

THE Crime Commission lambasted Miami Beach city officials, City Manager Claude Renshaw, Mayor Marcie Liberman for alleged failure to protect residents from such "vicious gunmen" as Harry Sosnick and Moe Rockwell . . . But the Crime Commission didn't tell them HOW it could be done! . . . THAT'S the \$64 question the Crime Commission should answer before they attack ANY local official!



Vol. No. 20—Miami, Fla., Saturday, May 14, 1949 Reubin Clein, Editor 10c a Copy in Greater Miami, Elsewhere 15c

Legalized Gambling Certain for Dade County

OKELL CAN'T DODGE TRUTH

DADE Rep. Okell took considerable time of the legislative session to defend the Dade delegation from the charge of Commissioner Charles that the delegation wasn't representing our citizens. The TRUTH obviously hurts Okell. And he doesn't build up his case any by sarcastically referring to the Miami city commissioners' attempt to get Miami commission pay raised to what is still a mere pittance in comparison to other officials.

(It's a wonder, with all the graft the papers say is taking place at City Hall, that the commissioners would worry about a measly \$3,200-yearly increase!) But let's get down to cases. And then let's see how far off Rep. Okell is. The city commissioners wanted the city to have jurisdiction over Biscayne Bay property that the city OWNS.

But the Dade delegation gave it to Miami Beach! Is that REPRESENTATION? The Dade delegation voted—WITHOUT referendum—to DECONTROL the City of Miami. They did this with the full knowledge that the lower-income-bracket renters would SUFFER!

They dare not say they did NOT know it—for the lowest teachers-housing bill introduced by Sen. R. B. Gautier has this preamble: "It is a matter of notoriety . . . that because of the high cost of living . . . the pay of teachers is insufficient to meet the necessities . . ."

Yet teachers make MUCH MORE than the average wage-earner—and renter—in Dade county! We repeat, the Dade delegation voted this WITHOUT a referendum! Is that REPRESENTATION?

Another example of their MIS-representation: they have so far expressed NO opposition to the proposal to take away from the city its right to set its own water rates—and they're MORE THAN LIKELY to go along with the idea of taking AWAY from the people (for that's what the city commission amounts to) control over our utility rates and turning it over to the railroad commission.

You want more examples? Why, the Dade delegation propositioned the city commission to go along with it on some form of Consolidation—tax departments, etc.—AFTER the people have already voted AGAINST Consolidation! Is that representation?

To top it all off, let us quote Herald Editor Pennekamp's Thursday morning column: "Pressure bills, especially those which are inspired by political sources, have little difficulty getting by the legislature without a referendum. "On the other hand, suggested laws in the public interest, but distasteful to office-holders, invariably carry the vote clause with them."

So, you see, even the editor of the paper that obviously controls the actions of the Dade delegation can't stomach their procedure in its entirety and was constrained to so express himself! We'll leave it to our readers' good judgment whether or not Commissioner Charles was right.

BURNETT ROTH 'MAN TO BEAT'

BURNETT ROTH, who for years has championed veterans and the common people, especially harassed tenants, has tossed his hat into the councilmanic race at Miami Beach. Roth will be "the man to beat" for "Red" Snedigar's seat (Snedigar is now county commissioner). He's sure of a "bloc" vote from veteran and tenant quarters that will be hard to overcome. Less than 4,000 votes was sufficient in the last election to win a seat on the council. With the increased number of candidates, bloc votes are much more precious than ever before. Tenants realize that Roth is their last hope. He did not stop fighting their battles when federal law decreed that areas de-

LEGALIZED GAMBLING seems a certainty for Miami and Miami Beach. Not through the McWilliams bill; that's too vulnerable and cannot pass. But through some other bill that will more nearly satisfy the legislative forces that seem eager to extend the scope of state gambling.

The Crime Commission is to blame. Its unfair presentation of the facts, its unwarranted attacks upon our mildly liberal policy that has always been accorded full and complete approval by the electorate, its vicious propaganda FALSELY picturing this area as being overrun by gangsters and racketeers, have given powerful Tallahassee interests the excuse they've been waiting for.

And the awful part of it is that the very interests they've been condemning for bookmaking on a sneak basis in upstairs, hidden rooms, will emerge openly as the dictators of the new legalized set-ups!

Now the public will really be taken to the cleaners! Heretofore you had to know Joe before you could get in a bookie. And when you got in, you had to be prepared to duck, for raids have always been imminent. It wasn't conducive to crowds.

But with the passage of a legal, off-track betting bill, do you realize that Dade county will get 20 master stations, each of which will have ten substations—altogether 220 elaborate, wide-open gambling emporiums that will be doing everything but bodily

PUBLIC CONTROL ENDANGERED

ATTEMPTS are being made to get a bill introduced in the legislature to take away from Miami citizens the right to set their own water rates and to give it to the Monopoly-controlled water board, over whom the citizens have not the slightest control, and who would thenceforth have the right to inflict any rates upon the citizenry.

