

MR. WEISSER'S REMARKS.

Candidate Corrects Printed Version of Statements About the Bar.

To the Editor of *The New York Times*:

In your issue of Aug. 7, under the heading "Whalen and Tammany Scored on City Crime," there is attributed to me the following statement:

The New York bar is in danger of losing its self-respect. The investigations being conducted by the city reveal that our lawyers are involved in all kinds of illegal practice. The entire bar is suffering through these men.

I desire to state that I was misquoted. I stated that:

A "bossed judiciary" was a menace to the bar and the public. That it resulted in the selection of incompetent and unfit judges who were chosen for political expediency rather than on the basis of merit. That a "hand-picked judiciary" bred a weak and cowardly bar and that these conditions, together with the recent Bar Association investigations of the legal profession, resulted in the loss of the public respect due the profession and the undermining of the confidence of the public in the integrity and honor of the bench and bar.

I did not say, as is attributed to me, "that the New York bar is in danger of losing its self-respect," nor did I state that "lawyers are involved in all kinds of illegal practice." The fact has been established by the recent ambulance-chasing and other investigations that the legal profession, as a whole, is untainted by these illegal practices and that by far the great majority of lawyers in our city are men of high moral standards and entitled to the respect and confidence of the public. They need no justification from any source.

I did state "that the principle of non-partisanship should be applied to the selection of judges, and hope and confidently believe that enlightened public opinion, augmented by spirited cooperation of the bar associations in this city, will bring about, in the very near future, this reform in our judicial system."

As I am a candidate for the Municipal Court bench in the Fifth District, Brooklyn, I think it is especially advisable that you make this correction. BUDD S. WEISSER.

New York, Aug. 8, 1929.

Mrs. Willebrandt's Own Words.

To the Editor of *The New York Times*:

I acknowledge the great service to truth and public information which THE TIMES is rendering in the publication of the Willebrandt articles, and I, with many others, am grateful for it. But it is too bad to mar such a splendid piece of newspaper enterprise by allowing headline writers to falsify the facts by untruthful headlines. The headline of Chapter IV, "Enforcing Prohibition by Murder," is a flagrant example of such falsification. It does not describe anything in the article but contradicts everything in the article. Mrs. Willebrandt does not once refer to any killing by prohibition agents as "murder," and every intelligent newspaper man knows what really constitutes "murder." Killing in self-defense is not murder, and killing criminals in the act of resisting arrest with guns in their hands is not murder. Even careless or reckless shooting by officers of the law when confronted by criminals who resist arrest or otherwise defy the law, and are known to be potential killers themselves, is not murder.

Mrs. Willebrandt's article shows very plainly that the murder is all on the other side. The headline is a falsehood. EUGENE THWING.

Ridgewood, N. J., Aug. 8, 1929.

The chapter headings to which this letter refers as "headlines" are those of Mrs. Willebrandt and not of THE TIMES.—Editor, NEW YORK TIMES.

Fresh-Air Fund Needs Aid.

To the Editor of *The New York Times*:

More than nine hundred children and their worn mothers are still waiting on the "hopeful lists" of the New York Protestant Episcopal City Mission Society to be sent to this organization's fresh-air centres this Summer.

This organization has increased the capacity of its country homes and camps to accommodate 1,676 of the boys and girls and mothers. This number have, in consequence, received a tentative promise of a vacation, depending on whether or not the Fresh-Air Fund of the organization would be large enough to make it possible. Thus far only 766 children and mothers have enjoyed this holiday privilege this Summer. The society has still to raise \$15,925. or \$17.50 for each child's two-week vacation. Checks should be made payable to Eugene W. Stetson, treasurer, and mailed to 38 Bleeker Street, in care of the Fresh-Air Fund. L. E. SUNDERLAND.

New York, Aug. 2, 1929.

Aid Wanted for Brooklyn Children.

To the Editor of *The New York Times*:

In the annual exodus of sick babies to the Seaside Home and Hospital of the Brooklyn Children's Aid Society and older boys and girls to the country homes and camps more than 2,000 have been reached already this Summer.

If the under-privileged children of our community are to return to school this Fall capable of performing their educational tasks successfully, and with physical resistance equal to the rigors of the Winter months, they must have behind them a happy Summer of work and play, with plenty of wholesome food and nights of sound, refreshing sleep. We hope every reader of this letter will assume a share in this mutual task commensurate with his or her ability. Checks may be made payable to the Brooklyn Children's Aid Society and sent to 72 Schermerhorn Street. O. T. LYTLE.

Brooklyn, Aug. 3, 1929.

Steam Engines Before Watt's Time

To the Editor of *The New York Times*:

With all due respect for the Columbia professor who in answering the Edison questionnaire said that James Watt invented the steam engine, he is wrong by several cylinderfuls and over 200 years.

In 1543 de Gary and in 1615 de Caus utilized steam pressure for producing work; the Marquis of Worcester in 1663 contributed to the development; in 1698 Savery built a steam engine, and in 1705 he and Newcomen made further progress. In 1769 Watt patented the condenser.

ROBERT GRIMSHAW.

New York, Aug. 3, 1929.