

Dear Sir:

I am writing to you and the other architects and engineers and prominent social workers and citizens about the abominable state of affairs in the Chicago Park District.

I mentioned only two-three cases directly concerning to the Architectural and Engineering Activities of the Engineering Department. This is, of course, on infinitesimal part of sinistral picture and concrete example of march of Dark Battallion - Engineering Department.

By your actual interference you can stop the graft and squandering of the funds assigned to recreation of poor class of Chicago population.

Make your patriotic duty, use your authority and prestige and many, many will be grateful to you.

Rally for the defense of democracy and for the "children of the poor".

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Yours very truly,

Alexis A. Zakharoff

It is a well-known fact - "the talk of the town" - the tragic state of affairs, in the mismanagement of Chicago Park District. This institution under corrupt control of Hon. Mayor Edw. Kelly and at present stage there are many things which required the intervention of State Attorney or special senatorial Committee.

I do not want to go far in all details but I intend to apply to high caliber professional men as architects and engineers and to bring to their attention the most flagrant two - three cases of open crime, which are the result of system - the reign of "Dark Battallion" instituted for a long time by Edw. Kelly and supported by former president R. Dunham.

The concrete case is - the drawings made for remodeling of Armour Square Field House. This Field House was built 40 years ago with initial cost of \$47,000. It was designed by Architect D. Burnham Co. and built from porous concrete. Unplastered inside, with clay-tile roof. The plan is very good solution with auditorium and two club rooms in second floor. The front view is rather attractive looking from retrospective point of view.

By silly notion of Playground Department and without any necessity at all, it was decided to remodel this building and make large auditorium in second floor.

Almost 10 years ago, the working drawings started and with interruption continuing to the present time and only now a couple of months ago completely finished in final form. All architectural, structural heating electrical drawings 100% completed. At least 40 draftsmen, including several architectural designers (myself also) were working on these drawings and the cost of drafting alone is \$30,000 - \$40,000. In final stage it was conducted by Architectural Designer C. Schroeder the star of Dark Battallion, who was in charge of all design.

File no number - Chicago Chapter of 2-3 Zakharoff

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Now everybody, even park engineering department, arrived to the conclusion that all drawings should go to wastebasket as absolutely wrong!

All this sinister affair can be formulated briefly in such way. The old building with original cost of \$47,000 and with present value approximately \$25,000 intended to remodel at cost exceeding \$100,000 and remodeling drawings alone already cost about \$30,000 - \$40,000!! From architectural and engineering points of view it is complete nonsense and an example of criminal ignorance. The best solution of course, would be to demolish the old building and to build a new one or to build new additional building or to make repairs and small changes not exceeding say \$10,000.

But, the Dark Battalion, unable to understand this and by this reason \$40,000 of the taxpayers money, collected by high taxation and designated for recreation of "Children of the Poor" - foolishly squandered!!

Briefly speaking the following atrocities (fortunately on paper only) made by Dark Battalion. Hall capacity of 800 designed in extremely expensive modernistic (high class night club) style in complete discord with classical style of building. The design made secretly for Schroeder by his friend architect B. Smith now in New York. Only one double door 5'-0 wide to be installed. It requires 3 double doors for normal exit and 3 fire escapes according to City Code. It is essential requirement (remember La Salle Hotel)

Roof completely tear to pieces, very expensive patchy remodeling and in the connection of two different materials will leak. In Gym overything to be destroyed and only front wall will stay. All toilets uprooted without any necessity. In social rooms and all over the building to be installed glazed tile. Front elevation spoiled and looks cockeyed. Schroeder and Str. Eng. Tom Kelly made a secret agreement with manufacturers of glazed tile and they put this expensive material all over, even in Janitor Closets! The cost of glazed tile will exceed \$30,000 when the actual cost of whole building is about \$25,000. It is really a record of squandering and criminal intentions shown very clear.

During the process of making drawings I saw the absurdities of Park Stars and twice I interfered without any authority but animated by revolt against complete ignorance and corruptibility of dark battalion. Three years ago, I wrote to Ass. Chief Eng. Black, a long letter. The following quotation, "The drawings would be placed on so-called paper architecture" and be thrown in the wastebasket. No radical changes needed, no destructions of walls and so-called "major operation".

The other letter I wrote in April, 1944 to R. Burke, Chief Engineer. Quotation: "The Armour Square designed in final form with all working drawings should be completely discarded. Everything wrong." This letter was written before heating, and electrical drawings were ordered.

The main reason for terrible failure is the fact that all engineering forces are unfit, unqualified to responsible jobs. Asst. Chief Eng. R. Black is ignorant draftman without any technical education, unstable mentally. He was not even able to pass the State Examination and he got his license by soliciting and pull of politicians.

He was promoted to the high post, by Dunham, strictly against regulations of Civil Service Statute. Str. Eng. Tom Kelly is not an architect and a nervous wreck and besides he is a grafter. He promoted ignorant draftsmen and takes recompensations from them and contractors also.

Speaking about Ch. Schroeder, he is real criminal type. His activity started in the Illinois State University and Prof. Provino know many of his tricks and cheatiness. He passed Civil Service examination with Park in criminal way - buying questions before examination. I have a lot of witnesses to verify this statement. He passed also State Examination by fraudulent way. He is double swindler and imposter. Besides, in partnership with Str. Eng. T. Kelly, he committed Arson in the Administration Building of South Park Commission, with intention to destroy working drawings for Foster Park.

Recently he got the prize of Tribune Competition. The chairman of the jury was Hon. P. Gerhardt, Junior Building Commissioner and City Architect. Gerhardt is the "bird of the same feather", also swindler and imposter as he bought license too. I intended to call him "ignorant draftsman" but it is too complimentary to him. By irony of fate, I was working as draftsman in the office of his father, who knowing that I am graduated in technical college had intention to ask me to teach architecture to his junior. Father asked me if I can calculate steel beams!

I saw the Junior struggle with architectural orders. Now this ignorant, without any architectural education and practical experience (except a couple years of drafting in his daddy's office) was promoted by E. Kelly just like all dark battalion to responsible job.

That the diploma's will exist in the State of Illinois is a well-known fact. There are many false architects in Chicago and member of examination Committee architect Ostergren and Secretary of Ill. Soc. of Architects Palmer have the list of architects who got their license by criminal way.

Kelly is afraid of high class technical men. They may expose his corruptness. In Parks Engineering Staff, which is supposed to be under Civil Service Statute there are many so called architects and engineers, ignoramuses, men without any technical education or plain criminal types. Kelly choses technical men on the same principles as a chief ganster selects new active members for the gang. The new member should be reliable, because he has a hidden crime. It is quite natural that he appointed as chief engineer, R. Burke, who is his yes-man and who approves all deeds of dark battalion.

Something should be done to stop triumphant march of dark battalion and the quickest and most efficient way to examining the criminal documents - the architectural, structural, heating and electrical drawings of remodeling of Armour Square.

This will be the first step to investigate Park activities and to chase the Dark Battalion. It is proper to mention that the drawings supposed to be signed by the other "big shots" of Parks, one of them W. Bell, who illegally appointed as consulting engineer and he made

previously tremendous harm by criminal-ignorance, planning of heating in many Park Buildings. His intention was to increase fuel consumption as he and E. Kelly systematically taken commission from dealers.

The other "Big Shot" is office boy "Honorable Candidate" Graft O. T. Kuzik Jolineck with fantastic musical comedy title "Park Planning Engineer" or better to say "Graft Planning Engineer". All these stars are animated by the same aim - the loyal service to Kelly (not to poor people of Chicago) and marching under dirty banner of corruption, graft and destruction.

No matter to which party you belong but you must realize that the money of Park Budget assigned to recreation of poor class of population but not for formation of prepaid Voters, supporting Kelly organization and not also for formation and promotion of Dark Battalion. The construction of Parks actually stopped. The delinquency of the youth increases and children are mutilating playing in filthy alleys.

The most practical step is to organize a group of high class technical people and ask the Park Administration to submit the drawings of Armour Square for examination and inspection. The drawings should be studied by experts with inspection of existing buildings too and resolution and opinion should be sent to Parks. It can be done and will be done. Park affairs is public business and everybody has a right to investigate.

At present time office of engineering dept. transformed into some kind "Vominoties" where ignorant hands mutilate public buildings with corrupt intentions. There is a sickening atmosphere of hidden crime and many, many architects who worked with Park have had the same sensation. Remember my words: The high class educated technical men with honest intentions and professional responsibility and respect to their profession will not get a job in Parks with the present administration.

The Technical Societies and Colleges should organize the fight for the interest of their members and former students.

At the present time, two important jobs trusted to two ignoramous, Ch. Schroeder and Tom Kelly - remodeling of two park buildings. Large squads of draftsmen working whole years and nothing accomplished yet. The private architects take about 8 - 10% for the remodeling job. Already the cost of drawings, exceeded this amount and no end in sight. It is quite natural, because responsible architectural and engineering work is in the hands of imposters and ignoramuses.

The other example of waist - the drawings of Avalon Parks. Twelve years ago, the design of the new field house was given to a well known architectural concern, Altschuler. Definitely wrong "Grafty" plan and methods of construction were forced and imposed on him. The Architect did not have the courage to fight and followed the orders. When the drawings were made, I told him openly that they were going to the wastebasket. I was a good prophet: recently Kelly's favorite Architect, A. Shaw, got the commission to make a new plan for Avalon Park, but he must follow the wrong plan developed by "We" - criminal ignoramusos of Park. Shaw submitted a beautiful "Functional", "Spontaneous", "emotional", bold front elevation, consisting in square with one side hole.

~~This is the way this should look~~

Some things are screwy and not ethical in the fact that A. Shaw got the job made previously by other architects. I am sure that the Alschuler Organization must recognize the fact that they are guilty of following the wrong instructions without making a protest and will make moderate extra charges for additional work. But, Alschuler already paid the "Gravy" and Shaw who knows all the ways and means, will pay the other "Gravy". The wastebasket system really is a chicken with double golden eggs. In this time, I wish to make a prediction that all of Shaw's drawings will also be rejected by the new Park Administration and will go to the wastebasket also. What a passion have Chicago tax-payers!

