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The Call

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DREYFUS IS CONFIDENT OF SOON GAINING HIS LIBERTY

Views Vary as to the Length of Time the Reconvicted Officer Is to Serve.

From All Sections of the Civilized World Come Reports of Protest Against the Injustice of the Verdict.

RENNES, Sept. 10.—Dreyfus has borne the terrible shock with marvelous fortitude, one might almost say with unnatural calm. Yesterday he seemed stupefied when M. Labori communicated to him the verdict, but has since rallied. He passed a quiet night and rose when his orderly brought him water at 5 o'clock, this morning just as he did during the trial when it was necessary.

Mme. Dreyfus and Mathieu Dreyfus, his brother, visited him during the course of the afternoon. His brother subsequently left for Paris. The application to the Court of Revision was taken to him at noon by M. Labori's assistant and he signed it.

To-day Dreyfus has spoken but little, though he has seemed in better spirits than might have been anticipated. The meeting with his wife was naturally very affecting, but both held up as well as possible. He said to her:

"I am not uneasy regarding myself, as I shall soon be free, but I think of you and my poor children; they will be branded as the children of a traitor."

He is convinced that the ten years' imprisonment to which he is sentenced will be wiped out by the five years of solitary seclusion he has undergone on Devils Island and he expects to be released by October 15, which will be five years from the date of his former condemnation. He is so sanguine that he had made an extraordinary request of his wife for a novel to be read in the meantime, explaining that his mind is so shaken and weighed down by recent events that he needs to divert his thoughts and to try to get all the recollections of the last three months out of his mind. He thinks that reading a novel will afford the desired mental repose and keep him from brooding. The correspondent of the Associated Press called upon Mme. Dreyfus this afternoon after her visit with her husband and saw her father, M. Hadamard, who said his daughter was bearing up wonderfully well, considering the circumstances, but desired to remain undisturbed to-day in view of the emotional strain of the interview.

H. Hadamard said that Mme. Dreyfus and the family were hopeful and looked forward to some favorable developments.

"The verdict," he added, "is an infamy. Captain Dreyfus is in poor health, as every one knows. He has been extremely ill from the moment of his arrival in France and has been put on a special regime. His health has not improved and the nervous effect of yesterday's terrible blow is bound to react on his general condition. His suppression of all outward emotion is due to his almost incredible force of will, but it does not imply that he is insensible to the mental and physical torture he has undergone. On the contrary, the family just now see his weak state of health and abnormal impassivity, an ugly sign, and fear for him more than they care to express."

The town to-day has been perfectly calm. There has not been a sign nor a demonstration nor a cry for or against Dreyfus. A number of people gathered to see Mme. Dreyfus visit the prison, but they were quite respectful.

The troops and masses of gendarmes who yesterday gave the center of Rennes the appearance of a military camp, have completely vanished. There are hardly any gendarmes in sight except near the Dreyfus residence, where a few are posted. Cavalry officers were seen frequenting the cafes this afternoon, showing that the authorities no longer fear any trouble here and are allowing the officers to leave their barracks.

So far as can be ascertained military men are perfectly satisfied with the verdict, which they interpret as safeguarding the honor of the army and at the same time doing an act of mercy to Dreyfus, who, they say, sufficiently expiated his crime in the awful existence he passed on Devils Island. They point out that even if he is sent to Fort Corte, it will be to receive henceforth the humane treatment he has experienced since his return to France.

One strange fact is the extraordinary defense of the opinion respecting the exact effect of the judgment—whether he can be degraded again and whether the five years' solitary confinement he has undergone will be regarded as equivalent to the ten years' detention to which he is now sentenced, and whether he will be released next month. This matter is quite aside from the general impression that he will be pardoned in a few days by President Loubet, who will find some ground on which to exercise clemency.

M. Demange thinks the five years will count for nothing, and that Dreyfus, according to the law, will have to suffer ten years' detention. Many others, however, including several lawyers, hold a contrary opinion, and declare that he will be released in October. This, as already cabled, is the belief of Dreyfus himself.

The correspondent this afternoon interrogated M. Coupers, the clerk of the court-martial, on this point. He was most emphatic in declaring that Dreyfus must serve ten years from the date of a fresh degradation, the court-martial having considered the case as beginning when Dreyfus appeared before them, disregarding altogether his previous sentence.

