

SLEUTHS TOUCH OFF FLASHLIGHT ON BIG BOODLER

Startled Pittsburgh Graftor Was Then Covered by Revolver of Officer and Taken into Custody.

SMOKY CITY PROBE WAS STARTED BY PRESIDENT

Mr. Roosevelt, It Is Stated, Wants Sensational Photograph for His Reward—Sensations Are Sprung.

Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 23.—Sensation crowds sensation in the councilmanic bribery cases here. In the first place, it has become definitely known that it was Theodore Roosevelt, president of the United States, who first started the ball rolling here.

Mr. Roosevelt some time since was informed quietly at Washington that there were certain suspicious entries on the books of banks in Pittsburg, entries which had evidently been fixed to pass bank examiners, but whose history might stand looking into.

Mr. Roosevelt got into communication with Mayor Guthrie, of Pittsburg, on this line and the result was that a special examiner came and looked over the books of certain banks. The series of explosions, beginning Monday, was the result.

Chief of Detectives Edwin McGough was suddenly dropped from his position. Mayor Guthrie, who has been running the investigation, sent orders to Director E. G. Lang, of the department of public safety, to get Mr. McGough's head at once.

No explanation was given, but it is understood that McGough was suspected by his superiors of having "tipped" off some of those for whom warrants have been issued and who are now missing.

"He Knows Why," Said Mayor.

"If Mr. McGough wants me to tell the public why he was dismissed, I will do so," said Director Lang, "but he won't want to make any fuss about it. He knows why."

But the crowning sensation of yesterday came with the making public of the fact that some of the councilmen had been "caught with the goods on"—caught in the act of taking money as bribes from those they were fleecing. In fact, they were caught with the camera and a flashlight.

The Voters' League of Allegheny county, which appears on the surface as the money spirit of the prosecution has in its possession the photograph of one of the leading councilmen, now under arrest, caught in the act of taking money at the Ft. Pitt Hotel.

The picture will be used as evidence at the trial before the magistrate, or at least will be shown in court at the trial if the councilman in question makes any defense.

The photograph is said to be one of the most complete exposures ever known. The Councilman in question is known as one of the "Big Six," and is said to be the one who did all the collecting in large cases.

The price had been agreed on with the contractor by the alledged bonding councilmen for the paving of Fourth avenue with wooden blocks. Some days ago the supposed partner of the contractor—the one who was expected to pay the blood money—reached Pittsburg and the councilman approached him.

"It's coming Christmas time and the boys want their money," he said.

The contractor's supposed partner hemmed and hawed about settling, but was told by the contractor to come to the Ft. Pitt hotel at a certain hour that afternoon when the money would be ready.

Walked Right into the Trap.

The councilman walked right into the trap, going up to the room of the supposed contractor to receive the money which had been agreed on before the councilman would permit the ordinance for paving this street to pass. This day there was to be paid \$10,000 to the grafting councilmen.

"Come right in," said the "contractor," to the councilman, who walked in and sat down at a table opposite the contractor with a fat looking pocket-book. The price was repeated by the councilman, and the contractor, opening his billbook, began to count out the bills of \$100 and \$500 denominations to the hungry member of the Pittsburg council, who grabbed them up and began counting them, when, flash, bang! the room was filled with a bright flame, followed by smoke, and the terror stricken councilman knew that he had been the object of a flashlight photograph, and what was more he found himself peering into the muzzle of a cruel looking revolver held by the supposed contractor.

"Drop it," said the man holding the gun, nodding at the money.

He was a detective who had been called into the game by the mayor and by the contractor, who objected to paying out so much blood money.

The councilman tried to hold on to the money, but was choked and thrown out of the room by the other detectives, who, in hiding, had been manipulating the flashlight.

Then the pictures were developed and came out well. One of those pictures is said to have been taken down to Washington and shown to President Roosevelt, who laughed loud and long and obtained a promise that after Pittsburg prosecutors were through

with the picture of the councilman caught in the act of taking bribes, he was to have it for his private collection. The picture will go to Washington after the coming trial.

Palms for Xmas at Gause's greenhouse.

BUILDERS ARE PRONE TO FIB

Controller States Few People Give Truthful Building Costs.

LOSS SHOWN THIS YEAR.

ONLY 159 BUILDING PERMITS HAVE BEEN ISSUED THIS YEAR AGAINST 884 THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

Fewer building permits have been issued during the year just closing than in the past several years, according to the statement of City Controller Parry. The amounts placed into improvements of this character were also smaller, although two new churches the Trinity Lutheran and St. John's Lutheran, were erected. Last year 884 permits were issued by the city but this year, up to date, only 159.

