'WENDEL' BATTERY MEMBERS CHARGE HEAVY BLACKMAIL

District-Att'y Investigates Allegations of Graft that May Disrupt Troop.

PRISON DOORS YAWN.

Subpoenas Out for Eleven Civilian Employees of the Armory.

Following charges that extortion, bribery and blackmail have been practised in the First Battery, Capt. Louis Wendel commanding, eleven civilian employees of the armory have been subpoenaed to appear before District-Attorney Jerome to-day.

At the request of Assistant District-Attorneys Hart and Keosh, Magistrate Breen, in Centre Street Court, to-day issued thirteen blank subpoenas. The papers were made out, "The People vs. Louis Wendel."

These charges are of such a nature that, if they are proved true, Mr. Jerome believes somebody will be sent to prison. Subpoenas will be served on former civilian employees, former and present officers and men who have served in the ranks and are serving to-day.

The charges will either be sifted in John Doe proceedings or they will be taken directly to the Grand Jury. The men who will appear at the District-Attorney's office to-day will be questioned by Assistant District-Attorneys Hart and Kehoe. They are expected to tell everything they know, and if they do, it is alleged, there will be a scandal greater than any that has ever shaken the national guard of the State.

Graft in Wendel's Name.

Among the affidavits, it is alleged, there are a number showing that some one has used the name of Capt. Louis Wendel to compel civil employees to pay handsomely for their appointments, and then that these same employees have been compelled to give up one-third of their salaries to hold their places.

It is alleged that this wholesale collection of graft has been most open, and that certain men in the battery have been compelled to take out insurance policies on their lives for the benefit of one of the officers. Armory employees have been compelled to do work outside the armory, and one man profited in what they did. Just what sort of work these men did, and where they worked, is contained in affidavits in possession of Mr. Jerome.

In one instance, it is alleged, blackmail was practised and a man mulct'd out of $1,000. Where this money went is a question, but it is possible that there were other instances of blackmail and that big profit was made.

May Disrupt Battery.

Many officers of the battery have been cognizant for a long time of the thieving, blackmail and grafting prevalent in the battery, it is alleged, and these men, it is said, are only too anxious to tell all they know, even though it would result in disrupting the organization and sending to prison the men who have engaged in and profited by the stealing.

The inevitable woman appears in the charges. This woman, it is charged, kept her horse in the armory without charges, or if there was a charge the money was paid to one man. There was a riding master, too, who kept his horses in the armory, it is said, and never a cent of his money was seen, unless an officer collected it. There was a jeweller who owned a horse and who stabled him in the armory along with horses owned by members of the battery, it is also alleged.

According to sworn statements, horses belonging to men in the battery have been hired for work on a resort well known to New Yorkers.

One of the most serious charges made is that an officer of the battery has maintained private apartments in the armory where there have been exhibitions that would make the men who attended the Seeley dinner blush for shame, so vulgar were they.

Official action was begun only when the men in the battery and certain of their officers could no longer shut their eyes to prevailing conditions. Then it was that the story of alleged blackmail and theft was carried to Mr. Jerome.

There are eleven civil employees in the First Battery Armory. They are John G. Jansen, armorer and first sergeant of the battery, who receives $4 a day; Charles B. Striebel, engineer, $4 a day; Grover Meyer, assistant engineer, $4 a day; William Fuchs, janitor, $4 a day; Henry Deggleman, laborer, $3 a day; Martin Bender, laborer, $3 a day; William Hiles, hostler, $3 a day; Franz Groth, hostler, $3 a day; Otho Arens, hostler, $3 a day; Otto Winkler, night watchman, $3 a day, and a man named Albrecht, hostler, $3 a day.

The affidavits made by some of these men all tell of extortion and blackmail.

Edward Martini, formerly assistant engineer at the armory, has not only made an affidavit, but he has filed a civil suit against Capt. Wendel, through Frederick O. Nelson, a lawyer at No. 32 Nassau street, for $866, which he alleges he gave to Wendel for the privilege of working at the armory.

No statement has been made by Capt. Wendel.

Do You Worry About Your Son's

WHEN WHY Welfare? not start him in the grocery, shoe, restaurant, laundry, drug, etc., business and watch him develop into industrious manhood? The beginning of the new year is a good time to think about this. To-morrow's Sunday World "Business Opportunity" ads. will

Show the WAY to Do It!

CHRISTMAS GIFT TO LOT OWNERS IS $375,000,000

All Suburbs Share Year's Big Rises in Land Values.

