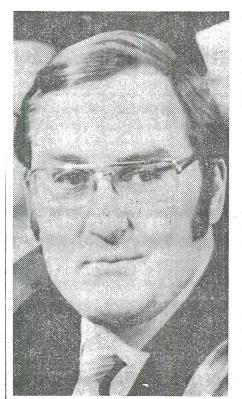
Chicago Is Having Its Own Watergate By Ronald Clarke Out 4/2017



JAMES THOMPSON ... Republican U.S. attorney

CHICAGO, April 18-It is being called the Chicago Watergate. Here, as in Washington, political party members and former aides are being indicted.

But, in Chicago, it is the Democrats, not Republicans, who are facing charges and the aides worked not for President Nixon but for Mayor Richard Daley, one of the most powerful Democrats in the United States.

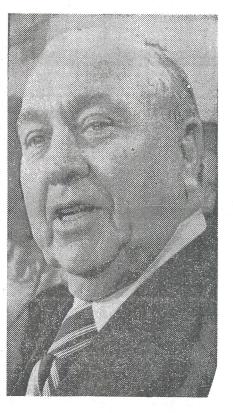
Prosecutor James Thompson-a Republican who is expected to oppose Daley in the election for mayor next year - has announced indictments against a former state governor, an alderman and two former aldermen. two former top aides to the mayor and other Daley stalwarts.

Members of the U.S. attorney's office, headed by Thompson, said more indictments can be expected as the investigation into official corruption

Daley maintains the affair is a vendetta. Thompson dismisses such claims as "political bunk."

No one has accused the 71-year-old mayor of any wrongdoing, but the Chicago Tribune said in an editorial: "The filing of Democratic kingpins into the federal dock has become a procession. ... The list is long and getting longer.

See AIDES, A9, Col. 2



RICHARD DALEY ... Democratic mayor

AIDES, From A1

It is also getting nearer to the enter of power."

The Chicago Daily News ing projects. said: "The plain fact is that permit any conclusion that there is an uncommon lot of it around, and that the corruption, or a lot of it, originates Attorney include: in the political system administered by the local Democratic organization."

The latest in the line of accused is Matthew Danaher, 47, and neighbor of the mayor.

conspiring to defraud the U.S. clerk, convicted on charges of government, to receive illegal tax evasion in connection with vestigator, who has pleaded pected to seek an unprece-

tax payments in connection with an alleged \$400,000 bribery scheme concerning build-

He is now a circuit court the odor of corruption is far clerk but the charges relate to too strong and enduring to when Danaher was working for the mayor.

> Other prominent Democrats who have been United States

Otto Kerner and Theodore Isaacs, a key member of the Kerner administration, convicted on charges of tax eva-Daley's former administrative sion, mail fraud and bribery in assistant and a long-time friend connection with an alleged racecourse scandal: and Ed-Danaher is charged with ward Barrett, former county

voting machine contracts.

Earl Bush, Daley's former press aide, awaiting trial on machine, which can guarantee charges of mail fraud.

Alderman Paul Wigoda, awaiting trial on charges of extortion and tax evasion.

Former Alderman Joseph Jambrone, found guilty of tax evasion. The charges were dismissed when he died while ap-Former Illinois Governor pealing against his conviction.

> Former Alderman Hubbard, who pleaded guilty to a charge of embezzling funds from a jobs program.

Democratic district committeeman Frank Kuta, awaiting trial on bribery charges.

John Clarke, a City Hall in-

profits and to evade income | alleged illegal payments on | guilty to charges of tax evasion and obstructing justice.

The ability of Daley to avoid scandal within his Democratic a big vote-turn out for a Daley candidate. Remained untarnished until Thompson became United States Attorney

Thompson maintains he has a 100 per cent conviction rate on political corruption.

Many people believe he will leave his office next year in an attempt to become mayor. Thompson, who, at 37, is one of the city's most eligible bachelors, refuses to say he will challenge Daley, but he does not deny it.

Daley has not said he will seek re-election, but he is ex-

medians in city night clubs can Daley replied: "Undoubtedly." city works. already win a laugh with such jokes as ': "Big Jim is in favor of housing rezoning. He wants all Democrats in one big house, called jail."

Thompson, whose crusade against official corruption has also led to 40 policemen being convicted on a variety of to reporters in the past to recharges, points out his office member that an indictment is against republicans as well as said: "What always amazes me democrats, but in a city con- is that the mayor sometimes trolled by Democrats, the big seems to forget that a convicnames have been democrats.

call the series of indictments a an indictment, but never after vendetta would be putting it a conviction."

dented sixth four-year term. | ference if he felt Thompson | moment, Thompson admits, is Thompson addresses num- was trying to smear him and on Daley winning a sixth term erous meetings and appears if he believed Thompson was as mayor. Many people in Chito be already campaigning. Co- already running for mayor, cago say that under Daley the

Thompson heatedly denied that he was waging a vendetta. "It is political bunk," he said. "It is simply not true. I don't intend to spend my time in office sitting on my hands and ignoring corruption."

Referring to Daley's advice obtained indictments not a conviction, Thompson tion is a conviction. He's al-. Daley said recently that to ways willing to comment after

mildly. Asked at a press con- But the smart money at the