The following are a list of drawings which will go to the wastebasket:

Drawings for Armour Square - 100 % completed	\$40,000
Franklin Park (90% completed)	10,000
Cornell Square (Unfinished)	6,000
Foster Park - 100% completed	20,000
Avalon Park - 100% completed	15,000
Marquette Park - 100% completed	20,000
Police Booths - 100% completed	5,000
New Lincoln Park Building	3,000
Garden of the Nations !!	2,000
Midget Field Houses	5,000

and many others.

At the present time, a draftsman artist is working on drawings for the Chicago Worlds Fair in 1950!!! (Don't laugh - cry)

The best way, of course, is to open the criminal state of affairs and start an investigation. The engineering Staff - ignorant draftsmen, imposters, swindlers, arsonists, former brothel keepers and bouncers, ignorant janitors - all flowers of the Kelly administration and their Commander - Honorable Mayor with his staff of Honorable Dummies, must go and clear the way for a new honest administration.

There is an established fact that there are architects with fraudulent licenses and diploma mill exists. This also must be submitted to investigation.

2. The most conspicuous example of graft which exists in Park Administration is the toilet building in Riis Park. The Park is on the outskirts of the city and in a deserted neighborhood, with rare population. For a typical Park, there is usually installed two or three seats for each sex and a couple of urinals for the mens toilet, but the designer of this building knew that somebody could get plenty of "Gravy" from the piping and toilet fixtures and in order to promote himself he inserted in his plan 17 (!!) seats, 6 urinals, 10 wash basins and two slop sinks! This was approved without any objections. The drawings were signed by Arch. Designer in Charge, E. Bucksbaum and Asst. Chief Eng. R. Black, Str. Eng. T. Kelly and also W. Bell, Asst. Gen. Superintendent.

3. There are also many other buildings built under the Kelly Park Management. Gage Park represents architecture which is a menstrosity. Terrible interior with arches made from porous concrete in Auditorium. A long tunnel for wasting of fuel, indicating a very "Grafty" plan.

Hamilton Park with a definitely wrong system of heating and ventilating
The heating was designed to heat the Universe not the buildings.

The Metal chimney in Mann Parks was made purposely to spoil the
appearance of the buildings and increase the consumption of coal.

In conclusion I wish to say that the time has arrived for intervention
and control of Park affairs. Otherwise, as I wrote in my recent letter
to commissioners, the mob will gather in front of the building with a
request to stop the Drak Battalion. The best way, of course, is to
tell Kelly to ouster all of the criminal scum and hire, by Civil
Service Examination, the real architects and engineers. There is no
genius required, but decent professional men with a good education
and practical experience.

During the War, we saw the need of physical culture as a corner stone
to good health and endurance. Good health, especially for under-
privileged folks, is precious in peace time as it is in War time.

High class field-houses, auditoriums, gyms designed and built in
progressive style and with all up to date achievements of building
industry is needed urgently. These buildings should be designed
by high class architects and engineers selected by examination.
High class professional people with a sense of duty for civil oblig-
ations, can do great things and stop the crime of the Park Admin-
istration. You are needed for this purpose.

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94
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Tragedy of the Chicago Park Administration under the corrupt leadership of Mayor Edward J. Kelly.

I- Destruction of Civil Service Statute and substitution by autocracy of Mayor Kelly and his cohorts.

As many people know, the Parks are governed by Civil Service law, the purpose of which is to put the employees outside of political struggle, the formation of framework of employees, (especially technical forces) by examination and the merit system. This selection and employment according to the law should be done outside of any pressure and allegiance to any political party, but based on the principle of selection of the best. Before the consolidation of all parks in 1935, Edward J. Kelly was commissioner and president of South Park commissioners, and he started the radical violation of Civil Service Statute a long time ago, but after the consolidation the violations and destructions increased crescendo and now almost nothing is left from Service regulations. All temporary employment was made with the approval of politician Welsh, who was on the payroll under the title: "Administrative Director." Now the system, slightly changed, but in essence remained the same. This is a violation of Civil Service and is practiced in many municipal and state institutions, under control of democratic and republican parties. This is in violation of the spirit of the Law, is very detrimental for the service in institutions, and the taxpayers-public in general- should protest and fight against it. But this violation is child's play in comparison with the chain of crimes described in the following text.

Destruction of Civil Service was done by Kelly and the president of The Chicago Park District Board- Dunham, with the dishonest purpose of stealing money appropriated for the recreation of poor classes of population in Chicago. I say, "to steal." The definition of the word, "steal," is "to take from another's possession, without right, authority in a secret manner." 100% applies to the actual state of affairs. Nothing is left from Civil Service, and by criminal ways and means Kelly and Dunham secretly scooped, and are scooping now, slush moneys from the well of public funds. As many know, Kelly is head of the Democratic party of Cook County, and Dunham is treasurer, and with arrogance, (not secretly, as many have known for a long time) by criminal ways and means described in detail in the following text, they systematically stole funds and used them for their personal profit, for corruption and bribery of officials, whose duties are observance of law, and also for supporting the national campaign of Democratic organization in Washington. All this money stolen is a slush fund and certainly only a few know how it is distributed and how much "stuck" to the hands of Kelly and Dunham.

There are many methods for their criminal activities, and one of them was the formation of the Dark Battalion, made from complete ignoramuses: former janitors, office boys, farm hands, ignorant draftsmen, men for technical service without any education and diplomas-- "home-made"-- engineers with large "grafting" experience, like Ed. Kelly, himself--swindlers and imposters, those who passed examinations-- by criminal ways, "big Shots"-- those who come to the office once in awhile and whose records are criminally falsified. There are rumors that among the Dark Battalion are former bounders and brothel keepers. This statement should be checked by the prosecuting attorney. All these "birds of a feather flocked together," and made excellent background for the criminal manipulations of Kelly and Dunham. With salaries from \$3000,00 to \$10,000, and under different sonorous titles, as, Assistant of General Superintendents, Consulting Engineers, Park Planning, or, better to say, Graft Planning Engineers, and others, they made a nucleus of technical forces, and to them was entrusted millions of dollars for Park development. For instance, the Outer Drive Bridge, the New Administration Building, the Traffic Separations in the Outer Drive, and many others.

Many of these men were taken in complete violation of Civil Service regulations. For instance Bell, former mechanical engineer, was taken, during consolidation of the Parks, from a strictly engineering post to an administrative one, definitely against the law of consolidation. Jelinek, ignorant draftsman, "office boy," one of Kelly's stars, was promoted to a \$6000,00 salary, without any examination at all. There are so-called temporary men, who are on service "temporarily," for 9-10 years, like Stromberg, head engineer in the repair section with a salary of about \$5000,00. This was done purposely, maliciously, by Kelly and Dunham, for many reasons.

First of all the Dark Battalion is purchasable, (from \$5,00 and up) and by reason of their ignorance they are loyal to organized crime; they are trustful and they are reliable. They have no sense of professional duty, or respect for a profession, and they villainously Okayed any graft and dishonesty done by Kelly-Dunham. For many real professional men, such as doctors, engineers and architects, the love and moral obligation of their profession is of paramount importance. You could not buy any real doctor, engineer, or architect, for a million dollars, but any member of the Dark Battalion can be purchased for \$5,00 and up. Real architects and engineers are dangerous to Kelly-Dunham, for they may rebel and expose Kelly-Dunham crimes. This is the reason why the Parks have not an architect on the payroll. The most important quality for a responsible employee, is the gentle art, beloved by Kelly, of taking bribes, and passing them to him. And this is the reason why Bell and Jelinek made brilliant careers. This system--a rule of the Dark Battalion -- the handling of important technical matters by ignorant hands did tremendous harm to the Parks, not only in squandering funds, but by horrible results in many construction undertakings, and maybe half a century will be required to heal the atrocities committed by the Battalion. Maybe this statement would appear untrue, because there are decent buildings in the Parks, recently erected, but these buildings were designed, not by stars of the Dark Battalion, but by outsiders. As, for instance, the promontory shelter in Jackson Park, which, supposed to be designed by Chas. Shroeder, architectural designer of Parks, was designed by Ben. Smith, New York architect, former student of Illinois University. Smith helped Shroeder in many cases--as, for instance in

examination with the Parks --and Ben. Smith should be questioned.

Here is the proper place to notice that there are in technical office certain engineers with college education and good practical experience, such as chief engineer Burke, and head of the repair section, Shapiro. (Shapiro left the Parks in January, 1945.) They looked like real engineers, but they acted like typical members of the Dark Battalion. By documents, drawings, it is easy to prove that they Okayed typical Dark Battalion corruptive nonsense, and participated in the crime of destruction, squandering and waste. They know what is right and what is wrong, but they support the wrong, because they are loyal to Kelly. It is logical that Kelly chooses for responsible posts only those whom he can trust, and who are willing to sell their skins to him.

The Dark Battalion is a very lucrative item for Kelly-Dunham. All get very high salaries, some of them twice as much, or more, than they can earn in private offices, (if, generally speaking, they can get any other job.) Their salaries are fictitious, and the amounts shown in the published Park budget are not what they really get. The budget is marginal, fraudulent, and the public systematically deceived by budgets published in the newspapers. The difference between published salaries and actual, are systematically stolen by Kelly-Dunham. This applies to temporary employees and Civil Service men.

This statement is very easy to verify by questioning under oath, and with the lie detector, many responsible present and past employees. This is the main item of criminal income of Kelly-Dunham. To judge the magnitude of this operation, one must take into consideration that the Park budget is about \$9,000,000. and it consolidated in 1935.

The other source of Kelly-Dunham income is the selling of jobs, (temporary and Civil Service) to the best biters and "loyal" employees, in complete disregard of their qualifications and fitness.

For instance, Galagher, principle construction engineer, paid down a fortune for his job. How much newly appointed head of electrical section, Wyatt, paid down for his job, should be investigated. But that is not all. The extra payments, also made by Galagher and others, for "fake" Civil Service examinations, where the questions are given to the "loyal", before examinations. For instance, Bell's favorite, a complete ignoramus, chief mechanical engineer, Hubb, a man without professional training, with a salary of \$5,200, passed the Civil Service examination with questions given him by his boss, Bell, before the examination. This statement is very easy to verify by re-examination, which will reveal the truth.

