JEROME'S CLUB FAILS TO SCARE THE GAMBLERS

Threat to Institute Suits Against Winners and Losers Cause No Excitement.

NO BIG RUSH TO SETTLE.

The District-Attorney Thinks He Can Sue for Five Millions.

SOME MEN JEROME MIGHT SUE UNDER GAMBLING LAW.

E. R. THOMAS.
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BERRY WALL.
FLOYD GRANT.
WILLIAM M. TOWNSEND.
GREEN PICKENS, "CREEP."
DAVE JOHNSON.
SAM SNEDEKER.
SOL LICHTENSTEIN, "DEN G."

District-Attorney Jerome's sudden discovery of a statute regulating gambling that is and has been familiar to every lawyer since it was passed created no special excitement in New York to-day.

There were no long lines of millionaires clogging the corridors outside the District-Attorney's office feverishly clamoring for a chance to settle. The bookmakers went out to the track in their automobiles, as usual, and the bettors went out to the track, hanging by their eyebrows to Long Island Railroad trains—also, as usual.

What the Law Provides.

The statute that the District-Attorney proposes to use now, and which was at his disposal all the years he has been using axes and other implements of war, provides that any person who wins or loses more than $25 in betting within twenty-four hours may be punished by a fine of not less than five times the amount won or lost, to be recovered by civil action for the benefit of the poor, the action to be instigated by the persons charged with the support of the poor—in this city the Commissioner of Charities.

The statute specifically states that the authorities in charge of the poor must institute the proceedings, and that they shall be of a civil nature. Nevertheless the District-Attorney, elected by the people as the prosecuting officer to punish criminals, announces that he and the Corporation Counsel are going to get busy.

The Tombs is jammed with men and women charged with crime and awaiting trial. Complaints about the slowness with which prosecutions proceed are continual. In the face of this the District-Attorney proposes to detail some of his bright young men to bring civil suits against men whom he charges with having bet on the races in the Davis syndicate poolrooms and won or lost.

What He Might Collect.

He placidly announces that upwards of $1,000,000 was played in the Davis rooms between Jan. 1 and the time the headquarters was raided and the names of many customers secured. On the strength of this he sees a chance of collecting $5,000,000 for the poor. He also takes the liberty of advising the District-Attorneys of Queens, Kings and Nassau Counties that they can stop betting on the race tracks very easily.

All they have to do is have subpoena-servers in the ring to take the names of men who make bets and the amounts of the bets. Then bring suits to recover from each bettor five times as much as he won or lost. To any one familiar with the methods followed in betting on the race tracks this suggestion is the funniest thing since Bill Devery ran for Mayor. In recording race-track wagers under the Percy-Gray law—which the courts have upheld—only the badge numbers are used. Bookmakers seldom know the names of their customers. There is no law compelling a man to give his real name on a race track—or in a poolroom, either, for that matter.

On Nov. 17, 1906, in Judge Rosalsky's part of the Court of General Sessions, District-Attorney Jerome proclaimed that he was going to put every form of gambling in this town out of business. He detailed his ideas at length. He said, with due solemnity and emphasis:

"I will break the neck of the gambling evil or it will break my neck."

Then Went to Lakeville.

After which he repaired to Lakeville, Conn., and got very busy on something else. At various times this year he has told the people through the press, committees of ministers and others that he would push his bills suppling race track betting through the Legislature or something would drop in the State of New York. Nothing has happened, and the bill slumbers peacefully in committee. Not very long ago the District-Attorney announced that he had subpoenaed every hotel detective in town to give the locations of gambling houses, the names of the owners and the names of men who frequented them. Up to this time none of the hotel detectives appears to have paid any attention to the subpoenas.

It is no easy task to keep the District-Attorney's office in the limelight all the time.

CLARKE DOESN'T THINK THE LAW WOULD STAND.

District-Attorney Clarke, of Kings County, when asked to-day what he thought of the plan of the District-Attorney of New York County to end pool-room and race-track gambling said:

"I am ready and willing at all times to co-operate with the Corporation Counsel or any other official or citizen in the suppression of gambling in any form.

"Concerning District-Attorney Jerome's idea, all I have to say is that the law now specifically provides a penalty in the matter of race-track gambling. There is a provision in the bill allowing race tracks to operate permitting the loser of a bet to recover from the winner through a civil suit. It is a question whether this or Mr. Jerome's penalty of fining a winner or loser five times the amount of his bet would stand good in law.

"The question, it seems to me, is important enough to be settled in a test case. The Corporation Counsel might secure evidence and bring an action under the statute unearthed by Mr. Jerome, and then the status of the law as it stands could be determined."

PROSECUTOR MAY TRY JEROME PLAN IN NASSAU COUNTY.

District-Attorney Franklin A. Coles, of Nassau County, in which the Belmont Park Race Track is situated, takes a great deal of interest in District-Attorney Jerome's latest discovery. The Belmont Park track is not popular in Nassau County, and Mr. Coles has been asked several times to take steps to close it. He has found heretofore that three decisions of the Court of Appeals protect race tracks as they are operated under the Percy-Gray law.

