

A-20

RECORD - JAN - 1917  
**SAYS DEPT. RUN  
LIKE ANNEX OF  
TAMMANY CLUB**

**Ex-Mayor's Paper Takes  
Few Verbal Shots at  
Curley**

Former Mayor Fitzgerald, in his current issue of The Republic, out today, says that Mayor Curley "runs the fire department as he conducts most of the departments in City Hall, as though they were an annex to the Tammany Club."

The former Mayor says:—"Mayor Curley says that the fire department has seen less politics since he became Mayor than is the case with any other administration. Those who know anything about conditions in Boston's Fire Department today know that this is not so. From the day the late Chief Mullen was summarily removed, to enter a private asylum a little later, a mental and physical wreck, until the present hour conditions in the fire department have grown steadily worse. The Mayor runs the fire department as he conducts most of the departments in City Hall, as though they were an annex of the Tammany Club. The personnel of the department is fine, but they do not know who is commissioner."

The former Mayor also takes occasion to flay the present incumbent on Curley's praise of Gov. McCall's proposed social insurance, and Curley's failure to give Fitzgerald credit for championing such a measure when Fitzgerald was stumping the State as candidate for U. S. Senator.

**Another Shot**

He says:—"Mayor Curley made the following remarks about Gov. McCall at the Pressman's ball the other night:—"Although I have always voted the Democratic ticket and always will," declared the Mayor, "it is with pleasure that I take off my hat to 'Sam' McCall, the greatest Governor this Commonwealth ever had. And I now say to you merrymakers, dance in peace, for through the efforts of our Governor you may rest assured that divination in your old age will be lacking, owing to the old age pension bill, one of Massachusetts' nicest pieces of legislation."

It is rather curious that His Honor could not have found a word of praise for Mr. Fitzgerald when he uttered the very same thought in his campaign for United States Senator. The assurance that the Mayor gave at the meeting, that the matter was all settled, and that everyone who lived long enough was to have a pension, is typical Curleyism.

JAN - 1 - 1917  
**AT THE MAYOR'S G**

Councillor Daniel J. McDonald is the ninth candidate to file his return of election expenses. He spent \$782, according to his return, which is a little less than Jerry Watson put out. And the job pays only \$1500 a year.

"Jack" Murphy, one of the Mayor's assistant secretaries, who was operated on in the City Hospital for nose trouble a few days ago, has been released, but it will be necessary for him to undergo a similar operation next week.

Among the many valuable gifts received by Councillor and Mrs. George W. Coleman at the Bellevue Saturday evening, upon the occasion of the 25th anniversary of their marriage, was a solid silver service with large tray, the remembrance of Mayor Curley and Mr. Coleman's colleagues in the City Council.

Rumor says that "Tom" Coffey, the elevator superintendent in the Annex, will be transferred by Mayor Curley and not discharged from the city's service, if the Mayor finds him guilty of the charges of petty graft preferred against him; but the question is where to put him so that he could earn that \$1000 a year he is getting now.

More than 75 p.c. of the department heads have already turned in to Mayor Curley their estimates for 1917 under the segregated budget, and Budget Commr. Carven and his assistants are working day and night pruning them down so that they can be presented to the City Council in accordance with the law within 30 days after Feb. 1.

The Mayor's gate is not swinging much today. In fact it was like Sunday at City Hall, only the watchmen being on duty. The Mayor said Saturday that he intends to take full advantage of holidays hereafter, and rest.

JAN - 16 - 1917  
**SCHOOL BOARD ENDS  
YEAR WITH \$109,000**

**Dr. Scannell Advises Purchase  
Of Site for New Latin  
Building**

**INSTRUCTION IS URGED  
IN LIFE OF LINCOLN**

**Phillip M. Sagera Appointed  
Junior Master at High School  
Of Commerce**

An unexpended balance of \$109,000 will be turned over to the School Committee when it meets two weeks hence to take

up work for the new fiscal school year. This announcement was made yesterday afternoon at a meeting of the Board by Dr. David Scannell, retiring chairman, who called attention to the fact that a year ago the close of the fiscal school year was marked by a deficit of more than \$500,000.

