COAL COMBINE SMASHED, CUTS PRICES

News of Hidden Supply, Aided by Warm Weather, Causes a Retail Drop in Prices to Less Than $10 a Ton.

RETAILERS TO AID POOR.

Committee Appointed to Arrange with Railroads for a Steady Supply to Be Sold the Needy at Ten Cents a Pail

Coal prices weakened to-day, but not as much as was hoped, despite the warm weather and the exposure in the newspapers of the great quantity of coal being held in Jersey for higher prices.

Most independent coal was being sold yesterday at $10 and $10.50 a ton. To-day the same dealers were selling it for $9.50 and $9.75 a ton. One reason why the market did not break lower was the buying of New England. There is still cold weather up around Boston and the Eastern market is clamorous for fuel. One indeptndent sold 4,000 tons for New England to-day and this caused prices to stiffen here.

Lower Prices Expected.

Lower prices are expected in New York if the warm weather keeps up a little. The demand of consumers fell off fully 50 per cent. to-day. The railroads, which have been sending most of their 65 coal to other points in the country and letting New York do the best it could with the high-priced independent coal, began to-day to do a little more for this city. More of their coal came in and still more is promised.

The break in the price hasn't helped the consumer much, if any, as yet. Concerns like Curtis & Blaisdell, Burns Brothers and Moquin, Offerman — Heisenbuttel, who do 50 per cent. of the coal business of the greater city, are loaded up with contracts with the independent coal at $10 a ton.

Curtis & Blaisdell have out undelivered orders for 2,000 tons, Burns Bros. for 1,000 tons, and the Brooklyn concern for 500 tons. They hold that they cannot sell to the public at less than $10.50 until they have got rid of this independent coal.

This price of $10.50 is the ruling retail price in the city to-day with most of the dealers. Some are getting more, but practically none any less. Soft coal is bringing $8.50 a ton.

For Ten Cents a Pail Rate.

The committee of retailers consisting of G. D. Curtis, G. I. Herbert and Michael Burns, appointed to arrange with the railroads for a steady supply at ten cents a pail coal for the poor had a talk with President Fowler, of the New York, Ontario and Western, yesterday.

Mr. Fowler was asked by Mr. Low to attend to the railroad end of the scheme. He told the committee that he would arrange a meeting between them and the sales agents of the different roads on Monday when arrangements would be completed for gaining the desired end.

Even the strongest combinations of capital yield to the just demands enforced by legitimate publicity, an instance of which is the forcing of the Manhattan Elevated Road to better its service. The coal operators could have continued in their extortionate charges for their commodity for a while, but publicity was doing its work. The Evening World was the first of the newspapers to point to the lack of truth in the operators' statements that there was no coal. Actual photographs of about 300,000 tons of coal within sight of New York City were published.

Exposed by The World.

Then the operators pleaded that if there was that much coal there the reason they could not get it into New York was because of the lack of coal barges, and The Evening World published photographs of hundreds of idle coal barges tied up to the coal docks begging for cargoes.

The attitude of the operators is clearly set forth in the statement of a representative of the big independent firm of Robinson & Haydon, No. 1 Broadway. He said:

"Our price is what we can get. We do not know what others are charging, but we are charging $9.75 a ton. The mild weather makes less demand. We are simply following the rule of supply and demand. If we can get $11 a ton we will take it; if we can get only $9.50 we will sell for $9.50, and if we cannot get more than $9 we will take $9."

