

Page Twelve Skips Plumbing Payoff Inquiry

(Continued from Page One)
District Attorney Clayton. He said Mr. Clayton declined to act for criminal prosecution on the grounds there was not sufficient evidence to support bribery charges.

Attorneys Comment

The substance of the charges on which the City Council fired Parker was that he paid Junior Inspectors Cortez H. Martin and Donald Naron a series of cash sums and instructed them not to place red tags on faulty plumbing, but to notify the plumber concerned of the faults. Red tags hold up plumbing approval by the City until faults are corrected.

None of the officials questioned today would hazard guesses on specific reasons why Mr. Clayton declined to prosecute Parker. But some attorneys familiar with published reports of the charges on which Parker was fired commented on the law covering bribery and attempted bribery.

They pointed out that a new law defining bribery and attempted bribery was passed by the last Texas Legislature, and that the new act becomes effective tomorrow. That law embraces all State, County and City employees among those who can be prosecuted for bribery or bribery attempt.

City Charter Provision

But the old law, these authorities said, provides that only legislative, judicial and executive officials can be so prosecuted, and that rulings in cases that have been appealed to high courts held that only officials provided for in city charters are officials under the law. The City charter of El Paso creates the office of plumbing inspector, but does not create the office of sub-ordinating inspectors, it was pointed out.

A specific case was pointed out in which a former assistant City Attorney in El Paso charged a woman with attempting to bribe him. The woman was prosecuted, and her conviction was appealed. The conviction was reversed by the Court of Appeals on the grounds the assistant city official was not an official provided for in the El Paso charter.

It was brought out in general discussion today that the two junior plumbing inspectors who allegedly received money from Parker were not to overlook the faulty plumbing, but by their own account were told to notify the plumbers. There was "a suggestion" that this was a factor in consideration of whether criminal prosecution of Parker could be supported.

Outlines Case

Mr. Brockmoller, like Mayor Telles, said investigation of the plumbing inspection case is continuing. He said the evidence turned over to the City by Junior Plumbing Inspectors Martin and Naron was sufficient to bring about Parker's discharge as senior plumbing inspector, regardless of whether it is sufficient to support criminal prosecution.

Action against Parker, Mr. Brockmoller said, was based in part upon a provision of Civil Service regulations which says that such an official can be discharged if he or she:
"Has induced or has attempted to induce an officer or employee in the service of the City to commit an unlawful act in violation of any lawful and reasonable departmental or official regulation or order."

Mr. Brockmoller said Parker also was specifically charged on seven counts of giving money other than for the City, all in violation of official regulations.

Franklin Elementary Registration Slated

Registration is being held daily at Franklin Elementary School. Students entering El Paso schools for the first time are asked to bring birth certificates.
Hours of registration are from 8 to 11:30 a. m. and 1 to 3 p. m. Classes meet Sept. 5.

Youths Fined In Soldier Beating

(Continued from Page One)
ran to the porch of a friend's house. A woman screamed the youths when she came out on the porch with a pistol, according to the testimony of Robbins.
Joe Rey, attorney for the three youths, told Judge Lanier that Scott admits beating Robbins but that the other two youths were innocent.
Rey in fact he would appeal the case to the county court.

Find Missing Couple in Texas

(Continued from Page One)
tigation, has been unknown to Patterson's employes and associates, both Mr. Smith and Mr. Roth insisted.

'Strong Conviction'

"I've always had the strong conviction they were safe, and I told Mildred (Patterson's sister, living in Chicago) so just the other day," Mr. Roth said.

The Pattersons' photo shop is being managed by D. G. Kirkland of Duffy's Photo Service in their absence.

The mystery of the couple's disappearance came to a head last week when friends expressed concern over not hearing from them and asked the Sheriff's Department to make an investigation.

Interviewed by Sheriff's deputies and City detectives, Mr. Smith and Mr. Roth declined to comment on the case beyond confirming that a telegram, signed "Pat" and containing numerous instructions, was received by Roth March 13.

"Nobody else could have sent that message," Mr. Smith said. "It mentioned things, such as the sale of an enlarger to a certain person for a certain price, which only Patterson knew about."