Land owners in the New York suburbs will get a Christmas present of $375,000,000.

This money is represented by the total advance in land values during the past year. In the distribution $150,000,000 has gone to Brooklyn, $60,000,000 to Queens, $60,000,000 to the Bronx and Westchester, $75,000,000 to the New Jersey suburbs, $20,000,000 to Nassau and Suffolk and $10,000,000 to Richmond.

Land owners who have held their properties during the entire year can add the full proportional share of the year's increase to their assets. It is just so much more added to their fortunes. While it is a "paper profit," it is recognized by banks and lending institutions as the best form of collateral. The borrowing capacity of such land owners has been increased to the extent of their "paper profits." Those profits become almost as substantial as a bank account.

Every buyer of suburban land during the year has shared in the $375,000,000, which has been divided among all suburban owners. Those who bought at the start of the year have made more than those who waited until summer or fall. The rise in suburban land values has been continual. It promises to go on without interruption during the construction of the series of great rapid transit subways.

Big Gifts for Lucky Owners.

While all suburban land-owners share in the huge Christmas gift from the land's "unearned increment," luck has been a large factor in distributing the new riches.

Some owners have seen their land double, even treble, in value. Others have seen market prices around them advance very slowly—perhaps not more than 10 or 15 per cent. But there are few who have not more profit than the 4 per cent. which their money would have drawn in the savings banks.

Even where market values have not had more than an ordinary rise, many buyers have made from 50 to 100 per cent. on their money. They were the ones who paid only part of the purchase price in cash. In other words, they were investment speculators on small margins. If they paid only 10 per cent. of the purchase price, agreeing to pay the balance in regular instalments, and the value of their property increased 10 per cent., that was a 100 per cent. increase on the cash money invested. Many such buyers have taken their quick profits during the year and now have their Christmas presents in cash.

Happy Brooklyn and Queens.

In Brooklyn, where the assessed value of all the real estate was $1,072,007,172 at the beginning of the year, the $150,000,000 increase has been about 14 per cent. It has not been evenly distributed all over Brooklyn. Some parts of Brooklyn had big rises in land values during 1903 to 1905. Lot prices in many outlying sections increased from 100 to 500 per cent. in that time.

The big increases of the past year have been in the far outlying sections and in those districts which are to receive immediate enhancement from new subways and bridges. Most of the new residential sections of Brooklyn are returning at least 10 per cent. in land values as Christmas presents to home-owners and lot owners.

Queens has seen its $60,000,000 of land increases more evenly divided. The total is a little more than 37 per cent. on the assessed value of all Queens real estate at the start of the year. Queens has been the centre of big land booms. Its outlying sections on the new rapid transit lines have doubled in value during the year. In some sections, prices have risen 300 to 400 per cent.

Even in Long Island City, which is in the Queens flat house zone, there have been big rises in land prices. There are few land-owners in all Queens who have not been able to figure a 30 per cent. increase in the value of their holdings as a Christmas tribute to their foresight and thrift.

Bronx Favors Small Owners.

The Bronx has been through a peculiar transformation during the year. Bronx owners of flat houses and lots suitable for improvement with flats, got their Christmas presents last year. Their land values had risen from 50 to 300 per cent. as a result of the new population inflow through the Subway. But they have gained nothing during the past year. Most of them must go without Christmas presents from the "unearned increment." Instead, the big rises have taken place in outlying Bronx districts which have been opened by the New York Central Railroad's electric suburban service and in those sections to be opened by the new Pelhamchester-Westchester road, with coming extensions of subways and other railroads.

The $60,000,000 which has been added to the value of such lands in the north Bronx and Westchester is about 37 per cent. of the total assessed value at the start of the year. The assessed value of the entire Bronx was $355,779,602. That part of the Bronx and Westchester, which has been affected by the year's rises in land prices, carries an assessed value around $300,000,000.

Increases in the Bronx and Westchester have been confined chiefly to the small-house zone in distinction to the flat zone. Thus, the Christmas presents to land owners there this year go to those who own cottage homes or lots suitable for small houses. There are few such owners who can not add 30 per cent. of their property value a year ago to their estimated fortunes this Christmas.

Every Lot a Gift-Maker.

New Jersey's $75,000,000 of Christmas presents have been scattered through its entire coming rapid-transit zone, as viewed from the position of quick connection with Manhattan. The gifts cover 60,000 acres, which will be opened by the McAdoo tunnels and the subways of the Pennsylvania railroad.

