

JEWETT THROWS DOWN GAUNTLET TO BOOKWALTER

Challenges Robison Supporter to Produce Name of the Crooked Worker.

'MADE OF WHOLE CLOTH'

Denial of the charges of former Mayor Charles A. Bookwalter that during the last city primary an emissary of the Jewett organization was sent to Chicago for the purpose of obtaining fraudulent ballots and that in some of the precincts these ballots were substituted for the genuine tickets was made last night by Mayor Charles W. Jewett at a meeting at Twenty-Fourth street and College avenue.

Major Jewett, in connection with his denial, challenged Mr. Bookwalter to make public the name of the man he says made the trip to Chicago to obtain the ballots.

"The statements of Mr. Bookwalter are untrue and slanderous in their nature," Mayor Jewett said. "Nothing like that ever happened. I challenge him to make public the name of the man he says went to Chicago and brought back fraudulent ballots to be used in the election."

BOOKWALTER'S MOVE DOWN.

In a recent speech Bookwalter made his charges in detail and declared that if Mayor Jewett denied them he would make public the name of the man who made the trip to Chicago to obtain the ballots.

Mr. Bookwalter, when told of the mayor's challenge, declined to make public the name of the man who went to Chicago.

"The man who went to Chicago," he said, "told me so himself. A relationship exists between us which I do not care to betray. I do not care to cast any man's job. I know their tactics."

"If there were no fraudulent tickets where did Henry Fleming get them, and not only Henry but other commissioners in the black district? Certainly, the commissioners of the city did not have been quite so effective and affectionate when they met that night."

In his second speech of the evening, at a meeting at Hoyte avenue and Laurel street, the mayor undertook to explain the purchase by the city for \$175,000 from former Governor James P. Goodrich and others of the garbage reduction plant which was valued for taxation at \$150,000, and which its owners told the county board of review was not worth junking.

MAJOR JEWETT'S STATEMENT.

In opening his discussion of the garbage plant, Major Jewett said that Samuel Lewis Shank, a candidate for the Re-

publican nomination for mayor, had been making extravagant statements concerning the plant. He said he did not know why the plant should have been dragged into the campaign. He explained that the garbage must be collected, but if the city "did not get a nickel out of the garbage" it was not his duty to collect it.

The mayor's prepared statement on the subject follows:

"Reference has frequently been made in published statements and by speakers in this campaign to the purchase of the garbage plant by the sanitary commission. For the purpose of disposing of it at a loss, with the privilege of disposing of it at a loss, the by-products—the amount of the bid was \$87,000 a year. The cost to the city under the old contract and the same condition was \$49,000 which, because of the additional cost added to the city, amounted to approximately \$51,000 during the last year of the old contract. For the collection of garbage alone the bid was \$12,000. Under the last bid the city would have to dispose of the garbage as it saw fit. Both propositions were for a three-year period. They were considered and both were rejected."

SERIAL'S PROBLEM.

"This was the status of the garbage collection and disposal question in February, 1918, with the contract expiring in May.

"Following the rejection of the last bid by the board of works serious consideration was given the problem both by the board and the board of sanitary commissioners. The latter board was then asked to act in committee on the collection and disposal of the garbage plant by the sanitary commission.

"Mr. Charles H. Hurd and Mr. Jay A. Craven were the other members of the commission. Mr. Edward Daniels, of the law firm of Baker & Daniels, was the attorney for the commission, who for many years was master of chancery of the United States Federal Court under Judge Anderson, and a man whose character and reputation for honesty in the community is beyond question. The commission, it was agreed, would be composed of Mr. Schuyler A. Haas, Mr. George Lemaux and Mr. Thomas A. Riley. Mr. Samuel Ashby was at that time, and is now, corporation counsel for the city of Indianapolis. Mr. Ashby and Mr. Daniels advised the commission and the board of works and myself, as mayor, not only on the legal procedure taken in the transaction but on the advisability of purchasing the plant. Much of the work of these men is well known to the city of Indianapolis and their characters for honesty are well recognized. The criticisms and insinuations which are being used in this primary campaign are directed against these men and their actions in this transaction.

"Mr. Lucius B. Swift is now chairman of the sanitary commission. Mr. Swift has published a complete statement of the conduct of the department and has fully approved the action of the board in the purchase of the garbage plant. Mr. Swift has recently returned from an inspection tour of sanitary equipments and reduction plants in the East. He states that the city of Rochester, a smaller city than Indianapolis, has a 240-ton capacity plant with a 240-ton capacity at a cost of \$700,000. The Indianapolis plant has a capacity of 160 tons and was purchased for \$137,000. This transaction was the only available solution of the garbage collection and disposal problem at that time, and experience has justified this statement.

ESTIMATE FOR REFERRED TO BOARD

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"The city contract for the collection and disposal of the garbage of the city was for a five-year period, the expiration of it occurring May 25, 1918. On Oct. 26, 1918, bidders asked preliminary bids for the making of a new contract by the board of public works. But one bid was

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