

# Treasurer's Report for September 1902

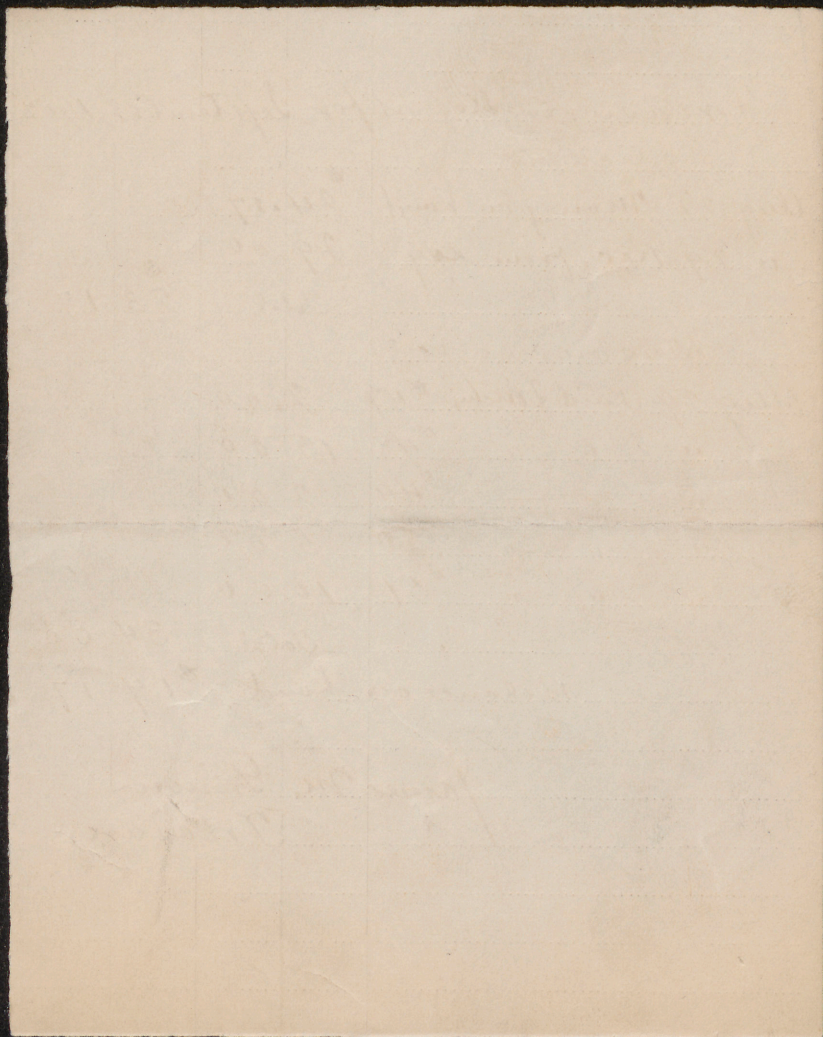
## Receipts

Aug 27	Money on hand	\$ 24.17		
" 29	Rec. from Leg	29 00		
	Total		53	17

## Disbursements

Aug 29	Paid Voucher #47	2.00		
" "	" " #48	15 00		
" "	" " #49	2 00		
" "	" " #50	5 00		
" "	" " #51	10 00		
	Total		34	00
	Balance on hand	\$ 19	17	

James M. Grinn  
Treasurer





40-107 DEARBORN STREET, CHICAGO. Dec. 18th, '02 190

To the President & Members of the Chicago Civil Service League,  
Gentlemen:--

It is with great regret that I find it impossible to present this report in person. It does not seem possible that a year has passed since my last annual report to the League was made, but I am reminded by my calendar that another report is due.

It is noticeable that while the number of cases which have received the attention of the Civil Service Commission has not diminished ~~number~~ during the last year, the number of cases arising within the membership of the League has diminished very considerably.

The Thome and ODonnel case has been advanced to the position where it can be taken up on notice by your counsel at any time. It is only just to say that the matter has depended entirely, during the last three months, upon the condition of Mr. Fyfe, assistant corporation counsel, who has the matter in charge. As is well known, Mr. Fyfe has only within the last few days, come out of the hospital after undergoing a serious operation. In view of the fact that the Court would grant any reasonable extension of time to counsel, or the Board, upon motion, it is a matter simply of granting without order of Court, what the Court would order as a matter of course.

The most important matters for immediate consideration are in connection with the appointment of a successor to the late commissioner J.W. Ela. A successor will undoubtedly, be appointed before many days, and while the League, as an organization, cannot wisely, in my judgement, make any personal recommendations, it would be entirely within the line of its duty to make the general suggestion over its official signatures to the appointing power, the Mayor of Chicago, that the Civil Service League expects



Dec. 1945, '02

To the President & Members of the Chicago Civil Service League,

Dear Sirs:--

It is with great regret that I find it impossible to present this report in person. It does not seem possible that a year has passed since my last annual report to the League was made, but I am reminded by my colleagues that another report is due.