This means that land there has increased $1,250 an acre on the average. As the acre contains twelve lots, when cut into home sites, the increase has averaged more than $100 a lot. And there are few lot owners in all that section who cannot figure at least $100 as their Christmas present from the year's rise in land values.

Nassau and Suffolk counties are outside the city limits and are not assessed as high as are the Greater New York boroughs. But their $20,000,000 increase in land values during the year represents an average rise of 40 per cent. in market prices. A large part of the money has gone as Christmas presents to professional operators, because the public did not begin to buy in volume until late spring and summer, after the rise had gone far beyond the first prices of the year. There is no doubt that the real value of the land has increased at least 30 per cent. since simmer.

Richmond's real estate campaign started late in the summer. Prices in many sections are 30 per cent. higher than they were a year ago. The increase of $10,000,000 in land values as a result of the movement is nearly 25 per cent. of the borough's total assessed value of $45,000,000.

The percentage is low comparatively because the movement did not cover more than the last half of the year. But many buyers of that summer have doubled their money. All lot buyers and home buyers of a few months ago can figure on getting substantial Christmas presents from their holdings.

No small feature of Christmas, aside from the rich returns which owners will receive from their lots, is the growing inclination to give deeds as holiday presents. Much buying in all the suburbs during the past few weeks has been for that purpose.

THIS IRISH BALL TOO BIG FOR THE GARDEN

So an Annex Is Planned For Annual Festival of Children of the Gael.

A deputation of Irish residents in Greater New York will call on Fire Commissioner Frank J. Lantry on Monday to obtain permission to erect a temporary structure on the north side of the Madison Square Garden, along Twenty-seventh street, to be used as an annex on the occasion of the Irish ball on Jan. 22 next. This event has become such a popular festival for the children of the Gael that last year the crowd was so great it was just possible to move around in the great amphitheatre of Madison Square Garden. The committee hopes that the permit will be granted for the annex, as it used to be in the case of the Horse Show.

The committee in charge this year have taken precautions to arrange matters so that the dancing floor will not be uncomfortably crowded, and an opportunity will be afforded to everybody to properly enjoy the occasion.

There will be two bands, stationed one each on the north and south sides of the Garden. The great feature of the night will be an exhibition of the quaint and intricate dances of Ireland done in costume by nimble-footed young men and women from all parts of the old country.

Each one of the thirty-two counties in Ireland has purchased an arena box, and the flag of each county will be displayed therefrom. The other boxes, as well as the privileges, will be put on sale on the night of Dec. 30 at the rooms of the Irish Counties Athletic Union, No. 241 West Forty-seventh street. On that occasion also there will be elected seven more delegates, and a floor manager will be selected to compute the committee.

MADE ASSISTANT FOREMEN.

Three Firemen Promoted To-Day by Commissioner Lantry.

Fire Commissioner Lantry to-day raised to the rank of assistant foreman three first-grade firemen—John J. O'Connell, of Engine Company No. 31; John F. Leary, of Engine Company No. 115, Brooklyn, and George Beal, of Hook and Ladder Company No. 13.

PROMOTION FOR CAPTAIN WATT

Popular Cunard Commander Leaves Lucania for Carmania.

Capt. J. B. Watt, the oldest captain from point of service and Commodore of the Cunard line fleet, with fifty years of service and a record of having saved 213 lives during this period, sails to-day for Liverpool on his last trip as commander of the Lucania. As a recognition of his years of faithful service and marked ability as a navigator Capt. Watt on his next trip to this port will be the commander of the Cunard Company's new turbine steamer Carmania.

This is to be but a stepping stone to higher honors, as he will be assigned to the command of one of the two turbine boats now nearing completion. These are to be the largest ocean steamships.

Of all the captains of the Cunard line fleet none are more popular with transatlantic travellers than Captain Watt. His courtesy, wit and democracy have endeared him to thousands. It is on record at the offices of the company that travellers sometimes defer sailing until they can secure passage on a ship commanded by Captain Watt.

At 24 years of age Watt was made a captain. This was in those days a mark of great ability.

He comes of a seafaring family. He was born in Scotland in 1843 and at the age of fourteen went to sea as an apprentice. After serving five years in that class he was made a third mate on the ship Montreal, engaged in the transatlantic trade. After several voyages he entered the East India trade and served as first and second mate on fast clipper ships until 1872, when he entered the service of the Cunard Company as third officer on the old Calabria.