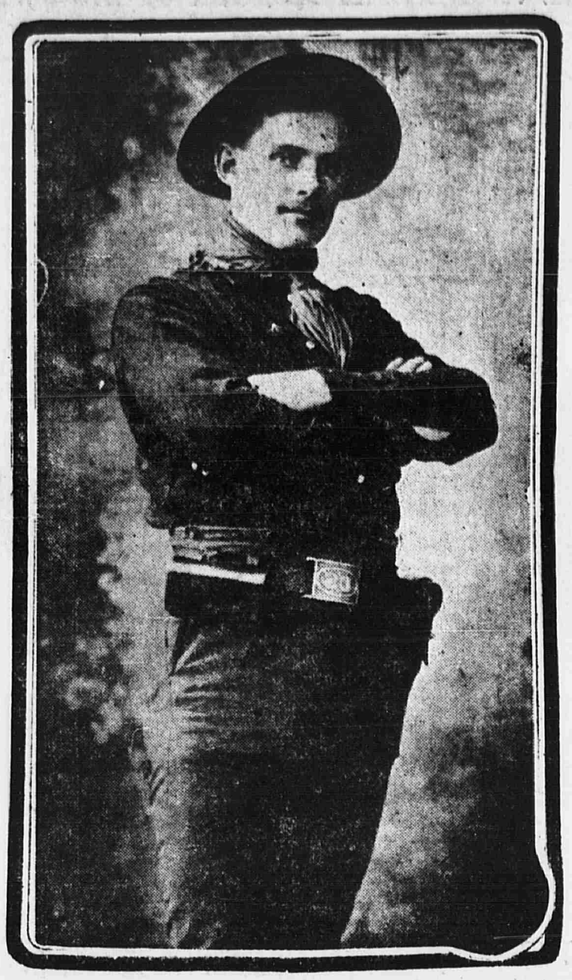
The various charity organizations, in a united letter, say they have been assured that the operators will not again try to send the prices up, and they ask that the city be prevented from appropriating $250,000 for the purchase of coal for the poor, as suggested by the aldermen. They say they are meeting the demand.

SMALLPOX PATIENT ESCAPES

His Second Break for Liberty Succeeds and He Is Still at Large.

Tom Jackson, a negro inmate of the isolation hospital at New Brunswick, N. J., who is suffering from small-pox, escaped from custody last night, but was recaptured. This morning he escaped again. He visited a number of saloons in the Second Ward and is still at large. All the saloons he visited have been closed and quarantined and search is being made for him.

DETECTIVE WELSH, NOW DYING OF WOUND RECEIVED IN FIGHT.



(Photographed when serving in the Astor Battery in the Philippines.)

WOMAN ACCUSED OF SHOOTING.

(Continued from First Page.)

and I made a tour of the Mercer Street Precinct under the guidance of Welsh, who has been investigating conditions in that locality for some time past. Among other places visited was the saloon of Victor Moller, on Thompson street, where Detective O'Shea and Detective Brewen were shot at a few weeks ago. About 9 o'clock Welsh suggested that we have dinner and we went to The Black Cat, on West Broadway, near Washington square. Welsh was not feeling well and only ate a plate of soup.

"We had a drink and bought some cigarettes, and at the end of the meal the waiter brought a check for $3.10, which was paid, giving the waiter a liberal tip. We donned our overcoats and were walking to the door when the waiter came up saying: 'There is 75 cents more coming here; you owe for another dinner.' We disputed the claim and refused to pay. Then the proprietor stood in the door and refused to let us out, saying, 'If you don't pay that bill, I'll call a policeman.'

"I replied: 'Well, call a policeman and hurry up. We don't want to stand here all night.'

"Welsh then walked up to the proprietor and said, 'We don't owe you anything, and if you want a policeman I'm one,' at the same time showing his badge. There were some more words and the proprietor shoved Welsh away roughly. The detective struck him and then the waiter rushed up. I grabbed him by the coat and said, 'Now, you keep away.' He rushed at Welsh, but the latter pushed him back. In the scuffling Welsh and the proprietor had gotten behind the screen, which is at the right of the door as you enter. By this time there were several other waiters there and the mix-up was general.

Welsh Said, "My God, I'm Shot."

"Suddenly I heard a shot and that ended the disturbance. We left the restaurant. Welsh and I were standing on the steps outside when Welsh said: 'My God, Mr. Johnstone, I'm shot.' He put his hand up to his neck.

Welsh was reported to be a very sick man at the hospital, but to be doing as well as could be expected considering the nature of his wound. He was an orderly on Commissioner Greene's staff when the latter was serving in the Philippines. Welsh was then in the Astor Battery. Hutchinson was also a member of the battery.

Welsh's condition became so serious during the day that it was decided to operate on him. The surgeons began their task at once.

The injured detective stood the operation well. It was said that his condition, while critical, was favorable. His father and his wife were permitted to see him after the operation.