Offhand you'll say this bill hasn't any chance of passing, because our Dade delegation certainly will not permit such a burden to be placed arbitrarily on the class of people who can't afford it, or to allow our rates to be set by people formerly in the employ of and still under the aegis of the private utilities.

You'll say that certainly these legislators wouldn't act contrary to the interests of the public and their welfare. But you must take into consideration that our legis-

John S. Knight... ALMOST Great!

JOHAN S. Knight, Herald publisher, in his last Sunday's "Notebook" painted a beautiful picture of what a newspaper publisher's duties are, what he should do, what he shouldn't do, what he does, what he doesn't, what he should be, and what he is.

Knight thus showed he fully understands what a RESPECTABLE newspaper should be. Any man would be proud to be the kind of publisher he portrays.

Knight admitted the few shortcomings of some publishers. He pointed out the errors—or what he thought were errors—in certain setups, and he stated, in no uncertain terms, how he thought a newspaper should be conducted and told how he was conducting his paper . . . rather, how he THOUGHT he was conducting the Herald.

The truth is, however, that John S. Knight's transgressions as a publisher against the public are WORSE than any other we know of.

For Knight has proved he KNOWS right from wrong, that he knows how a respectable newspaper SHOULD be conducted.

Now if John S. Knight does not realize that the Miami Herald COLORS, that it SLANTS its news, particularly the news

yanking in passersby from the streets! Heretofore, we've had only one horsetrack running at a time—and only 120 days of racing all told. Under the legalized set-up, we'll have racing every day of the year—or the equivalent of 220 racetracks all running simultaneously every afternoon!

These 220 spots will energetically compete for business. They'll spend thousands of dollars a day in newspaper advertisements. The Miami Herald, the Miami Daily News—and, yes, MIAMI LIFE—should flourish from their business.

They'll give free drinks, free food, to lure the suckers in. All the conveniences of home will be forthcoming. They'll glamorize betting like it never has been before.

Mind you, this is going to GUT legitimate business in this area! It'll be a knock-out blow to our retail merchants, already harassed by a too-short winter season and too much competition.

Yes, you're right—such a condition cannot last. In all probability, it will be repealed two or four years hence. BUT THE DAMAGE WILL ALREADY HAVE BEEN DONE!

And Dade county as a glamorous, CLEAN (yes, regardless of what the Crime Commission tells you, this is considered by widely traveled tourists as the cleanest) resort will be FINISHED! It'll never be the same again. AND IT'S A SHAME!

WESTERN UNION TO FIGHT

HERE'S something you can WAGE Bookie Wire service won't be until the Western Union has legal means of resistance. Too rights involved. There'll be in and appeals. Many good lawyers act is unconstitutional. Anyway, service will be with us—for a long time. That's certain.

So you may awake some fine morning to learn that your water bills have increased 50 per cent! The Miami Herald and the Miami Daily News, instead of publicly OPPOSING such a move, have instead been diverting your attention by reams of Scare Stuff about bookies and petty gambling and supposed "graft" in City Hall.

It's their smokescreen—to blind you momentarily to a Wall St. scheme to pick householders' pockets more thoroughly.

Miami Asks For Deeper Water

The City of Miami, Dade county and the Miami Chamber of Commerce have submitted briefs to the Senate appropriations committee in Washington petitioning for the deepening and widening of the Florida Intracoastal Waterway from Jacksonville to Miami.

This petition follows similar petitions by all East Coast Chambers of Commerce and the State Chamber of Commerce and parallels the efforts of two groups of Florida citizens representing the Florida Inland Navigation District in Washington delegations.

High point of the Miami area is in favor of dredging the present 8-foot channel to 12 feet. Present stress on the fact that government aviation gasoline is now moving north and south to military installations in Florida via the East Coast Intracoastal Waterway from Port Everglades and that shippers are unable to load barges to capacity because of the shallow channel. The senate was reminded of the war days when Nazi submarines torpedooed craft off Florida shores which were unable to make the inside run.

Let Doctors Advertise-- For Cancer Check-Ups!

"SIMPLE TEST FOR CANCER IS ANNOUNCED" This headed an article in the Miami Herald of May 6. It was on Page 18-A, a 4-inch single story.

It may or may not have been read by everyone in Miami. But it pointed out how simple it now is to make what has been a very difficult diagnosis. A person may feel somewhat uncomfortable. But he's not suffering a great deal. Of course, he has a secret fear of cancer, but he'd rather ignore his discomfort, knowing that it takes time and money for an accurate check. However, if physicians, for the sake of humanity, would abandon their age-old ethics and permit efficient doctors using latest methods to ADVERTISE how simple and neces-

DOCTORS FOR EMERGENCIES

MIAMI LIFE for years has fought for a central clearing house through which anyone might summon a doctor for an emergency INSTANTLY. We've asked this question time after time: "How many people will have to die because of their inability to get a doctor in time, BEFORE THE CITY COMMISSION INSTITUTES EMERGENCY MEDICAL TREATMENT?"

