MANY OFFICIALS

Life for New York's Public Servants One Continual Round of Trouble.

GOTHAM MAYOR IN LEAD

From McClellan Down, State and Municipal Salary-Grabbers Are Facing Trial on Indictment. Exceptions Only Prove Rule.

BY LLOYD F. LONERGAN.

NEW YORK, May 5 (Special)-The lives of most public officers in New York City nd State have been one far from merry and State have been one far from merry round of charges, hearings and indictments since the first of the year. It is really a remarkable record, and new additions to the list are being made almost daily. Here are some of the more promi-

Mayor McClellan is fighting the recount Mayor McClellan is fighting the recount proceedings, designed to oust him from office. He is accused of being a usurper, a fraud Mayor and various other things. He is keeping a score of lawyers busy in an attempt to disprove the claims of his antagonists. In addition to this, formal charges have been filed with the Governor who possesses the power of reernor, who possesses the power of re-moval. In these it is declared that the Mayor has violated his cath of office by failure to enforce the excise laws on Sun-

day.

The second important officer in Greater New York is Comptroller Metz. Metz was called before the Grand Jury the other day to explain why he had removed a subordinate who voted against McCarren. The third city officer is President of the Board of Aldermen McGowan. Up to date he has carefully sidestepped stouble.

There are five boroughs in Greater New York, and each borough has a President, who is the chief official in its local af-fairs. The smallest borough, Richmond, is the only one ruled by a Republican, and this official, George Cromwell, is the sole ruler who has kept out of political

Ordered His Removal.

The Mayor's Commissioners of Accounts investigated the office of President Ahearn of Manhattan. They reported the matter to Governor Hughes, who held an exhaustive inquiry and developed facts, principally of omission, that caused him to order Ahearn's removal. Under our peculiar city charter, the Aldermen from the Borough of Manhattan filled the vacancy. On Murphy's order they re-elected Ahearn and laughed at the Governor. President Louis Haffen of the Bronx is under fire of the Commissioners of Ac counts now. He expresses indifference as to the result, believing that he holds the Bronx Aldermen in the hollow of his hand. The probabilities are that he is correct in his reasoning.

Borough President Bermel of Queens resigned the other day. He had been 'presented' by the Grand Jury, for the Kissens Park scandal, and a Commisbloner was appointed by the Governor to try him. Bermal fought on until he saw that further struggle was useless, espec-fally as he has Tammany Leader Murphy

publicly called the sprightly Bird, "a spy, a sneak and a traitor." These are not fighting words in little old New York. District Attorney Jerome is now on trial

before Commissioner Hand, acting for Governor Hughes, on the longest list of charges ever presented against a city or county official. From the general tenor of the investigation and the attitude of the trial judge, it is the common belief that the District Attorney will be a pri-vate citizen within a few months.

Six Up for Bribery.

Six members of the last Board of Aldermen are under indictments for accepting bribes. They were elected on the munici-pal ownership ticket, and the amount of pal ownership ticket, and the amount of money each is accused of taking is a small sum. It is expected that their trials will be called in a few weeks.

Deputy Attorney General Nathan Videver is out on ball, pending appearance before a jury. He accepted a roll of marked bills from the president of a defunct bank who wanted to reopen and thought he needed "influence" with the Attorney General. Vidaver claims the cash was a retainer fee, he being a lawger. But the Grand Jury returned an Indictment.

The fact that the bulk of the hose used by the Fire Department is rotten, was only made known at an expensive blaze that cost several lives. A few days later that cost several lives. A few days later Fire Commissioner Lantry resigend under a cloud. Although the hose was bought under the administration of his predecessor. John O'Brien, the latter, who is a close personal friend of the Mayor, is will in office.

close personal friend of the Mayor, is still in office.

He is now Commissioner of the Department of Gas, Electricity and Water Supply. Strangely enough the contractor who sold the condemned hose to the Fire Department is now a city official. His name is William Loughman and he is Mr. O'Brien's deputy. They are great friends. Police Commissioner Bingham faces charges preferred against, him and at prescharges preferred against.