Generally speaking, many examinations are really a comedy. Those destined will pass --all others out. Many know this fact and nobody goes to examinations. As the most important qualification for promotion is the capacity to take bribes, the whole system of Park Government is built on graft. Bosses take from men under their supervision; engineers in charge take from draftsmen, and promotion or lay-off depends, not on capacities and work of men, but on the amount they pay to the proper party.

In some ways it resembles a huge, live pyramid in a circus; one stays on the head of others, or on the shoulders, and the whole forms some kind of interlocking chain. In this system blackmailing, chantage, extortions, reign in tremendous scale. Many grafters, as Jelinek, Bell, were caught several times, but the whole matter was hushed up in order not to expose Kelly and Dunham. The task of prosecuting attorney seems to be very difficult, but for enormous crime is really very easy. As soon as one member of the pyramid will be exposed the

whole structure will topple, and one crook will expose the other. Many full confessions will follow as all will realize that it is impossible to hide the truth.

The system of bribery enriches many "small fry," since during transactions a considerable amount of "gravy" sticks to their hands. Many get rich and some of them, who are not clever, display their fortunes in real estate and in other investments.

Everybody knows that in many cases sudden wealth is sure-proof of crime, and many employers, especially appointed by Bell and his proteges', should be questioned under the lie detector system. Of course some of them will tell that they got rich the same way that Kelly got rich: investing ALL his money in shares of Radio Corporation, when they sold for \$40,00, and selling after two months for \$800,00. All these fibs should be checked, and, for instance O'Rourke, senior draftsman, should be questioned about how he fished in disturbed water for his fortune.

2 -- Parasitism, Squandering and Waste.

After consolidation the staff increased in tremendous proportion, and if one compared the number of office workers of South Park, Lincoln Park and West Park, added together, with present number of employees, one can find that it swelled almost three times. The parasites, or semi-parasites are very profitable for Kelly-Dunham. With their marginal salaries they yielded a large amount to the Kelly golden fleece.

There are two kinds of parasites: malign and benign. A park hired five men for a job needing one, and all five turned into semi-parasites. Many men are anxious to work, but there is no work. They are human beings, and certainly they could not quit, for it would be foolish. For this reason take, for instance, the engineering department, where many draftsmen make drawings which are designated to the waste paper basket. In the South park office, before consolidation, there was a pleasant solution. Almost every afternoon, or part of it, all draftsmen, with the blessing of malign parasite No 1, chief draftsman, Plum, played cards. In reality this system was beneficial for the park, because in this way the building activities were curtailed, and less construction atrocities were committed.

The difference between benign and malign parasites consists in the former just having a soft job with lots of boon-doggling, and in the latter not only doing nothing, but making great effort to spoil the work of the others and do harm to the building activities of the Parks.

The best example of the malign type of parasite is chief draftsman Plum, who did tremendous harm to the Parks by his policy of impairing all efforts for improvement in buildings design. He conducted the planning of Gage Park, he consistently pulled down all my efforts to design Hamilton Park New Hall in the spirit of good architecture. He mutilated the plan of Mann Park. His guidance of Architect Altshuler in making plans for Avalon and Marquette Parks, (which cost the Park Administration \$35,000) was such that these two plans should be consigned to the waste basket. All this was done with low jealousy of an ignorant man, and with fear that good designs might promote those who did the architectural work.

At the same time he endeavored to keep criminally low the level of Park Architecture in order to create a sharp contrast with the ugly, lousy construction of Gage Park- his creation.

There are not only individual parasites, but whole sections are

parasitic. For instance, the Department of Public Information, with a budget of \$15,510, (not including reproduction and painting,) with Director Heuchling, with salary of \$7,200, and additional staff of five persons.

The Parks do not need publicity, and this section was created by Dunham for the purpose of graft, and for propoganda for the Democratic party, and especially for advertising Kelly. The main object of Parks is the development of Park areas, by acquisition of grounds, buildings, and maintenance field houses, gymnasiums, etc. This main purpose is completely forgotten by Kelly-Dunham. The public fund is actually thrown out of the window, when there is a need for new buildings and new parks.

The near south side section, with a colored population, has not one decent field house and park, (outside Washington Park.) The present field houses in Madden Park and Washington Park, are remodeled from old obsolete structures-- absolutely unsatisfactory. "Children of the poor" (expression of Jacob Riis,) are playing among the filth and squalor of alleys, run over and mutilated on the streets by automobiles. Delinquency and crime of the youth increased, and healthy recreation, parks and buildings were not developed and built at all. All "big shot" of the parks, like Dunham, Brown, head of recreation, and the others, often deliver, by radio, maudlin and false talks that recreation is the main remedy for crime. But how far their hearts and deeds are from their utterance!

As the first step in cleaning stables, the boon-doggling parasitic office of Public Information should be shut down immediately, and the head, originator and promoter of this branch of boon-doggling, should be examined.

The other branch is a Department of Law. There is the General Attorney, with salary of \$12,000, and four assistants, with a total budget of \$41,000. There is no necessity for the Department, since previously all legal matters were given to private lawyers, which, of course, is a more economical way.

Excess of parasites, or semi-parasites, are not only wasting money but they are really harmful, as, for instance, when the lawyers start to work in order to show their activities.

It is worth while to mention the confusion and complication which was introduced in the building specification. The Law technicality completely obscures the technical conditions of construction, and the men of average intelligence--contractors and dealers--will never be able to understand the essence of specifications. It is some kind of forest--traps, scarecrows--and is really harmful for business. The architectural and engineering societies, and contractor's association, should get the specifications of parks to see the harm from zeal of parasites.

Much better that parasites of all branches do nothing--talk about golf, cars, women, etc;--than show useless activities.

There are lots of sinecures, (offices with salaries but without work.) For instance there are three district representatives, with \$4,000, each, held by politicians, (of course without any examination.) There is no need for such jobs, but Kelly is making all effort to create a clique and supporters for his party. The Director of Special Service, Stephen Kelly, brother of Edward Kelly, gets \$6,300, a year, and, of course without any examination. The list of "temporary employees" will be given in agenda. The majority of these "big shots" have sumptuous offices, with a big picture of Kelly shaking his finger. There is neither dignity nor self-respect in this, and somehow it resembles a picture

of a dog and his master, commanding: "Take it--take it."

The most terrible waste developed in play-ground sections. At the beginning of consolidation, head of Department, Brown, inaugurated a series of pageants. Thousands and thousands of dollars were spent for boats, illumination, and other paraphernalia. At the same time there was no hot water and soap in the park gyms, and no fund for the construction of new buildings.

What do you call the father of a family who throws a party and invites guests to his house, when there is no soap--no hot water for the children? In plain American language, he is a "nut!" There is a very close parallel between such a father and many officials of the Park Administration.

In the complete indifference to the building activities in the Park system, by general superintendent Donoghue, chief engineer, Burke, and also with the slavish attitude of assistant chief engineer, Black, and with missing in the system the architect, (from "archi" chief and "tecton" builder) all requests for new buildings and alterations initiate from the Playground Department. Many "funny" and unnecessary requests are executed in drawings or in the field, without any criticism and study from the Engineering Department. Brown, by his ignorance, and, speaking politely, "funny" ideas, did tremendous harm to the Parks. The best example represents the drawing of the remodeling of Armour Square Field House. The most fantastic changes were requested, and after years of work by several draftsmen, the drawings were finished by swindler and imposter, park star architectural designer, Chas, Shroeder. All these drawings should go into the waste paper basket. Their approximate cost was about \$25,000. The drawings 100% completed, and included all structural and mechanical drawings and specifications.

To illustrate the abysmal condition in the Engineering Office, it is proper to describe one concrete example. Somebody from the Play-ground Department had a notion that the balconies in Gymnasiums were undesirable, and many were removed without the slightest criticism or objection from the Engineering Department. The system of individual lockers was destroyed by request of Brown, and the basket system substituted. The adult people, of course, decline to go to the parks, because their clothes get rumpled and wrinkled.

The record of waste was made in the purchase of trees for Chicago Parks -----in Ohio! All this was staged by Dunham and Bell in order to catch landscape gardener, Moore, in taking bribes.

It is proper to mention that the art of taking bribes is rather complicated and delicate. It requires a lot of courage to take a first bribe. But far away from home-- "out of sight, out of mind"-- the task is simplified and made easy. Moore was sent to Ohio to buy trees for the Parks and the trap worked. He took, but hid and did not share, and for that reason was out of favor.

How much did that staged comedy cost the taxpayers? In the beginning of paragraph on the purpose of creation of the Dark Battalion, it was mentioned that it was done by Kelly-Dunham to make a proper ground and condition for graft. There are several examples of such schemes.

Construction of Outer Drive Bridge.

This million dollar work was intrusted to a bunch of ignorant draftsmen. Robert Black, a man without any technical training, without an engineer's license, was in charge. Black was promoted to Assistant Chief Engineer, with salary \$7,800, and without Civil Service and State examination. The architectural part was given to Weigler, architectural draftsman, without talent and license of architect, of very primitive education and insignificant experience as an architectural draftsman. The others were Tom Kelly and Riple, also technical men of the same caliber. To this bunch of

ignoramus was intrusted, by Kelly and Bell, a million dollars for the construction of a bridge in the center of Chicago! As consulting engineer, structural engineer, Randall, the only one real engineer, was invited. Randall should be questioned on the whole affair, and his statement will throw a light on the whole matter.

It is a well-known fact that, in order to build a one-story house in the city, a licensed architect, or engineer, is required. But for a million dollar job a bunch of ignorant draftsmen was appointed! Edward Kelly should be questioned why he did not invite a good, real architect and engineer.

The reason is very simple: Graft, in the first place.

High class professional men are dangerous. They may expose the whole corrupt activity of Edward Kelly. Weigler, architectural draftsman, is a trustful man and hired by recommendation of Bell-- and Weigler "participated" with the others. Now he has considerable real estate in Chicago. He should be questioned, together with Black, Tom Kelly, Riggle, and many disclosures will follow.

There is a bronze plate on the bridge with the names of several members of the Dark Battalion, and the names of contractors inserted, for advertising purposes. (Not free of charge, of course.) This is proof that there are not good engineers and architects in Chicago for municipal structure, and only the "Dark Battalion" draftsmen can satisfy politicians!