Bail was offered this afternoon for Scheriere and the witnesses in the House of Detention by Mrs. Malina Weill, of No. 8 Van Ness place. Magistrate Barlow accepted it. Arne is still locked up.

GROUT COMPARES NEW TAX BILLS

Selects 1,000 Parcels of Real Estate in Boroughs to Show Rate This Year and Last.

Comptroller Edward M. Grout to-day gave out a statement in defense of a new plan of full value taxation and valuation.

"I have caused a selection to be made," he said, "aggregating over one thousand parcels, scattered among the five boroughs, for the purposes of showing the effect of the increased assessed valuation upon the tax bills for 1903. The results disclosed are:

"In Manhattan 140 parcels were examined. Of these 104 will show the tax bills lower than 1902 and 36 higher. The assessed valuation of these parcels in 1902 aggregated $2,675,200, as against $4,236,000 for 1903.

"In the Bronx 186 parcels were examined, with only forty-six parcels lower. The increase in valuation is about $525,000.

"In Brooklyn 469 parcels were examined, of which 419 will have lower tax bills. The assessed valuation upon these parcels in 1902 aggregated $6,407,875, as against $8,431,145 for 1903."

C. H. GUILD A SUICIDE.

New Yorker Shoots Himself in a Maine Hotel.

(Special to The Evening World.)

BANGOR, Me., Jan. 17.—C. H. Guild, of New York, shot himself at the St. James Hotel in this city last night. His body was found to-day.

Mr. Guild had been staying at the Bangor House for four weeks. He was well dressed, and of gentlemanly appearance.

It is supposed that financial or family troubles prompted the suicide. In the room was a note asking that Edward Carberry, of No. 24 Washington place, New York, be informed of his suicide.

No such man as is mentioned in Guild's letter is known at the Washington square address.

WON'T GIVE UP CANDY MICE.

(Continued from First Page.)

men, the affair is none the less reprehensible. I have written to the Connecticut Humane Society and have assured them of my moral support.

"The women who are arranging the degrading exhibition are none the less subject to the action of the law because they are women. The laws of Connecticut on the subject are absolute, and I am sure that those who participate in such a cruel contest will be punished for it."

The Connecticut Society took the matter up and wrote long letters to Mrs. Cummings about the affair. She strung them along too. Societies in other States got busy. Ministers took it up. All sorts of people who love to meddle in other people's affairs rushed into print with interviews. The newspapers made pictures and features and altogether the whole country was in a spasm over the affair.

Another Cat Club Said Nothing.

The Cat Club sat tight. No one got the wiser when Mayor Leeds was elected an honorary member of the club, although they had to change the constitution to do it, no men being eligible for membership hitherto.

Then Mrs. Cummings's husband, counsel for the Connecticut Cat Club, declined to interfere. People said that he was under his wife's thumb and didn't dare. They were sure of it when she came out in an interview an told Mr. Haines to mind his own business and let the Connecticut Cat Club attend to humanity in that State.

Having got everybody up to a great pitch of excitement, the ladies of the club concluded to-day that they had gone far enough with their joke, so out the following statement, Mrs. out the following statements, Mrs. Cummings acting as the mouthpiece:

"A field trial for kittens and mice under the auspices of the Connecticut Cat Club has never at any time been seriously considered. In the first place, the suggestion was made playfully, but it was circulated and came under the notice of Mayor Leeds. The Mayor appeared to take the thing seriously, and when the club found that he and other officials and the world in general took the matter seriously they decided to carry on the joke.

"It is true we have purchased two thousand mice—from a confectioner—which we will give away to visitors at the show as souvenirs. I say this now to calm the feelings of Mayor Leeds, Mr. Haines, of the S. P. C. A., and any one else who may have supposed the officers of the Cat Club were inhuman or would cater to a depraved taste."

After this Mayor Leeds sent a letter to the secretary of the Cat Club accepting honorary membership in the club, and entering the little black cat which was left by a joker at his home the other night.

MANHUNTS WITH DOG IN QUEENS.

Bloodhound Purchased by Sheriff Bragga Will Trail Trusties Who Skip from County Jail.

HE SNIFFS AT THE TRAMPS.

