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REFORM CLAIMS BIG IMPROVEMENT

Heads of the Various Departments Appointed by Mayor Low Declare that the Year Just Closed Has Been Marked by Many Radical Changes for the Better in the City.

Police, Fire, Health, Street-Cleaning and Charities Departments All Show Definite Advancement—Some Interesting Statistics Quoted to Show Comparison with Tammany Regime.

TO-DAY ends for all practical purposes one year of reform government in the city of New York. The Evening World presents in concise form the result of that year as it appears from the reports of the various heads of departments chosen by Mayor Low to carry out his ideas. It will be seen from these reports that the commissioners are well satisfied with themselves—including Police Commissioner Partridge, whose defense of his control of the Police Department appeared first on the day he handed in his resignation.

The Park Commission asserts that during the year 1902 great improvements have been made in the people's playgrounds. A study of the statistics concerning this important branch of the city government is quite interesting.

The Health Department shows many commendable improvements made, particularly in the way of increasing healthfulness in the tenements. Dr. Lederle shows that the death-rate has been decreased, that there has been a reduction in the number of cases of dangerous contagious diseases and that the public health generally has been improved.

In the Department of Charities the most important reform was the enforcement of discipline and the general cleaning up of the institutions for the care of the sick and indigent. Of all the reports present that of Commissioner Folks will probably excite the most interest among the people of the city.

Commissioner Woodbury shows that the Street-Cleaning Department has been kept up to its high standard of efficiency. The Fire Commissioner defends his department. Comptroller Grout gives interesting details concerning the Department of Finance.

STREET-CLEANING DEPARTMENT.

Street-Cleaning Commissioner John McGaw Woodbury said: "The sweeping of this city has been done with an average total force of 2,484 men. They have swept 412 miles of streets in the boroughs of Manhattan and the Bronx and 496 miles in the borough of Brooklyn each day. Thirty per cent. of the sweeping of this city has been done with a horse and man, and the rest with steam rollers. It would be able to do even better or at least to make a better physical showing but for the fact that there are fourteen miles of open subway cuts in Manhattan, and from these cuts are carried daily to the rivers 5,112 cubic yards of earth and rock per day.

There are in process of construction 1,289 buildings in the borough of Manhattan alone; there are hauled daily to the rivers from these buildings about 5,000 cubic yards of cellar dirt. There are 1,588 feet of gas main being laid and 5.43 miles opened for repairs. There are about 129 miles of water main being laid, and the telephone, steam-heating and electric companies have 22.18 miles of surface torn up for the purpose of building subways and repairing plants. While the surface of the city is in such a condition of upheaval the work of this department is rendered exceedingly difficult.

The character of the inhabitants upon the east side of the city, south of East Houston street and east of Broadway, is such that within the boundaries of the Fourteenth and Sixteenth street sweeping sections, namely, from Broome street to East Houston street, and from Broadway to the East River, there are of this department eighteen tons of dirt picked from the street by the sweepers each day. This is not the garbage exposed in this district, but is the refuse and offal thrown from the windows of the tenement-houses, falling between curb line and curb line. This eighteen tons must be picked by hand daily from the surface of the street, in order that it may not be mixed with the ashes and street sweepings in making the thoroughfares habitable by the method of daily washing with a hose the first, second and fourth districts, namely, south of Canal street, east of Broadway and south of East Eleventh street. We have been during all these months daily washing with hose-gangs all of these streets that we possibly could cover, certain of them every day, others of them every other day until the entire district has been covered. This was rendered possible by the loaning to this department of thirty lengths of condemned fire hose by the Fire Commissioner and by the purchase of 5,600 feet of hose by this department.

In the Boroughs of the Bronx and Manhattan there has been an increase of 22,104 loads collected during the months of July, August and September in 1902 over 1901, and an increase of 17,883 loads over 1901. Also, that while there were 206,219 loads of material collected under the guise of ashes in 1901, yet there were only 45,474 loads of garbage collected in that year, while in 1902 we collected 62,589 loads of garbage. This almost distinctly shows not only a generally increased collection

(Continued on Second Page.)