We think getting a doctor should be made just as simple in an emergency as getting a policeman or the fire department. All it takes for the latter is the lifting of a telephone to your mouth.

The latest death that might be attributed to this great fault is that of Arthur Bancroft, who fell down a flight of stairs in his new home, 2331 S. W. 17th avenue. Mrs. Bancroft tried UNSUCCESSFULLY to get a private doctor immediately. It was the next afternoon before he was taken to Jackson Memorial hospital, where he died of a fractured skull.

He may have died anyway. But he MIGHT have lived—with IMMEDIATE medical attention! Some Miami commissioner will some day build himself a monument in the hearts of Miamians by sponsoring a medical clearing house such as MIAMI LIFE has been urging.

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IT'S WHAT YOU PUT IN LIFE

Investigator Approves

Editor, Miami Life:
I get your "Scandal Sheet" every week and it is sure a need in this town—has a work to do.

I might be called a Spiritualist, as I was for years a member of the Psychological Research Society in New York City as well as a reporter on a daily. I have been a researcher in that work for many years. I feel capable of judging the "Spiritualists" in this town and you will be doing a good work if you can rout them, or at least clean them out or start such a movement.

Of all the fakirs and thieves on earth—this town has them. I could give the names of several of them who are both drunks and thieves. Yes, the little dog that trots up and down the aisles in Bertie Lillies church is more spiritual than the majority of these mediums. I feel sorry for Ford who was once one of the most beloved and spiritual of men, a co-worker with Sir Conan Doyle and Sir Oliver Lodge and other investigators and Spiritualists. A man named Sunday in 41st street is, I believe, honest and doing good; no bad habits unless its smoking—if that is bad. He may be ignorant—but he still can and does much good.

If your sheet can and does help clean out these charlatans you are doing a good thing. As an investigator, I am with you.
IDA GARRETT.

9209 N. W. 22nd Street, Miami, Fla.

Please Send Paper

Miami, Fla., May 3, 1949.
Dear Sir:—Will you be so kind as to change the address on my MIAMI LIFE to 2280 N. W. 94th street. I moved from 3114 N. W. 22nd avenue two months ago. My papers never followed me but the money envelope did. Guess my neighbors liked the paper, kept it to read. I enjoy your paper when I get it. Thanks.
MRS. ROBT. YOUNG.

2280 N. W. 94th Street, City.

MIAMI LIFE, Miami, Fla.

Dear Sir:—Enclosed please find check for \$1.50 for which send me your paper for six months.

Yours truly,
(Mrs.) ANNA SHAPIRO.

May 2, 1949

MIAMI LIFE, Miami, Fla.

Editor:—Will be moving from section to section for some time, but would still like to continue your paper. Enjoy it very much. Will notify from time to time as to change of address.

Temporarily send issues to: Mrs. A. F. Miller, General Delivery, Lake Geneva, Florida. Old address, 4555 S. W. 16th street, Miami.

May 9, 1949

MIAMI LIFE, Miami, Fla.

Gentlemen:—Enclosed find check for a six-month subscription to your MIAMI LIFE. Kindly start this subscription with the pres-

CRIME COMMISSION IS PROBING COUNTY COURTS

COUNTY criminal courts, the solicitor's and prosecutors' offices had better be on guard. Daniel P. Sullivan of the Crime Commission of Greater Miami is on their trail. That was revealed in his brief statement at the first annual meeting of the commission in Bayfront Park Recreation hall last week. But nary a whisper of this warning was sounded in the Miami daily newspapers, which buried short stories on the session, although they eagerly play up Dan's weekly broadcast. Why?

It may have been due to the small number present, under 100 voting members, and a couple hundred spectators. In his talk, Sullivan said a survey was being made of the county courts, such as the one made of the Miami city court several months ago. He urged the maintenance of a year-around grand jury, criticized the delay in calling the recent jury. Referring to corruption caused by gambling, he said Miami Shores and Coral Gables were fairly free of such gambling, but some of the hoodlums live in those com-

ent issue now out, which came out on Saturday.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Yours truly,
HARLAND N. PARKS.

860 N. W. 113th Street, Miami 38, Fla.

MIAMI LIFE.

Enclosed find check for \$3.00. Enter my subscription for one year.

J. S. ENGLER.

munities. In regard to his broadcasts, he said it was the first time that all stations had joined in such a local address.

Treasurer Raymond J. Arkey reported approximate receipts of \$25,000, expenditures of \$22,795. Appeals were made by Director C. D. Van Orsdel for renewal of club and individual memberships and donations; declared one man was ready to give \$1,000 if four others would do the same.