M. Coupers said: "I have no doubt whatever that according to the military code Dreyfus must undergo degradation again, as he was reinstated as a captain in the army and he appeared before the court in uniform. That he will actually be put through this cruel ordeal I think doubtful. If it depended on me I know what I should do, and the President of the republic may think with me."

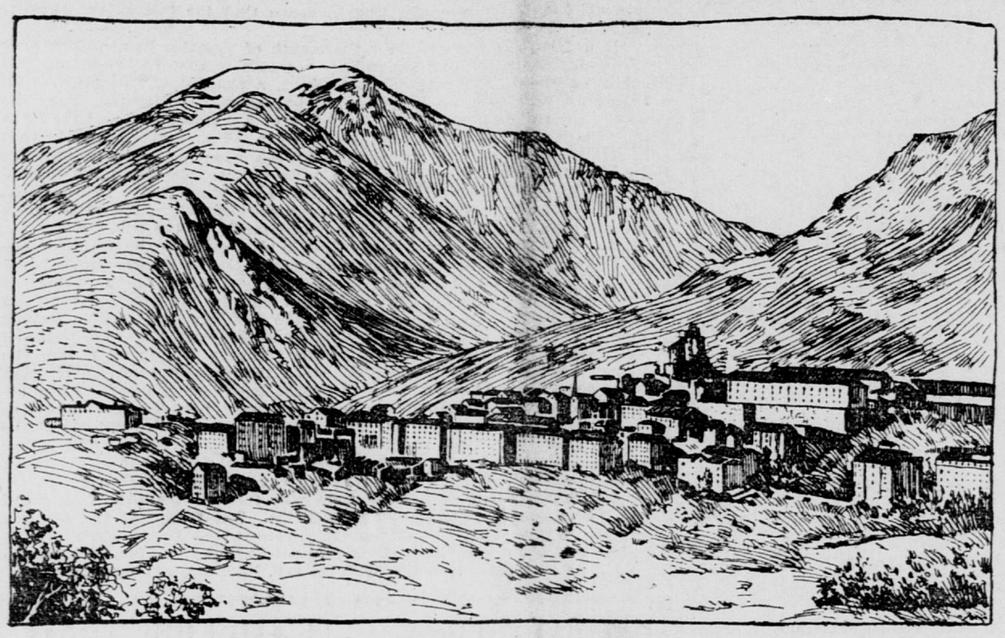
Colonel Jouaust also declared that Dreyfus must serve ten years, but speaking with friends to-day, he expressed a conviction that there would not be a fresh degradation. This ceremony requires breaking the prisoner's sword and tearing off his epaulets. But Dreyfus never had his sword restored to him, and he only wore undress uniform without epaulets, so that it would be impossible to carry out the regulations for degradation. This is Colonel Jouaust's view.

Those who think Dreyfus will be released in October because the five years on Devils Island will wipe out the present sentence saw in the fact that he was sentenced for exactly ten years a confirmation of their view, but they are mistaken. He was sentenced to ten years not because that happened to double his confinement on Devils Island, but because according to military code the recording of two votes in his favor fixes the term of detention at ten years. Had the verdict been unanimous he must have been sentenced to twenty years.

Those professing to have ascertained since the verdict the opinion of the judges, declare that the vote of five to two was not given by mutual agreement, but because the two judges voted in his favor from a conviction of his innocence.

The present procedure is the application for revision, signed by Dreyfus to-day. It will be sent to Paris. The clerk of the court-martial must send a complete dossier of the trial, including all the documents submitted. A reporter will be appointed to examine it minutely and ascertain whether there be any flaw in the proceedings. The result will be submitted to the Court of Revision, which will maintain or annull the sentence.

An interesting fact developed to-day is that the police had taken every precaution to get Dreyfus safely out of Rennes in the event of acquittal, in which case it was unanimously agreed there would have been serious disorder and probably an attempt upon his life. The police had arranged to conduct him back to the military prison, after the verdict, with the same precautions as during the trial. He was to have been given civilian attire and a false beard and then to have left the prison by the small door of the recruiting office leading to the Avenue de la Gare. No one would have expected him to leave through that building, which is attached to the military prison, and, thanks to the disguise, the police hoped he would reach the station safely, where a special train was waiting to rush him off before the crowd could have heard of his leaving.



CAPTAIN DREYFUS' NEW PRISON.

The town and citadel of Corte, Island of Corsica, where it is reported the ex-prisoner of Devil's Island will spend his newly allotted term of imprisonment.

