taken place in the ward.

As to the discrepancies in the returns, Mr. Moser explained, on cross-examination, that the tally was carried to the end of the sheet and footed up, then it was brought forward to another sheet, and this being footed up was carried to a third sheet, which contained the correct footing. These extra sheets, he believed, were by mistake locked up in the ballot box.

William F. Hsieh, who was clerk to

the minority inspector, admitted in response to questions by Mr. O'Brien, that the board "was in a pretty bad state." Judge Martin McHale was drunk, noisy and continually quarreling, and Inspector John McHale was no better. The latter was absent from the booth for two and three hours at a time. Minahan fell by the wayside early in the game, Hsieh said, as early possibly as 10 o'clock in the morning. Jones and Dougher, the overseers, and Beaumont and Dacey, the watchers, were all right. Hsieh denied that he, himself, had been drinking anything.

Outsiders forced themselves into the booth while the count was in progress and some of them participated in the counting, one of them, William Beaumont, a watcher, even being allowed to take the ballots from the box and do the reading. He would pass them over to the judge and the latter, glancing over them, would pass them to Inspector McHale, who would say, "All right" and let them go without even looking at them.

THE LIST DISAPPEARED.

Hsieh admitted that he signed all the names to the returns. The board functioned, he thought, to perform that function. He could not account for the absence of any signatures from the open returns; he thought possibly that particular sheet escaped his notice. He was quite positive that the missing list was a search had been made for it there before the box was locked. The list disappeared from the table in front of him while he was engaged in making the count.

He then explained how the tally had been carried out on three sheets instead of one, as Moser presumably described. The tally that he, himself, made out was carried out on one sheet, brought forward to a second and then completed on the back of the second sheet.

Hsieh then proceeded to tell how he saw the judge accept a voter and then, as his ballot was put into the box, Inspector McHale, to whom Candidate O'Boyle had submitted something, snatched it out of the clerk's hand and threw it aside. Judge Gunster interrupted him, however, saying that the question of the missing returns was the only matter formally before the court and that at present he could not hear anything foreign to the question at issue.

Judge Gunster asked Hsieh if he could account for the missing returns. He answered "No," but he was sure they were not in the ballot box. He concluded his testimony by admitting that the figures on the open returns were put in by Burns. Burns was called to the stand and said this was true.

Overseer Dougher was next called up and when he admitted about all that Hsieh had testified to, the court lectured him for not attending to his duty. He could not account for the missing list of voters.

Mr. O'Brien then made an argument to the effect that the court could not certify to the returns and have them regularly entered, in the face of what had developed, and, therefore, the vote of the ward should be thrown out entirely and a new election ordered.

Court made no comment on this, but said he would have the ballot box brought in and a search made for the missing papers.

TO MAKE A SEARCH.

ONE WOMAN'S VIEWS.

"She has such beautiful manners," remarked a lady, competent to express such an opinion, of a fair young woman who is very popular in society in this city. "Yes," remarked a listener, "she saves them for acquaintances and strangers; you just should see her at home; why she's too disagreeable for anything. Every member of the family goes on tip toe, figuratively, in her presence."

"Now that's something worth knowing," exclaimed another member of the group. "I wonder how she manages it. I'd like to have her recipe. Nobody ever went on tip toe in my vicinity yet. I believe even as a lady, I must have had to smile when pins were sticking into me, just for fear I might annoy somebody. It's what has always been expected of me. I've been the one who has done all the tipping in our family and I'm just about tired of it. No one ever suggests that Tom stop sharpening the carving knife a half hour at a time, because of my nerves. It is always Aunt Annie or Sister Grace's nerves that must be considered. Nobody ever heitates to find fault with me for every trivial thing I do or don't do, but if a hint is given of scolding Margaret or Grace, there is always some voice to pipe out: 'Oh, I wouldn't say that to Grace, she is so sensitive.' I wish to goodness I knew how to go about it. I'm tired of the tipping process as operated by someone else besides my unlucky self. I should enjoy seeing our household stand in awe of me for a little while."

"So, you wouldn't, it's horrid. The role wouldn't fit you," said the first speaker. "But really, Miss G.—is hate-ful at home. The servants all tell it and even her mother inadvertently admitted as much one day."

"Not nice of her mother," put in the patient looking woman in the corner, who everybody knew was brow beaten by her husband and never made a complaint, but always spoke admiringly of his nice temper.