Retiring President William A. Lane reported on crime conditions and work of the commission. Five new directors were elected.

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An Open Letter To:

THE BUS RIDING CITIZENS of GREATER MIAMI

I have noticed with considerable regret that several articles have appeared in the newspapers which would give the erroneous impression that the Miami Transit Company and myself are engaged in a controversy with another bus company operating in this community.

In the month of June last, I purchased the majority of the stock of Miami Transit Company and at that time made statements to the press and by radio indicating what we hoped to do to render an improved service in the territory which Miami Transit is now and has been serving for over 20 years. This territory includes Miami, Hialeah, Miami Springs, Miami Shores, Coconut Grove, Pinewood, Flagami and county territory in between these communities. Several meetings were held with the key employees of the Company for the purpose of outlining to them new policies. They were informed that 100 new large modern type buses were ordered, that all of the then owned equipment would be completely overhauled and reconditioned and repaired and obsolete equipment disposed of. In addition, substantial sums of money would be spent on the Company's garages to improve the efficiency. At these meetings it was forcefully pointed out that this was a fast growing community and that thousands of small homes were being built and that we had a responsibility to serve those new home owners, as well as the older parts of the community.

Paramount in our minds was the determination to render an improved service in the Greater Miami area and I was much surprised to find another bus company infringing upon Miami Transit territory thereby making it much more difficult to realize our objective. This infringement consisted of the practice of carrying passengers from one point in Miami to another point within the corporate limits.

We have, however, in spite of this and other obstacles, made definite progress in the improvement of the transportation service in the Greater Miami area. I would like to review briefly some of the steps taken in that program:

1. We reduced the fare.
2. We have purchased and placed in operation 100 new large sized modern coaches.
3. We have instigated a safety program which has already reduced accidents very materially.
4. We have instituted a program of training employees in handling the public which has resulted in marked improvement in courtesy to the public among our employees.
5. We have improved routes and schedules to more nearly fit the riding peaks and demands.
6. We have almost completed the complete overhauling and repainting of buses owned by the Company at the time I purchased it.
7. I have spent considerable sums of money in increasing the efficiency in the garages.

On April 20th when the City Commission corrected the above described infringement by an operator from one of the northern communities, Mayor Floyd unjustly and without any basis whatsoever, made the statement (after

casting the sole vote against Miami Transit Company) that this would be the forerunner of Miami Transit Company's asking for an increase in its fare.

Last Wednesday, when the Miami City Commission in its regular meeting passed an ordinance designed to regulate bus transportation on its own streets, Mayor Floyd cast the only negative vote presumably because he wanted to protect the interest of a bus company not operating under the jurisdiction of the City of Miami, and when casting the negative vote made the following statement as reported in the newspapers, "This means that Little River and Edison Centre business areas will have no bus communication with the North Dade areas." This statement is obviously untrue as service is being rendered between the business areas mentioned by the Mayor and North Dade areas and the ordinance passed in no way affects that service.

Mayor Floyd asked Mr. T. E. Lewis, our Vice President and General Manager to come see him last Saturday, April 30th, and proposed to Mr. Lewis that Miami Transit get together with the outside bus operator for the purpose of negotiating routes. Mr. Lewis told Mr. Floyd that he was not in a position to make this decision. Mr. Lewis arranged an interview between Mayor Floyd and myself. I found that the purpose of his visit was to secure for the other company advantages they were not entitled to and which definitely would work a hardship on citizens living north of 79th Street as well as Miami Transit Company.

I told Mayor Floyd that with his help the outside bus operator has been operating in Miami Transit territory during the past eight months but now that the Circuit Court had ruled this operation illegal and the other four members of the Miami City Commission had voted to correct the situation, he was now seeking to secure, by agreement from me, special privileges for the outside bus operator which he could no longer obtain by his previous methods. I am completely at a loss to understand Mayor Floyd's determined effort to damage Miami's locally owned and operated transportation system in favor of an outside operator, particularly in view of the fact the Miami Transit Company is now rendering a transportation service as good as or better than that serving other cities in the country the size of Miami.

Furthermore, I stated to Mayor Floyd during our interview last Tuesday, that we had no desire to get into any controversy with any other transportation operator in the area nor do we have any intention of infringing on or giving unfair competition to outside operators, but we do intend to serve the suburban territories and expand our service as needed in the fast growing communities in the Greater Miami area where the Company has been giving service for many years.

I also stated to Mayor Floyd, upon his expressed fear that service to the North Dade areas by the outside operator might possibly be discontinued, that in that event Miami Transit Company would be glad to render a service to these communities which would be better than the present service in that free transfer privileges to all areas served by our Company would be part of such service.

Very truly yours,

WILLIAM D. PAWLEY

May 6, 1949