WHY SLEUTH JACOBS GAVE HIMSELF UP

Got a Hint to Surrender in Order that Robert Fulton Cutting Might Be Released from His Bond.

NOBODY'S DARLING NOW.

Disowned by Jerome, He Courts Arrest, Gets Writ of Habeas Corpus and Is Paroled in Counsel's Custody.

One must not be very wise to catch a sleuth in deep disguise. —Post Abe Gruber.

Sleuth Jacobs finally succeeded in breaking into jail to-day. Then he broke out again through the aid of writs of certiorari and habeas corpus and was taken before Justice Scott, of the Supreme Court, to have reviewed the proceedings on which he had been arrested and committed on a charge of perjury brought by Samuel G. Hitchins, who alleged that the sleuth never entered the house at No. 33 West Thirty-third street and played roulette, as he had sworn.

Jacobs' Real Reason. It is reported that the real reason why the "rubber-faced detective" surrendered himself was because he had been informed that R. Fulton Cutting, who had gone on his bail bond, wished to be relieved. The intimation was conveyed to Jacobs, it is said, that it would be well for him to surrender himself voluntarily and save Mr. Cutting the embarrassment of going to jail.

The report has it that Mr. Cutting has never sanctioned the spectacular methods of Jacobs, but that as long as these appeared to forecast results he gave them his tacit support. But when Jacobs was accused of perjury and a warrant issued for his arrest, he was told by Mr. Cutting that it was about time for him to draw out of all connection with the star Citizen Union sleuth. Jacobs appeared before Justice Scott in the Supreme Court to-day in the custody of Keeper John Brady, of the Yorkville prison.

The Alleged Perjury. According to the affidavit of Hitchins and R. Fulton Cutting, Jacobs was arrested, and the writ of habeas corpus was issued on the ground that it requires more than one witness to maintain a charge of perjury.

Disowned by Jerome. Jacobs has been disowned by District Attorney Jerome, who says he is not a county detective, but a Citizens' Union detective, and Assistant District Attorney Ganey was particular to say to the reporters that he was present not as Jacobs' representative, but to watch the proceeding for his chief.

Then Austen G. Fox, who used to be the chief counsel for the Citizens' Union, appeared and said he had "come to defend this poor fellow Jacobs, who had been made the victim of Col. Gruber's ingenious devices."

Mr. Fox then recited the case and declared that Hitchins, a prisoner held by Justice Scott, had said he had "come to defend this poor fellow Jacobs, who had been made the victim of Col. Gruber's ingenious devices."

Justice Scott will announce his decision Tuesday noon.

Meantime Jacobs is paroled in the custody of his counsel, and the dignified Mr. Fox must have the sleuth in court again at that time.

It took a lot of time and energy to reach this legal status in behalf of Jacobs. As must be in anything having to do with the face manipulator and the rubber-faced sleuth, there was also much mystery. Magistrate Brann, Assistant District Attorney Sanford, Abe Gruber, Daniel O'Reilly and numerous others were so tangled up over the plot laid by the wily Jacobs to break into jail, that the sleuth almost had to stay locked up over night—something he wasn't looking for.

A Legal Tangle. The opening scene in the plot was at the Yorkville Court when the sleuth appeared at noon yesterday and told the court officers that he wanted to surrender himself. His examination in the morning was held at 11 o'clock to-night. The second demand that the body of Jacobs, which was alleged to be in Gruber's possession, be brought to court at 10 o'clock to-night.

MRS. ANNA TWELVETREE, WHO DIED MYSTERIOUSLY.



STEAMSHIP MINNETONKA SAFE BUT DISABLED.

American Vessel Bound for Boston, and Now at Bermuda, Was Towed Miles by Steamship Colonia, When Big Hawsers Broke.

A despatch received here says that the American steamship Minnetonka, Capt. Fowler, which left Newport, England, Nov. 30, for Boston, has arrived at Bermuda in distress.

