

EXTRAS IN NEW POLICE STATION COST \$500,000

Paid by Transfer of Council Funds.

Due to changes in plans, the new Police and Courts building at 11th and State streets, to be occupied next week, has cost the city more than a half million dollars in "extras," it was disclosed yesterday.

The fourteen story structure will house the general downtown police offices, including the detective bureau, No. 1 and 1-A and South Clark street details, and five branches of the Municipal court to be taken out of the city hall. The detective bureau, now quartered at the South Clark street station, will start moving its equipment into the new building today.

A \$2,500,000 bond issue for constructing the new building was voted in February, 1925. Estimates then were that this would be ample to complete and equip the structure on the original contracts, totaling \$2,278,949. However, a report from the council finance committee staff yesterday showed an "extra" \$505,144 to have been spent.

"When former Police Commissioner Michael Hughes took office he decided that the plans approved by his predecessor, Morgan A. Collins, should be altered," explained Ald. John Clark [30th], chairman of the committee. "We had to shift some offices around, enlarge some, and reduce others. Each

of these changes added 'extra' items to the bill. The finance committee objected, but there was nothing to do but pay. We paid."

From One Fund to Oother.

In paying, the aldermen took the money needed from another bond fund, that which was voted for police stations in the outlying stations, a total of \$379,479, and spent it on the loop building. The staff's tabulation shows how the building's finances were handled:

EXPENSES.	
Original contracts	\$2,278,949
Alteration "extras"	506,144
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Total expenses	\$2,895,093
CASH FROM BONDS.	
Building bond fund	\$2,495,614
Station bond fund	379,479
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Total from bonds	\$2,895,093

At the last meeting of the city council, Ald. John Chapman [40th] protested against the transfer of bond funds, declaring that as a result work on the new Irving Park police station in his ward had been halted. He asked in vain for reconsideration of the last transfer, involving \$140,125.