Police Commissioner Bingham faces
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charges preferred against him and at present is the subject of inquiry by the Governor. He is accused of failure to enforce
the excise law. Incidentally he is bitterly disliked by his subordinates. One
reason is that at a banquet recently, he
made a spiel and expressed a hope that
forty of his captains would drop dead.
There are 84 captains in the Department.

Big Graft Hinted At

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A city board has charge of the new 300,000,000 Ashokan Dam project, designed to furnish the city a brand new water supply. Up to date it has principally been engaged in appointing "commissioners" to condemn land needed. Each of these commissioners draw \$50 a day and expenses for mighty little, work. Sons and relatives of various jurists and Sons and relatives of various jurists and political leaders have been appointed, and there is talk of graft in many contracts. Indications are that a Legislative investigation will be in order before long. Coroners from this section of the state have always figured in the criminal news for some reason or other. Ex-Coroner Guy, of Queens County, went to the penitentiary the other day for is years. He murdered his wife. Coroner Acritelia, indicted for frauds in the last election, had the case dismissed a week or so ago. It is not a month since Moses P. Jackson was arraigned in court convicted of accepting a bribe. Jackson was one of the "Reform Coroners," of New York County. Sentence was suspended begause he is old, an invalid and penniless.

niless.

Brooklyn had a Coroner in the penitentiary a few years ago, E. B. Coombs. His colleague at that time was also indicted but escaped trial, and the matter was finally hushed up.

During the progress of the Jerome inquiry, a witness made the positive statement that the Metropolitan Street Railway contributed \$15,000 as the "campaign".

assessment" of a candidate for the Su-

assessment of a candidate for the Supreme Court bench.

This Judge, whose name was given,
was nominated and elected by Tammany
Hall, and is still in office. A number of
suits against the Metropolitan, brought
by victims of accidents, etc., come up
before him for adjudication.

Judge a Blackmailer.

A Judge of the Court of General Ses-sions now stands charged with demand-ing a commission for aiding in a suit ing a commission for aiding in a suit brought against the city. He was not on the bench at the time, but occupied a municipal position. Two City Magistrates, or Police Judges, as they are commonly called, are in deep trouble just now. They are accused of questionable conduct in freeing on parole, prisoners sentenced to definite terms of imprisonment. The Bar Association is investigating the cases with a view to recommending their removal from office and likewise disbarment.

recommending their removal from other and likewise disharment.

Thomas Fitzgerald was a Judge of Special Sessions in Brooklyn until early in the present year. Then he was ousted from office and profession for a long line of misdeeds ranging from intoxication to embezziement. He died a few days ago in an obscure lodging-house, while hiding from officers of the law. Superintendent of Insurance Otto Kelsuperintendent of insurance Otto Reisey deserves mention in the list, as his removal from office was demanded by the Governor this year, and refused, the same as in 1907.

Up in Buffalo a number of officials, including the ex-County Auditor and several Supervisors, have been sent to prison the compilate in an unsavory scandal

for complicity in an unsavory scandal known as the "grave yard frauds."

Broome County Graft.

In Broome County, which includes the City of Binghamton, there has been a "graft inquiry," and a housecleaning, which has added several "politically prominent" faces to the gallery at Auburn, Other trials are in progress there

now.

As to minor troubles of office-holders it might be mentioned that Stata Senator Wilcox, of Auburn, for 20 years a deacon in his church, has been refused re-selection by his fellow worshipers because he stood with the race-track gang; that State Senators Grattan of Albany. Boyce of Troy, Burr of Long Island, Glichrist of Brooklyn, and Cassidy of Chemiung have been publicly fiayed by their constituents for lining-up with Wilcox; that Senator McCarren has been read out of the Democratic party by Charles F. Murphy; that Utica Democrats threaten to hang or imprison State Chairman Conners if he visits their town, and that Congressman Waldo, the only man who stood up to be counted for Hughes in Brooklyn, is to be denied a renomination.

These are only a few instances of cases that are now prominently before the public. There may be others, and new ones may develop. But the fact remains that New York City and New York state politicians have made a record that requires radical treatment.

