

## Scott Inquest Set for Today

The bullet which killed Eugene Scott, negro bellboy, of 2024 Burt street, Monday morning, is still the subject of mysterious silence.

Dr. S. McCleneghan, who was instructed by the county attorney to weigh the bullet, has not yet put it on the scales.

Michael Dempsey, chief investigator for the county attorney's office, refused today to express his opinion as to the character of the bullet.

The size, weight and markings of the cartridge, police say, will reveal the identity of the man who killed Scott.

Special Officer Holman of the Union Pacific railroad, whom police booked for investigation, denies any guilt for the shooting. He says he aimed up in the air. His gun was a .38-caliber revolver.

Officer Brigham of the police morals' squad, who chased Scott from Hotel Plaza and who shot twice as he ran down the alley from Fourteenth to Thirteenth streets, says that he didn't shoot Scott. He also says that he pointed his gun skyward as he pulled the trigger. Brigham's revolver was a .38-caliber "special," loading a larger cartridge than Holman's revolver.

The inquest into the killing of Scott will be held this morning at 9 o'clock in room No. 1 at the county court house.

FOUR

## CITY VOTES TO SEE BOOKS OF LANDLORDS

**Mayor, Protesting, Says Rent  
Profiteer Inquiry Waste  
of Time.**

**Says City Can't Help Situa-  
tion Even if Landlords Are  
at Fault.**

The city commission adopted, four to three, Tuesday resolution by City Commissioner Butler, directing an examination of the books of Omaha landlords, their tax assessments and payments and their income tax returns. The resolution makes no provision for employment of special accountants, but Butler expects to take up that matter at today's meeting.

Butler, Ringer, Towl and Falconer supported the resolution. Mayor Smith and Commissioners Ure and Zimman opposed it, declaring that, in the absence of authority to regulate rents, it could accomplish no good.

"I am against this for two reasons," said the mayor. "In the first place the city cannot spend money for this purpose legally. In the second place, such an investigation will get us nowhere. What if we find that landlords are profiteering? We can't do anything about it. Of course, the proposal to examine income tax returns is silly; we can't do that."

"We don't need to consider whether or not we can until we try," retorted Butler. "I don't think that we should sit here and let the people be milked by a lot of real estate bloodsuckers."

"This commission ought to encourage building, not discourage it," continued the mayor. "There is a very great shortage of stores, offices and homes in Omaha. I am told that the city is 3,000 short on dwellings alone. What we should do is encourage men to spend money in building more. To discourage such enterprise, by investigations that get nowhere, actually hurts the man who must rent property, instead of helping him. His only relief is the building of more buildings, which will relieve the shortage. When we do things which discourage building, we act to maintain high rents."

Ringer and Falconer said that they favored the resolution because some real estate men, at least, had invited the commission to examine their books.

WH 3 September 1919 – Scott Inquest – Rent Inquest