His rise with the Cunard Company was rapid. In quick succession he became second and first officer, and in 1884 was made captain of the British Queen. Since then he has commanded the Scythia, Umbria, Eutruria, Iverpla, Campania and Lucania.

Among the incidents that stand out in his career is his saving the lives of 90 passengers on the Edam, of the Holland Line, in 1891. This vessel was disabled in mid-ocean, and all hope of being saved or reaching port had been given up, when Capt. Watt hove in sight and by skilful seamanship managed to tow her into Queenstown.

Several years ago he saved the lives of fifteen fishermen off Sable Island. For this he received from President Cleveland a handsome binocular glass.

Capt. Watt has a son, Capt. Arthur S. Watt, of whom he is justly proud. He is a chip of the old block, having been made a captain at the age of twenty-three, and is now in command of the big steamship Sontra.

HELD IN $5,000 ON BLACKMAIL CHARGE

Joseph Page, Negro Chauffeur, Contradicts Himself in Court.

Joseph Page, the negro chauffeur, charged with trying to blackmail the sister-in-law of his employer, Alberto Di Veruspague, was held in $5,000 bail for trial by Magistrate Whitman in Harlem Police Court, to-day. Mrs. Thomas C. de Martinto, the complainant, whose character Page tried to besmirch when the original accusation was made against him, was in court.

At the opening of the proceedings Lawyer Hockstader, in behalf of Page, asked that the charge be dismissed on the ground that it had not been proved. Magistrate Whitman denied the motion, asserting that the specific case mentioned by Mrs. de Martinto, when Page knocked her down and drew a revolver, threatening to kill her if she did not give him money, was specifically corroborated by the maid.

"As for the assertion of this man that he had illicit relations with the complainant," he continued, "the fact would make no difference in his offense, even if he could prove it. In fact, it would make it all the more disreputable."

Page was called to the stand and cross-examined on his assertion, made under oath, that he spent the night of Nov. 19 with Mrs. De Martinto at her home, No. 202 West One Hundred and Fortieth street.

The negro got badly mixed as to his time and flatly contradicted statements he had made in his direct examination Thursday afternoon.

INSPECTOR WIPING OUT THE LEMON GAME.

Thirty-four Cheap Bunco Men Found in Pool-Rooms in Two Days' Haul.

The workers of the "lemon game" are having it slipped to them by the police. In the past three days Inspector McLoughlin's men have arrested thirty-four of these cheap parasites, who lure their victims to billiard and pool rooms and invegle them into betting on the lemon-colored ball.

Last night fifteen lemon passers were arrested in billiard-rooms at Twenty-eighth street and Broadway, Sixth avenue and Forty-second street, Sixth avenue and Forty-third street and Sixth avenue and Twenty-eighth street. With twenty-three arrested on previous nights the total is now thirty-four. McLoughlin says that he will continue his crusade until the lemon bunco is wiped out.

HAMMERSTEIN HAS ANOTHER FIGHT ON HAND

Stormy Petrel of the Theatrical World Has Victoria's License Attacked.

Corporation Counsel Ellison to-day ordered the preparation of a suit against Oscar Hammerstein to vacate and set aside his license as manager of the Victoria Theatre. The ground for the suit is that Hammerstein has been violating the Sunday law in his theatre, and this unlawful use of the license, Mr. Ellison believes, is sufficient ground for its forfeiture.

The action was placed in charge of Assistant Corporation Counsel Frank B. Pierce, with instructions to push the case. Commissioner Bingham some time ago asked the Corporation Counsel to co-operate with the police in an attempt to stop Sunday violations in the playhouses, and Mr. Ellison at that time assured the Police Commissioner that he would look into the matter and see if any steps could be taken that would aid in the enforcement of the law.

There was no lack of evidence, and the law itself was not to blame, according to the Commissioner, but he found that his most carefully prepared cases were always thrown out of court by the magistrates, or if the managers were convicted the fine imposed was so small that it amounted to no punishment. This led to his request for the co-operation of the law department.

Complaints to Mayor.

Before determining to take the matter up in the civil courts, Corporation Counsel Ellison consulted Mayor McClellan, who said that he had received a number of complaints against various theatrical managers, charging them with violations of the Sunday law, and had turned them all over to the Police Commissioner. Bingham had received a pile of many more, and all these were placed in the hands of the Corporation Counsel, who examined the law, and came to the conclusion that if it could be shown that the theatres were violating the law, their licenses could be revoked by an action in the Supreme Court.

