

we continue the practice of granting franchises to private corporations and of farming out various privileges to contractors for the purposes of private profit-getting, and both of these evils draw their life blood from party politics; for the contractor or corporation that will not contribute directly or indirectly to the campaign expenses of "the party in power" gets no business, is simply sidetracked in favor of those who will.

POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Toledo has doubled its population in the last ten years. It is twice as big as it was; if that bigness represents real improvement, then Toledo is twice as good. There is no real growth unless it includes the whole. Greater Toledo means better Toledo or it means worse Toledo. Neither the city nor the individual can stand still; we are going ahead or we are falling back. I believe our course is onward and upward.

To the better, to the brighter, on! on!

Five years ago our patrolmen laid aside the brutal club and have since carried canes instead. This was a splendid move in the right direction. The day is not far distant when the patrolmen of our cities will disarm, and the murderous "gun" or revolver that they now carry concealed, because we are ashamed of it, will be relegated to the rear along with the rack, thumbscrew and other relics of a less happy past, and our patrolmen will walk the streets in the conscious peace and security of the "just man armed;" for the just man has no need of gun or sword or weapon. The very fact that he is JUST literally surrounds him with an impregnable wall of safety; he has nothing to fear.

No harm from Him can come to me
On ocean or on shore.

Much praise is due to the loving heart of our deceased chief, Ben Raitz, for the humanizing work in this department during the ten years that he was at its head. He was a genuine lover and many an erring one was helped toward a better life by the loving words of this brave man whose highest ambition was to do his duty and be kind.

What is the lesson of the statistics of arrests in Toledo? During the year 1882, 20 years ago, there were 4,493 persons arrested in the city; the population was then about 50,000. During 1902 there were 3,861 persons arrested, or 632 less than 20 years before when the city was one-third its present size. Had the arrests increased in proportion to the population, there would

have been 13,479 persons arrested last year, or about 10,000 more than there were.

I make no attempt to draw a conclusion from these striking figures; it is joy enough for me to know that in them I see a certain promise that jails, prisons and penitentiaries will one day be things of the past and love will rule the wide world over.

MAYOR JOHNSON'S WAY. THE SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS THE MAYOR.

The municipal administration was treated to a genuine surprise yesterday in the action of the supreme court dissolving the injunction in the paving contract case. So accustomed has the administration become to supreme court injunctions every time it attempts to do anything, that the action of yesterday was quite unexpected.

But why should the court have taken any other course? Mayor Johnson was clearly acting in the interest of the taxpayers. He had become convinced that a paving combine existed by which contractors parceled out paving jobs among themselves in such a manner that high prices were obtained by all of them. To break the combine he bunched a large number of paving jobs and advertised for bids on all of them at once, thus making it an object for paving firms outside of the combine to compete. The device was successful, and a good many thousand dollars were in this way saved to the city and the lot owners. The surprised and disgusted contractors went to the supreme court as usual to "knock out the mayor," and with the usual success so far as a preliminary injunction was concerned, but when the case was heard on its merits, the court recognized that the administration had acted for the public welfare and the protests were dictated by selfish interests.

The administration and the taxpayers are both to be congratulated on the result.—Editorial in the Cleveland Plain Dealer of March 11.

THE MAYOR POINTS TO HIS RECORD.

There was an enthusiastic meeting of Ninth ward Democrats at No. 43 Public square last night. The hall was crowded, and the speakers, including Mayor Johnson, presented the issues of the campaign. Mayor Johnson said:

"Reference to the condition of the city morally in a certain newspaper leads me to say that Cleveland has been freer from vice during the 18 months of the present administration than ever before. This is because we have dealt with vice, not as fanatics, but with a hand that is loving and considerate.

"We have been treating unfortunate people as men and women, as human beings. We have also tried to put them under better conditions so they can more easily make a living and thereby have a chance to become better.

"We further hold, as we did two years ago, that taxes should be levied equally, that three-cent fare should be inaugurated and that the granting of special privileges should be prevented so as to give people more money, more savings, happier homes, and so as to place men on a higher plane. We are not preachers," said Mr. Johnson, referring to a recent meeting of city ministers, "but as common, sober and fair-minded practical men have done more for Christianity and humanity than all the ministers of the city."

Speaking of Director Cooley in this connection, and his speech before the city ministers this week, the mayor said: "I am proud of Mr. Cooley. I wish there were more preachers like him in politics. He told his brother ministers that he had different ideas as a result of experience in real life, which real life is not that in homes that have fine windows, but in homes that are moderate, with not too much nor too little in them.

"People talk about the administration protecting dives and the 'red-light district,' why, they forget, as Director Cooley has said, that vice is not like mud in the streets, but men and women going wrong. The work done by the administration by means of uniformed officers clearing out any such districts is welcomed by many of the people that are thought to be so bad.

"We, like the Republicans, are a minority party in this city. As such we have an unparalleled record of having won four consecutive elections. You ask why we have done this, and I tell you that it is not because we have converted men to our cause, but because we have commanded the confidence and support of the great mass of independent voters in Cleveland. If we are to get this same vote again, we must not only have a good platform to stand on, but fair-minded candidates, men who have even been such good Democrats in the Republican party that Mr. Hanna has kicked them out."—The Plain Dealer of March 13.

THE MORAL SIDE OF MUNICIPAL WORK.

From speech of the Rev. Harris R. Cooley in accepting the nomination for Director of Public Service tendered him by the Democratic Municipal Convention at Cleveland, Mar. 17, as reported in the Plain Dealer of Mar. 18.

There is one side of the question which appeals to me particularly, and