OLD POLICE STATION MAY GO

Fate of "Harrison Street" Hangs in the Balance.

PUBLISHERS WANT TO BUILD

Big Structure Sure If Council Committee Returns Favorable Decision.

The fate of the old Harrison street police station swings in the balance before the council committee on local industries while it considers the request of Rand McNally & Co. for the vacation of an alley beside the building.

Upon the decision of the committee largely rests the plan of the publishing house to take advantage of its leasehold on the station site and adjoining property to erect a new building covering the south one-third of the block between Harrison and Van Buren streets, and Clark and La Salle streets.

Decision Due Soon.

As soon as this plan is determined the city's possession of the station site must be relinquished upon sixty days' notice and at the end of that period the old, dilapidated structure will be torn down. The committee listened to all arguments in the case and then took it under advisement with a promise of a vote at the next meeting.

The company requested the vacation of a north and south alley in return for which they agreed to dedicate a short strip through to La Salle street, giving the blocks only a right angle passage through it. Members of the committee, in response to the objections of property owners presented by Ald. Michael Kenna, insisted that the company should open an east and west alley all the way through the block forming a " T " with the alley running north to Van Buren street.

School Board Satisfied.

Dr. J. B. McFatrich, president of the school board from which the Rand McNally interests obtained their lease, with Frank I. Bennett, chairman of the finance committee, and other members of the board, presented their contention that the board owns the alley now presented the vacation and that the city government should not object to its relinquishment. Ald. Lewis D. Sitts, and Ald. Arthur W. Fulton, members of a subcommittee which investigated the matter, asked that a sixteen foot alley be cut entirely through the block.