The other example-- construction of Outer Drive with Traffic Separators, which cost more than \$1,000,000. The first fiddle was played by Office Boy, now "Honorable candidate into jail," O.K. Jelinek, the star of first magnitude in Kelly's constellation. *This ignorant draftsman directed the construction of two miles of traffic separation highway. The result is a complex flop. ~~The system does not work and under pretext of low traffic, the separator is now lowered and remains stationary.~~ The question is: Why did not Kelly hire a real good engineer to handle a million dollar job? Answer the same: Because the high class engineer might have exposed graft.

How would the private companies have acted in such a case? Do you think Kaiser, General Motor and the others would have taken an office boy for a million dollar job? Yes, if the office boy had been a Leonardo de Vinci.

Do you think that construction of miles could be done without research and study? Of course not! But Kelly smelled the odor of "gravy" in the air and immediately called jelineks for pushing the whole affair to the disastrous ending. The Park Administration should submit the account of all funds spent on traffic separators. For it is a failure and a costly failure.

The other example-- construction of the new Administration Building. Kelly-Dunham dilemma was-- "What to do, and how to get "dough?" To give the whole design and supervision to the Dark Battalion would be rather dangerous because nobody could design a decent building and the project might raise protests from inverted Engineering and Architectural Societies. To give to a private architect was also undesirable, as he might protest graft, and disclosure would follow. For this reason they made a compromise and invited private architects, Holabird and Root, and all drawings were made in the Park Office. Of course all was done for the same purpose-- to take the graft. But such a solution was very expensive for the Parks. The many draftsmen, working on plans, under incompetent leadership of the Dark Battalion, made the cost far exceed the normal cost of design and supervision. The taxpayers should ask

* He is supposed to be an "inventor."

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how much did the plan and supervision cost? Consulting architect fee was \$40,000, and somebody told me that draftsmen recompensation and supervision cost \$100,000. If this is correct--the whole affair is a waste of public funds, because for un-additional recompensation the private architect could have made a better job for less, and saved money. Investigation is required for this particular matter.

Another subject also requires a prosecuting attorney's attention--the construction of swimming pools. There are lots of irregularities in the whole affair. The law required that the construction should be given to the best bidder, but this was not done. The whole job was given to the International Filter Corporation, without competition. The proper way was to have invited a hydraulic (water) engineer to design the pools and submit to the contractors drawings for competition. This was not done and the construction of several pools was given to the mercy of International Filter. It was quite natural that the contractor thought of his interest and his profit. Because of this--a very complicated and unnecessary expensive system of control was introduced. The fact that pools operate only two months in the year makes it almost impossible to hire high class mechanics. Consequently a more simple and less expensive system of control would be better. But, the Dark Battalion on the march, bosses, grabs, and money goes on the air.

The other engineering atrocity is the new water supply system for Lincoln Park. The territory to be supplied with water is the area of a small town, and water supply engineering is a very complicated branch of engineering, based on hydraulic science, and requires a long, and practical experience. The author has received education as civil engineer, and he made a plan for water supply of two towns. General Superintendent, Donoghue, has received a college education as civil engineer; Chief Engineer, Burke, from the Sanitary District, and Donoghue, knew how complicated a job was ahead. Of course, the best and only correct solution was--to invite a high grade hydraulic engineer. But what did they do? All drawings were intrusted to ignorant, junior draftsmen, who had never heard before about hydraulic pressure, law of current of water, friction, cost, etc. The water supply was built, but it was a sham job. Why was all this done? The reply is very simple. The pipes, faucets, pumps, are "specialite' de la maison," ("specialty of the house") of Kelly. In the previous capacity of Chief Engineer of the Sanitary District, he "participates," and knows all roads where to go and where to get. Bell is also a veteran in this line, in the capacity of Mechanical Engineer of South Park. Of course they did not lose an opportunity to get "gravy," and they put in as designing engineer, an ignorant dummy. It is worth while to mention the other fact, illustrating that Kelly instituted a special graft in plumbing fixture supplies.

I made the drawing for Hamilton Park Auditorium, and started to write specifications. My work was interrupted by personal, special order of Kelly, who requested that specifications should be done by an ignorant draftsman (with 100 hours of study of architecture; hours--not days,) and in these specifications must be a special provision to give all plumbing fixtures exclusively to Standard Co. It is clear why.

Speaking of waste, it is a proper place to mention the idiotic, insane system of work in drafting rooms. Besides the \$25,000 waste in Armour Square drawings, mentioned before, there are other examples. For instance, the project for the "Zoo" new garden in Lincoln Park, with many complicated buildings is given to--a Landscape Designer. After a year of work, all drawings completed on cloth, in ink, represent some

kind of salad of architectural and engineering monstrosities. Of course the proper place for such drawings is--the waste basket.

The same landscape designer, during the last 9-10 months, made drawings for a fantastic scheme of Garden of Nations, on the Northerly Island. There are many complicated buildings, enormous greenhouses, halls, etc. A difficult problem, even for an experienced structural engineer and architect. The job was finished by a landscape designer, alone, and should go to the waste basket. During all this comedy the architectural and structural designers were begging for work. There are also the samples of "comical" architectural designs--they are the "laughing stock." They are the police shelter drawings, made by star architectural designer, D. Door. Everything is shown, even the threads of screws, and filament of electric bulbs. I suggest that these drawings be reproduced in many copies and sent to architectural schools and to private architects as a source of entertainment.

The other example is the making of a park territory map in the Traffic Department. The best way, and normal way, was to order in a Map making concern, but Jelinek, in order to place his name on the map, ordered the plans made in the drafting room, not copying, but in some kind of idiotic manner, incomprehensible to technical people. This boondogling should be investigated and cost determined. Former chief draftsman, Calm, should be questioned. There are on file many plans completely finished, the cost of which exceeds \$100,000, and which are destined to the waste basket.

I suggest to some day make a public ceremony on Soldier's Field, ("Kelly Day,") and throw all this trash, made by the Dark Battalion, in the waste basket, then send the basket to the Chicago Historical Museum, in commemoration of the corrupt rule of Mayor Kelly. To be exact and specific, the following projects should go into the waste basket:

Drawings of Armour Square, 100% completed. Cost of drawings only \$25,000.

Drawings of Franklin Square, 100% completed. Cost, \$10,000.

" " " " " Cornell Square, \$6,000.

" " " " " Foster Park, 100% completed. Cost, \$20,000.

" " " " " Avalon Park, 100% completed. Cost, \$35,000.

" " " " " Marquette Park, 100% completed.

" " " " " Police Booths, 100% completed. Cost, \$5,000.

" " " " " New Lincoln Park Zoo. Cost, \$3,000.

" " " " " Garden of the Nations. Cost, \$2,000.

" " " " " Midget---(!?) Field Houses. Cost, \$5,000.

and many others.

Besides these drawings, there are many monuments of waste in Park Administration. One of them, "Gage Park," the worst recreation building in the country. In the following text will be a detailed description of this building.

It would be advisable for Chicagoans, living Northwest of the city, to see the public toilet building in Riis Park. There are 17 (!!) seats, 6 urinals, 10 wash basins, 2 slop sinks in this Palace. (only 6 or 7 seats

are required.) The drawings were made by former architectural designer, Door. He knows perfectly well that Kelly-Dunham-Bell, and Dark Co. took "gravy" in plumbing fixtures. In order to promote himself and get a rise, he used "Bell-Park-Shame" architecture.

The other architectural designer, Shroeder, (alias Stepanoff) swindler and imposter, did the same, in making the drawings for Armour Square Park. This set of drawings is really a criminal document, disclosing the corruption of the Park Administration. These drawings cost more than \$25,000, and must go to the waste basket. Similar "work" was done with drawings of Franklin Park. All drawings 100% completed on cloth and drawn in ink and ready---for the waste basket. Approximate cost of this job about \$8,000--\$10,000, for drafting work only. Also the drawings of remodeling Cornell Square, done by Shroeder, in the same manner, in the same "Park" Architectural style. These drawings, made in pencil are not completed, but, of course, represent the attempt to mutilate Park buildings for graft.

This is a concrete example of work by the Dark Battalion. For arguments sake, if other crimes enumerated in this paper are the imagination of unbalanced minds---(just what they may say in defense,)-- this crime--the attempted mutilation of public buildings by the Dark Battalion, is sufficient proof to ouster all Park Administration--to bring them to trial.

The crime can be disclosed very easily by technical experts--architects and engineers. In a nut shell the process can be described very simply: The designs done by an ignorant imposter, supervised by a boss who is a grafter and ignorant of architecture, directed by a typical member of the Dark Battalion, and sanctioned by Kelly men. They are all guilty, but of course the main criminals are Honorable Mayor of Chicago, Edward Kelly, and his vice-roy, Dunham. They institute and promote the Dark Battalion for corruption and personal profit.

At present time all original drawings are in the possession of Chas. Shroeder, and this criminal evidence may be lost or stolen, (in reality hidden by Chas. S.) But it would not help to hide the crime--the copy-prints are now in the vault of one of Chicago's Banks.

It is worth while to mention how far Chas. Shroeder went by the criminal road. In the South Park Administration building he committed arson in the drafting room. The drawings of Foster Park were completed, and in order not to lose the job, or for other motives, he arranged the fire. (Arson.) The fire did considerable damage to property, but the drawings are not destroyed. It was not a perfect crime and he was caught, but the whole affair was hushed up. His crazy jealousy of the capable people was demonstrated several times in the University of Illinois, and Professor of the Architectural Department, L. Provine, can tell many things. One crime in Champagne was not disclosed, and now, when his real character is revealed, he should be questioned once more.

3- Corruption in the purchasing and use of fuel, (mostly coal,) for Park buildings.

For a considerable time, starting from the first years of his employment with South Parks, mechanical engineer Bell, former Janitor, made a scheme to get a commission from coal merchants. Together with Edward Kelly, they devised a system of graft. Their logical concept was very primitive: "More coal consumed, more commissions would go into their pockets." With this aim they developed many devices and means to increase the waste of coal. In many parks the boiler houses are placed far away from the main buildings, purposely, to increase the loss of heat. The best example

is Gage Park. The plan, so-called "partie", is absolutely erroneous, with many outside doors, absence of ceilings, large areas of windows, etc. All was arranged by the corrupt hands of Kelly and Bell. During the designing of Gage Park, two architects, working as draftsmen--Pearson and Shaw--vainly protested and could not stand the mutilation of buildings for the purpose of graft. They left the Park and the whole designs were given to ignorant draftsman, Harry Rith. The result is really atrocious. But this is not all! The same wrong plan was forced upon well-known architect, Alschuler, who made plans for Avalon and Marquette Parks for recompensation of \$35,000. I sincerely believe that this money is not lost. After the ousting of Kelly and Bell, the architect will restore his reputation and the plans will be remade according to requirements of architecture.