Probably the rank and file of the voters will wake up in the course of a year or As to minor troubles of office-holders

Probably the rank and file of the voters will wake up in the course of a year or so. But they seldom remain awake for more than one election.

EACH CLAIMS CONTROL OF THE DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE.

Campbell Out for Senator Denounces Harmon as Bryan's Enemy and Friend of Morgan.

COLUMBUS, O., May 5.-Spirited contests between the followers of Mayor Johnson of Cleveland and the Garber Finley wing of the party marked the district meetings held this afternoon for No formal charges have been filed against Borough President Coles of Brooklyn, although his administration has been bitterly attacked by various news-papers. In addition, Comptroller Metz has tonight of the Democratic State Conventhe fight for control of the party organim I. Finley. spector, who is seeking the position of executive chairman, claims to have fourteen votes certain on the new State central committee, with a probability of sixteen. Mayor Johnson's followers, on the other hand, while not claiming a majority for their chief, say they have on the hills, and the fleet a little later. twelve to nine against the re-election of Charles A. Kloeb as chairman of the State central committee and the election | fog, which rolled in from the sea.

of Mr. Finley as executive chairman. Supporters of ex-Governor James E. Campbell, who is seeking the endorsement of the convention for United States Senator, controlled the committee on rules and order of business, which decided to report in favor of nominating a candidate played upon the clouds was seen long for United States Senator after the State ticket had been named and before the selection of delegates at large to the Na-

tional convention.

One of the sensational features of the day was the issuance by Mayor Johnson of a signed statement attacking the political record of Judson Harmon of Cincinnati, candidate for Governor. The statement declared that "Harmon's nomination is a trap set by Bryan's enemies

to catch Bryan's friends. Mr. Johnson charges Mr. Harmon with being "an attorney for the brewing interests and who is well known as the legal representative and rairoad receiver in Ohio of the Morgan interests in New

York." The convention met tonight in the Goodale State Auditorium. Ex-Mayor Edward M. Moore, of Youngstown, was temporary chairman. The temporary organization was made permanent.

TOM JOHNSON LOSES FIGHT

Will Not Control Democratic Convention in Ohlo.

COLUMBUS. O., May 5 .- By a close vote and after a stormy session, Mayor Tom L. Johnson, of Cleveland, lost his fight tonight for control of the Democratic state convention, which tomorrow will nominate a state ticket. A candidate for United States Senator and four delegate-at-large to the National conven-

tion at Denver.
A test of the relative strength of the Johnson and anti-Johnson faction of the party was taken on a minority report, which proposed to seat a contesting delegation from Lucas County which was favorable to Johnson.

Tom Grady to Be Promoted.

NEW YORK, May 5.-Senator Thomas F. Grady, who has announced his retirement from the Legislature at the end of his present term, is to be promoted to Congress, taking the place of W. Bourke Cockran. This announcement was made yesterday upon his authority in Tammany Hall, and it was further announced that Senator James Crawley is also to be sent to Washington to succeed Francis Burton

Two for Taft in Kentucky.

WINCHESTER, Ky., May 5.—John W. Tangley was renominated for Congress by the Republicans of the Tenth Congressional District today. The delegates to the Noticeal Congressional to the National convention were instruct

CLAMOR FOR CASH

Creditors Pursue District Attorney Ruick, of Idaho.

SAY HE WILL NOT PAY BILLS

Complaints From Tradesmen and Others Filed With Attorney-General and Even With President. Explanation Is Asked.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, May 5.—The outlawed debts of District Attorney Ruick, of Idaho, are annoying the Department of Justice. Lately Attorney-General Bonaparte has received several complaints from Idaho merchants to the effect that they have accounts against Ruick which they cannot collect; accounts which he flatly refuses to settle, because, as he says, they have been outlawed, and he is, therefore, not compelled to pay. Some of these complaints have reached the President, and by him have been returned to the Department of Justice.

Because of the persistency of Ruich's creditors, Attorney-General Bonaparte has found it necessary to take cognizance of the complaints, and it is understood that he has referred them to Ruick, with a request that he make an Lately Attorney-General Bonaparte has Ruick, with a request that he make an explanation. No action will be taken until his explanation is received. If Ruick were under civil service, the department would pay no attention to the complaints, for civil service regula-tions do not permit department heads to compel classified employes to pay

their debts.

