

In view of the complete suppression of the fact of this man's arrest (after sending in a petition and an accompanying note explanatory of some of the post office grafting methods) it would be interesting to learn whether anyone else has suddenly "dropped out of sight" in this city, and it might be well for the friends of those men who are known to have ideas and who have visited Washington during recent months, but who have disappeared, to start an investigation to learn whether they have been "rallroaded" to prison as Nash was, without any mention of the fact appearing in any of the newspapers.

The desire on the part of President Roosevelt to ape the crowned heads of Europe, which I have before alluded to, is shown in the demand for an appropriation of \$90,000 to build another stable for the President. This was first formulated in the book of estimates submitted by the Secretary of the Treasury, Dec. 7, 1903. It was reiterated in a letter from Secretary Taft on Feb. 25, transmitted to the Speaker by the Acting Secretary of the Treasury Feb. 26.

Col. T. W. Symons, the military attache of the Executive Mansion, on being questioned by the committee on appropriations as to the need for this appropriation and as to the number of horses to be stabled, said: "We have to provide for 30 horses and vehicles." On being asked by Mr. Gillett, "How many horses do you have?" Symons said there were 7 or 8 "now," but they were increasing all the time.

Because of the newspaper comment which this extravagance excited not only is the request now withdrawn, but we find the apologists for the administration attempting to prove that the President not merely has no desire for these additional stable accommodations, but that he had no knowledge that such a demand had been made, although the land for same was to be purchased "in a location and at a price to be approved by the President, \$90,000." Having spent \$600,000 to "improve" the White House, surely \$90,000 is not too much for another stable to go with it!

When the great corruptor of national politics was in command of the Republican organization the policy was to "keep on standing pat." Now, in response to White House orders, it is "keep on 'doing nothing' and go home."
ROBERT BAKER.

NEWS

Week ending Thursday, April 7.

At the municipal election in Chicago on the 5th the immediate municipal ownership movement scored a pronounced victory. To begin with, the Mueller law (vol.

vi, pp. 458, 705, 755) was adopted by a large majority. This result enables the city to proceed at any time to arrange for the establishment and operation of its own street-car systems, or for their establishment and leasing, as may be preferred. Full power over the matter is now vested in the city; subject, of course, to such obstacles of vested rights and financial difficulties as may be encountered. On the advisory question, that the city proceed immediately with the policy of establishing and operating under the Mueller law (vol. vi, p. 823), the affirmative majority is 69,851. A slightly larger majority was cast in the affirmative on the third advisory question (vol. vi, p. 823), which proposed licenses instead of franchises to private corporations pending the consummation of the municipal ownership programme. On this question the majority is 72,125. The votes may be tabulated as follows:

Affirmative on Mueller law.....	152,434
Negative on Mueller law.....	30,104
Total on Mueller law.....	182,538
Majority for Mueller law.....	152,330
Affirmative on immediate steps under the Mueller law.....	120,744
Negative on immediate steps under the Mueller law.....	50,893
Total on immediate steps under the Mueller law.....	171,637
Majority for immediate steps under the Mueller law.....	69,851
Affirmative on licensing.....	120,181
Negative on licensing.....	48,056
Total on licensing.....	168,237
Majority for licensing.....	72,125
Total vote for aldermen.....	230,771
Total registration.....	359,937

The total vote is reported as very heavy for an off year. Only about 50 per cent. of the registry was expected to vote, but 64 per cent. of the registry was cast. To secure action by the city council in accordance with the referendum vote, the Municipal Ownership committee met on the 6th and appointed a committee on "transportation," composed of William Bross Lloyd, C. L. Bonney, Daniel L. Cruice, E. H. Nockels, and George J. Thompson. Its function is to cooperate with the transportation committee of the city council.

Still another advisory question was voted on at this election (vol. vi, pp. 486, 697), namely, whether the school board shall be elected by the people. On this question the affirmative vote is 115,553 and

the negative 58,432, a majority of 57,121 in the affirmative.

Apart from the referendum voting at this election the most significant events were the defeat (chiefly through the activity and influence of Wm. R. Hearst) of Mayor Harrison's Democratic candidate in a Democratic ward, and the defeat (chiefly through the activity and influence of the Municipal Voters' League) of Congressman Lorimer's Republican candidate in a Republican ward. Mr. Harrison's candidate was defeated by a Republican and Mr. Lorimer's by an independent.

The aggregate Socialist vote at this election was 14,762, about 6 1/2 per cent. of the total. We append a table of Socialist party votes (vol. vi, p. 6) in Chicago for purposes of comparison:

	Vote.	P. C.
For mayor, 1901.....	3,166	2 2-3
For state treasurer, 1902.....	20,162	6 1/2
For mayor, 1903.....	12,293	4 1-3
For alderman, 1904.....	14,762	6 1/2

The political complexion of the board of aldermen is now as follows:

Newly elected Democrats.....	16
Newly elected Republicans.....	18
Newly elected Independents.....	1
Holdover Democrats.....	15
Holdover Republicans.....	18
Holdover Independents.....	1
Holdover Socialists.....	1

Of these, 27 of the newly elected and 26 of the holdover aldermen are endorsed by the Municipal Voters' League. The League condemns 6 of the new ones and 7 of the holdovers. As to 2 of the new and 2 of the old the League commends but does not endorse.

In one voting precinct a voting machine was used for the first time in Chicago. The voters of the precinct were allowed the option of voting by ballot or by machine, and every one chose the machine. Its use was entirely satisfactory, no difficulties whatever occurring. The complete result in that precinct was ascertained within three minutes after the polls closed.

Another municipal election of special interest was that of the 5th in Milwaukee, where David S. Rose, the present mayor, was re-elected by a plurality of 5,912—about 1,000 less than he received two years ago. This will be Mayor