Brute Is Chained in Jail Yard in Sight of All "Weary Willies" Who Were Wont to Run Away in the Spring.

The next trusty who runs away from the Queens County Jail is going to have a bloodhound at his heels. Sheriff de Bragga is sick and tired spending money to catch fugitives, and to-day he brought to the jail a great, ugly looking bloodhound, guaranteed to follow a man as long as he has feet to run.

Many tramps are sent to the Queens County Jail for six months in the early part of the winter. They are confided to the care of the Sheriff, and he puts them to work about the jail. As long as the weather is cold and the ground frozen, the "Weary Willies" have no desire to go away. They do chores, eat the prison fare, sleep in a warm place at night and consider themselves lucky.

But when the warm springtime comes they get the fever to wander. They go out some fine morning to clean up the front walk of the jail yard, and perhaps one doesn't come back. Then it is up to the Sheriff to catch them, and in the past it has cost him a considerable amount of money.

So this year, taking time by the forelock, he decided to get himself a bloodhound. He found a good kennel and paid $50 for a brute that has nose enough to tell what language a man speaks by scenting his footprints. He brought him into the jail yard to-day and showed him to the tired bunch who were looking up at the sun and smelling the warm, springlike air in anticipation of the French leave of the future.

The dog went from trusty to trusty sniffing at them intelligently and apparently differentiating the various odors for future use.

"Just remember," said the Sheriff, "if you leave without saying good-by this fellow will follow you and chase you up a telegraph pole."

With this warning he led the dog back to his kennel and chained him up where he could keep his eyes and nose pointed at the trusties.

GERMAN OFFICER KILLED IN A DUEL.

Affair Was the Result of the Findings of the Kaiser's Military Court of Honor.

BERLIN, Jan. 17.—First Lieut. Werner von Grawert, son of the lieutenant-general of that name, shot Dr. Aye, a lawyer of Flensburg, through the neck, cutting the spinal cord, in a duel fought in the Grunewald Forest yesterday. Death ensued immediately.

The deceased, who was an officer of the Army Reserve, leaves a widow and five children. The cause of the quarrel was obscure but of long standing. The duel was fought in pursuance to the findings of a military court of honor.

Lieut. von Grawert surrendered himself to the military authorities.

WOMEN LOOT COAL TRAIN IN TOLEDO.

Assisted by Boys and Girls They Forcibly Seize Five Cars of Fuel in the Erie Yards.

TOLEDO, O., Jan. 17.—A mob including over 200 men, women, boys and girls this morning seized five carloads of soft coal which had just arrived in the Wheeling and Lake Erie Railroad yards, consigned to the National Malleable Casting Company and local oil men.

There was no attempt to stop the wholesale theft, neither the police nor the officials of the railway or casting company taking a hand in the affair. The fuel was carried off in wagons, sleighs, soap boxes, buckets and baskets, and nothing but the slack was left in any car.

FORMED A BUCKET BRIGADE.

Employees of Tefft, Weller & Co. Help Put Out Fire.

A fire in the basement of No. 326 Broadway, occupied by the dry goods firm of Tefft, Weller & Co., was subdued by a bucket brigade formed by the employees.

When the firemen arrived they found the fire practically under control and they made short work of it. The damage was $1,000.

FRENCH COUNT A SUICIDE.