The town of Corte is situated high up in the mountains, just north of the central part of the island of Corsica, on the high road from Bastia, on the northeast coast, to Ajaccio, on the southwestern, and thirty miles from either place. It stands on the banks of the river Tavignano, and near the foot of Mount Rotondo, shown in the background of the picture, from whose summit, 8609 feet high, can be seen the shores of France and Italy, from Toulon to Leghorn, as well as nearly all of Sardinia, to the south. Corte has a population of 5000 souls, and is the seat of the University of Paoli. It has one of the few daily newspapers on the island, and a statue of Corsica's famous son, Pasquel Paoli, which stands on the central plaza of the same name. The citadel, with the attached fortifications of later date, which may be Dreyfus' new prison home, is shown on the rising ground in the back of the picture, a little to the right of the center.

MME. DREYFUS, FAITHFUL WIFE OF THE PRISONER.

At a special meeting of the Emanu-El Sisterhood held yesterday afternoon the council directed the following cablegram to be sent to Mme. Dreyfus:

To Mme. Lucie Dreyfus, Rennes, France: The Emanu-El Sisterhood on its own behalf and the Jewish womanhood of San Francisco, laments with you, prays with you, and with you hopes for a final triumphant vindication. BELLA LILIENTHAL, President.
ADELINE ROTHSCHILD, Secretary.

PRESS OF THE WORLD RINGS WITH EXECRATIONS

LONDON, Sept. 10.—With the exception of the Jesuit organ in Rome and the anti-Semite papers, the press of the whole world is ringing with execrations. Even the Russian press joins in the chorus, although perhaps the Jews are nowhere more hated than in Russia. The judges are everywhere described as criminals, and gloomy speculations are indulged in as to what future is in store for France.

The German press is especially indignant, the National Zeitung remarking that "even the worst enemy of France could not have wished what has happened."

Papers of all nationalities fall in with the idea of boycotting the exhibition.

The Daily Chronicle says that Mercier issues from the case one of the blackest scoundrels in history.

The Daily News remarks: "It is no longer Dreyfus, but France herself that is on trial."

The Morning Post declares that "the mitigation of the sentence will be interpreted all over the world as evidence that the judges who condemned Dreyfus really believed him innocent."

The Daily Telegraph says: "This infamous judgment disgraces France, dishonors her army, insults the Kaiser and offends the best principles of humanity. There seems nothing left for France but a revolution, and a war will reduce her to the level of Spain."

The Standard says: "We are watching by the sick bed of a great nation, none knowing what new and deadly form the malady may assume."

The Times observes: "We do not hesitate to pronounce it the greatest and most appalling prostitution of justice the world has witnessed in modern times. All the outrageous scandals which marked the course of the trial pale into insignificance beside the crowning scandal of the verdict."

The Daily Mail says: "Rennes is France's moral Sedan."

The Daily Graphic says: "The Rennes verdict will live forever as the supreme effort of human wrong-headedness."

MOODY PRAYS FOR DREYFUS

NEW YORK, Sept. 10.—Among Rev. Mr. Moody's congregation in Plymouth Church this morning were several delegates from Great Britain to the International Congregational Council, which will meet on September 19 in Boston. Mr. Moody asked the prayers of the congregation for Dreyfus and his family and said: "I pity the man or nation that will allow prejudice to come into their hearts against God's chosen people. We owe a great deal to the sons of Abraham. All the blessings we enjoy come through that line. If any of you have prejudices against them I beseech you to tear them out. From the bottom of my heart I pity the man who has a prejudice against another because he is a Jew."

Mr. Moody then offered a fervent prayer for Dreyfus and his family. He prayed for such a manifestation as would show that there is still a God meting out justice. Mr. Moody afterward preached upon the doctrine of atonement, which he declared was the one thing taught in the Bible from Genesis to Revelations.

INDIGNATION OF THE REVISIONIST PRESS

PARIS, Sept. 10.—The revisionist press comments upon the verdict with deepest indignation, declaring that the battle between the civil and military courts will continue until the victory rests with the Court of Cassation.

The Siecle has opened a subscription to erect an expiatory monument in front of the Palace of Justice at Rennes to remind future generations of this outrage of justice.

The Temps, referring to the rumor that the members of the court-martial signed a recommendation to mercy, but only as regards the degradation of the military rank, says the mere mention of extenuating circumstances proves that the judges had a doubt of which the accused should have received the benefit, and it urges the revisionists to remember that, in order to demand justice from the country, it is necessary first of all to act with calmness.