Dr. Scannell, who with Michael H. Corcoran retired from the Board last night, made the suggestion that action be taken by the incoming Board on the purchase of a site for the new Latin School. Dr. Scannell declared that the new School Committee will have \$941,000 for new school purposes, and suggested that the purchase of a Latin School site be given serious attention.

School Committeeman-elect Judge Michael H. Sullivan, who will take his place as a member of the new Board in two weeks' time, was at the meeting yesterday. He was invited by Chairman Scannell, and sat at his side while the meeting was in progress.

Mayor Curley sent a letter to the Committee, asking that from now until the end of the present school session the children in the public schools be directed to devote one hour each week to the study of the life of President Lincoln. He wrote that in view of the fact that the Grand Army Encampment will be held in Boston during the week of Aug. 18-25, it was not more than fair that the children be directed to study the life of the "Great Emancipator." The matter was referred to the Board of Superintendents, who will take it up next week.

The Board ordered the appointment of Phillip M. Sagera as junior master at the High School of Commerce.

Additional teachers for the School for Immigrants will be appointed in the near future. The classes will be taught in the various schools throughout the city.

The Philbrick Home and School Association petitioned for a new school in the Mt. Hope district. The latter was taken under advisement.

A petition for the change of hours of attendance at the Mary L. Brook School was received. It is desired that the morning sessions be from 8.30 to 12, instead of from 9 to 12, as at present. This also was taken under advisement.

# MAYOR TELLS F. E. CABOT HE MAY SIT DOWN

## Fails to Extract Information from Insurance Man at Hearing on the Effect of Installation of the High Pressure System on Bos- ton's Rates.

## ILTS WITH THE NATIONAL UNDERWRITERS' ENGINEER

## ets Assurance New Protec- tion Will Be Recognized and Promises Small Pumping Station at North End Park as Starter, Another One to Follow.

Insurance men assured Mayor Curley at a conference in City Hall yesterday that when the high pressure service system is finally completed the protection it gives the business section will be recognized in determining insurance rates. The mayor tried to obtain a definite statement as to what the reduction percentage would be, but F. A. De Wick, chairman of the Boston board of fire underwriters, declared he could give no exact figure because the city has determined nothing definite as to the manner in which the system is to be completed.

In consequence of this, and as a result of all that was said at the conference, the mayor said flatly that before next fall the city will have completed the construction of a gas engine pumping station with a capacity of 12,000 gallons a minute, near North End Park, and will have connected this station with the seven miles of pipe already laid.

Then, he explained, the city will begin work on the construction of another high pressure station, probably on the Charlesbank. No one present objected to this new policy of establishing two relatively small high pressure stations in place of the single large station as provided in the original plans.

### Verbal Encounter.

The conference was interrupted several times by verbal clashes between the mayor and George W. Booth, chief engineer of the National Board of Fire Underwriters; between the mayor and Secretary F. E. Cabot of the Boston board, and between Booth and Joseph A. Rourke, head of the city high pressure service, but by the time the conference ended hostilities appeared to have been suspended.

The mayor put to Booth his first question as to whether there would be a rate

reduction after the completion of the system. Booth explained he was an engineer and had nothing to do with declaration of rates. Then Rourke mentioned Booth as to technical statements in a recent report of the National board regarding the system. Rourke pointed out that Boston copied New York in allowing a leakage of four gallons at the joints, although the report had said Boston's leakage was double that of any other city. Booth admitted the error, but said it was not a vital issue.

"You would think it vital," said the mayor, "if you were holding office in Boston and subject to the criticism."

Rourke then stated that the Boston system has the weakest high pressure pipe lines in the country because of the great number of dead ends. He laid this to the plans drawn before Mayor Curley took office.

### Excessive Leakage.

Again referring to Booth's admission of the error, the mayor said, "You'll assume responsibility, I suppose, for all statements in that report, except those that are not proved incorrect."

"I didn't say that," replied Booth. "Perhaps it is what you should have said," retorted the mayor.

Questioned by the mayor, Booth denied that the National board had recommended the appointment to the city service of Clarence Goldsmith, who formerly had charge of the high pressure service. Then the mayor said that because of excessive leakage he had found it necessary to remove Mr. Goldsmith, F. A. McInnes, former head of the water service and to refuse to reappoint Louis A. K. Rourke as public works commissioner.