Hamilton Park has also a definitely wrong system of heating, calculated on waste of coal. In Mann Park steel stock is installed purposely, with the same aim. Many Park buildings are radically remodeled, without any improvement. In fact, from the point of view of full economy, the buildings are worse.

The firemen who tried to economise were discharged, and those who wasted fuel were promoted.

Coal is national wealth, and wasting it on a large scale is crime, punishable by the death penalty in Russia and Germany, even in peace time. But in a democratic country, with government for the people, the violaters, grafters and squanderers, triumphantly march, with pockets crammed with money stolen from the people, and no one dares raise a voice in protest!

4--- Abuses with hollow tile and glazed tile.

Kelly-Dunham made a secret connection and agreement with manufacturers of this kind of material, and they get a certain commission for using these materials in parks, schools, and municipal buildings. These materials are rather expensive and are used mostly for sanitary purposes, as in public toilets, butcher stores, jail pens, and in many factories. The use of these materials in social rooms, club rooms, class rooms, is not only unnecessary, but undesirable, because they create a harsh, unpleasant feeling. Many people could not stand it and enjoy any social activities, or studies. But the grafter's logic: "more use--more commission," completely disregards the needs and requirements dictated by good architecture. Stars, favorite Park architectural designers, know the secrets to please bosses, and one of them, namely, Shroeder, in remodeling drawings of Armour Square, incorporated in the drawings the glazed tile--practically in all the rooms. The present building was erected with the use of cheap materials 40 years ago, at the cost of \$40,000, but Shroeder incorporated in the drawings the glazed tile at an approximate cost of \$30,000! This is absurd idiotism, from an architectural point of view, but it was done with the approval of the chief engineer, his assistant, and structural engineer, Tom Kelly. They all know where Kelly dipped! In conclusion it is worth while to mention that the abuse of glazed tile can be seen in all new schools. I advise the citizen to visit Bret Harte school, (56th St. and Stony Island.) All interior walls are covered with glazed tile to the ceilings, and the school looks like a power station, a slaughter house, or jail. It is ugly, expensive, but it is profitable for Kelly.

5--- Illegal holding by Bell of the office of Consulting Engineer.

It has already been mentioned that after consolidation of the Parks, Bell was appointed by the autocratic power of Edward Kelly, Assistant

General Superintendent, in spite of definite requirements of law. In March, 1943, Bell reached the age of 65, and, according to the law of retirement, he officially retired. There was a ceremony in the Board Room, and Federal Judge M. Igoe made an eloquent speech, praising Bell. But the following day Bell returned to the same office, in the same place, with the same salary, \$10,000, and with the same duty, only his title was changed to "Consulting Engineer." This is definitely a violation of Law. The Latin saying: "Dura Lex, sed Lex," means--the stern Law is the Law--and everybody should obey. The spirit of law is that younger men should be employed, and for the job--"Assistant General Superintendent"--that man should be chosen by examination.

We often see in the papers the pictures of Captains of Police, retired after 65 years, in very good health and full vigor. What would people say if these policemen stayed in office, and their titles were changed to "Consulting" Captains of Police?

It was already a precedent in Park Service. A parallel case is when, in 1936, Linn White, consulting engineer, retired, when the law of retirement passed in the Legislature. Judge Igoe, former South Park "Commissioner," (Commissioner! What an ill-omened word!) a bird of Kelly's nest, Guardian of Law, was not only silent and indifferent to violation of Law by the Parks, but in a very clear manner he shielded, by the dignified toga of Judge, the usurper, the man who has not the legal right and authority to take the office.

We are living under Democracy, and the fundamental principle of this regime is--Equality to the Law and Justice for all. But Igoe believes and acts in a different way, and violates the substance of the Law by protecting a criminal. He should be indicted by the Senate and submitted to trial. If he is doing this "platonically," or for recompensation, should be determined.

Igoe, a very active member of the local Democratic Party, was appointed to the high post by recommendation of friend--ardent supporter of the President--"Ed" Kelly, for shielding and protecting the crime of Kelly. Igoe is making his job very good and he is "participator," speaking in general words, and is guilty of the protection of "Consulting Engineer," Bell. For Igoe-- a law is a spider's net. The beetle passes through--but the small fry is caught.

Dunham instituted some kind of "Gestapo" secret service to watch the private life of employees. He had no right to do this. It is illegal and un-American. The secret service with night watching, car chasing, etc; is very expensive. The fund for this item is camouflaged in the budget in some way and is only further proof that the budget is fictitious.

Former Chief of Police, James Kerr, should be questioned and he will bring light on many things.

There are many examples of waste and irregular purchases. Four photographers, working day and night, by order of the Playground Department, are taking pictures of pretty babies, dancing girls, Bob Dunham at the piano, posing "a la Nero," big shots with fish, caught during vacation, etc.

At the same time the blue-printing machine, under supervision of the photographers, is run with dead lights, and naturally there are great quantities of paper ruined.

The photographic supplies are purchased, not from large concerns, like The Eastman Company, but from small dealers. The reason for this is very simple. Large companies do not pay commissions to Park men.

The amount of money expended on photography and on printing of drawings should be made public. The terrific waste would be disclosed by this method.

There are many arbitrary actions of the Board of Commissioners. According to the accepted regulations all employees, in case of sickness, get 40% of salary. But, when BELL and BLACK were sick for a considerable time--- (almost one year)--- they got their salaries in full.

If a policeman, or laborer, with large families, would get their salaries in full, in case of sickness, it is not legal, but it seems to me that nobody would object from a humanitarian standpoint. But BELL and BLACK got \$10,000, and \$7,000, and certainly the regulations should apply to them. Commissioners who approved the sick leave for BELL and BLACK should pay the amount illegally assigned.

ALEXIS A. ZAKHAROFF

ARCHITECT

Member of American Institute of Architects.

Architectural Designer of Chicago Park District.

1-- I accuse Mayor Kelly and the whole Park Board, with President Dunham, all Commissioners, since consolidation in 1935, General Superintendent Donoghue, chief of Civil Service Department Hoover, of flagrant violation of Civil Service Statute, with results of inefficiency, parasitism, reign of Dark Battalion, fake examinations, selling of jobs, criminal unfitness of employees, squandering of public funds, waste and destruction of Park properties.

2-- I accuse Edward Kelly and Dunham of systematic stealing of public funds destined to the recreation of Chicago's poor classes of population by a marginal, fictitious, fraudulent budget.

3-- I accuse consulting engineer, Bell, of illegally holding the position of consulting engineer, after retirement age. He must be dismissed immediately and commissioners who approved his pay in budget, should refund the illegally appropriated money for Bell's salary. Also the indifferent attitude of Governor Green, and former attorney Courtney, should be investigated.

4-- I accuse Federal Judge Igoe of neglect of his duties as a guardian of Law. He was not only indifferent to many violations of Law and destruction of Civil Service Statute in the Parks, but his approval of appointment of Bell as consulting engineer, openly demonstrated his approval of an absolutely illegal act.

5-- I accuse Edward Kelly, Dunham and Bell of accepting grafts during the construction of the new Administration Building. As witnesses the following persons should be questioned: Architect Holabird and Root organization, Contractor Pashen, and General Contractors, Lundoff-Bicknell, and former commissioner, Joseph.

6-- I accuse Mayor Kelly of entering into secret agreement with the manufacturers of ceramics, hollow tiles, and getting a commission and profit for glazed and plain tiles used in municipal institutions, under control of Kelly. Such agreement artificially increased the cost of construction and remodeling of public buildings, and often detrimentally on the whole, by improper use of these materials. As witnesses, Fritz Wagner, president of American Terra Cotta Company, and Director of the same Company--Searks-- should be called.

7-- I accuse Kelly and Bell of systematically, year by year, taking bribes and commissions from merchants of fuel, (mostly coal). For increasing their criminal profit they used many devices and dishonest demarches, as purposely wrong construction of Park buildings; long tunnels between main buildings and power houses, large surfaces of windows, high ceilings, doors opened directly outside, etc. Speaking briefly, the waste of coal was artificially increased in order to get more commissions.

8-- I accuse General Superintendent, Donoghue, Chief Engineer Burke, Consulting Engineer, Bell, Assistant Chief Engineer, Black, and Structural Engineer, Tom Kelly, former Chief of Repair Section, Shapiro, "Chief Architect," Gym-rigger, G. Gerding, of criminal indifference to their duties in supervising the completion of drawings for remodeling.

of Armour Square Park. The drawings were completely finished by architectural designer, Shroeder, with approximate cost of \$25,000, for drafting work only. These drawings represent the mixture of criminal ignorance and attempt to artificially increase the cost of construction. Mostly the drawings were made as a source of graft, practised in Parks on a great scale. The damage to Parks exceeds \$25,000, since the drawings will be thrown into the waste basket. Besides, knowing that Chas. Shroeder passed Civil Service Examination in a criminal way, they trusted to him the very responsible work, and Black and Kelly neglected my protest in written form, of the wrong and ignorant design of Shroeder. I accuse Shroeder of criminal ignorance.

9-- I accuse Bell, Structural Engineer Tom Kelly, Senior Engineering Draftsman, Chelsea, of taking bribes from International Filter Co. As witnesses, the president of International Filter Co. and his engineer, Koupall, and also the person whose name will be disclosed to the prosecuting attorney, should be questioned. Dunham and all commissioners who approved the contract with International Filter Co, without competition, should be indicted for illegally giving contracts without competition. The cost of the whole installation of pools must be submitted, and compared with the cost of similar installations in other cities-- Milwaukee, for instance.

10--- I accuse Structural Engineer, Tom Kelly, of taking bribes for the contractors. Besides I charge him of taking gifts and graft from draftsmen under his supervision. The list of contractors and draftsmen will be submitted during investigation.

