

NO GAS COMPANY CAN DODGE THE 80-CENT RULING

Allon B. Parker and Other Lawyers for Public Say Decision Binds All.

\$15,000,000 IS HELD UP.

Sum Due in Rebate Is Much Greater Than Heretofore Stated.

Edward B. Whitney, representing the Public Service Commission, and former Judge Alton B. Parker and Assistant Corporation Counsel William P. Burr, representing the city, it was learned today, are of the opinion that it will be found the decision of the United States Supreme Court, which binds the Consolidated Gas Company to obey the Eighty-Cent Gas Law, will ultimately bind all of the subsidiary companies whose stock it owns or controls.

This interdependent relation, The Evening World has established. Further quibbling on the part of the Gas Trust over the decision of the highest court sustaining the Eighty-Cent Gas Law has indicated its intention of making only a partial surrender to defeat.

In delving for a way of dodging the surrender, one astute gas lawyer is understood to have proposed that the Consolidated Gas Company assume to go out of business, borne down, as it were, by the weight of the court decision which declared the Eighty-Cent Gas Law constitutional.

This ingenious method of meeting an unpleasant dilemma is not without precedent in local transactions, and out of the temporary stewardship could come contracts with the subsidiary gas companies to take over the supplying of its 168,000 customers. As these minor companies claim they are not bound by the decision of the court, they could go on charging \$1. This would entail the return to the public of only such moneys as have accumulated.

\$15,000,000 Really Due.

The amount of money due the public under the decision of the United States Supreme Court has been generally stated to be \$10,000,000. As a matter of fact, it is more than \$15,000,000, for since March 30 last the Consolidated Gas Company, with the consent of a Judge of a Federal court, ceased to send in the 20 per cent. in dispute. Up to that time the parent company in the Gas Trust family had paid in \$1,821,150.

The payment of the amount in dispute to Special Master John A. Shields, who, in addition to being custodian of the gas fund, is clerk of the United States Circuit Court, where the Gas Trust started its fight, says of being a farce when the money is followed to its ultimate destination.

The \$9,000,000 technically held by Mr. Shields has really never left the clutches of the men who comprise the Gas Trust. An examination of the personnel of the banks where the money has been deposited by Mr. Shields shows that these banks are controlled by the same interests that own the Gas Trust. No actual money has passed hands.

Here is the process which has been going on since May, 1906, when the 80-cent gas law became operative: Every month six checks have been sent to Special Master Shields—one from each tentacle of the octopus. Mr. Shields would then by a Clearing-House process of his own have the amount of money named in the six checks placed to his credit in seven banks. Since March last, when the Consolidated dropped out, the monthly grist of checks have been five instead of six.

Five directors of the Consolidated Gas Company are directors of the National City Bank, one of the seven banks. These directors are William Rockefeller, Samuel Sloan, Moses Taylor, Frank A. Vanderbilt and J. W. Sterling. Mr. Sterling is also a director of the New Amsterdam, Central Union and Standard Gas companies.

President R. M. Galloway, of the New York Mutual Gas Company, is president of the Merchants' National Bank, another one of the depositories. G. Zabriskie, a director of Mr. Galloway's bank, is also his associate in the directorate of the gas company. James Stillman, chairman of the Board of Directors in the National City Bank, and a power in the Gas Trust conference, is a director of the Citizens' Central Bank and the Importers' and Traders' National Bank, two more of the Federal depositories. E. S. Marston, a director of the New Amsterdam Gas Company, is a director of the National City Bank.

Close Relations All Around. Further financial relations of an intimate character between the Gas Trust and the banks, where the public gas fund is on deposit, could be shown. Enough has been given to indicate the present position of the Gas Trust—face to face for the first time with the immediate loss of \$15,000,000 scattered among the 255,000 beneficiaries of the court decision. What wonder that conference follow conference of the Gas Trust counsel?

To compel the Gas Trust to obey the will of the people, expressed in the 80-Cent Gas Law, the State and city has spent over \$90,000.

Woman Star Who Has Not Spent \$100 on Costumes She Has Worn in Seven Plays



DOG GUARDS BABY LEFT IN HALLWAY IN A SNOWDRIFT

Animal Attracts Attention of Tenant in Time to Save Child's Life.

So far as Samuel Segal knew, there had never been a dog attached to any of the families who live at No. 27 Sheffield avenue. And nothing could have been more disturbing to a weary Brooklyn man than to have his right to enter his flat and go to bed challenged by a dog with an aggressively nervous growl.

Mr. Segal stopped short in his tracks and lighted a match. From the back of the front hall the growl rolled out again. In the flickering light he could see the animal's red eyes glaring at him. Tentatively, Segal moved toward the stairs. The dog made no objection. Segal reached about the tenth step up. The dog addressed him again. This time it was not a growl, but an appealing whine, and a sharp yelp, as if of distress. Segal lighted another match and looked at the dog more plainly this time.