With this assurance it became a mere matter of evidence, and Commissioner Bingham was advised that suits would be commenced to forfeit the licenses if sufficient evidence could be secured.

Commissioner Bingham gathered evidence first against Oscar Hammerstein, and turned all the evidence over to the Corporation Counsel. In gathering the evidence Commissioner Bingham's detectives were assisted by the New York Sabbath Observance Committee and the Actors' Church Alliance, who furnished detectives and gave their active co-operation in other ways. Rev. Francis Clay Moran, of the Actors' Alliance, was one of the principal agents through which this evidence was gathered.

Will Be a Test Case.

Corporation Counsel Ellison, after an extensive examination of the law, came to the conclusion that a violation of any law under cover of a license issued by the city authorities would work a forfeiture of the license, and he has so advised the Mayor and Commissioner Bingham, and with their active co-operation will begin the action to forfeit Hammerstein's license.

Other licenses of members of the Theatrical Trust and the Sullivans' combination may be attacked later if the case against Hammerstein, who is an independent, holds in the courts. The Brooklyn theatrical combine may be attacked in the same way.

LEADERS DROP IN THE STOCK MARKET

Reading, St. Paul, Pacifics and Great Northern Show Losses.

No price changes of importance were shown in the opening dealings on the Stock Exchange to-day. The rise of a point in Delaware & Hudson and a decline of 3-4 in Canadian Pacific were the only fluctuations in excess of small fractions.

In later trading, however, prices fell off, Reading losing 2 points, Great Northern 1, Northern Pacific 1 1-4, Union Pacific 5-8, St. Paul 1-2 and Amalgamated Copper 3-8. The market was fairly brisk.

Aside from a few unimportant advances which were subsequently lost, the market began to sag almost immediately after business began. As on yesterday, Reading showed the initial weakness, which soon became widespread. A good deal of Union Pacific and other standard railroad stocks was sold, but the specialties were virtually ignored.

Reading ran off 3 1-4, Virginia Iron 2 1-2, Great Northern preferred, Northern Pacific, Northwestern, Canadian Pacific, Pacific Coast and Minneapolis, St. Paul and Sault Sainte Marie preferred 1 1-4 to 1 1-2 and St. Paul, Louisville and Nashville and St. Louis and San Francisco second preferred 1.

The market closed active and weak at the lowest. Reading fell to successively lower levels with a temporary rally of a point at one time. The small loan contraction shown by the bank statement was a disappointment and prices broke with violence.

Reading's extreme decline was 5 3-4, Great Northern preferred 8, Northern Pacific 6 1-2, Northwestern 4, St. Paul, Union Pacific and Canadian Pacific 3-8 to 2 1-2, Central Railroad of New Jersey 3, Colorado Fuel 1 3-4 and Erie, New York Central, Delaware and Hudson, Atlantic Coast Line, Amalgamated Copper, Smelting, Brooklyn Transit, Interborough-Metropolitan, People's Gas and others 1 to 1 1-2.

The total sales of stocks to-day were 548,000 shares and of bonds $971,000.

The Closing Quotations.

To-day's highest, lowest, closing prices and net changes of stocks from yesterday's final quotations are as follows:

	High.	Low.	Clos'g.	Chan's. Net.
Allis. Chalm.	17¼	16⅝	16⅞	— ⅜
Amal. Copper	113⅝	112	112	— 1⅝
Am. Car & Fdry.	43	42	42	— ⅝
Am. Cotton Oil	32	31½	32	
Am. Ice Co.	77	75	77	
Am. Locomotive	72½	72½	72½	— ½
Am. Sm. & Ref.	152½	149½	149½	— 1½
Am. Steel Fdry.	10⅝	10⅝	10⅝	— ⅛
Am. Sugar	132⅝	132½	132½	— ½
Am. Tob. Co. pf.	97	97	97	
Am. Woolen pf.	102	101½	101½	
Anaconda Mining	28⅝	28⅛	28⅛	— ⅛
A., T. & S. F.	102½	101⅝	101⅝	— ⅝
Balt. & Ohio	120⅝	119½	119⅝	— ⅝
Bklyn Rap. Tr.	80⅝	79½	79⅝	— ⅞
Can. Pacific	196⅝	194½	194½	— 2½
Ches. & Ohio	56⅝	55½	55½	— ½
C., M. & St. P.	152½	150	150	— 2½
C., M. & St. P. pf.	164	164	164	— 1
Chic. Gt. W.	18	17⅝	17⅝	— ⅜
Chic. & N. W.	197⅝	194	194	— 4
C., C., C. & St. L.	91	91	91	+ 1
Col. Fuel & Iron	54⅝	54⅝	54½	— 1⅝
Col. Southern	36⅝	36	36	— ⅝
Col. South. pf.	56⅝	55⅝	55½	— 1⅝
Corn Prod. Co.	21	20⅝	20⅝	+ ⅛
Corn Prod. Co. pf.	81½	81½	81½	
Del. & Hud.	221½	218⅝	218⅝	— 1⅝
Den. & Rio G. pf.	84	84	84	
Dist. Sec. Corp.	69½	69½	69½	— ½
Erie	42⅝	42⅝	42⅝	— ⅛
Gen. Elec.	158⅝	157	157	— 1
Gt. Nor. pf.	199	192½	192½	— 7½
Ill. Cen.	169⅝	169⅝	169⅝	+ 1½
Inter. Pump	37⅝	37⅝	37⅝	— ⅛
Iowa Central	29	28	29	
Iowa Cent. pf.	50	50	50	
Kan. City S. pf.	69	69	69	— 1
Louis. & Nash.	143⅝	143½	143½	— 1½
M.S.P. & S.S.M.	167⅝	167⅝	167⅝	
M. Kan. & Tex.	41⅝	40⅝	40⅝	— ⅝
M. K. & Tex. pf.	71½	71	71	— ½
Nat. Lead	73½	72½	72½	— ½
Norfolk & West.	90½	90	90	— ½
N. Y. Airbrake	137⅝	136⅝	137⅝	
N. Y. C. & St. L.	100	100	100	— 1
Northern Pacific	191½	190	190	— 6½
Ontario & West.	47⅝	47½	47½	— ½
Pacific Coast	123⅝	122½	122½	
Pennsylvania	137⅝	136⅝	136⅝	— ⅛
People's Gas	98⅝	97⅝	97⅝	— 1⅛
Pressed Steel	53	52½	52½	— 1½
Ry. Steel Spring	52½	52½	52½	
Reading	138⅝	133	133½	— 5½
Rep. Steel	38½	37⅝	38	— ⅝
Rock Island	30	29⅝	29⅝	— ⅝
Sloss Sheffield	92½	92	92½	— ⅝
South. Ry.	32⅝	32½	32½	— ⅝
St. L. & S. F. 2d pf.	48⅝	47½	47⅝	— ⅝
Texas Pacific	35⅝	35½	35½	— ½
Tol., St. L. & W.	33⅝	33⅝	33⅝	
Tol., St. L. & W. pf.	53⅝	53½	53⅝	
Un. Pacific	182	179⅝	180	— 2
U. S. C. I. Pipe	46⅝	45⅝	45⅝	— ⅝
U. S. Rubber	51⅝	47⅝	47⅝	— ⅝
U. S. Steel	48⅝	47⅝	47⅝	— ⅝
U. S. Steel pf.	104	103⅝	103⅝	— ⅛
Va.-Car. Chem.	36½	35⅝	36⅛	— 1⅛
West. Un. Tel.	85⅝	85	85⅝	— ⅝

+Advance. —Decline.

BANK STATEMENT SHOWS SURPLUS GAIN.

This week's bank statement, which was favorable throughout, indicates the fact that money conditions are becoming normal. There was a gain in the legal reserve of almost $5,000,000, the surplus now being $3,280,900 over the required limit. The figures as issued today at the Clearing House were:

Loans, decrease	$83,000
Deposits, increase	4,587,400
Circulation, decrease	25,500
Legal tenders, increase	1,459,300
Specie, increase	4,067,500
Reserve, increase	6,126,800
Reserve required, increase	1,146,850
Surplus, increase	4,979,950
Ex-U. S. deposits, increase	5,320,000

WHEAT PRICES STEADY, BUT TRADING DULL.

Wheat opened steady but dull to-day, a holiday sentiment prevailing in all the markets.

Corn was practically unchanged.

New York's opening prices were: May wheat, 83 7-8.

Chicago's opening prices were: May wheat, 78 to 77 7-8 to 78, July, 77 1-4. May corn, 43 3-8 to 43 1-2, July, 43 7-8 to 44, December, 41 3-8.

