

MAYOR SENDS 50 POLICE TO HOLD SCHOOL OFFICES

When Loeb's Strategy Fails He Buys the Cigars.

Along toward the close of a peaceful afternoon in the school board rooms yesterday more than fifty policemen slipped into the corridors and overran the three floors of The Tribune building occupied by the board. Up until that time there had been no intimation of the stirring scenes being enacted in the city hall except the constant ringing of a telephone in an obscure corner of the office. Jacob M. Loeb, deposed president of the board, sat at that telephone, in almost constant communication with his friends in the council rooms.

Corporation Counsel Ettelson at night explained he had advised the mayor to order policemen detailed at the board rooms to prevent the members of the old board from taking possession. Mr. Ettelson said he would advise retaining the guard.

A Tactical Advantage.

"You know, we are in and they are out" said the corporation counsel. "We don't have to sue to keep the new appointees in office. That is the duty of the members of the old board if they want to recognize the council's action."

The policemen, half of them in uniform and the rest detectives, were in charge of First Deputy Westbrook and James L. Mooney, chief of the detective bureau. The men reported to Capt. Percy B. Coffin, business manager under the new régime, and were placed in generous numbers at every exit, every stairway, and every important office.

The police had been sent before the council changed its mind about the confirmation of the new board members.

All visitors to the board, without credentials, were barred. Even employees desiring to leave were refused permission for a time, and later, when they indicated a desire to remain and see what would happen, they were told to go home.

Loeb's Strategy.

After a short time the police learned that Mr. Loeb was in the building. His obscure office was found and twenty detectives, patrolmen, and members of the mounted police were sent in, apparently to watch him. No other member of the old board was present.

Immediately after the police arrived Mr. Loeb got in communication with friends in the council to get the introduction of the council order to remove the police. That would have left him free to oust the Thompson officials, but the order was sent to a committee.

Mr. Loeb sent out a boy, who shortly returned with three boxes of cigars. Mr. Loeb passed them around. Soon new faces appeared in the doorway, and in a few minutes there was scarcely a policeman on the floor, who did not have one or more cigars tucked away in his hat.

"There'll be mutiny in the police department yet," said Mr. Loeb, "and we'll all go over to the city hall."

He remained in the board rooms until about 8 o'clock. Edwin S. Davis, the new president, and his staff of new officials were in the president's office. The police remained in the offices all night and permitted no one to enter. Chief Schuettler dropped in in the evening. He said he didn't know why the guard was called.

Capt. John Alcock of the Woodlawn station, Lieut. Koles of the central station, Lieut. Madden of South Clark street, Lieut. Atkinson of the traffic division, and Lieut. John J. Sullivan of the detective bureau were among the police officers who were in charge.

Worry Over War Drives Butcher to End Life

Fred Koenig, 6323 Wentworth avenue, a butcher, committed suicide yesterday in the home of Max Magnaga, 253 West Thirty-first street, a friend, by shooting himself. Worry over the war is believed to have been the cause.