

The Indictment

Toronto Evening Telegram, Saturday, February 3, 1917)

FURTHER FLAYING OF RACING UNDER W. E. RANEY'S LASH

Tells Social Service Convention Legislators and Public Men Reap Enormous Profits— Fifteen Charges Against Race Track Gamblers

Clearly worded charges against race track gambling were made by Mr. W. E. Raney, K.C., in a paper which he read at the afternoon session of the Social Service Congress yesterday. He gave a detailed history of how the enactment of 1910 had been secured, legalizing gambling on race tracks, and continued:

TORONTO CLUBS EXEMPT.

"Who were the people to whom this extraordinary exemption was granted? They were, so far as Ontario was concerned, the four Jockey Clubs at Toronto, Hamilton, Fort Erie and Windsor, and Mr. Abram M. Orpen's outlawed half-mile track at Dufferin Park, Toronto. And, dealing first with the argument of reputable names, there is no doubt that they were furnished by the Toronto and Hamilton clubs. The president, vice-president and second vice-president of the Toronto Jockey Club were, or had been, among the most prominent men in Parliament at Ottawa, whilst on the directorate was Hon. Col. John S. Hendrie, then a member of the Ontario Government, and now Sir John Hendrie, Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario, and other gentlemen prominent in social and financial circles in Toronto. Also the president and first vice-president of the Hamilton club were, or had been, members of the Parliament

of Canada; a judge was second vice-president, and there was another member of Parliament on the directorate.

ENORMOUS PROFITS.

"At the time of the inquiry at Ottawa in 1910 these clubs were earning for their sportsmen shareholders, the one about 700 per cent. per annum on the actual investment, and the other about 1,700 per cent. Nothing like it was ever known in the United States, the country of the origin of the joint stock jockey club. The Hamilton club, with a total paid-up capital of \$4,050, was making a clear profit after paying all expenses of \$70,000 a year; whilst the Toronto club, with a total paid-up capital of \$10,000, earned in 1909 a little less in clear profit than the Hamilton club, the exact amount being \$66,678.

FAMILY REAPS PROFITS.

"And Sir John Hendrie appeared before the Special Committee and dwelt upon the sacrifices his family had made in the interests of horse-breeding and horse-racing. His whole income from this source, he said, were his director's fees and \$10, which he received as dividend on the share of stock in the club owned by him. But when the books of the club were brought down, they showed that Sir John and other members of the Hendrie family owned more than a third of the stock of the club, and that their stock, which had cost them \$3,400 was earning more than \$20,000 a year.

EARNING 1,700 PER CENT.

"The same family also owned a considerable block of the stock of the Hamilton club, and though Major Wil-