The Gaulois says: "A great movement of Rennaissance will spring from the Dreyfus case."

GREAT INDIGNATION EXPRESSED IN LONDON

LONDON, Sept. 11.—It would be difficult to describe adequately the indignation the verdict of the Dreyfus court-martial has evoked everywhere in England. The excitement in the Jewish quarters of London is only natural. Special prayers were offered throughout Saturday in all the synagogues on behalf of Dreyfus, and as soon as the verdict was known, Jews and Jewesses were seen at every street corner, expressing execration and many sobbing bitterly.

At the music halls, especially the Palace Theater, where cinematograph pictures of the incidents and leading actors of the Dreyfus affair were exhibited, the news was received with groans and hisses. In the French quarter of London there was much excitement, accompanied by street fighting. In almost all the places of public worship pulpit references were made to the verdict.

Canon Scott-Holland at St. Paul's Cathedral said: "A nation is on its trial. France stands at the judgment bar. All civilization is waiting to know whether to-morrow's news may add anything to qualify the naked cruelty of a bare telegram, anything to relieve the staggered consciences."

Rev. Hugh Price Hughes, the well-known Wesleyan divine, preached at St. James Hall. He said: "Five unhappy judges have already taken their places in the judgment of the human race beside Judas, Pilate, Judge Jeffries and other creatures. They have sentenced their victim to a decade of imprisonment, but they have decreed themselves forever to the scorn, derision and execration of the human race. Unless France shakes off this infamy, she will be left without an ally or friend."

Rev. Arthur Robins, chaplain in ordinary to the Queen, preaching at Holy Trinity, Windsor, said: "The civilized world is aghast at this great crime of five abject judges."

DEMANGE WILL SUBMIT SOME LEGAL QUESTIONS

PARIS, Sept. 10, 9 p. m.—The day has been one of absolute quiet, with no public excitement, even in the Rue de Chabrol. There was a rainfall this afternoon, and the streets were practically deserted.

Slight disturbances occurred yesterday at Marseilles and Belfort after the verdict of the Dreyfus court-martial was published. The demonstrators stoned the residence of Jacques Dreyfus, brother of the condemned, at Belfort, breaking the windows and otherwise damaging the structure. Many persons were arrested at both places.

The Premier, M. Waldeck-Rousseau, was visited this morning by most of his colleagues. The date of the next Cabinet Council has not yet been fixed. President Loubet will probably not return from Rambouillet for several days.

To-morrow M. Demange will visit M. Waldeck-Rousseau and submit a number of legal questions arising out of the trial. A semi-official note has been issued denying the assertion of the morning papers that the Minister of Foreign Affairs, M. Delcasse, transmitted to Colonel Jouaust, the president of the court-martial, through M. Paleologue, Friday, a statement by the Reichsanzeiger repeating the disavowals of Count von Munster and Count von Buelow of German relations with Dreyfus. The note also denies that M. Delcasse asked Germany to issue the statement.

COURT-MARTIAL JUDGES MAY PETITION LOUBET

NEW YORK, Sept. 10.—A World cable from Rennes says: A well-founded rumor is spreading that the judges of the court-martial will themselves sign a petition praying President Loubet to pardon Dreyfus.

If this be true, this action and the inexplicable clause in the verdict citing "extenuating circumstances" clearly prove that five officers of the court convicted Dreyfus while they were fully convinced of his innocence.

It is almost ridiculous to repeat that these five officers condemned Dreyfus to exonerate the generals and to maintain the prestige of the army. According to the lights of these officers the moral effect they desired has been accomplished by the conviction of Dreyfus. Now they will try to save him from the ignominy and suffering that the verdict entails.

VERDICT DESCRIBED AS COWARDLY AND IMPOLITIC

BERLIN, Sept. 10.—The Dreyfus verdict causes a feeeling almost of stupefication in Berlin. It has been hoped that the statement of the Reichsanzeiger, as emanating directly from Emperor William, would have rendered impossible the repetition of what is described as "one of the greatest judicial and political crimes of any age."

It is universally agreed that the second verdict is a grave political blunder, a violation of the laws of civilization, and an act of moral cowardice which the world will find it difficult to pardon.

The German press unanimously describes the verdict as cowardly and impolitic, not to say criminal.