11--- I accuse Consulting Engineer, Bell, of entering in secret partnership, and agreement, with testing Laboratory, Walter H. Flood and Co. in Chicago, and using his authority as leading technical man, in Parks system, giving to this Laboratory Parks work, in testing materials, and by this way getting personal profit. As witnesses, General Superintendent Donoghue, Secretary of Bell, Helen Damzell, and Flood, should be called.

12--- I accuse Architectural Designer, Chas. Shroeder, of passing Civil Service examination by fraudulent means, getting the examination questions before examination. The list of witnesses to be submitted to the prosecuting attorney. Professor Provine, head of the Architectural Department of Illinois University, should be invited to testify about the ability of Shroeder, and his previous "tricks" in the University,

13--- I accuse senior draftsman, O. K. Jelinck, of graft and criminal ignorance in design and installation of traffic separators in the Outer Drive. The result of this was a waste of public funds.

AGENDA.

The material submitted above gave sufficient ground to start prosecution against the leaders of Parks. In the agenda will be given additional data and details, illustrating the whole tragedy of the situation.

I--- The list of illegal positions.

Almost all "big shots" standing at the head of departments and sections appointed illegally.

Director of Finance and Property-----	\$9,000
Director of Accounts-----	7,200
General Attorney -----	12,000

All other lawyers-----	\$30,000
Asst. Chief Engineer-----	7,500
Director of Purchases-----	7,500
Landscape Architect-----	4,500
Traffic Engineer-----	4,000
Chief Horticulturist-----	4,000
Supervisor of Building Operation-----	5,500
Planatorium Director-----	6,000

2-- For inquiry about marginal budget, besides the present employees, the following employees who left the Park should be questioned:

Architect Anderson.

Architectural Designers: Door; De-Kreek; John Lang.

Former Assistant Secretary--Milton Conneley, and others.

3-- Additional materials for characterization of Consulting Engineer Bell.

In Who's Who in Chicago, it was stated that Bell started his career as Assistant Chief Engineer in the Hotel Eastman, in Hot Springs, Ark. The word "Engineer" is a very elastic word, and has several meanings, as, for instance, 'Janitor,' or 'Fireman,'--the man who takes care of a furnace.

Bell started his career as fireman, or janitor--"dvornik,"-- and there is nothing offensive, or degrading, in this fact. Very often we find that presidents of large corporations, railroads and banks, started as office boys, clerks, drivers, etc. The career of Chrysler, Ford and many others are examples. It is really democratic and noble that the son of president and son of cobbler have the same opportunity to success.* But it was not this way that Bell started his career. His star raised when he "hooked# the Park job, under Kelly, and started the art of "taking and sharing." The former South Park Superintendent, Foster, discovered the corruptibility of Bell, but Bell found a support in Kelly and Donoghue, (who succeeded Foster.) Their joint campaign against Foster, by many ignoble means, pushed Foster to a premature grave.

In the future career of Kelly, he once more turned into a secret slayer, and his victim was a very good man, a decent politician-- Governor of Illinois, Horner. Just like yesterday, sounds in my ears the radio speech of Horner: " I do not recognize any bosses, and my only boss is the people of the State of Illinois." For this he was punished, sent to premature death by an insidious campaign, directed by Kelly.

After the fake farewell of Bell, one employee wrote an article praising Bell, and he called Bell "A one-man welfare-board." A "saint,"(!!) according to some he helped. (Quotation from Park Employees Life.) The Honorable Judge Michael L. Igoe mentioned that "Mr. Bell was not only known for human kindness, but his kindness towards birds and animals. He loved them and they loved him. And when the birds and animals love you, you must be good. Judge Igoe's reference to animals resulted from Mr. Bell's well known habit of feeding the wild ducks in Jackson Park. Simplicity and kindness make for greatness. Those words coming from the lips of Mr. Igoe gave them greater signification." (End of quotation from Park Employees' Life.) The sentimental stories about Bell's early rising, and bird feeding, found a very prosaic explanation. They were the result of a guilty conscience and fear of being arrested. He suffered from insomnia and wandered in the parks, like Judas with his thirty pieces of silver.

In reality this "goody-goody", benefactor and arch-grafter with money stolen from poor people was making all efforts to create a clique of his own and buy friends and supporters.

* Correction. It is wrong. See disclosures of Elliot Roosevelt.

It was a time when Bell could not go into Repair Shops without a policeman, such was the wrath towards him. He prostituted his office, and many employees discovered that for success there was no necessity for hard work, nor ability, but graft, and they tried to follow his example.

He is really, "Children of the Poor" enemy No. 3. (Kelly-Dunham No. 1 and 2.)

During the designing of Hamilton Park Auditorium by me, I found out that the heating drawings were made absolutely wrong, (to heat the universe, not the building.) I protested openly, saying that Bell knew nothing about heating. I thought that this was sheer ignorance. Now I can see that I was wrong, because all was done intentionally, in order to increase the waste of fuel. I added, also openly, that Bell was the Boss because he took bribes and gave to the Bosses. In any decent office, any subordinate employee who dared to make such remarks would be discharged, but I stayed because what I said was the truth, and the bosses were afraid of scandal and exposure. Besides I had the support of many decent people in the office.

The graft and dishonesty of the Parks Administration is known, of course, to many, and for this reason many philanthropists changed their intention of donating to the recreation of poor people, and for park development. They knew that the money would be stolen. Bell is one of the main reasons for this fact. If the announcement to invite people to testify and disclose the crooked affairs of Bell and Jelinek would be published, what a cordon of police they would require to regulate the crowds!!!

The other man who made an excellent career with Parks is Tom Kelly, structural engineer. He has a good college education and is a hard worker. But, unfortunately, his endeavor to advance quickly, and make a career at any cost, led him to trespass all limits of humanity and moral obligation. He grasped that the essential condition of success with Parks under the Kelly regime --was the graft. Besides he knows that Zakharoff is 'cinder in the eyes' of Bell, Kelly and Dunham, and he started an ignoble campaign against me. He refused to give me any responsible work, and it was given to an ignorant tracer, swindler Shroeder, or new men in the office. As a boss he is exigent and hard to please. Very often these qualities, though unpleasant for insubordinates, are desirable for good results, but at the same time Tom Kelly was taking the 'donations' from draftsmen, he promoted ignoramuses, and besides conducted mutilations of Park buildings for graft. He lost prestige, and I repeat in written form what I said, orally, in the Drafting Room,---"Tom Kelly takes the bribes. He should be fired, put in jail, and the stolen money confiscated. But everything will be hushed up, because the Honorable took the Lion's Share." This is a proper place to mention that he showed his cruelty and absence of any moral principles in many cases. For instance, he organized the dismissal of his boss, structural engineer, Hoyt. Hoyt is innocent, and was discharged unjustly. He made every effort to push to insanity his boss, Black, and almost obtained that result. But now he is punished,---the fear of exposure of the graft is gnawing him, and he is sick, and on nervous ground. Any good doctor, prosecuting attorney, or Judge, in this case, should give good advice, such as: "Complete confession."

In all these exposures, one man who really deserves consolation is General Superintendent Donoghue. He is a victim of circumstances, and for me, especially, it is hard to throw a stone, because I know that in many cases he protected me, and I was not ousted by reason of his support. His dilemma was to fight against Kelly, which was rather hard for a man with a large family, and the chance of losing his job. The other solution was: to take the policy of---"laisz z-faire"--(let it go.) There are many attenuating circumstances for him, and the fact that he is greatly

estimated by many park employees, should be taken into consideration.

In judging the unhealthy conditions of work in the Engineering Department, a very important fact should be disclosed. There is a diploma mill for architects' licenses in the State of Illinois. In other words, many architects bought their licenses by examination, through fraudulent examination, because the questions were in their possession before examination. The man who is selling the questions is a member of the Architects' Examination Committee--Architect Ostergreen. This gentleman tried to pump "dough" from me when I took the examination, but did not succeed.

I can tell of a score of false architects in Chicago who got licenses by examination by fraudulent ways. The clerks in architects' offices, the sons of wealthy people, and many others, now full-fledged architects, with fraudulent diplomas. As a curiosity--they say that a very clever man with excellent architectural training, purposely passed the examination by crooked ways, in order to get a job in a municipal institution. The architects of Chicago, in order to save their reputations and prestige, should organize a "clearing house" and scrutinize all records and qualifications of members of their profession. Palmer, a secretary of the Illinois Society of Architects, knows all, and can submit a list of false architects.

In judging the whole meaning of the title, "architect", one must take into consideration that the architectural profession is one of the most difficult in the world, and in some ways, exceeds the medical profession. It requires long study, excellent engineering and artistic capacities, and good practical experience. A real good architect is a rare specimen, and it is easier to find a real good doctor than a real good architect. The college education, generally speaking, gives a little, and puts the "aspirant" only on rails of future progress. But in the horrible system of architectural education in this country, especially in Armour Institute, 10--20 years ago, with ignorant professors, lacking in talent, and with lots of rah-rah-rah's, the architectural assets of college almost equaled zero. (Now it is worse, as the architectural college has turned into caboose academics, and instead of "beautiful colonial," they now teach "early patagonian" styles.) But, in any event, the college gives something.

Unfortunately, there are many architects who got their licenses working a couple of years in daddy's office as draftsmen, slipping several hundred bucks to Ostergreen, getting their licenses, and starting brilliant careers as architects in Municipal Institutions. For example, one of them is Paul Gerhardt, Junior, past president of the Illinois Society of Architects, now president of the Chicago Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, building commission and Chicago City architects, or, in other words-- Kelly architect. He is a charlatan-quack, with false license, a man without any architectural education, jelinek No 2, and he got his job through support of a powerful group of German descendants in Chicago.-- and, of course, paying well to Kelly. He could not pass a real architectural examination, was unable to do so because of his ignorance. But Kelly knew the truth, and chose him on the same basis that he chose Bell-Jelinek-Black. He is reliable, has no respect for his profession, is a yes-man, is willing to do everything to help Kelly in graft, and will be loyal to organized crime. On the same principles, gangsters choose new, active members in their gangs. The new member should be reliable, because he has a hidden crime.