It was a yellow cur with lop ears and a most raggedly and unattractive tail, neither smooth nor long-haired. The dog was trotting back and forth in a little circle in the snow which had drifted through the open back door into the hall. There was a little circular track marked out by its circuit. In the center was a bundle almost covered with snow.

Segal Investigates. The dog had been running around and around the bundle apparently, but now, looking up at Segal, whining, with eyes upturned, Segal went up to his flat and got a candle and, protecting it from the draughts, cautiously approached the back door of the front hall.

The yellow dog growled again as he approached, and so menacingly that Segal retreated. But before he could reach the stairs, the dog was bounding at him with wagging tail and short barks, running back to the bundle. Segal took courage of curiosity and returned. The dog trotted back and sat on the bundle.

For Less Than \$100 Actress Has Dressed Seven of Her Roles

Eleanor Robson Has Spent More Money on Costumes for Her Eighteen Dolls Than for Her Own Apparel on the Stage.

By Nixola Greeley-Smith.



A woman star who has not spent \$100 on her costumes in her last seven plays! Impossible? Well, listen: "I have eighteen dolls and it costs far more to dress them than it does to dress me—only," added Miss Eleanor Robson, "my friends dress my dolls for me and I have to dress myself!"

The loveliest of the Lothar stars had just reached New York to prepare the production of the new play, "The Dawn of a Tomorrow," which Frances Hodgson Burnett has written for her, and she had been preceded by the rumor that her clothes for the new production would not cost her \$100 all told.

"A hundred dollars!" gasped the little lady of rarely simple yet inscrutable beauty, awe in her accents, "why, all my costumes for my last seven plays haven't cost me so much money. For years I've worn the simplest little gingham and calicoes on the stage. I suppose they must cost something, but in my new role I wear only one ragged gown all through the play. Some one has given me an old pair of shoes—you know I play the part of Glad, a very poor child in the London slums."

"And poor Glad hasn't any glad rags?" I hazarded, making a mean joke. "No," laughed Miss Robson, "she hasn't. And to tell you the truth, I care very little for clothes even of the stage. If I am going anywhere and my maid puts out three light dresses and a dark blue one I always choose the dark blue. Often she protests, but I say, 'Oh, it looks as if it might rain,' or 'Perhaps it will snow to-morrow,' and have my way. You see I have a perfect horror of being recognized, and in public I think it better to be inconspicuous."

his theatre, the Lyceum—he said to me: 'Hereafter when people ask me how I feel, I'll say 'glad and dandy.' Instead of 'fine and dandy.'"

"One thing Glad does for me," continued Miss Robson, after I had led her back to the subject of clothes, "she emancipates me from caps—I've worn caps for years on the stage. In 'Merely Mary Ann' I wore a cap, and as Kate Hardcastle in 'She Stoops to Conquer,' and as 'Nurse Marjory,' and in 'Salomy Jane.' At last I've gotten below the cap line. Glad has for headgear only what she terms her calling costume, an old sack that she throws over her head when she goes out."

Fine Gowns a Hamper. "I don't know what I should do with a really dressed up part. I don't like to think about my clothes. I believe the consciousness of wearing beautiful gowns would hamper me."

"I suppose you know how extraordinary that is?" I suggested. "Most young women stars trail so much magnificence behind them as to suggest that they are more like comets and mostly tail."

"Don't call me a star," pleaded Miss Robson. "I would so much prefer being called a leading woman."

TWO WOMEN DIE IN FRIGHT OVER EARTHQUAKES

Severe Shocks Spread Terror in New Section of Italy.

ROME, Jan. 14.—Two women who died of fright at Bologna are the only victims of the latest shocks, which spread terror for a time yesterday through Lombardy, Venetia and Tuscany. The damage was limited to cracked walls and broken windows.

The military authorities are still distributing rations at Messina, and several shops are being opened daily in the temporary town. Material is lacking, and this is holding back building operations. Many of the survivors have been unable to obtain changes of clothing, and scores of children are half naked. The unprecedented rainfall has had a depressing effect.

University officials have gone to Messina to search for scientific records and other treasures in the ruins. Lieut. Commander Belknap, in charge of the American relief expedition at Catania, is accomplishing a great deal, and America has made such a good impression it is being suggested that an American town be built on the site of one of the cities, or at least, an American quarter in one of the rehabilitated cities.

King Victor Emmanuel has ordered that all the timber available on his San Rossore estate be sent to rebuild the devastated area. The Duke of Connaught visited the ruins of Messina and distributed a large sum of money among survivors. He also took a number of pictures and shook hands with the soldiers at work on the excavations.

A heavy force of blue-jackets from the battleship "Hingham" is excavating the ruins of the American Consulate at Messina, and will not abandon work until the bodies of Consul Cheney and Mrs. Cheney are found.