The British steamer Colonia arrived at Portland, Me., Dec. 20 and reported that nine hundred miles off Halifax she fell in with the Minnetonka disabled and lifeboats washed overboard.

The Colonia towed the Minnetonka for twelve hours, when hawsers parted and threatening weather compelled the Colonia to proceed.

The Minnetonka then rigged up a temporary steering gear, and after steaming 1,700 miles arrived at Bermuda.

It was explained that Jacobs had surrendered himself, Abe Gruber, who appeared for Hitchins, said he was willing to have the matter taken before Justice Scott, and to make the record straight Magistrate Brann ordered Jacobs committed at 3:15 o'clock. This meant that he would have to stay locked up all night. The sleuth grew pale. His rescue was succeeding too well.

Then Mr. Gruber came to the sleuth's rescue, while Mr. O'Reilly grinned amiably. "Let him surrender himself again in the morning," said Mr. Gruber, and the Magistrate so ordered.

So Jacobs turned up at 9 o'clock this morning in Yorkville Court and was duly taken to a cell. "At last," he muttered like the real, real thing in a detective. After five minutes the two writs were again served and Jacobs was taken out and down to Justice Scott's Court, where the writs were argued.

BURGLARS IN A CONVENT.

Expected to Find Big Christmas Collections.

Burglars broke into the Convent of the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth, connected with St. Stanislaus Church, at the corner of Driggs avenue and Humboldt street, Greenpoint, Christmas night, and stole 12 silver spoons, 8 silver knives and 6 silver forks, and 17 cents in money, the latter from the pocketbook of Sister Chelina.

Two masses were held in the church on Christmas day, at both of which unusually large collections were taken in, and it is supposed that the burglars expected to get that money, which, however, was locked up in the safe of Father Leo Wyslacki.

WEATHER FORECAST. Forecast for the thirty-six hours ending at 8 P. M. Sunday for New York City and vicinity—Fair to-night and Sunday; continued cold until Monday night; fresh westerly winds.

BEAUTY DEAD BY POISON UNCLAIMED

Unless Twelvetree, Missing Since Wife's Mysterious Death, Appears Soon, Body Will Go to Morgue.

STRANGE NOISES HEARD.

Coroner's Physician in His Autopsy Found Traces of What Appeared to Be Mercury—Rumor of Suicide and Quarrel

Coroner's Physician O'Hanlon declares that in his autopsy on the body of Mrs. Anna Twelvetree he found what appears to be mercurial poison, possibly contained in photographic chemicals. This only deepens the mystery surrounding the death of the woman.

The police of the West Sixty-eighth street police station are looking for her husband, Charles Twelvetree, concerning whom they know little or nothing. Much mystery surrounds the identity of the couple.

The wife, a young and beautiful woman of evident Hungarian blood and of a refined type, was taken from the handsome apartments she and Twelvetree had occupied at No. 35 West Eighty-third street early yesterday morning. Her husband carried her to an ambulance, which took her to Roosevelt Hospital, where she died soon after, without being able to make a statement. From that moment Twelvetree has been missing. He has not claimed the body of his wife, and it will be sent to the morgue unless some one claims it soon.

The mystery is added to by the fact that unusual noises were heard in the home of the couple shortly before the woman was taken away dying. The other occupants of the Eighty-third street apartment house complained to Janitor William Hennessey early yesterday that there was too much noise and confusion in the Twelvetree apartment to permit the other tenants to sleep. Hennessey went to the rooms and there saw both Mr. and Mrs. Twelvetree.

They told him they did not know they were making so much noise and promised to be more quiet. The annoyance complained of was a continual heavy walking, possibly a pounding, with other noises.

At 3 o'clock an ambulance from Roosevelt Hospital arrived and a woman was carried into it. At 7 o'clock a young man, a stranger whom the janitor had never seen before, called on Hennessey and asked him to lock the door of the Twelvetrees' apartment, as all had left, that the woman had been taken to Roosevelt Hospital suffering from an ail she had swallowed by mistake.