To easily verify this disclosure, draftsmen and designers in his office should be questioned, and I am sure that Ostergreen will make a complete confession and show the list of fake architects. By irony of fate I witnessed Gerhardt's first steps in his architectural career in his Daddy's office, and it opened my eyes to the whole truth. It is proper to mention that Gerhardt senior, is an architect of old formation--

"plumber-architect." When the Honorable City Architect, and Building Commissioner, President of Architectural Societies, will be exposed, and when it will be proved that he is an ignorant draftsman, with a false diploma, it will evoke a tragic story in a small French town: The citizen committee gave to the most virtuous and moral girl in the town a special medal. The girl was so touched by such an honor, that, from nervous shock, she gave birth to a child.

In the parade of Dark Battalion before the jury, the architectural section of Parks should lead, and go immediately after Bell, Jolinek and Black, as the elite guard. There were 5 architectural designers, and only one-- Zakharoff--passed the State examination and Park Civil Service Examination, in an honest way. All others passed the Civil Service Examination in fraudulent ways. They are swindlers and imposters. One of them -- a star of first magnitude--did not pass the State examination at all, but he is Bell-man, or, according to the Park dictionary--a grafter. From the other 3, at least 2 passed the State examination in fraudulent ways through Ostergreen support, and they are double swindlers and imposters.

But the selection and promotion of these false architects, including Gerhardt, was made purposely by Kelly-- just like forming a Dark Battalion -- to cover his corruption. In some way, the system of Municipal employment reminds me of a story about a boss who discharged a clerk from his office. The clerk asked for a letter of recommendation, and the boss told him to write it himself. The clerk wrote that he was a hard, intelligent worker, of great ability and high moral character. The boss signed the letter and added in the postscript: "This is the reason why he was discharged." If a Kelly employee is a crook, swindler, imposter, grafter, ignoramus-jolinek, he is promoted. If, on the other hand, he is educated, honest, and a capable man, he is demoted, or fired.

All these atrocities are committed in the second City of the U. S. A. under the shadows of three Universities, with headquarters of engineering and architectural societies, in the City where prominent preachers and professors talk about democracy, service to the people, freedom of speech and press, etc. Why such indifference to organized crime? Nobody dares protest. Kelly spits on all laws, human and divine. Why worry? He was "Ed", to the defunct President of the United States. Federal Judge Igoe and the other judges dance to his pipe. He is a pillar of society, an ardent and prominent member of the Church.

Many Americans sincerely believe that graft is an accessory to democracy, and is a stimulant to progress. "Nobody is willing to work free of charge." "Look at the Canadians --they have no politicians--but they come to America for work."

If this is so, it were better to stop the comedy of praising our democracy as some sacred institution, as the panacea for all evils, and solution of all political troubles in Europe. Instead of "Democracy", it would be better to use the word, "Demokrasty," from the Russian word, "krast,"--to steal. To the exponents of such a credo, the opposite parties--honest citizens--millions of them--must disclose the other side of the picture. What harm politicians and Kelly have done to Chicago! Before the War the population of Chicago decreased, as many ran away from high taxation. Many lost their homes, their businesses, and were thrown on the streets.

Look from the window of a downtown building! You can see the Medinah Building, a new building, which was sold for \$800,000, when the original cost was \$8,000,000. The Stevens Hotel sold for \$1,400,000, and cost \$14,000,000! Many buildings in the loop have unpaid taxation debts of \$500,000. Many have been turned into parking lots. The Auditorium

Building, with an excellent theater, was definitely spoiled, on account of high taxation. Many people were afraid of inflation, but no one talked about the terrific depreciation of real estate. All this was done by crooked politicians, and nobody protested.

For architects, there are very dark perspectives in the future. Who is going to build hotels, office buildings, banks, railroad stations? For architects, engineers and contractors, there is but one outlook in the future--general WPA. It is the proper time to put in all architectural schools signs, reading: "Leave here any hope for dignified work in your profession, in the future." It is not too late, now, to start to fight evil and destruction, and to defend democracy. Now that the War is over there will be a certain boom in construction of hospitals, insane institutions, and cheap, caboose, pre-fabricated residences. But it is doubtful if building of big hotels, R.R. stations, banks and office buildings, will be on a large scale.

Our democracy must be saved, not in the bloody fields of Europe, but in the back yards of Chicago. What kind of democracy does America intend to force on European nations? Democracy of Lincoln, or democracy of Kelly? The detractors of democracy are not radicals, but unscrupulous politicians of the Kelly-Dunham caliber. The pillar of society, Dunham, made millions exploiting the inventor of a new process in gasoline making. He paid \$660,000 income tax evasion fines. Edward Kelly paid \$60,000 fine for the same subject. In order to replenish their depleted resources, they started to grab money destined to children of the poor! To these "knights" was entrusted the recreation of Chicago! With the City budget in the 70 millions, and the Parks budget 9 millions, Kelly bribed voting, and took complete control of the City ballot.

Old-fashioned methods of buying votes by "shots" in saloons, with a couple of dollars, are modernized, now, into a very complicated machine of corruption--described above. Nothing is left from the expression of free-will of people during election. As long as the Kelly organization exists, all elections will be a travesty of justice. So many people are bought by Kelly, and are on his string.

The leader of the local Republican Party, Governor Green, talked over the radio about the "machine corruption" of Kelly, and promised to fight against it. But, in reality, nothing is done. Green resembles a watch dog: he barked, but--harmlessly--because he is chained. His party uses the same ways and means to pool the funds for political campaign. How much did the campaign for Dempsey, candidate for States Attorney, cost? Is all the fund "voluntary," or from which sources?

The role of Federal Judge Igoe has already been described, and he is 100% for the Kelly regime.

In its procedure against Capone, the Federal Government, to the astonishment of the whole civilized world, demonstrated that Uncle Sam, or Uncle Sherlock, as he was called by the British and French papers, doesn't care from what kind of source money comes. This money comes from brothels and gambling institutions, and it is spotted by human blood, shaded in the war between gangsters, police and innocent citizens.

When the fact of stealing money by Kelly-Dunham will be established, they must be prosecuted, also, for income tax evasion. Their crime is on the same level as the Capone crime. The honorable and plain thieves and grafters should be put in jail, and their pictures, with numbers, in striped prison suits, should be sent to all schools and colleges, and also to the private study of the President.

As was mentioned before, and underscored in all accusations, the leading criminal, master of all evils, mainspring of all corruption, is,

Honorable, Most Christian, Doctor of Law, (!!) Mayor Kelly.

Systematically, year after year, since his connection with South Park in 1922, he built the chain of crime described above. He originated and promoted the Dark Battalion. On his soul the tears of poor mothers whose children were run over, playing in streets and alleys. On his conscience the degradation and suffering of youngsters--sons of poor families--who, lacking healthy recreation, went the criminal way and ended in penal institutions!

The Park crimes, of course, are only a part of the sinister picture. The man could not be dishonest Monday, and honest Tuesday. The fact that he promoted an ignorant draftsman, with a false diploma, to the post of City Architect, and Building Commissioner, greatly demonstrates that in the City Hall he follows the same criminal path as in the Parks. He was chief engineer in the Sanitary District during voochie time, and builder of McCormick road. Several times he was on a string, but saved by corrupt justice. How he pined! But this time he will not escape justice! Not corrupt judges, nor Washington, nor monsignores and cardinals, not Robert McCormick's Tribune, (which recently published an article praising Kelly as an engineer,) will save Kelly and hush up the whole affair.

In the case---Chicago Children of the Poor, versus the embezzler, and grafter, Ed Kelly, the verdict will be: "Guilty, with long jail terms." No pity for him! His crime is low and ignoble, indeed! Worse than stealing coins from a blind man's cup!

At the same time, when the fact of supporting President Roosevelt, and his entourage campaign, will be established, something should be done for the restoration of justice. The stolen money burns the conscience, and it must be cheerfully refunded. In commemoration of this, a giant sport palace-- "Triumph of Democracy"-- should be built in Chicago.

What to do with Park Administration?

The Legislature, in special extraordinary sessions, should pass the following reforms:

- 1- Ouster of all present administration and opening of formal trial.
- 2- Formation of Salvation Committee of Chicago Parks, with 8 directors--controllers. Among them will be an architect, recommended by the Illinois Society of Architects, and Chicago Chapter of American Institute of Architects. Architect Shaw, official of Chapter A. I. A. should be eliminated from selection as architect of subway---Kelly man. One mechanical (heating) engineer, recommended by former President of University of Illinois, A. C. Willard, (outstanding heating engineer.) One structural engineer. One civil engineer. One electrical engineer. All three recommended by Western Society of Engineers. Two members at large, recommended by manufacturers and business associations of Chicago. One woman, (not talkative) recommended by women's organization of Chicago.

All these appointments to be temporary until the time of next election. All controllers--directors, should give a minimum 15 hours a week of work, and during "stable cleaning period," more, without extra recompense. All they will get is a moderate salary, say, \$400 a month, (or more if it is necessary for extraordinary conditions.) It is a good policy to pay well for good technical men. No "car with chauffeur, cocottes, (kept women) as recompense. In old times, kept women in Russia got a pair of bay horses with a coachman, but in modern times it's a limousine with chauffeur.

All members of the Salvation Committee must be inspired by a patriotic sense of duty, and look at their task as a service to humanity, to "Children of the Poor." Their duties will consist in directing and controlling Park activities, and they will have the right to hire temporary men, and all temporary employees will be their responsibility.

This condition may provoke the smiles of many citizens. Well, they

will say-- Instead of politicians, the graft will be taken by controllers. In reply to this, I can tell them that we still have honest men, educated, professional men, of a high caliber, in this country. Private industry is based on them. In any event, whom should you trust--the ignorant, corrupt, belching beast with cigar--politician-- or the respectable, honest professional man? For the first, graft is the logical attribute of his profession, for the other-- a shame, crime, disgrace.

The controllers-directors will make and approve a new budget, with stipulation that \$1,000,000, or more, will be designated for new park buildings, and new territories.

3--- Taken in consideration the criminal abuses of Civil Service Law, the Legislature should declare void all special privileges of Civil Service, and submit all Civil Service employees to re-examination. These examinations should be conducted from 8 to 24 hours, (1 to 3 days), reinstallation in the previous position to be done according to the result of examinations. The purpose of these examinations is to get rid of the Dark Battalion. Old employees, with unimportant jobs, may be reinstated, even if they do not pass the examinations, with a right to reexamination. The fact should be recognized that many of them entered Park service during boom periods, when nobody cared for low-paid Park jobs, and, of course, the examinations were very easy and superficial. But the technical men with responsible positions should be demoted, or laid off, if they do not pass. The Park Office is not an "Old Soldiers' Home," and technical personnel should be in tip-top condition.