"Building permits prove to be a poor medium through which to secure the exact amount spent on buildings for the year," stated the controller, "as it is an established fact that people do not tell the truth when asked as to the extent of their work. Although the idea is absurd, many people have an idea that they cannot successfully dodge the assessor, if they tell the truth about the amount they intend to spend on construction, thinking that the assessor will come to the city controller's office and secure data from the building permit record. It would be a foolish assessor that would do this as the county would eventually lose much money in the form of taxes, through an act of this kind, since so many of the amounts specified on the permits are incorrect."

When asked as to the advisability of each year making a report of the number of building permits and the amount actually spent for improvements, as specified through them, Mr. Parry said that he would consider such an act imprudent, in that Richmond people were not imbued with the spirit which characterized citizens of many towns, because they do not strive to put up the best buildings possible and tell the actual cost of the same. A building permit report from the city of Richmond would hardly compare favorably with the same sort of a report from another city of like size, particularly when that city was of the class referred to, he said.

The members of the committee are Thomas Nugent, Daviess County, chairman; J. N. Mason, clerk Allen county; W. E. Harlan, clerk, Madison county; Leonard Quill, clerk, Marion county; William Richards, auditor, Madison county, and Albert Sahn, auditor, Marion county. A meeting of this committee has been called for tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock in the office of W. C. Nusbaum, American Central Life building, at which time a copy of the merchants' bill will be studied in detail.

This committee is empowered to call a meeting before or immediately following the opening of the legislature, in order that the two associations as a body, may approve of the measure; but since the entire proposition was given thorough consideration yesterday, this meeting is unlikely, as the association's confidence in the men named, was freely expressed before the discussion was completed.

Clerk Penny thinks that the proposition, taken as a whole, will be of much benefit, even though the passage of any uniform bill will mean many great changes in the methods of conducting Wayne county's business.

Boys' Watches, \$1.00 up, Haner's.

"He's quite a classical scholar, isn't he?" "Well, he's backward in reading Hebrew."

"You don't say? I thought he was particularly good at that."

"So he is, but that's the way you have to read Hebrew."—Exchange.

Fine line Ladies' Watches, Haner's.

Doctors' Fees.

"Do you mean to tell me," asked a learned council when he was cross examining Mr. Whistler in a well known case, "that for a piece of work which takes you only half an hour you can charge so extravagant a price?" And Mr. Whistler's answer remains the classical apology of all learned and technical skill. "Yes," he replied, "but I am charging for the knowledge and experience of a lifetime." A doctor's fee may seem enormous to a patient who is aware that he has seen him for only twenty minutes. It still remains true that what is charged represents that accumulated mass of hardly earned experience which distinguishes the medical proficient from the mere amateur.—London Telegraph.

Boys' Watches, \$1.00 up, Haner's.

Each year during the last five New York city has torn down enough buildings to house a city of 50,000 persons.

All the tracks of the Illinois Central within the city of Chicago will be electrified and the use of steam locomotives abandoned.

Toilet Sets and Manicure Sets at Haner's.

COE AND PENNY INDORSE ACTION

Think Plan for Uniform System of Accounting Is Good One.

PROBATE SYSTEM IS POOR.

WAYNE COUNTY CLERK SAYS THIS NEEDS IMPROVEMENT, BUT LOCAL CIVIL RECORD SYSTEM SATISFACTORY.

Although County Clerk Penny and County Auditor Coe were not in attendance at the meeting of the clerks and auditors' associations held yesterday in Indianapolis, they approve of the course taken by these organizations in officially approving the Indianapolis Merchants' association for a uniform system of accounting in Indiana.

Clerk Penny stated this morning that although there was a need for reforms in the conduct of the state's business, as a whole, he did not feel that Wayne county was suffering from the present condition of affairs, although admitting at the time there was one in use, that of filing probate matters, which should be changed. The method used in recording civil actions, he said, was a good one, but not so much could be said concerning the method of handling probate records, which system has prevailed in the Wayne county clerk's office for years.

When civil action of any character is brought, all records pertaining to this case are filed together, making it a very easy matter for any one interested in them to review the entire case from the start to its completion, without delay or bother. But the same cannot be said concerning probate records. Persons desiring to trace a probate case are soon lost. Wills, petitions and bonds, real estate papers and account current relating to any case, are filed separately, and it is with much difficulty that all facts are gathered together.

