

## THE PUBLIC FORUM

**THE TELEPHONE DEAL**—Monday, May 17, the city council passed a resolution instructing the corporation counsel to begin forfeiture proceedings against the automatic company's franchise.

This case will be carried up to the state supreme court.

Clarence Darrow, on being asked by the United States industrial commission what would stop the people from taking the coal mines and running the, if they so wished, answered: "Congress, president or the supreme court."

On June 7 it is up to those who want the automatic telephone to be owned and operated by the city to decide whether the people's interest will be best conserved by electing Orrin N. Carter, of street railway arbitration notoriety, or Frank L. Wood, who has been fighting for municipal ownership for years, to be the next judge of the supreme court from this district.—A. L. Liesemer.

**LIGHT THE RED LIGHTS.**—Who are they so foolish as to declare we don't need a recognized segregated district? The raiding of flats proves such conclusively. If married men insist on visiting these flats, who can blame the single who show contempt for hypocritical reformers and exclaim "To hell with such a law"?

Let it be remembered that work is so scarce and wages so low that few can afford to marry. Men have always sought the prostitute and will continue to seek her. This useless oppression had its origin during the Harrison administration. The voters showed their utter contempt for his policy by placing him on the shelf.

We appreciate the fool as a comedian who burlesques life, we tire of him when he takes hold of civic reins, increasing the fees of judges and the blood money.

Conditions are as all knew they could be when the backbone of the

redlight district was broken. Prostitutes are everywhere and it is no joke that they are in the shadow of the churches, courts and schools. A nice condition is presented in the city to residents, voters and respectable people through lending a listening ear to would-be reformers, hypocrites and preachers only so in name.

Would the really good people desire a riddance of such conditions, at least to a large degree. Let them come out in a body, declaring their indignation and demand a restoration of the redlight district, immune from police tyranny so long as order is maintained. Now let the wise acres and clown reformers attack this article, but in doing so let them not forget that truth is as impregnable to attack as a wrought iron dial from the tread of an ant. — Albert M. Thompson.

**IN FRANK'S INTEREST.**—The people of Chicago deserve much credit for showing such interest in the efforts which are being made to save the life of Leo Frank, sentenced to death in the state of Georgia.

The appeal to the governor of Georgia to commute the sentence from death to life imprisonment should arouse the sympathy and cooperation in the breast of every American citizen. All should join in this task.

According to the old testament, the law for saving executing a murderer required two witnesses to prove the crime of the criminal.

In this case there was only one witness. He was later found to be a criminal and is now in jail, serving a sentence. Again, the law "a head for head" was issued 2,000 years ago. We certainly must have learned something in those 2,000 years. Think! Did capital punishment remedy crime?

The press and authorities are convinced of his innocence. Why hasten his execution. His innocence is sure to come out eventually