

File No. 11194 Continued.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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Mr. Hendrick: "While it is a pretty difficult thing to get all the facts in this case, as to the truth of the charge my investigation shows that there is enough smoke to make me feel that there is some fire, and, under the circumstances, I do not think that man should go back to work again."

Mr. Cowie: "There is another thing. Repeatedly, on this class of work, when a few men are discharged they make assertions. Whether it is concocted or not I do not know. I have tried in every way to find out. I paid off every man on the work, and when I pay them the timekeeper is with me. He takes the check and sees that the man who owns the check gets the envelope right from my hands. Sometimes a man would bring in another man's check. We did not pay these men on the checks. There was one man I kept my eyes open for. He was a boarding-house keeper. I would not pay him the money on any man's check. Generally I would not pay anyone I was not sure of until about 5.30 p.m. when the timekeeper comes on. Others, that I knew were all right, I would pay. A great many times they make a lick that they are short when they are not short. They make an average of the days whether they work a full day or not. These men last night claimed to be short. When I showed them, on the time-book, the straight time they had worked they were satisfied. One man claimed he was short a day's pay from last pay day. On Tuesday or Wednesday he was taken sick with typhoid fever. I went up to see him, personally, and straightened it out."

Mr. Hendrick: "I understand that you have told these men, if they come back to work you will see that they are protected."

Mr. Cowie: "Yes. We explained it to the foreman and the interpreter twice, and they refused to go."

Mr. Hendrick: "I think you have shown a disposition to go right into this matter in a satisfactory way."

Mr. Cowie: "I will do my best in everything, and I promise you it won't stop here."

Mr. Hendrick: "I wish to add that I would like you to keep a close lookout, and see that this does not happen again. I would not stand for anything like this for a minute, as you can readily see, and I feel that I want everybody connected with the work, who is in trouble, to come to me. The contractor, the citizen and the laborer should feel that they can come to me. I want them to know that they will all get justice. But I do want to see that it is fair to all sides before I take snap judgment."

Baltimore, April 1, 1910.

Conversation with Mr. T. Wallace Reilly in Mr.
Hendrick's office.
(Contractor for Sanitary Contract 41).

Mr. Hendrick: "Mr. Reilly, it was brought to my attention yesterday that a foreman for one of the contractors was receiving money from some of the men, in order that they might hold their positions. Of course, the minute I heard that any such thing as that was going on I started an investigation, as you know we cannot stand for anything like that. Now, what I want you to do is to look carefully into the conditions among your men, to see that you have no man who is receiving money from the laborers. I would like to hear what you have to say on the subject."