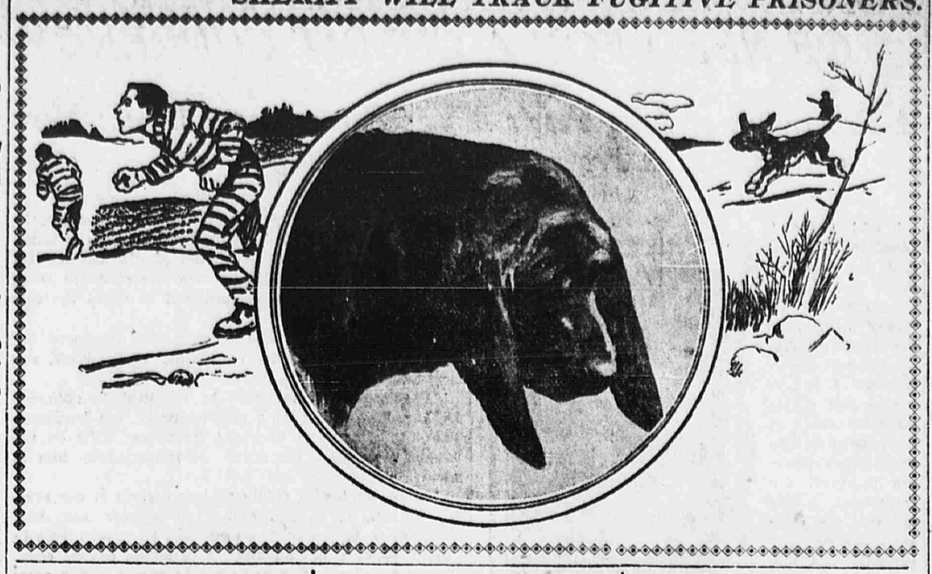
Desabla, Panama Canal Engineer, Dead in Tennessee.

(Special to The Evening World.)

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Jan. 17.—Count Louis J. Desebla committed suicide here to-day. He was born in France and came to this country some years ago.

His father was partner of De Lesseps in building the Panama Canal. Desebla was chief engineer on the survey of the canal, and owned large interests in that enterprise.

BLOODHOUND WITH WHICH QUEENS COUNTY SHERIFF WILL TRACK FUGITIVE PRISONERS.



TOOK "METHOD" INTERNALLY.

It Was Valued at Fifty Cents and Mr. Perlet Is Out that Much While Miss Ruhlman Is In.

TO LOCATE IT WITH X-RAYS.

A young lady is 50 cents in and Herman Perlet is a half-dollar out as the result of an experiment to make a singer out of Adele Celestine Ruhlman a pretty young woman of eighteen, whose home is at No. 540 Pacific street, Brooklyn.

The operatic-financial transaction occurred at the American School of Opera, No. 215 West Forty-second street. Miss Ruhlman, intending to become a pupil, had come across the bridge to try her voice. Like all beginners, she started in with grand opera. Just to show she owned a voice that could perform tricks she tackled the "Jewel Song" from "Faust."

She was reaching for the pearl necklace with an eager little thrill when her tongue flew up and clung tenaciously to the roof of her mouth. Miss Ruhlman was dismayed. But Mr. Perlet merely smiled.

"I can fix that," said he, with quiet assurance. "We'll break your tongue of that habit with this," and Mr. Perlet drew from his pocket a silver half dollar.

"It's the old Italian method of controlling a refractory tongue," he explained. "Placed on the tongue it prevents the tongue from quivering or going to the roof of the mouth. Your tongue, please!"

Miss Ruhlman held out her tongue and Mr. Perlet placed the half dollar thereon.

"Now," he directed, "try it again, the A natural."

"Ah-ah!" sang Miss Ruhlman, then suddenly stopped with a startled "Oh!"

Mr. Perlet noticed her gulp and the terrible truth flashed upon him that she had swallowed his money.

He uttered an artistic exclamation, patted her on the back and shook her. But his efforts were in vain. The coin was gone!

When Miss Ruhlman became satisfied she had turned herself into a savings bank she went into convulsions, which continued intermittently for nearly eight hours.

She's feeling somewhat better to-day, and to-morrow she's going to see whether the X-ray can throw any light on "the old Italian method."

DYNAMITE FOUND ON CENTRAL TRACK

It Is Believed that It Was Placed There at Schenectady to Wreck a Train.

SCHENECTADY, Jan. 17.—A stick of dynamite about six inches in length and round in shape was found on the tracks of the New York Central Railroad at about the noon hour to-day by a man, who gave th name of F. J. Butler, of this city.

The piece of dynamite in diameter was about the size of a quarter of a dollar and it was wrapped in thick paper, and from appearances it was the kind used for heavy explosive purposes.

A deep mystery surrounds the discovery of this most dangerous explosive, and it would seem as though the person who placed it on the tracks had in mind but one purpose and that was to wreck a train.

RIKER AGAIN IN LIMBO.

Man Discharged as Insane, Raises Row in Apartment-House.