The Cologne Gazette says: "It is a cowardly verdict, in the barbarous spirit of the Middle Ages. By this crime the judges have imposed a line of demarkation between France and the rest of the world, which, although it will not prevent diplomatic intercourse and stay the common exchange of products, will, according to all the notions of right, justice, honor, tolerance and ethics which the civilized world bears with it in the twentieth century, form a barrier only to be removed by time and laborious effort.

The other leading journals comment upon the verdict in similar strains.

DREYFUS CANNOT ACCEPT THE SWORD

ATLANTA, Ga., Sept. 10.—Mrs. David Reichborg of this city, who recently started a movement to raise a fund among American Jews for the purpose of presenting a handsome sword to Captain Alfred Dreyfus, received a letter yesterday from Mme. Dreyfus, in which she said that the Captain could not accept a sword from American people.

DEMONSTRATION OF HAVRE SOCIALISTS

HAVRE, Sept. 10.—The socialist and revoluntionary groups demonstrated here this afternoon against the verdict. The police dispersed large crowds and made fifteen arrests.

PRISON YAWNS FOR DISHONEST DIRECTORS

Grand Jury Will Investigate Gedge and Conlon.

Exposure of Their Crookedness Hurries Them to Cover While Colleague Kemp Is Driven to Drink---Williar's Peculiar Action.

A NEW Grand Jury will be impaneled to-morrow by Judge Daingerfield, and one of the first matters that will be brought to its attention will be the latest School Board scandal. The jury will have good material upon which to work, and, if the duty is faithfully done, there will be vacancies in the educational department of the city caused by some of the directors involuntarily changing their places of residence from San Francisco to the State prison.

According to the admissions of Dr. H. E. Gedge, he was offered a bribe to permit the changing of the specifications upon which bids for school supplies were based to give a certain firm a cinch on the contract at figures that meant the looting of the school funds. The School Director made no secret of the fact in discussing the matter with his friends, that no bribe was too small for him to grab on to, and that he was not built on the lines of a man who would allow $2000 to slip through his fingers while he was in the possession of his proper senses. Director Gedge has made the statement that he had to pay $800 of the bribe money to his colleague, J. J. Conlon, for agreeing to the steal. He also asserts that Conlon did not refuse the money.

Gedge and Conlon, according to the former's admissions, took advantage of their positions as members of the committee on supplies to make the deal, and fixed the whole matter up in secret sessions, of which the third member, William A. Kemp, was either not informed or from which he was requested to stay away by Phil Crimmins. Kemp was not in the division of the bribe. The reason is that he did not know that the twenties were flying about him. If they had been golden kissing bugs he would have escaped injury. But this is no fault of his. He says himself that he would have liked to have been considered in the transaction, and feels like being kicked for allowing himself to be bunkoed out of the boodle.

The members of the "push" found little to console them yesterday morning after reading The Call's expose of their crookedness. Gedge, who, according to his own boast, appropriated the lion's share of the bribe money, hid himself during the day. He was not proud of the position into which his own tongue had forced him and did not frequent the haunts that knew him well. Conlon his colleauge, also displayed his modesty by keeping out of sight.

Kemp, who was left out of the deal, and was not even given a chance to take any bad money, was in evidence early in the day. When he began to "smell a mouse" a couple of months ago, he undertook the gigantic contract of drowning his sorrow in liberal potions of the "real old stuff." Although he has stayed faithfully with the job, the contract is by no means fulfilled, so he resumed operations yesterday morning as soon as he saw a copy of The Call. His parade along cocktail row was a noble effort, but when he countermarched and broke away from the stereotyped order of "a little straight, please," the mixture disagreed with him and he retired in disorder. But his sorrow was drowned for the day. His mind was in such a condition at the finish that he actually thought that Gedge and Conlon had divided.

Gedge's admissions at this late date explain the peculiar methods that were adopted by the School Board at the time the supplies contracts were under consideration last June, and which created considerable comment at the time. The opening of the bids at the meeting of May 31 was surrounded by such an air of secrecy and mystery that suspicion was at once created that "something was doing." No one was allowed to see the figures of the bids in the open meeting. Superintendent Webster opened them, explained that the necessary certified check accompanied each, and, under instructions, gave out no other information. The reporters were not allowed to inspect the bids.