But Ruick is a Presidential appointee But Ruick is a Presidential appointee holding high office, and this rule does not apply, though it is stated at the Department of Justice that there is a strong disinclination on the part of the Attorney-General to act as a collecting agent for merchants having claims against officials of his department. However, it may be necessary later to take action on these complaints, for the department feels it is indirectly injured by continuing in office a man of jured by continuing in office a man of Ruick's prominence when he is held up to public gaze as one who will not sat-isfy his creditors.

It is not possible to learn how many complaints have been filed against Ruick, though it is understood they come both from Boise and from Halley, his former home, and include bills, not only for clothing and supplies for him-self and family, but for office rents, etc. It is further understood that Ruick gave notes to some of his creditors, and when they became due declined to pay them, and also declined to renew

Asks More for Crater Lake Park. OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Wash-

ington, May & Senator Fulton has proposed an amendment to the sundry civil appropriation bill appropriating \$50,000 for the improvement and extension of roads in Crater Lake Park. The House bill carries but \$3000.

FLEET NEARS GOLDEN GATE

Hundreds Line Cliffs to Watch the Coming of the Battleships.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 5 .- The Atlantic battleship fleet, which sailed from Santa Cruz this afternoon on the last leg of its long cruise, and which will enter the Golden Gate tomorrow at noon, was sighted tonight south of State oil in- Point San Pedro, 20 miles below the entrance to the Bay of San Francisco The column was about six miles out

at sea. The Connecticut passed off Point San Pedro at 9:15 o'clock In answer to a signal from the flagship, the searchlights ceased to play upon drawing near the Farallones, was hidden from view by a heavy mantle of

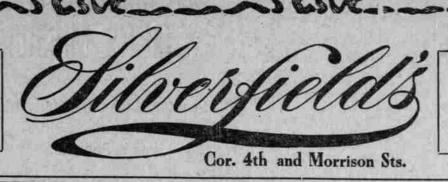
Hundreds of people lined the ocean shore, from the Cliff House site south, to get their first glimpse of the fleet. The Ocean Shore Railroad ran a special train with excursionists to Point San Pedro, from where the searchlights before the ships were sighted.

PAVES WAY FOR SETTLEMENT

Rio Grande Comes to Agreement

With Part of Employes. DENVER, Colo., May 5.—The first move toward a settlement of the Denver & Rio Grande shopmen's strike was made at

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ontracts with a committee representing he car repairers and inspectors. The ontracts are effective from May 1 to De-ember 21, 1908, and are practically the same as the contracts abrogated by the railroad company on March 15. The contracts of the carmen were abro-

gated at the same time as were the con-tracts for the machinists, boilermakers and blacksmiths, who are now on strike, and the new attitude of the company, as shown by today's action, opens the way for a settlement of the strike of all the

Question of Thirst-Quenchers.

Philadelphia Record. There seems to be no question that the wine-drinking nations as compared with the whisky-drinking antions are far more temperate. Thomas Jefferson declared as a result of his observation that "no nation is drunken where wine is cheap, and none sober where the drinker of wine substitutes ardent spirits drinker of wine substitutes ardent spirits

Northwest.

son he advocated a low rate of duty on wines "as an antidote to the bane of whisky." In the same line of reasoning a caller at the White House, Chevaller Andrea Sharbo, told the President the other day that in the French and Italian armies, where light wine is a part of the regular ration, the yearly percentage of soldlers treated for drunkenness was less than one-eighth of 1 per cent. The Surgeon-General of the American Army reports that 30 out of every 1000 are treated for alcoholism.

India-for-the-Indians Cry.

Calcutta Statesman. The boys of the Kishoregamz school football team recently refused to play for a cup on the ground that it was of foreign manufacture. As a result 12 of the

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ow money more easily and that populariticism of railroads is dying down.

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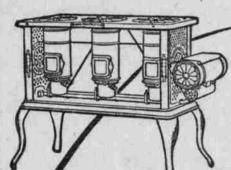
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