Wheat—May, 83 3-4; July, 83 1-8; December, 81 1-8 nom. Corn—January, 51 1-2 nom; May, 50 3-8; December, 52 1-4.

Chicago's closing prices were: Wheat—May, 77 3-4; December, 74 3-8. Corn—May, 43 1-4; July, 40 5-8; December, 41 3-8.

MELBA SAILS FOR NEW YORK.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 22.—Among the passengers on board the Cunard Line steamship Caronia, which sailed from this port for New York to-day, were Mme. Nellie Melba, Sir Austin Webb, ex-president of the Royal Institute of British Architects, and Lady Webb.

YOU never knew a smoker who wouldn't appreciate a box of good cigars for Christmas—New Year's—Holidays—Birthdays—Anytime.

We've got a stock of cigars that *every* smoker in town ought to look at this season. Our customers *know* that they get the best cigars in the world for the money in our stores.

We want all smokers to know that, and we want every box of cigars bought in our stores and given away this season to make another all-the-year-round good customer for our stores.

CIGARS UNITED

That's the kind of cigars we sell—cigars that are good, *unusually* good. Always quite a little better than you can get elsewhere. These are some of our best:

Orlando, Bismarck Size, box of 25, $2.50.
Havana-American, Universal Size, box of 50, $5.00.
El Principe de Gales, Perfecto Excellente Size, box of 25, $2.88.
Capt. Marryat, Perfecto Size, box of 50, $2.45.
Gen. Braddock, Colonial Size, box of 50, $2.00.

If it's not cigars, it may be pipes—then we can show you everything new and good.

UNITED CIGAR STORES COMPANY

Largest Retail Cigar Dealers in the World Because we aim to serve the People best.

ANOTHER WALKING ARSENAL SEIZED

Threatened to Blow Up Store if Fifty Dollars Was Not Given Up.

Vincenzo Abadessa is accused by detectives sergeants attached to the recently formed Black-Hand Bureau of having been a daring bandit in Italy and of having been sentenced there to twenty-four years' imprisonment for killing a man. He certainly looked the part when arraigned in Jefferson Market Police Court to-day for attempted extortion.

Leopold Danni, a grocer, of No. 90 Macdougal street, made the complaint. Danni told Magistrate Steinert that Abadessa entered his store yesterday, called him to one side and told him that if he did not contribute $50 to the defense fund of a member of a desperate gang about to be tried for murder in Brooklyn his store would be blown up.

The grocer promised to produce the money last night. When Abadessa went around to collect it he was met by Detective-Sergeants Botti and Traducci, who extracted from his garments a sufficiency of deadly weapons to decorate a Christmas tree.

Abadessa was held in $1,000 bail for trial.

Cuba Now Free from Yellow Fever.

HAVANA, Dec. 22.—For the first time since last August Cuba is now free from yellow fever, the last case which was in this city having been discharged.

A Natural Laxative

Inward cleansing is as necessary as outward bathing. To keep the bowels free and regular is of even greater importance than to keep the skin-pores from becoming clogged. The neglect of either invites disease. Everyone needs a natural laxative occasionally, to free the bowels of accumulated impurities. For this purpose take

BEECHAM'S PILLS

the greatest boon ever offered to those who suffer from the ills that follow constipation. For over fifty years Beecham's Pills have been famous as a Stomach corrective, a Liver regulator and Bowel laxative. They never gripe nor cause pain. Powerful purgatives are dangerous. Avoid them. Use Beecham's Pills. They give relief without doing violence to any organ. Their action is in harmony with physical laws. Take them regularly and the necessity for their use becomes less frequent. They are a natural laxative and a positive cure for Constipation, Biliousness, Indigestion, Sick Headache and Dyspepsia.

Sold Everywhere in Boxes. 10c and 25c.