There are about ten thousand such cases on record at the clerk's office, and to classify all such material would be the work of months, and under present conditions it is thought, inadvisable to attempt a change until the legislature acts definitely on the proposed uniform scheme of accounting.

A committee was named by the clerks and auditors at the Indianapolis meeting, whose duty it will be to adopt some uniform bill which will be presented to the law makers for action. All the good points will be incorporated and the bad ones eliminated.

The members of the committee are Thomas Nugent, Daviess County, chairman; J. N. Mason, clerk Allen county; W. E. Harlan, clerk, Madison county; Leonard Quill, clerk, Marion county; William Richards, auditor, Madison county, and Albert Sahn, auditor, Marion county.

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Toilet Sets and Manicure Sets at Haner's.

THE THEATER

THEATRICAL CALENDAR.

GENNETT.
Partello Stock Co.—All week.
Tim Murphy—New Year's Eve.
The Devil—Jan. 1.

NEW PHILLIPS.

Vaudeville all week.

Montana."

When Harry D. Carey wrote "Montana" he knew his subject, having spent several years on his ranch in Montana. He understood the spirit of the West and how to stage it. In a plot full of dramatic situations he has given a picture of the honesty, lawlessness and dare-devil humor of the Western Cow country intermingled with a beautiful love story, that is essential to a play of this type.

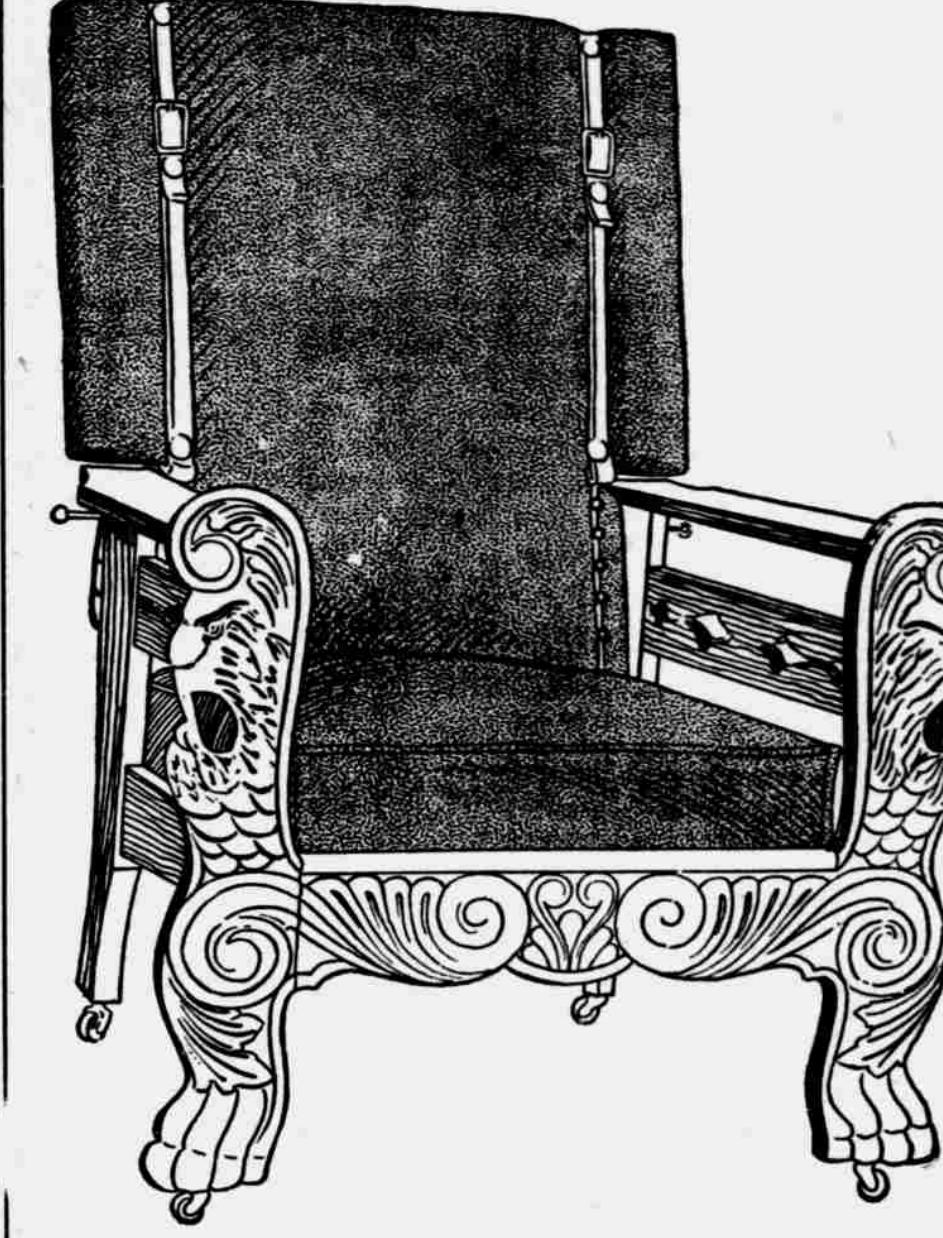
Mr. Carey has surpassed all former efforts in placing "Montana" before the public this season in as much as he has had entirely new scenery built, added new and greater effects, and in short the words massive, would not seem to do justice to his untiring efforts. It will give two performances. It will give two performances at the Gennett theater on Dec. 30.