William B. Riker, who has been in the West Side Court several times recently, both as a defendant in insanity proceedings, which he defeated, and as a complainant, was arraigned to-day, charged with disorderly conduct on the premises at No. 211 West One Hundred and Sixth street last evening.

His former wife, now Mrs. Lilly Ryan, from whom he was divorced, lives in an apartment there. Riker visited the building last night and was refused admission to the woman's apartment.

According to Mrs. Ryan, who had Policeman Hickey, of the West One Hundredth Street Station, arrest Riker, he nearly kicked in the door, and when it held fast raised a rumpus in the hallway which aroused every one in the building.

H. J. Ryan, the woman's husband, pressed the charge against Riker in the West Side Court this morning. Magistrate Breen adjourned the case and held Riker in $500 bail.

ST. LOUIS BROKE WEDDING TRYST

Howard Cutting, Mail Clerk on the Delayed Liner, Was to Have Wed Miss Taylor Last Wednesday.

THE BRIDE WAITED ON PIER.

There was one young lady in New York City to whom the past four days has seemed an eternity, and who declares she would not pass another such period for a thousand share of Standard oil stock.

She is Miss J. E. Taylor, and resides in East Seventeenth street. Many months ago she met Howard E. Cutting, of Stamford, Conn., one of the United States mail clerks employed on the American line steamers. Soon Mr. Cutting's friends in the Post-Office were told that he was engaged to be married to Miss Taylor, and that Jan. 14 was set for the wedding, with a trip to Porto Rico as a wedding tour.

But Cupid had reckoned without the leaky boilers of the St. Louis, so when the wedding guests came last Wednesday Miss Taylor tearfully told them that Mr. Cutting was on the St. Louis, wherever she might be.

When the delayed ship steamed up to her pier to-day many of the spectators noticed a man on board who seemed unusually enthusiastic, even considering the situation. He leaned far over the rail and waved his hat frantically to a comely young woman who stood on the pier, and she, her face wreathed in smiles waved answering signals with a tiny lace handkerchief. Needless to say who they were.

Unless the stern-hearted postal officials relent there will be a sad on the honeymoon, for Mr. Cutting is scheduled to return to Europe on the next outgoing American liner on Wednesday.

SEARCHING FOR BODIES.

Police's Gruesome Task at Scene of Third Avenue Fire.

The police to-day resumed their search for bodies among the ruins of the fire that destroyed the Aaron & Wertheimer stores in the block on Third avenue between One Hundred and Nineteenth and One Hundred and Twentieth streets last night, but found none. They are certain that the exact loss of life is known, for all those reported missing have been accounted for satisfactorily.

EAT SLOW

Means Chew Fast, Fine and Hard, but Swallow Slow.

"Across the table sat a young man," remarked an old gentleman from New Albany, Ind., recently, "with a sickly face, who was slowly chewing in a fashion which led me to believe that his teeth were all in such a condition that if he should forget himself and bite a little bit harder, off would fly the top of his head. Finally I remarked:

"'You have to be very careful of them?'

"'Yes, indeed,' he replied, 'I have no stomach. My doctor told me to eat slow. No odds what your hurry may be,' said he, 'eat slow.'

"'You misunderstood him,' said I, 'what the doctor meant was to chew fast, fine and hard, but to swallow slowly. Now you are actually committing suicide. The doctor meant for you to use your teeth. Are your teeth all right?'

"'Yes,' he replied, 'I can bite through sole leather. I wonder if the doctor did mean that I should chew hard instead of slow?'

"Then I told him of my experience in the food line. I'm a pretty old man now, but, like a good many other people, my stomach went back on me one time and I commenced to study food and the requirements of the body. After experimenting a good deal I came across Grape-Nuts, and was soon convinced that this food met all the requirements of health, and as a daily diet is indispensable.

"I am not a doctor, but it is easy to understand that the great change from my former condition to my present good health and ability, at the age of 67, to walk twenty-five miles a day, if so inclined, is due solely to Grape-Nuts and the proper nourishment my body has received from this valuable food.

"The crispness of Grape-Nuts gives the teeth sufficient action to keep them in good condition; its taste is delicious and the way it is prepared corrects any digestive trouble a person may have. I know my lease of life has been renewed for a term of years by its use." Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich.