Clarence Blackall, representing the board of directors of the chamber of commerce, declared a 12,000 gallon station was sufficient. He said, "This is not a place where the city should listen to the insurance underwriters, because, I believe, they themselves are not sure what they want." He added that insurance companies are operating under a loss because 50 per cent. of their premiums is taken up in expenses and 35 per cent. in fire losses.

### F. E. Cabot "Can Sit Down."

F. E. Cabot had "nothing at all to say" when asked by the mayor for suggestions in regard to the high pressure service. "Have you anything to say as to rates?" the mayor asked.

First looking at the clock, Mr. Cabot replied: "Not this afternoon."

"Then," insisted the mayor, "what have you to say about fire protection?" "I didn't understand we came here to discuss that," replied Cabot.

"Well, we certainly didn't come here to discuss Greek literature," answered the mayor. Then, after reading the notice of the meeting, the mayor said to Cabot: "You can sit down."

F. A. De Wick took Mr. Cabot's place before the mayor. When asked as to the possibility of the rates being reduced, he said: "If you could tell us exactly what you propose to do, then we will endeavor to find the relative percentage value of the reduced system as compared with the one originally planned."

"Suppose," suggested the mayor, "that we construct a 12,000-gallon station, connect it with the existing lines, then construct another small station on the Charlesbank, what would you say to that?"

"Our tendency," said De Wick, "is to recognize any real improvement in clearing up the conflagration hazard. In making the rates for cities, the possibility of conflagration is measured. The presence of a system would reduce that and would be recognized. But I would need to know the percentage value of the new system to the proposed old one before I could set any definite figure."

The mayor said he did not wish to order the work to proceed if he thought

when it was completed nobody would be satisfied with it.

"If the conflagration hazard is reduced," insisted De Wick, "there would be some recognition of that in determining the rates."

Former Mayor Nathan Matthews, representing William A. Muller & Co., insurance underwriters, urged immediate action. He declared that New York property owners have saved \$5,000,000 through reduced rates from high pressure installation and from other fire prevention measures. "In no other place on the face of the earth," he said, "is the conflagration risk as great as in the Boston business section. Raise the money at once and spend it at once to complete our high pressure system." To raise the money he advised borrowing within the debt limit, or, if that does not appear feasible, to petition the Legislature for permission to borrow outside the debt limit.

## NOTIFIES TRUSTS ISSUING TRANSFERABLE SHARES

### Tax Commissioner Warns Them of Date to File Agreements.

The tax commissioner yesterday made public an important ruling relative to partnerships, associations and trusts issuing transferable shares.

The ruling follows:

"Partnerships, associations and trusts issuing transferable shares and entitled under the provisions of section 2 of the Massachusetts income tax law to file an agreement to pay to the commonwealth annually the taxes imposed by the act, in which event the dividends declared under their shares shall be exempt from taxation, shall file such agreement on or before the first day of February, 1917, if their dividends paid in the year 1916 are to be exempted from taxation. Agreements of this nature received subsequent to the first day of February, 1917, will be effective only as to dividends paid in the calendar year 1917. Such agreements are postmarked on Feb. 1, 1917, or earlier, will be accepted as received within the terms of the foregoing ruling, and will be effective as though actually received before said date. All agreements filed with the tax commissioner are subject to examination and verification, and are not operative until executed by the tax commissioner."

A large number of real estate trusts and other associations and partnerships which have not filed the agreement are entitled to the benefits of this provision of the act. If they fail to comply with the requirements of the act before the date named, their dividends become taxable for the first time in Massachusetts.

## FAVORS SUPERVISION OF CREDIT UNIONS

### Mayor Explains Purpose of His Bill.

Mayor Curley last night issued a statement in defence of his bill to provide for the appointment of an officer to have charge of all credit unions, declaring that such action on the part of the Legislature would eliminate loan sharks.

"Membership in a credit union is practically the only way in which a wage earner can obtain a loan at a reasonable rate of interest," says the statement in part.

"I believe that the appointment of a deputy in the bank commissioner's office who should be charged with the supervision of such unions would make the loan shark a thing of the past when the advantage of credit unions is made known to employees and employers. The means will be provided whereby a wage earner may obtain a loan when it is to his advantage to get it, as, for instance, to enable him to purchase coal in the summer when the price is low."