At the suggestion of the Supplies Committee—Conlon, Gedge and Kemp—the proposals were referred to them. They had possession of the documents for two weeks. It is not charged that they altered any of the figures to suit the favored ones, but they certainly had the opportunity, and men who accept bribes and boast about it might have no compunction about a little thing like changing the figures in a bid to the detriment of some honest bidder. But this was not done, there being no necessity for such action, for the reason that the specifications had already been tampered with so that no one but the bidder who was to pay the bribe could possibly win, and that was all that Gedge cared about and all that interested Conlon.

Kemp, as has been stated, did not figure in this, much to his regret, but he came in heavy at the finish, when there was an opportunity for a little grand stand play, and unwittingly gave the first hint that there was a scandal of some kind in the ink and paper contracts.

The committee recommended that the bid of Payot, Upham & Co. for that class of goods be accepted. Their figures on ink were 15 cents a gallon higher than those of Brown & Potter, and on paper 30 cents a ream higher than the bid of the latter firm.

A man named H. R. Williar had been called in by Gedge and Conlon to expert the samples of paper offered, and he recommended the Golden Gate brand handled by Payot, Upham & Co., which was specifically mentioned in the specifications. This was one of the changes that barred many bidders. It developed later that this man Williar was the representative of the manufacturers of the Golden Gate paper, which was handled exclusively by Payot, Upham & Co., and it was nothing more than natural that he, in the capacity of expert for Gedge and Conlon, should recommend it, to the exclusion of all other brands. These charges concerning Williar were set forth in a letter from the Union Pulp and Paper Company, which Kemp produced at one of the board meetings he did attend.

Brown & Potter offered a paper made by the Union Paper Company, from whom they received figures before they made their bid. They also offered Penniwell's ink, a home production, which previous contractors had substituted for a higher-priced article, specified in their agreement and for which they were charging. Brown & Potter offered it at 50 cents a gallon. Payot, Upham & Co. were awarded the contract to furnish Stanford ink at 65 cents a gallon. Brown & Potter were anxious to comply with the specification and furnished figures on Golden Gate paper, but Williar, the agent of the manufacturers, refused to sell them any of it.

Members of the firm of Payot, Upham & Co. deny that they or any one representing them bribed the Supplies Committee of the Board of Education. H. R. Williar, who posed as the committee's expert, and whose employers in the East profited by the award of the contract to Payton, Upham & Co., could not be found yesterday or last evening, and consequently could neither deny or affirm any suspicion that may exist that he is the man who paid the $2000 to School Director Gedge.

The Call did everything possible yesterday to give Gedge and Conlon an opportunity to make whatever statements or explanations they desired in connection with the case. Neither of the men could be found; none of their friends or relatives would acknowledge that they knew their whereabouts or when they would come out of hiding. Inquiries at the Gedge residence, 1162 Jackson street, elicited the information that the School Director had left home in the morning, stating that he would not return during the day or night. No one in the house knew when he would be back, if at all. The father of Director Conlon was seen last evening at the family residence, 1363 Eddy street. He said that his son was not at home, and that he did not know where he was or when he would return.

HEAD EXPECTED IT.

One Director Not at All Surprised at The Call's Expose.

SANTA CRUZ, Sept. 10.—Concerning the charges made against School Director Gedge in The Call of this morning, School Director Ed Head has to say the following:

"What I and others in a position to know have expected has come to pass, as we forecasted Gedge's finish when his raw work first came into evidence in connection with the Ginn contract for copybooks. That contract was considered in an executive session of the board, and Gedge's anxiety that it be awarded was so evident that he was openly flouted by different members. He buttonholed every member and pulled every wire he could get hold of to win it out.

"I was one of the first sacrifices to the necessity for such a tool as Gedge has proved to be. He was given his nomination by Crimmins and Kelly, and it was offered him by Ed Williams, Chief Clerk of the Justices' Court, their City Hall lieutenant. When I was chairman of the Supplies Committee that combination approached me on different propositions, and found they could do nothing with me. They generally came at me through this man Kemp. He made no direct propositions, but got at his point clearly enough to find there was nothing doing with me. As a result of it I lost my job as chairman of the Supplies Committee.

"I can make no direct charges against Gedge; there are other members of the board who intend to do that. The so-called 'club flush' neglects the business end of things in their desire to improve educational matters, but they are not men who will overlook crookedness. Gedge's work has been so raw that none of us could help seeing it, and Conlon's has been on a par with it, but what the basis of the settlement between them is I am not prepared to say. The School Board has its evidence, and this expose of The Call will doubtless bring it out."