Sixth Avenue **O'Neill-Adams Co** 20th to 22d Street

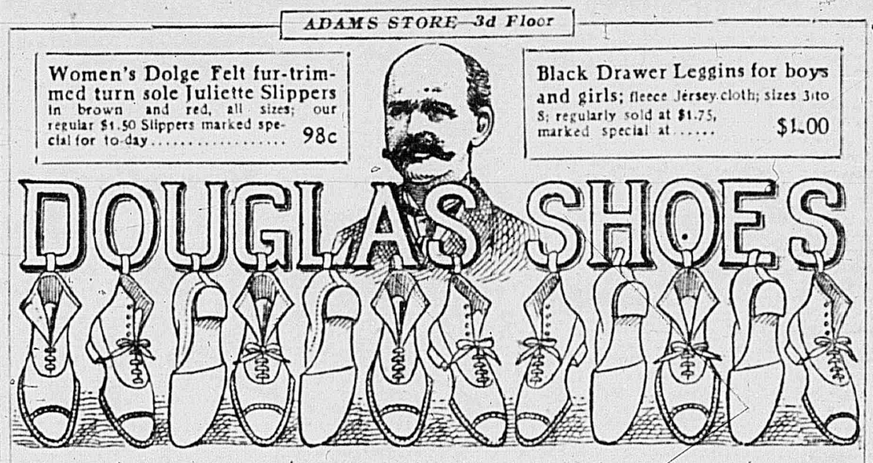
Until 10 o'Clock This Evening

Men's W. L. Douglas Shoes $1.98

ADAMS STORE—3d Floor

Women's Dolge Felt fur-trimmed turn sole Juliette Slippers in brown and red, all sizes; our regular $1.50 Slippers marked special for to-day 98c

Black Drawer Leggins for boys and girls; fleece Jersey cloth; sizes 3 to 8; regularly sold at $1.75, marked special at $1.00



When You Buy W. L. Douglas Shoes BELOW What They Are Branded You Are Getting a Genuine Bargain.

$1.98 There isn't another store in the world that can sell you W. L. Douglas Shoes at a lower price than they are branded—namely, $2.50, $3.50, $4.00 and $5.00. $1.98

We contract with the Douglas factories to take EVERY pair of their Shoes that has even the slightest surface mark or defect. These shoes they term "factory damaged."

Added to this splendid lot of Douglas Shoes we offer 500 pairs of SNOW'S WELT SHOES—ROYAL SHOES, and CROSSETTES & PINGREE'S Sample Shoes; values to $5.00; also at $3.00

Better selection, branded, up to $5.00, at $1.98 $2.59

1,150 Pairs Men's Fine Holiday Slippers $1.00

Reduced from $1.95, $1.79, $1.39 Per Pair to

Men's Slippers, $1.00

IF we were to offer you Gold Dollars at 50c apiece wouldn't you be surprised? You would hardly believe us, would you? Well, that's just the kind of a bargain we will offer you to-morrow in this greatest of all Slipper Sales of the season. You couldn't find better slippers if you tried. They are all the highest products of the best manufacturers. All the popular shapes, including opera, Romeo and Everette, in six different shades; all sizes; reduced from $1.95, $1.79, $1.39 to $1.00

Men's Slippers, $1.00

EVERY WOMAN

wants to feel well and look well. This condition can only be attained by keeping all the organs of the body in healthy, harmonious action. Periodically certain functions are to be expected. Any delay or interference throws out of harmony the whole system.

Radway's Pills

regulate the whole system and assist nature in curing these disorders.

STOMACH TROUBLES

Dr. Radway & Co.

Dear Sirs: Received your book, "Fase and Health" also letter. Allow me to thank you very much for your kind advice. My mother had been troubled with her stomach for years and went to see so many doctors without getting relief that she was in despair; so one day a friend told me of Radway's Pills. I bought them that day, and my mother took them for a week steady and, I'll tell you, at the end of the week she felt like a new woman.

We recommend them to all of our friends and neighbors. We can't praise them enough.

Thanking you once again, I am, respectfully, ANNA KOEHLER,
313 Hudson Ave., Union Hill, N. J.

RADWAY'S PILLS

cure all disorders of the stomach, bowels, kidneys, bladder, dizziness, costiveness, piles, SICK HEADACHE, FEMALE COMPLAINTS, BILIOUSNESS, INDIGESTION, CONSTIPATION, AND ALL DISORDERS OF THE LIVER. 25c. A BOX. AT DRUGGISTS OR BY MAIL.

Radway & Co., 45 Lafayette St., N. Y.

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Christmas Gifts

NOW and pay as your income will allow. Eight months after January 1st, 1907. Positively no employer's reference required. All transactions strictly confidential. All goods marked in plain figures. One price.

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Don't delay. Call at once, or write (Illustrated Catalogue, Free.)

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Cleanses and beautifies the hair. Promotes a luxuriant growth. Never Fails to Restore Gray Hair to its Youthful Color. Cures scalp diseases & hair falling. 50c. and $1.00 at Druggists

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