4--- The Salvation Committee should scrutinize every job, and lay off all parasites and political appointees.

5--- The whole organization should be outside the influence of any political party.

Now that the War is over, with soldiers coming home, the whole system should be turned into strictly Civil Service, and temporary jobs should be held only for 3-4 months, as emergency.

In conclusion, I must tell about myself, and make a complete "confession." I was born in the vicinity of St. Petersburg, Russia of a very respectable and honorable family, and my father was in brick-making manufacturing. I mention this, because among Russian Intelligentsia, which migrated to this country, there are many "Princes," "Barons," "Ducs," etc. I am not. I was graduated in 1907 as Civil Engineer, (architectural engineer, according to standard of this country.) It was really an excellent education. My professors were talented men, with excellent experience, builders of many important buildings. (Unfortunately, this statement does not apply, in many cases, to American architectural education. Their many ignoramus-professors are political appointees.)

When I studied reinforced concrete in Europe, and practised architecture in my town, I built 2 churches, 3-4 apartments, etc.

In 1915 I arrived in New York with my official passport and was employed in the Russian Purchasing Commission. I arrived in Chicago in 1920, and, until 1927, was employed as architectural draftsman with different architectural and engineering concerns. In 1927 I passed the Civil Service Examination, with the South Park Commissioners, in an honest way, and entered in the service with the Parks. Two facts are definitely established. I have had a good education, and good practical experience. But now I am inclined to believe that I was taken into the office for the reason that the Kelly organization thought I was an ignorant immigrant, a future member of the Dark Battalion. When the bosses noticed that I did not play cards during office hours, that I studied architecture, and dared to protest, openly, against graft, they decided to get rid of me by different ways.

One trick was that they trusted to me, completely, a design of a new auditorium in Hamilton Park, thinking it would be a failure, and a pretext for dismissal. All drawings, architectural and structural, were made by me, with the help of two draftsmen. At the same time, the whole structural department was sitting, doing nothing!! (Glory to God!) But this trap failed--I made very good plans. The building, at the cost of about \$90,000, was built, and the public has a good auditorium, for the reason that Kelly intended to catch and fire an undesirable draftsman! When I passed the State examinations with high marks, also, in an honest way! I studied at the Art Institute, in Chicago, art and artistic representation in different media. During my studies, and at night work, I developed original plans of new types of field houses. All this was done as research, and I paid for my education. It is a proper place to mention that several draftsmen, without any artistic talents, studied at the Art Institute for several years, and the Parks paid for their educations. This was really money thrown away.

When in the summer of 1937 I went to Cornell University, and took a course in "Interrelation between architecture and Landscape architecture," it was all done at my own expense, and I took a leave of absence without pay from the Parks. This enraged my boss--typical member of the Dark Battalion--Assistant Chief Engineer, Black. He treated me like a dog when he signed the leave of absence.

All efforts of mine for improvement and advancement in my profession were successful. I reached a high degree in architectural rendering---artistic representation of buildings. Besides, I developed excellent types of field houses. Of course, all my efforts and studies provoked the hate of the Dark Battalion, and they considered my plans "crazy." But I am sure that when the Dark Battalion lands in jail, or on the streets, my plans will be considered for future construction of parks.

In the meantime, I was architect of a large Russian Church in Chicago, and two small Serbian Churches, in the vicinity of Chicago, and this increased my practical experience.

In building the Russian Church, I did not take one cent from the contractors, though I got several "propositions," and I had a right to do it, since there was a lot of extra night work and meetings.

On the contrary, I was fighting against "demokrastic" intentions of the Building Committee to take "gravy" from contractors.

The crime is contaminating Mr. Kelly--the first citizen of Chicago!!

My natural abilities, college education, practical experience, and the fact that I passed my license examination, entitles me to say that I 100% qualified for the job of architectural designer with the Parks. But I dared to protest against Bell-Park--Shame architecture--and openly called Bell--a grafter. For this reason the ferocious campaign started against me, and all effort was made to put me out. During the Park consolidation, since 1935, I did not receive any raise, and my salary is minimum, though I have been working with the Parks for 18 years. Dark Battalion, swindlers and imposters were promoted to the maximum salaries.

Now it is the proper place to confess that I often made architectural studies and drawings in the office, for my own use. But there are many excuses for this. In the South Park, the boys played cards during office hours, and I did not play, but studied architecture. I believe I had a right to do it. In the Chicago Park office--Dunham, or Black, gave a cruel order not to assign Zakharoff to any important job, and a large percentage of my drawings was destined to the waste basket. This statement may be verified by questioning Bucksbaum, who was in charge of architectural work. If this is true--I am clear. I am a parasite whose hands were tied. In studying architecture, and making drawings for my own use, I tried to save myself from horrible tortures of enforced idleness, and from nervous breakdown as a result of doing nothing.

I used blue-print paper of the Park (cost did not exceed \$10 a year) for my own use, and I believe I had a right to do this, as my studies at the Chicago Art Institute and Cornell University were made for the profit of the office, and on my own account. Besides I was working every Saturday and Sunday for three months without any over-time pay. The Parks owe me-- I do not owe the Parks; In all these tragic controversies, one fact should be established--that I am a human being--just an ordinary human being. I did lots of things against my convictions, in the spirit of compromise, and not to lose the job. In my campaign against parasites, I have already admitted that I was also a parasite, myself, but one against my will. The benign parasites--Bosses-- applied to me the most cruel punishment, and compelled me, the hard worker (ask my enemies,) to the boondogling. But by irony of destiny, I made plans for relatively big buildings for the Parks: Hamilton Park Auditorium (\$90,000) and Mann Park field house, (\$85,000.) I worked very hard and was proud of the drawings I made, which were made intelligently, and by experienced hands.

I am not afraid of any investigation--I am asking for it, and I solemnly swear to tell the truth, only the truth. I am anxious to have a professional examination in Parks, and, in fact, I asked Hoover, Civil Service head, for it, and was refused. I am not afraid of the competition of the Dark Battalion, and am anxious to show how high class my work is.

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In the previous text there is described many a case of insane management, and conducting of Park Administration. But the record was set, when, in 1936, the order was issued for all the men in the drafting rooms, (about 30,) to work every Saturday and every Sunday, during 3 months, without any compensation, except \$1.00 for dinner. If the Park had had a good architect, there would have been no necessity, at all, for this. All drawings were done for remodeling of parks, and, certainly one good architect could have directed the whole affair efficiently, without the necessity of extra work without pay.

But crazy Baron ordered, and everybody obeyed. Many were deprived of rest, family obligations, and perhaps extra work to support their homes. Two in the office had nervous breakdowns. At the same time, the President of the United States talked of more abundant life, and dignified forms of existence. Had Petrillo been Park Commissioner I should like to know what he would have said if his musicians had been obliged to work, every Saturday and Sunday, for 3 months, without pay. Dunham does not dare give such orders to attendants and janitors, because their business agents would protest and stop him. If such an order were given to the inmates of Joliet Penitentiary, there would be a revolt, and public opinion would be on the side of the inmates. But architects, engineers, with college educations are slaves, and do not deserve any respect, whatever. Architectural and Engineering Societies play local politics, and do not protect their members.

All these stories illustrate, perfectly, how the noble, dignified, professions--architecture and engineering--because of the absence of work, degenerate into some kind of slavery. All draftsmen working in the office, were anxious to keep their jobs, and were willing to submit to the cruel orders from the bosses, without any protest!

Many fathers invest in educations for their sons, in the hopes that it will open the road to the dignified professions of architecture and engineering. But reality shows that there is no work for an architect, and those who are lucky enough to get a job in a political institution, will

soon find that politician's architecture has nothing to do with real architecture. They must kiss the hands of corrupt bosses, and follow their shameful, destructive policy.

In ending my story, I realize, perfectly, that if I shall not be able to prove my accusations, I shall be jailed, and heavily fined. But I am not afraid. All these charges are true. The disclosure will show that real truth is worse than my charges, and there will be many sensational disclosures similar to the well-known criminal investigation of Coster, head of the pharmaceutical concern in New York. I know perfectly well that my fight with Kelly and Co. will be hard and dangerous, because there is a liaison between politics and crime and criminal elements in the service of Kelly. But I am convinced that I shall win. The crime is great, and impossible to cover and hide.

The protest started, not as personal revenge, or with altruistic motives, but in defense of architecture and engineering art. I decided to tell the world that ignorant and criminal hands of false architects, and false engineers, under corrupt leadership of politicians, ruin the basis of service to humanity by architectural and engineering arts. I appeal to architectural and engineering societies for support. I believe that the crime is great, and that many other citizens will rise to the defense of democratic principles of American life.

I sincerely believe, also, that it will be proven once more that crime does not pay, that injustice triumphs only temporarily, and that "there is nothing covered that shall not be revealed, nothing hidden that shall not be known."

P.S. In the last election a 24 million bond issue was approved for Parks development. It means that millions can be spent by Kelly-Dunham, and their dark and crooked Battalion. Don't trust millions to them! The money will be stolen and squandered, and now you know how! The Dark Battalion-ignorant draftsmen, swindlers and imposters--are unable to make any decent plans for future park buildings. If you knew the truth, you would not trust the high-paid architectural stars of Parks to build latrines on your farms.

Already Dunham has appointed an office boy and grafter, Jolinek, and given to him all credentials for Park Planning, (Graft Planning,) Department, and he has already started underground "negotiations" for purchasing new grounds for Parks.

Stop it! Invite architects, real engineers as technical staff, and ask and recruit trustworthy citizens to govern Parks, and make them their patriotic duty. Save them from complete degradation!

Let's make parks centers of physical culture and healthful recreation! Let's build harmonious, cheerful, sanitary field-houses by architects and engineers, according to modern requirements of science!

Remember that the last mobilization showed a low standard of physical health of many young men, recruited for the army! Good health is precious and just as important for peace time as for war!

Show that you are not dumb slaves, but citizens of a great democratic State, and have the right and duty to control the use of funds collected from you by taxation! Develop parks, build new field houses destined for your recreation, and mostly for "Children of the poor!" Defend sacred principles of democracy--government by the people, for the people-- in your home town--Chicago!