INDIAN PRINCE AND HARVARD MEN ROUTED BY FIRE

Gaikwar of Baroda Sees Students Rescue Comrade From Flames in Dormitory

(Special to The Evening World.) CAMBRIDGE, Mass., Jan. 14.—The students in fashionable Westmorely Court, one of the most exclusive of Harvard's outside dormitories, were turned out into a bitter storm at 4:30 A. M. today by a fire which started in one of the rooms occupied by three freshmen. All of the rooms, which are lavishly furnished, have open fireplaces. In the room on the third floor, where the fire started, a couch had been left too close to the spattering logs and a spark snapped out on to it and set it on fire.

All of the students were aroused in time to leave the building, but one, who was overcome by smoke in his sleep. An apartment directly over the other two rooms is occupied by the Indian Prince, the Gaikwar of Baroda, who is widely known about the college.

TWO WILLIAMSBURG MEN END LIFE BY GAS

One Was Ill and Tired of Life, the Other Quarrelled With His Family.

Two suicides were reported to the police in Williamsburg early today. The first was Richard Meyer, a retired hardware merchant, seventy-nine years old, who lived at No. 597 Grand street. He was well-to-do, and he and his wife lived with their children.

Meyer had been ill a good deal lately, and several times remarked that he was of no use in the world, and would be better out of it. When his wife went to call him this morning she found his bedroom filled with gas, and one end of a tube, connecting with the chandelier, in his mouth.

Thomas McDonald, sixty-eight years old, a tobacco salesman, had quarrelled with his family, the members of which live at No. 222 South First street, a week or two ago, and since then he has been living in a small hotel, owned by John Dunning, at South Fourth street and Second avenue. When he didn't arise at his usual hour today, the proprietor went to call him, and found him dead in bed with gas escaping from two jets, the tips of which had been removed.

There was a dim light burning on one of the other jets, and it was remarkable that the house was not set afire.

EXHIBITS BY FRENCH CHEFS. Spectators of cooking, modelling in sugar and sculpture in ice are among the exhibits planned for the annual culinary art show given by New York chefs at Terrace Garden Feb. 24. Porcelain, of Rector's, Greville, of Delmonico's, and other noted members of the Societe Culinaire. Philanthropique will display fancy dishes to inquiring husbands and departing wives.

Clearance Reductions \$20 to \$30 Suits Now Reduced to \$12.50 Friday's Bargains Stupendous values in this remarkable offering of the richest and prettiest suits, comprising the season's favorite models. Rich Broadcloth Suits Swell Cheviot Suits Dashing Mixture Suits Chic Novelty Suits Every coat beautifully satin lined—all desirable models, including the ornate Directoire costumes and the smart mannish "tailor-mades"—skirts that are veritable leaders in the realm of fashion—exquisite in finish, perfect in poise and fit. Alterations FREE SALE AT ALL THREE STORES Bedell 14-16 West 14th Street NEW YORK 460 & 462 Fulton Street BROOKLYN 645 to 651 Broad Street NEWARK 3 LARGE STORES.

IT IS A WRONG IDEA to Think That the Dr. A. Reed Cushion Shoe is not a stylish shoe—just the opposite—it is a very good looking boot, and so mighty comfortable. Another misplaced impression is that only persons who have bad feet wear them. Nonsense—the men and women who go a lot—people who get a great deal out of life have adopted them because they are the finest and most comfortable shoes on earth—likewise they protect one's health. THEY ARE FOR MEN & WOMEN J. P. Smith Shoe Co. Makers of Men's. John Ebberts Shoe Co. Makers of Women's. Dr. A. Reed Cushion Shoe Co., Ltd., 1352 Broadway, cor. 36 St.

Hackett, Carhart & Co Boys' & Children's Dep't—Broadway at 13th St. IMPORTANT SALE—BOYS' SUITS & OVERCOATS At Great Reductions Russian, Reefer, Tourist and Box Back Overcoats Sizes 2 1/2 to 17 Years Now \$5.00 & \$7.50 Reduced from \$15.00, \$12.75, \$10.75 and \$8.75 Advance Sale—\$3.75 & \$4.50 Wash Suits at \$1.90 Sailor & Russian models, made of pure linens, poplins, madras & fine chambrays. \$7.50 Sailor & Russian Suits now \$3.75

IT'S THERE! WHAT? WHERE? The fact or figure you may want to know in a hurry. In The World Almanac and Encyclopedia for 1909, of course. JUST OUT!

AGED PLINY FISK INJURED. TRENTON, N. J., Jan. 14.—Pliny Fisk, eighty-two years old and feeble, is kept to his bed by injuries received in falling on the stairs of his home here. An ear was torn almost off, two ribs were broken and he was badly cut about the face. He is a brother of the late Harvey Fisk, founder of the banking firm Harvey Fisk, Son, and is uncle of Mayor Charles J. Fisk, of Plainfield.

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