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Famous Labor Leader Bases His Appeal for Acquittal Largely on His Falling Health—Opposition Cries Traitor.

NEW YORK, Oct. 30.—For the second time within two months, Samuel Parks, of New York, walking delegate of the Housewives' and Bridgemen's Union, No. 2, has been convicted of the crime of extortion. Parks accepted \$500 from a firm of contractors when a strike was on, with the understanding that they could continue work. It was proven that Parks had betrayed his union by allowing nonunion men to be employed. Parks did not deny accepting the money, but alleged that he turned it over to the union.

Parks' recent fight with the National bridge and structural ironworkers, in which he practically dominated their convention over President Buchanan and his followers until the very last, brought him into greater prominence than he had enjoyed before.

In the Court of General Sessions this afternoon it took the jury just 12 minutes, during which time they deliberated twice, to agree on the guilt of Samuel Parks in extorting \$500 from Tiffany Studios, a firm of contractors, under threat of keeping them from continuing work on buildings last January.

It was shown at the trial that Parks had obtained \$500 from the Tiffany firm as "an initiation fee" last January when the housewives and bridgemen were on strike on three of the Tiffany contracts in this city. Parks alleged this money was a fine levied by his labor union. Later the fact developed that Parks had been disloyal to his union, inasmuch as he permitted the Tiffany firm to employ nonunion men on jobs after having received the \$500. This accusation was not denied by the defendant or his counsel during the trial, but the latter contended Parks had given the money to the treasurer of his organization, and the entire transaction was a business deal which, instead of being a crime, afforded considerable business advantages to the firm which paid the money.

Counsel for Parks endeavored to introduce certificates as to the prisoner's delicate health, but Judge Newburger, before whom the case was tried, refused to admit them. James W. Osborne, Parks' chief counsel, made an excellent defense, although he had weak ground to stand upon. Assistant District Attorney Rand placed Parks and his fellow labor unionists in an unenviable light before the public in his summing up to the jury.

Charge of the Judge.

In his charge Judge Newburger said it made no difference what disposition Parks made of the money after he had obtained it from the representatives of the Tiffany firm; if, in the belief of the jury, he had obtained it under a threat, or implied, that fact would constitute extortion, the crime charged against the prisoner.

When the jury was polled and the verdict rendered Parks glared at the jury men with the same look of defiance which he maintained during this, as well as his previous trial. He was remanded for sentence a week hence. Parks is now awaiting the decision of the higher courts on a writ of error, having been sentenced after his trial to a term of not less than two and a half nor more than three and a half years in Sing Sing Prison.

The charge on which his former conviction was secured was also extortion.

The accused entered the courtroom this morning looking fresher than on any day since the trial began. Mr. Osborne occasioned a good deal of surprise by announcing that the defense rested. Parks was called to the stand by Assistant District Attorney Rand, who asked the accused if he had said yesterday:

"I refused to take a check from Schmitt because our treasurer had some difficulty in cashing the Hecla check," meaning another transaction some time previous to that of the Tiffany incident.

Parks, after a few seconds' reflection, said:

"I did not say that. I said we had some trouble in getting cash for the Hecla check."

After Parks had declared he had not taken a cent for himself and had not demanded it for his own behalf, he was excused.

David Frazer, factory superintendent of the Tiffany Studios, and Louis Schmitt were both recalled. The prosecution then rested, and Mr. Osborne, after making several formal motions for the acquittal of the prisoner, all of which were denied, began his address to the jury.

In summing up, Assistant District Attorney Rand said, among other things: "Parks accepted money in the name of a cause he basely betrayed. He inflicted hardships on the members of his union by calling men away from their work, and thereby robbing them, as well as taking the bread out of their mouths and the mouths of their wives and children or others dependent on their earnings, while he got money and put it in his own use further to fatten a fat purse."

In closing, Mr. Rand asked the jury not to acquit the prisoner and make it possible for Parks to go out and again prey upon honest labor and honest capital.

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