

government and overthrow the rule of the Beast by freeing our elections from the control of the corporations. The same Legislature killed the bill giving the people a court in which to contest a fraudulent franchise-election, although the attorneys for the corporations had contended in my court that, until such a bill was passed, there was no court on earth in which the people could recover the hundred million dollars' worth of public property that had been stolen from them by the franchise-election frauds. When the bill was killed, the Legislature was controlled by the corporation machine that elected Chas. J. Hughes to the United States Senate; and Chas. J. Hughes was one of the attorneys who defended the corporations in the franchise-election contests. When the bill was killed its fate depended most upon a "Special Orders" committee of three men, of whom two were Senator "Billy" Adams, the most notorious corporation champion in the Senate, and Senator Rodney J. Bardwell, the paid attorney of the Gas and Electric Company. And this same Bardwell introduced, and the Legislature gaily passed, two bills giving the Gas and Electric Company "special privileges" in prosecuting persons who stole gas or electricity, by practically providing that the accused person in such cases should be required to prove himself innocent or go to jail for as much as ninety days for stealing gas! No bill to protect the people