

his satellites are so imbued with an assinine stubbornness that even in the face of the ridicule and resentment of the men who are paying their per capita tax into the Building Trades Council that they will continue with this so-called Union Labor Day Edition in the Hearst papers of Chicago, but take it from one who is in touch with the movement that the days of this class of so-called labor leaders are drawing to a close in the city of Chicago.

It will be remembered that in a recent edition of the Chicago Examiner great jubilation was expressed by O'Donnell & Company in regard to the manner in which their ideas were successful in settling the recent lockout in the building trades in the city of Chicago, but we who are in a position to know the trend of events can certify that the reason that the lockout failed was because the various employers' associations connected with the Building Erectors' Association refused by a vote in their meetings to ratify the lockout order coming from the Executive Board of the Building Erectors' Association; so that it will be seen that all of the bunk sent forth in regard to an arbitration plan settling that controversy is manufactured from whole cloth. This statement by me can be readily verified by consultation with members of associations who refused to lock their men out; hence the failure of the lockout. Arthur Thorp,

12 W. Indiana St.,
Chicago, Ill.

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**MUNICIPAL TELEPHONES FOR
CHICAGO**

Editor Day Book:

Automatic telephones should be in use all over Chicago today. Chicago gave a telephone franchise to the Illinois Telephone & Telegraph Company in 1899, on a promise that a competing telephone system of automatic phones would be built.

This company has spent nearly \$40,000,000 in building freight tun-

nels during the fourteen years and less than \$6,000,000 in building the automatic telephone system, that it promised to give the city's telephone users.

It had to be forced from time to time into spurts of development, but did not at any time do more than actually required to hold its franchise.

It has shown bad faith all along on the telephone matter and finally entered into a secret deal with its competitor—contrary to the provisions of the forfeiture clause in its franchise—to sell out.

It now comes before the Chicago Council and asks to have that body of the people's representatives approve the sale, so that it will not have to bother with this mere adjunct to its tunnel railroad business. Will the council grant what it asks?

At the recent gas, oil and electric light committee meeting, when the matter came up, there did not seem to be but one member opposed to the sale, nor were the ethics of the transaction considered.

The only question was that of the value of property to be sold for \$6,300,000 which was raised by Ald. Merriam, and an appraisal is now being made. The city should tell the company to carry out its part of the bargain of 1899 or turn the telephone plant over to the city.

A municipal telephone plant for Chicago is an immediate possibility, and is the only honorable course for the city to take in this matter. A modern automatic telephone plant will ultimately give us penny service as against three, four and five cent service of the monopoly.

The Telephone Users' Ass'n,
29 LaSalle St.

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Every year over sixteen million sheep and lambs are slaughtered in Australia for export, and beef totaling over 100,000,000 pounds is sent out annually for oversea consumption.