PATROLMAN MAY BE CRAZY.

His Strange Actions Land Him in Bellevue Insane Pavilion.

J. H. Lomax, a patrolman attached to the East Fifty-first street station, living with his wife at No. 337 East One Hundred and Twenty-third street, was taken to Bellevue Hospital last night and placed in the Insane Pavilion.

On last Thursday Lomax was up on charges before Deputy Commissioner Piper, charged with improperly patroling his post and failing to appear when his trial was called. Last Thursday he was at Headquarters, but left before his case wal called to get shaved. When he returned he found he had been suspended.

Last night he was found near his home gesticulating and throwing a cane in the air. He had long ribbons in the lapels of his coat.

Deputy Commissioner Piper was notified and his trial was postponed. Capt. Lantry and Lomax's wife think he is not himself.

SUICIDE ROGERS A PIANO INVENTOR

Man Who Killed Himself Yesterday Was the Author of the Upright Form of Musical Instrument.

IN ILL HEALTH FOR YEARS.

For Breakfast, Had One Milk Punch; for Dinner, Two Milk Punches, and for Supper, One Milk Punch.

It came to light to-day that Charles E. Rogers, of No. 105 Lincoln avenue, who committed suicide yesterday in the Estey Piano Works, at Southern Boulevard and Lincoln avenue, by shooting himself, was the inventor of the first upright piano and at one time was a wealthy piano manufacturer, in partnership with former Gov. Ames of Massachusetts.

Following Rogers's invention a partnership was formed for the manufacture of upright pianos, with offices in Boston, under the firm name of Charles E. Rogers & Co., with Mr. Ames as the silent partner.

Rogers became a bankrupt and came to New York and worked for the Steinway Piano Company, inventing a number of appliances now used in the Steinway pianos.

He was a victim of a cancerous growth and was operated on at the New York Hospital a year ago. Since then he has not eaten solid food, his breakfast, dinner and supper consisting respectively of one milk punch, two milk punches, and one milkpunch.

A young man named Charles C. Rogers, supposedly his nephew, has been found since Rogers's death to be his son. It is stated by Mr. Estey that Rogers called him his nephew as he had a predeliction for begging, at which the young man said he could make more money than at a legitimate business.

For some time Rogers had been employed at the Estey factory superintending various parts of the grand pianos.

$200.00 IN CASH FREE!

We will give two hundred dollars in spot cash to the persons who send a correct answer to the above rebus which represents a well-known saying. There is only one correct answer. Answer this opportunity and become convinced that we make *every promise good* to the letter. The money will surely be paid. Try and win. You may be the fortunate one, who knows? Anyway, it is many times worth the try besides being *exciting and interesting*. Should there be a tie, or more than one correct answer, the *money will be paid just the same*, proportionately. Everybody will be treated exactly the same as everybody else who sends the correct answer. *Two hundred dollars* is a nice lump sum *to give away at one time* but we are going to do it because we wish to become known where we are now unknown. There is one slight condition which will take a *small amount of your time* which we will write you at soon as we receive your answer. To those who answer this advertisement at once, understanding that they must comply with certain conditions, we will at once send by return mail an interesting paper, containing many *items of interest* besides *numerous stories*. The cash will be sent you within a short time. As soon as we receive your answer we will at once notify you if *you are entitled* to your cash prize so you will hear from us *by return mail* and will know just when your cash prize is coming. See if you are bright enough to make out this well-known saying and get a cash prize. Our Cash Prize is not intended to be of benefit to lazy people or idle curiosity seekers. We do not want to write letters to people who are not willing to do something to help themselves. We do not ask you to pay us any of your money, but we do ask that in sending your answer you enclose a two-cent stamp in order to be sure that we send your answer promptly. If you do not enclose a stamp no attention will be paid to your letter, so be sure and enclose the two-cent stamp with your solution of the rebus.

STORY PUBLISHING CO., 500 CHAPLIN ST., WATERVILLE, MAINE.

Home List *Is Printed Every Day. Consult It if You Are House Hunting.*

THE 3-TIME RATE COSTS LITTLE AND PAYS LARGELY.