At the hospital a physician who made a superficial examination said death was the result of a fatal disease. Coroner Jackson was notified and he is now making an investigation. Above all, he would like to find Twelvetree and question him concerning the causes leading up to his wife's sudden illness.

Dr. John F. O'Connor, of No. 117 West Eighty-third street, was a statement to the Coroner this afternoon that he had been called to the Twelvetree apartment shortly before 3 o'clock yesterday morning. There he said he found Mrs. Twelvetree suffering from poisoning. It was he, he said, who called the ambulance and had the woman transferred to Roosevelt Hospital. He said he did not know Twelvetree or his wife and had never attended them before.

Detective Day, of the West Sixty-eighth street station, said that other tenants of the Eighty-third street house told him that Mrs. Twelvetree had probably committed suicide. They told him that after Twelvetree's death Mrs. Twelvetree had managed to get into the woman of whom she was very jealous, and that she had gone to the photographic room and had drunk a glass of bicarbonate of mercury.

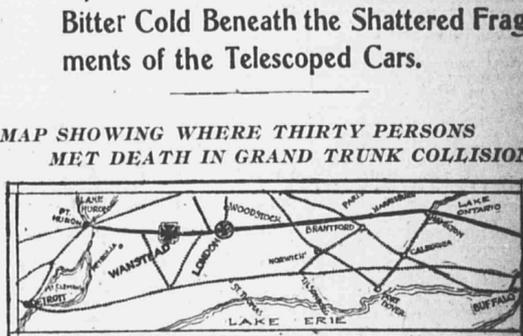
When questioned by a reporter the tenants denied having told such a story.

WOMEN, DYING, SING HYMNS IN BURNING WRECK

Pitiful Scenes when Thirty Are Killed and Forty Hurt in Head-on Collision During a Driving Blizzard on the Grand Trunk Railway.

Fire Adds Horror to the Scene, While the Injured Are Penned for Hours in the Bitter Cold Beneath the Shattered Fragments of the Telescoped Cars.

MAP SHOWING WHERE THIRTY PERSONS MET DEATH IN GRAND TRUNK COLLISION.



LONDON, Ont., Dec. 27.—Thirty persons were killed and forty injured in a head end collision on the Sarnia branch of the Grand Trunk Railroad last night. Pacific express No. 5, while running at a high rate of speed, crashed into an eastbound freight.

The passenger train was the westbound fast express, which runs from Niagara Falls to New York, carrying New York sleeping cars.

PARTIAL DEATH LIST.

- STEWART, ALEX., Petrolia, Ont.
- STEWART, Mrs. ALEX., Petrolia, Ont.
- RICKETTS, A., Sarnia Tunnel, Freeman, extra 773.
- GILLIES, J., Sarnia Tunnel, engineer, extra 773.
- TROTTER, Mrs., Petrolia.
- LAWRENCE, Mrs., Watford.
- FREEMAN, F. S., Oil Springs or Hensall, Ont.
- JEFFREY, J., London.
- PODLEY, CLEM, Port Huron, Mich.
- DEPENIER, GUY, ticketed to Lacrosse, Washington.
- PENWARDEN, Dr., ticketed to Petrolia, Ont.
- Lady, supposed to be Penwarden's wife.
- BROCK, J. H., Brucefield.
- BURWELL, G. B., Port Huron.
- SORTON, WILSON, Chicago.
- In addition fifteen bodies remain to be identified.

SOME OF THE INJURED.