No Speculation

The attorney refused to speculate on how Patterson had been financing his and his wife's expenses since they left here.
"I think that's strictly their own business," he said.
Attempts to locate the couple included requests from the Sheriff's office to authorities in Miami and Los Angeles to trace them in those cities. These efforts were unsuccessful.

Sheriff W. O. Hicks said early today he did not know where the Pattersons are.

Sanitation Unit First To Submit Inventory

The Department of Sanitation is the first City unit to submit a complete inventory list of equipment to the mayor, City Administrator John Camp revealed today.
The mayor recently requested all department heads to turn in such an inventory by Oct. 1. At present, the City does not know how much equipment it owns.

Ed Muckelroy, superintendent of sanitation, submitted an inventory showing 98 pieces of rolling stock.

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Promises Valley Water Rate Cut

(Continued from Page One)
my share back to you," said one shirt-sleeved man who would not give his name.

Another water bill payer wanted an explanation on why the Upper Valley water system was taken into the City a few months after the area was annexed. He said an El Paso Public Service Board member left the board just long enough for the City to buy the water system—which he owned. The member was Board Chairman Paul Harvey.

"Mr. Mayor, how do you know the Public Service Board won't delay the merger and waste more time as they've done in the past?" asked F. R. Young of 7716 Phoenix road.

"If they don't, I'll make life so miserable for them they will wish they had," the Mayor fired back.
"Can You Get Rid . . ."

"By the way, Mayor, how can you get rid of these men on the Public Service Board?" another man asked.

"The mayor and the Council have the power to reject men whom the board wants to appoint," the mayor said. "We cannot fire one of the board members unless they are guilty of dishonesty."

"And in the Lower Valley district, if you don't like the men who run the water system, you can always vote against them in the next election. You put them in office, you know."

One questioner, who sought the floor several times throughout the meeting, commented on "the forgotten people of Ascarate." He is Frank M. Coate of 169 South Pendale road, who said lack of action on the water merger was a result of "the manana complex that seems to infect every El Paso municipal administration."

As the meeting wore on, questioners began to pointedly repeat their questions on why the merger had taken so long. The mayor appeared to grow tired. His colleague — Jack White, Ernest Carigo and Mr. Seitsinger — fidgeted in their chairs.
"I'll tell you something," the mayor said. "That merger should have taken place by law 90 days after Ysleta and the Lower Valley was annexed to the City two years ago. Why it did not, I cannot say."

"We have only been in office four months," he said. "Give us time. We are working on this problem constantly. It will be solved soon."

City Engineer Seeks Architectural Aide

City Engineer Gerald Turner said today he will seek City Council permission to add an architectural engineer to his staff.
The engineer would have the title of "Building Officer." His duties would be to supervise other building inspectors. At present, the inspectors operate individually.
Dorsey White is senior building inspector.

Ike Says Russ Plot for Syria

(Continued from Page One)
the Soviets. First they offer economic and military aid, he continued: then they penetrate the receiving country with their agents, and they find stooges to take over the country for them.

How far this process has gone in Syria, Eisenhower said he does not know.
Asked specifically whether he considers this a deliberate Soviet effort to take over the strategically located Middle Eastern country, Eisenhower replied:

He thinks that is the ultimate aim of what is happening. The aim is kept under cover, of course, as the situation develops. They—the Soviet Communists—appeal to the spirit of nationalism. When they finally get hold of the situation then the people find that their country is being run from somewhere else.

Eisenhower dealt also with these other matters:
Rights—Republican congressional

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leaders, Eisenhower said, are ready with a proposal designed to break the stalemate over civil rights legislation. Eisenhower made it clear the GOP plan has his approval, but he declined to go into detail.
Congress—Eisenhower said he is tremendously disappointed in the record to date of the Democratic-controlled 85th Congress. Asked whether he blames Democrats or Republicans for that situation, Eisenhower simply replied that to the extent members of Congress have voted against his program, they are to blame for what he considers its disappointing performance.

Inflation Ups Cost Of Court Litigation

Cost of litigation in state courts has joined the inflationary trend. An increase of approximately 35 per cent in court costs and record-

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ing of documents in the offices of the county and district clerks will become effective on Sept. 1. Schedules showing the new fees are available to attorneys at both offices.
The increases were voted at the recent session of the legislature.

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