

# 20 More Vote Fraud Indictments Expected

BY GEORGE BLISS

The federal grand jury that indicted 40 persons for vote fraud last week will soon return at least 20 more indictments, it was learned by The Tribune yesterday.

The grand jury investigation before Federal Judge Edwin A. Robson has centered on Tribune Task Force disclosures of widespread vote fraud in the March primary election.

Sen. Percy (R., Ill.) told The Tribune yesterday that he will call for an in-depth congressional investigation of vote fraud in Cook County.

Percy has asked U. S. Atty. Gen. Richard Kleindienst to bring the Federal Bureau of In-

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vestigation in "full force" to Cook County to find and stop possible vote fraud before the Nov. 7 election.

FBI agents have fanned out thruout Chicago, talking to Democratic ward bosses and election judges to follow up on information turned over to the government by the Task Force. Scores of persons have been subpoenaed on the information found, The Tribune learned.

The Task Force also has learned that:

- The federal government is considering filing a civil suit in Federal District Court, charging Stanley T. Kusper, chairman of the Board of Election Commissioners, with illegal vote procedures.

- Justice Department officials are watching the Election Board to see that no effort is being made to destroy possible vote fraud evidence.

- The federal government is also closely following Kusper's public statements on the vote fraud issue and checking to determine if he is misleading the public as he defends

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# 20 More Face Indictment in Federal Vote Fraud Probe

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his office against fraud charges.

The Tribune has learned that the federal government may file a suit similar to one filed in 1970 by the United States attorney that charged the board with illegal procedures in voter registration and assisting voters.

Judge Joseph Sam Perry of Federal District Court dismissed the case and upheld the board on Oct. 21, 1970, only days before the election. Federal officials said they had no time to appeal before the election.

On Thursday Kuser claimed that federal officials have refused the board the

right to look at records that were subpoenaed by the grand jury.

However, a federal official told The Tribune that the federal government has a tape recording of a conversation between a federal official and a board attorney that indicates the board refused an offer to look at the records.

"Come on over and look at the records anytime," the federal official reportedly says on the tape.

"We're not in a hurry. We'll come over some other time," is the alleged reply of the board attorney.

Justice Department officials are reportedly indignant over Kuser's claims that his office

is not responsible for vote fraud and has no jurisdiction over polling places.

"If Kuser hasn't got it [the authority], who the hell does?" asked one federal official.

James R. Thompson, United States attorney here, has said that Kuser is "overlooking a few things" such as the fact that the board hires, supervises, and issues orders to judges in precincts.

Tribune Task Force Reporter William Mullen uncovered evidence of vote fraud when he infiltrated the board's office by working as a \$20 a day clerk.