- STEWART, ALEXANDER M., Wingham, Ont.
- CUTHBERTSON, MRS. J. J., Port Huron, Mich.
- RAMBLIN, JAMES P., Toronto.
- CUMMINGS, MRS. SAMUEL, Port Huron, Mich.
- NORTHEY, HATTIE, Peterboro, Ont.
- NORTHEY, JAMES R., Peterboro, Ont.
- COUTTS, NELLIE, Chicago.
- BAKER, FRANK E., London, Ont.
- MORSE, W. N., wife and three children, Sarnia.
- COUTTS, THOMAS, Chicago.
- STACEY, GEORGE, Waukegan, Ont.
- DEEVANS, EDWARD, Prescott, Ont.
- HARVEY, DR., Chicago.
- STEWART, MRS. J. M., and child, Oshkosh, Mich.
- QUINN, RUSSELL, Chicago.
- BANES, JAMES, Woodstock, Ont.
- GEDDES, BEATRICE, Sarnia, Ont.
- CUTHBERTSON, J. J., Port Huron, Mich.
- LYNCH, LOTTIE, Port Huron, Mich.
- BIERD, JOHN, Chicago.
- LIMON, ALBERT, Wyoming, Ont.
- COTT, MRS. and MARGARET, London, Ont.
- SHAWLES, J. F., Strathroy, Ont.
- COLE, W. H. and wife, Flint, Mich.
- MC DONALD, B. K., Strathroy, Ont.
- BYRNES, MRS. T. N., Sarnia, Ont.
- SINCLAIR, ANNIE, Komoka, Ont.
- CUTHBERTSON, MISS FLOSSIE, Port Huron, Mich.
- PUGSLEU, MRS., London, Ont.
- STEWART, CARL, Oshkosh, Mich.
- JACKSON, ROBERT, Petrolia.
- STEWART, HOBART, Oshkosh.
- BAINES, JAMES, Woodstock, Ont.

Of the trainmen, the fireman of the express was killed, Engineer McKenzie escaping. The engineer and fireman of the freight train are missing.

WRECK CAUGHT ON FIRE.

The ill-fated express consisted of two baggage cars, a smoker, two first-class coaches and two Pullmans, the Chelmsford and the Fenwick. The smoker, which was telescoped by the coach behind it, had the sides knocked out of it, the roof falling and imprisoning the passengers. It was in this car that most of the awful havoc and loss of life occurred.

The wreck shortly after the collision caught fire, and but for the heroic efforts of a brigade of passengers, organized and led by an old man who was himself a passenger on the ill-fated train, the accident might have been more disastrous than those pinned down in the wreck. By heroic efforts this brigade put out the fire by throwing snow on the flames with their hats and hands. They then turned their efforts to getting out the wounded, who had their sufferings increased by a blinding snowstorm and the thermometer near zero.

Miss Cuthbertson, of Port Huron, Mich., was imprisoned under the wreck two hours, but was not seriously injured.

The bodies taken from the wreck were frightfully mangled, some of them almost beyond recognition. The scenes attending the removal of the dead bodies from the wreckage were pitiful in the extreme. Several families were on the train, and the air was filled with the anxious cries of those separated from their loved ones, not knowing whether they were killed or saved.

Miss Nellie Geddes, of Sarnia, was among the killed. She was returning with her sister, Beatrice Geddes, from a visit to relatives in this city. Beatrice was slightly injured, and was brought back to London on one of the early relief trains. Not finding her sister here, she became convinced she had been saved and had gone on to Sarnia, and this morning Beatrice left for Sarnia, confident that she would there meet her sister, Nellie.

WOMEN DIE SINGING HYMNS.

One of the passengers describes the accident as follows: "We were running at about forty miles an hour, when, without the slightest warning, the two trains met with terrific force. On examination it was found that the two engines were in the ditch. The baggage-car was

(Continued on Third Page.)

CARRIED LETTERS 28 YEARS; ARRESTED FOR ROBBING MAILS.

William Scully, sixty years old, of No. 126 West Sixty-ninth street, for twenty-eight years a letter-carrier, was arrested this afternoon charged with rifling letters and extracting money from them. He is connected with Sub-Station N.

Carl Lentz, who does a mail order business, has been missing money from letters. Post-Office Inspectors Little and Meyer were put on the case; and Scully was trapped; they allege, by means of a marked bill. When arrested Scully broke down and threatened suicide. He was arraigned before Commissioner Shields and held in \$2,500 bail until Monday.

LATE RESULTS AT NEW ORLEANS.

Fifth Race—Athiana 1, Harry 2, Pride of Galore 3.