In Nassau County the Jerome plan would have to be put through several experimental processes. In the first place it would be necessary to determine whether the District-Attorney or the Overseer of the Poor would be the proper person to institute a suit against a man gambling on a race track.

The matter of securing the names of bettors is hedged about with all sorts of difficulties. Of course big bettors and bookmakers could be reached because they are well known. In order to get at the betting public generally it would be necessary to hold John Doe proceedings, and Mr. Coles doubts if they would stand in a civil action.

However, the District Attorney of Nassau County says he is willing to give the Jerome plan a trial if he discovers that he has the requisite authority. Bishop Burgess and the other authorities of the Episcopal Church on Long Island are anxious that he should make a test, because the race track, being so close to the Garden City Cathedral and other church property, is an extremely unpopular institution with religious people—although August Belmont, the leading owner of the track, is a prominent adherent of the tenets of Episcopalianism.

RAINES NAMES HIS APPORTIONMENT NINE.

Make Up of Senate Committee Indicates Slim District Changes Up State.

Special to The Evening World.

ALBANY, May 16.—Senator Raines, the boss of the Legislature, appointed to-day the following committee to frame an apportionment bill: Tully, Cobb, Cassidy, Smith, Franchot, Agnew and Gilchrist (Republicans), and McCarren and Frawley (Democrats).

The presence of Franchot, Smith, Cassidy and Tully on the committee is interpreted to mean that no material changes will be made in the up-State districts, as these men are hostile to any plan that will interfere much with the old apportionment above the Bronx.

TEN FIREMEN HURT IN BLAZE ON OIL BARGE

Several Rescues from Flame and Smoke Off Pier 49, North River.

In a short but terrific fire in the hold of a Standard Oil barge off Pier No. 49, North River, to-day, Capt. McGuire, of Hook and Ladder Company No. 12, Lieut. Connolly, of the same company, and half a dozen firemen were severely burned.

Capt. McGuire and Lieut. Connolly were rescued by a daring dash of other fire-fighters from the flaming barge in the nick of time. The captain was dragged out first, and for a moment was unconscious.

He revived and staggered to his feet, shouting: "Where's Connolly?" He rushed back toward the boat and would not leave till assured that the lieutenant was safe. He was quieted then, and once more lapsed into an unconsciousness which held him for nearly an hour.

The firemen who are worst injured are:

Daniel Ferris, Engine Company No. 3, burns on face and hands, and taken to hospital unconscious.

Lawrence McGuire, No. 23 West Twenty-third street, Foreman Truck No. 12, burned about face and hands; his hair and mustache, eyelashes and eyebrows burned off, refused to go to hospital.

Joseph Connelly, Assistant Foreman Truck No. 5, carried out unconscious; burned about face and hands.

John F. O'Connor, Johnson avenue, Spuyten Duyvil, Truck No. 12, burned about face, hands and body.

Edward B. Casson, No. 334 West Eighteenth street, burned about face and hands.

Joseph Frawley, Engine No. 24, burned about the face and hands.

Others slightly hurt are:

Firemen McManus and Hay, of Hook and Ladder No. 12; Firemen Maruvselle, Tighe and Bauer, of Engine Company No. 12.

Ferris was sent to St. Vincent's Hospital badly burned and unconscious. It required half an hour to get an ambulance from the hospital, and when at last it came there were very angry words said to Dr. Frawley by the firemen whose comrades were suffering on the pier.

Barge Without Crew or Captain.

The barge is No. 71. It has stood at the pier just off the foot of West Eleventh street for some days without crew or captain. It had no oil aboard, but its timbers were soaked with the stuff. Capt. Fred Faulkner is its commander when it is in commission.

William Dansieth, the watchman on the pier, and Policeman Kelly saw smoke coming out of the hold fore and aft, and the policeman turned in an alarm.

The Brebot McClellan and the firemen were soon on the spot, and for a moment it looked as if the blaze would not amount to much. The Brebot threw three streams of water on it, while men of Hook and Ladder Company No. 5 began smashing in the deck to get at the source of the blaze in the compartments underneath.

Firemen Went Into Hull.

Capt. McGuire, who is acting Battalion Chief of the Seventh District, and Lieut. Connolly went down into one of the holes which the men had cut to see just where the flames were coming from. They had not been inside an instant when there was a flash, and a blaze rose high out of the hole. Firemen McManus and Hay were near, and without a thought of themselves plunged through the fire and jumped to the rescue of the two men.

They succeeded in getting hold of Capt. McGuire, and pulled him out.

Search for Connolly.

Mean time the other injured firemen were searching for Connolly, and succeeded at last in finding him. Into were flames in sheets lashing out of the little hole as he and his rescuers were pulled up.

Fireman Ferris, of the lieutenant's rescuers, was the worst injured. He was burned to a blister all over the face. It was said at the hospital his condition was serious.