It is unfortunate that while the number of cases which have received the attention of the Civil Service Commission has not diminished in the last year, the number of cases which have been referred to the League has diminished very considerably.

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that no backward steps will be taken in Civil Service matters, and that the standard of ability heretofore attained in the Civil Service Commission, will be maintained in the appointment of a successor to the late Mr. Ela.

Another matter which it may be well to consider, is the possibility of the enactment of a State Civil Service law at the coming session of the legislature. Every member of the Board, if he approves the draft of the bill to be presented, ought to notify his representative in the House and the Senate of his position with reference to Civil Service and to urge that the bill should become a law. It is also definitely known that efforts will be made to amend the municipal Civil Service Law under which members of this League are employed. Amendments will be proposed by the real friends of the Law, as well as by its enemies. The friends of Civil Service, generally, will do well if they succeed in preventing such changes as will go toward destroying the usefulness of the law. It will be more than we have any right to expect, if the friends of the law are able to have it improved by amendment.

There should be a committee on legislative action appointed, whose duty it shall be to accumulate all the information available with reference to action which may be taken to Springfield.

I desire also to recommend the appointment of a committee of your membership, under the name of a library committee or some similar designation, of which it shall be the duty to procure and preserve everything in the way of Civil Service literature, reports, periodicals, decisions of courts, or any matter, which in future years, may be of great value to the League. This would include copies of the reports made by the United States Civil Service commission, the Civil Service Commission of New York and Mass., together with the publications of various Civil Service associations, wherever they may be located. This in my judgement, should not be an expensive enterprise, and feeling as I do, that the Chicago Civil Service League is an institution which will find a wider field of usefulness, as time goes on, it



that no such work should be done in the Civil Service Commission, and that the  
standard of ability should be maintained in the Civil Service Commission.  
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Another matter which may be well to consider, is the possibility  
of the enactment of a State Civil Service law at the coming session of the  
Legislature. Every member of the Board, it is supposed the draft of the bill  
to be presented ought to notify his representative in the House and the  
Senate of his position with reference to Civil Service and to urge that the  
bill should become a law. It is also definitely known that efforts will be  
made to amend the present Civil Service law under which members of this  
Board are employed. Amendments will be proposed by the next friends of the  
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will do well if they succeed in preventing such changes as will go toward  
destroying the essentialness of the law. It will be more than we have  
to expect, if the friends of the law are able to have it amended in a way  
which would be a complete on legislative action is needed.  
those who will be to communicate all the information available with  
reference to the subject, which is to be held.

I desire also to recommend the appointment of a committee of  
your membership under the name of a library committee or some similar designation  
of which it shall be the duty to procure and preserve everything in the  
United Civil Service literature, reports, periodicals, decisions of a court,  
or whatever, which in future years may be of great value to the Bureau.  
This would include copies of the reports made by the United States Civil  
Service Commission, the Civil Service Commission of New York and Mass.,  
together with the publications of various Civil Service associations, wherever  
they may be located. This is my suggestion, should not be an expensive  
affair, and I do not think the United Civil Service law as an  
institution with a wide field of usefulness as this goes on.



become more than a merely local association with merely a selfish interest  
to preserve.

Very Respectfully Submitted  
Walter H. Starn



to reserve. (The above is a copy of the original document.)

to reserve.



**Lionel A. Bell.**  
REAL ESTATE, FIRST MORTGAGE LOANS  
FIRE INSURANCE  
107 DEARBORN STREET, CHICAGO  
TELEPHONE CENTRAL 3587

Dec. 18th, '02

To the president, Board of Directors and Members of the Chicago Civil Service League,  
gentlemen:--

In submitting this, my second annual report as Sec'y. of the League, I shall be very brief owing to the volume of business to be transacted this evening.

The close of our first year showed a net membership, including those under suspension for non-payment of dues, of 78 members. This year we have a net membership, including reinstatements, of 143. It is a source of congratulation that the membership improves steadily, and that the position of the League as a factor for good, continues to grow stronger. The possibilities for future usefulness were never so encouraging as at the present time.

The first real important test to be applied to the Civil Service system in Chicago, will be found in the administration of the next Mayor of Chicago and it behooves every member to be vigilant. There should be no cessation in the reports made by individual members to the Board of Directors, of all infringements upon the law, whether members of this league suffer thereby or not. This body with proper management and interest upon the part of its members shall possess as complete a knowledge of Civil Service matters in Chicago as that of the Civil Service Commission itself. In making the above suggestions, I do not say with a full knowledge, that the usefulness of this organization depends entirely upon its knowledge of the manner in which the law is administered by the heads of the city departments, who are in most cases hostile to the law. I would advise that the Board of Directors take some immediate action in seeking aid of daily press to urge the appointment of a man of high integrity and respect for the law to fill the vacancy created







by the death of the late John W. Ela.

Trusting that the coming year may show the same ratio in advancement, I beg to remain,

Respectfully yours,

Leonel A. Bell  
Secretary