Now all this comment is enough to set one to thinking as to what governs these traits. The cause for woman mentioned is supposed to be thoroughly well bred. She is noted in a large circle for her exquisite manners, the fitness of her tact, the beauty of her well-groomed hair, her clear and her delightful conversation. Yet it is stated on good authority that she is dictatorial and actually unpleasant in her father's house.

There are those who are infinitely less agreeable, known as being brusque and even awkward in society, and yet who are so sunny and dear and sweet, so thoroughly unselfish in their lovely home life, that their immediately family dreads the day when they may leave the paternal roof and take forever its sunshine away.

There are men who are so suave and genial to their outside acquaintance that it would be almost impossible to credit the statement that at home although they do not shy plates and chairs at their wives, they are lavish with harsh words, sneers and fault-finding—missiles which hurt worse than blows. Just how one is to account for such points of variance is difficult to determine, and yet it is at home that the gentleness should glow.

What does it matter if sometimes to the stranger we may be abrupt and not particularly winning in our ways? It would be better if we could be smiling and sunny to everybody, but if we must have a safety valve for a twisted disposition let it be used for the benefit of the people who do not care much for us, or upon whom we exercise no claim of proprietorship or kin. The stranger isn't obliged to live with us during the remainder of our natural lives. If we are disagreeable to him he can go around another block and avoid meeting us again, but there are those who have to come in at night for years perhaps and listen to our endless complaints and reprimands, who are forced to sit at table three

times a day and hear our eternal nagging. We all have moods when we feel like snapping somebody and it isn't always easy to smile when the heart is aching or the temper is ruffled, and it is pretty hard on the people who have to live in our society if we are as pleasant as possible. What a life we must lead them when we visit all the effects of our own ill governed disposition on their unhappy heads and save our politeness for the ones outside who probably don't care a little bit whether we frown or laugh.

There are ties stronger than those of society. Why should we perpetuate the relationship of husband, wife; father, mother; brother, sister, if our treatment of those dear ones is not to be tender, gentle, more considerate than that given to the world in general? To keep back the bitter words, to withhold the harsh criticism, to make excuses for their faults is no more than we owe to those so closely brought into contact with us, and from a selfish point of view alone would pay in the similar returns received. "Frankness," that much abused term, is greatly overworked in this world. It is an excuse for the venting of vast ill temper, jealousy, injustice and dyspepsia, and it is about the most easily acquired habit that can be suggested. It is particularly un-desirable in the home and is too often used as a mask of a spirit of fault-finding.

Bless the sunny girl, bless the sweet-natured man and woman who have been trained to look out for some of the pleasant traits of their home companions and in general to preserve a merciful silence on their defects. So frequently it is that

"We have careful thought for the stranger."

He smiles for the sometimes guest. But oft for our own, the bitter tone "Though we love our own the best."

Saucy Bess.

DIETRICK KILLED A FOX.

He Called on Alderman Wright and Secured the Legal Bounty.

Foxes have not been quite exterminated from Lackawanna county. Huldreich Dietrick, of Clifton township, yesterday received a bounty of \$1 from Alderman G. E. Wright for a fox killed Jan. 28, on Dietrick's farm.

Dietrick brought to the alderman's office the pelt of the fox. The ears were cut off and burned in order to prevent further collection of bounty on

JONAS LONG'S SONS.

Another Great Saturday

To bring the thousands here—to see, to enjoy, to buy. Attractions galore. Bargains to make buyers happy. Music to please everyone. Restaurant in which to dine. Reception room in which to rest. All in the interest of a Scranton public who find in this store the

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Big assortment of Tams and School Hats. About 200. To go today at 21c

New, Novel and Stylish Seal Collarettes to be given away. They are made of silk-lined throughout. In storm collar is fastened there is also a bunch of These collarettes are actually worth three times the price asked today.

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JONAS LONG'S SONS

that particular pelt which Dietrick was permitted to carry away with him. Payments of bounty on the skins of "noxious animals" have grown fewer each year until now it is a rarity for farmers and hunters to derive much benefit from the old law.

"My Life Despaired of." These are words of Mrs. Wm. Burton, of Dartmouth, Ont., after doctors had proscribed and she had taken every known heart remedy. Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart gave relief in almost shorter time than it takes to tell it—it worked a wonderful cure in a case of long standing and today she says: "I am a well woman." Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart has no case recorded against it where it did not give relief inside of 30 minutes. Sold by Matthews Bros. and W. T. Clark.—15.

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