Six minutes after Capt. McGuire had ordered the men down into the hold a call for an ambulance was sent in over the phone to Fire Hall. They sent to St. Vincent's, and there the ambulance was despatched, according to the statement from the hospital, at 7 o'clock.

It was so slow in reaching the Bank street pier that the firemen became indignant as they watched the suffering of the men who had been burned. They did everything they could to alleviate their suffering. A couple of the men who were least hurt were hurried to quarters in the chief's wagon. It was 7 o'clock, according to Battalion Chief Reilly's watch, when the ambulance arrived.

"It seems to me that you fellows took your time about getting here," said the chief indignantly to Dr. Frawley, a young interne. "Is it too much work for you people to get up out of bed?"

"I don't want any of your d— abuse," responded Dr. Frawley, and then he picked up his satchel, as if he were going to walk back to the ambulance.

"Look here," shouted the chief, jumping at him, "you stay right where you are and do your best."

Frawley paled at the sight of the husky firemen who crowded about their chief, and said, apologetically:

"Oh, I didn't intend to go away. It's a pleasure to do anything I can for you men."

"Well, then, do it and have no talk about it," said Chief Reilly.

Frawley got to work in a hurry and quickly had the men temporarily bandaged.

Before his arrival Riley had sent some of the injured men to their quarters in the Battalion Chief's wagons. The others were treated by Dr. Frawley.

Capt. McGuire and Lieut. Connolly, when restored, were sent home suffering great pain and bearing it with true grit. The fire caused a loss of only about $500, as it was soon controlled after the men in the hold were saved.

GLOBE-TROTTING TRIP ENDED IN BOWERY BARREL

Willie Young, of Boston, Went to Bed in Cylinder, Lacking Shelter.

Willie Young didn't do very well on his projected trip around the world. He set out from Boston last Saturday and was rescued from a crockery barrel in front of No. 311 Bowery to-day. Willie, who is seventeen, a graduate of the Quincy Grammar School and a very bright little chap, went to sleep in the barrel last night. He had no better shelter.

When the youthful globe-trotter awoke he was wedged in the barrel. Policeman Coffey was standing within a dozen feet of him when he heard a smothered shout. He looked about, but could see nothing. When his eye fell on the barrel, however, he was surprised to see it rocking strangely. He investigated and found Willie.

To Magistrate Steinert in the Yorkville Court the youngster said that he and George Dillon, of Boston, had started on a world tour from Boston on Saturday. Both are printers' apprentices and thought it would be simple to work their way. They had a joint capital of $4.

Two of the dollars brought them to Manhattan on a Joy line steamer. The remaining two dwindled away for buns and pies. It was all gone Tuesday, whereupon the Dillon boy had a sudden zero in the feet and went home by casual freight. Willie has been wandering about for two days looking for a job. He had eaten nothing for forty-eight hours and when Magistrate Steinert ordered him a sandwich he almost swooned with joy as he clutched it.

Miss Smith, the probationary officer, took Willie to the Charity Department, where provision was made to send him home. He has lived for ten years with his cousin, Mrs. Josephine Young, of No. 53 Oak street, Boston.

RAISED A ROW AFTER TRIAL OF POLICEMAN

Feinberg and His Wife Expected Randolph Would Be Punished.

Policeman John Randolph, of the Fifth street station, was put on trial to-day before Third Deputy Police Commissioner Hanson at Police Headquarters on charges preferred by Morris Feinberg, formerly janitor at No. 542 East Fourteenth street.

According to Feinberg, he had a disagreement with the landlord on April 25, and was served with a dispossess notice effective on May 1. Feinberg told the Commissioner that on April 27 Policeman Randolph, accompanied by a city marshal named Einstein, appeared at the house. He asserted that the policeman told the marshal to smash in the door and put the property of Feinberg in the street. Feinberg, his wife, Etta, and their property, it was alleged, were put out, and some clothing and other goods were lost or stolen as a result.

Feinberg said that upon leaving the house he met the landlord on the corner and demanded $30 which he claimed was due him—$1 for each key in the house—and that an argument followed in which Policeman Randolph again sided against the janitor.

The policeman denied that he had done anything except to go to the place to see that there was no infraction of the law, and that the peace was not disturbed. He denied that he had told the city marshal to smash the door.

Deputy Commissioner Hanson said that city marshals were constantly violating the law and simply reprimanded the policeman.

When Feinberg and his wife heard this they became excited. They expected that the policeman would at least be broken and probably sent to prison.

"Justice, justice," sarcastically shouted Mrs. Feinberg, raising her hands toward heaven. She was politely escorted to the hall, where she continued to raise a disturbance, shaking her fist under the nose of Policeman Randolph, and declaring: "We'll get you yet!"

Lieut. Martin Corbett, of the traffic squad, assisted by Policeman Noonan and another officer, arrested Feinberg and his wife on a charge of disorderly conduct and took them to the Mulberry street police station. They were later arraigned in the Centre street court.

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*301 Broadway, nr Marcy Ave.
*1003 Broadway, bet. Ditmars St. and Willoughby Ave.
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