"The Devil."

Mr. Henry W. Savage made a particularly happy selection when he chose Mr. Oliver Herford for the difficult task of adapting into English "The Devil," the triumphant comedy which has made such a sensational success in this country and abroad. Herr Franz Molnar, the author of the play, was insistent when he gave to Mr. Savage the sole authorization to

ROMEY'S "Christmas News"

This Big Store is better prepared than ever to meet your requirements for the Holiday Season. It's a pleasure to welcome you here. You'll find a large and varied stock. You'll find an answer to the usual Holiday questions—what shall the gift be in practical furniture?



THIS BIG MORRIS CHAIR, Just like the cut, solid golden oak, upholstered in chase leather, at

\$9.85

Many Appropriate Gifts await you here. Your Xmas orders will have our usual careful attention. You're always welcome.

TOMORROW-THURSDAY LAST DAY

In which to do your shopping. We carry the appropriate kind for men.

FANCY AND WASHABLE VESTS

\$1.50 to \$5.00—Made of the best materials and splendid styles.

MEN'S TROUSERS—\$1.50 to \$6.00—What man has too many pairs of Trousers?

MEN'S HATS—Make nice presents. All the latest shades and styles, \$1.00 to \$3.00.

Men's and Boys' Caps, 25c to \$1.00.

SHIRTS, NECKWEAR, MUFFLERS

For Men and Boys. Gifts that are useful are always appreciated. Shirts of character that fit and give thorough satisfaction. You will find a beautiful assortment at 50c, \$1.00, \$1.50.

Beautiful Neckwear, a large range of nobby patterns, styles and colors at 25c, 50c and \$1.00.

Handsome Silk Mufflers, Reverses and Oxfords, and all desirable colors. A large range to choose from, 50c, \$1.00 and \$1.50.

Holiday Suspenders

Men's Fine Silk Suspenders with fancy buckles, put up in nice boxes at 50c and \$1.00.

Men's Underwear and Hosiery

Extra good quality of Fleece and Derby ribbed, per garment. 50c. Australian, Lambswool and Natural Wool, per garment, \$1 to \$1.75.

HOSIERY—Silk Lisle and Cotton, plain and fancy colors at 10c, 15c, 25c, 50c.

K. & K. Krone & Kennedy

803 MAIN ST.

Holiday Goods

Fancy Box Perfumes and Toilet Waters.

Manicure Sets.

Smokers' Outfits (good variety).

Traveler's all leather Toilet Rolls.

Shaving Sets.

Pocket Books (all prices).

Hand Mirrors.

Brush and Comb Sets.

Fancy Pipes, \$1.50 and upwards.

Cloth and Hair Brushes.

Leo H. Fihe's Pharmacy,

Richmond, Ind.



A PIANO for a Holiday Present

Think how happy you can make your family by having a nice Piano set in your home during the holidays. There is simply nothing that adds more to the satisfaction and pleasure of the young folks, or that is comforting to the feelings, and bracing to the nerves of the parents, or older members of the family, than the mellow tones from an

UPRIGHT OR PLAYER PIANO

Don't put off buying one until it is too late. Enjoy it while you can. If you are not in position to pay all cash, our easy payment plan is at your service. We can arrange so that you pay for a piano as you can spare the money, and at the same time be having the pleasure and comfort of its use. As to the kind of piano, remember that we carry on our floor Pianos of the highest grade known to the musicians of the world, and we also have medium priced pianos that are of the best values on the market considering the close prices we are making on them.

Come in and see for yourself