

STIR MADE BY BIG RAID.

Continued from first page.

and William Baker, dealer, held in \$1,500 bail. No. 104 West Thirty-third-st. James Stewart, held in \$1,500 bail. No. 210 West Thirty-first-st. James Murphy, held in \$1,500 bail. Those who could not furnish bail were locked up in the Tombs. This is the law applicable to their cases:

Section 34 of the Penal Code: "A person who is the owner, agent or superintendent of a place or of any device or apparatus for gambling, or who allows to be used a room, table, establishment, or apartments for such a purpose, or who engages as a dealer, keeper or player in any gambling or banking game where money or property is dependent on the result, or who sells or offers to sell what is commonly known as lottery policies of any writing, paper or document in the nature of a lottery policy, or who issues or offers to issue any lottery policy or other such writing, paper or document for not more than two years or by a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or both."

AFTER THE BIG GAMBLERS.

CHAIRMAN BALDWIN SAYS HIS COMMITTEE'S FIRST RAID WON'T BE THE LAST.

Chairman Baldwin of the Committee of Fifteen seemed well pleased yesterday with the result of his committee's raid. When asked whether it had undertaken the raid simply to show the people of the city that there were gambling houses in operation and raids could be made upon them, he said:

"We had another purpose in view. We are after the head of the combine. We know who he is, and what we want is a thoroughly satisfied man who will be completely satisfied with the whole. It was a complete success, and it was successful in relation to each particular gambling place. When the information of our proposed raid was given to the District Attorney for him to act upon, I met with his approval, and Assistant District Attorney Schurman was present at the raid. There was no attempt to detain any players as witnesses. We only want the owners and the gamblers. We retained Mr. Monroe as counsel to be advised as to the assistance of John McCullough, who is the work of our committee was fully demonstrated last night."

Austen G. Fox heard the foregoing statement and said that he fully concurred in it and had nothing to add. The committee held a meeting yesterday afternoon, but saw nothing for publication.

Judge Jerome also has taken for his objective point the men who sell protection to the gamblers. He said:

"The Committee of Fifteen has much evidence with regard to these gambling houses. All the gamblers who were arrested last night are in our hands. We are under the impression that we shall be able to find out the leaders of this far-reaching, iniquitous and powerful organization."

Judge Jerome, being asked if he knew how the tip leaked out in advance, said:

"I don't think the police tipped any one off, though 'So' Lichtenstein possibly had a warning. There was no time for tipping, we got around so quickly. There were some informers who were tipped, and I don't think they were tipped to clean up for fear we would visit that place. But the time was so short that I don't think it is that I don't think there was any tipping."

NIXON'S SHORT SILENCE BROKEN.

RAID OF THE FIFTEEN BRINGS OUT ANOTHER "LAST WORD" ON VICE.

Lewis Nixon, ever protesting that he will talk no more to reporters, is still talking. The chairman of the discredited Committee of Five is one of the most difficult men in New-York for a reporter to deal with. One never can be sure, after leaving him in deference to his wish to be alone, coupled with an emphatic declaration that he will say no more to reporters, that the next reporter who comes along will not find Mr. Nixon in a different mood and obtain an interview. He was quoted yesterday afternoon as saying with regard to the Fifteen's raid and the withdrawal of the Five from active work:

"If the Committee of Five had plied the City Hall full of evidence and had arrested no big gamblers, it would have been a complete failure. It is to shake the faith of the gamblers in their immunity. I cannot say now just how many places were gambling, but we have investigated and played a list of gambling and pool rooms run into the hundreds."

"The information, which was in such shape that it really constituted evidence (even though some of it might not be strong enough to secure convictions) was turned over to the District Attorney. It is to give him more information along the same lines. We should have our own committee, and the committee will have given this evidence to him. Having spent the money on this work, taking up a great deal of my time, I feel that I have the opportunity to attend to my own business, and in the future I shall not discuss the vice question."

OFFENDING PUBLIC DECENCY.

Harry Freeman, proprietor of the Palace of Amusement, at No. 100 Bowery, was committed to the Tombs in default of \$1,000 bail by Magistrate Hogan, in the Centre-st. court, yesterday, on a charge of offending public decency. The complainant was Francis Tremblinsky, of No. 330 East Sixteenth-st., who said that he went into the place on Tuesday and paid five cents to see some picture slot machines. Then he paid 50 cents more to enter another room. Here he declared there was a nude woman on exhibition. Freeman denied that this was so.

NEW BEEF RATION FOR THE ARMY.

Chicago, Feb. 27 (Special).—This city has furnished a new ration for the soldiers in the Philippines, and an experimental quantity of five thousand cans is now on its way to the Orient to be tested. The new ration is composed almost entirely of lean beef cooked just sufficiently to preserve it. The soft fats have been removed. The remainder has been steamed rather than cooked. The ration for the Army consists of 7 1/2 pounds of the ration, and under its direction Armour & Co. have prepared a ration for the Philippines. Both picking trade believe that the steamed beef will meet the requirements of the army in distant lands.

ARRESTED FOR KILLING LONG AGO.

Kansas City, Mo., Feb. 27 (Special).—A special from Ardmore, Ind. T. says that Wade Hampton, a prominent cattleman, was arrested at his home near Foster, Ind. T. to-day, by the Sheriff of Coleman County, Tex., on the charge of murdering John Thomas thirty-one years ago. Mr. Hampton willfully acknowledged the charge. He has been a resident of Northern Texas and Indian Territory many years. He declares the killing was accidental.



True economy in outfitting children consists in buying articles that have intrinsic merit, in wearing qualities, style and workmanship—points wherein we claim our goods excel. Novelties in every department, goods not found elsewhere.

60-62 West 23d Street.

MURPHY APPLAUDS RAID.

SAYS HE IS GLAD TO HAVE AID OF THE FIFTEEN.

DECLARES THAT GAMBLING HOUSES MUST CLOSE AND STAY CLOSED HEREAFTER.

"I don't think there are any gambling houses being run openly in New-York," said Colonel Murphy, the new Commissioner of Police yesterday, as he was discussing with a group of reporters the raid by the Committee of Fifteen. While he was talking several wagon loads of gamblers' paraphernalia, worth about \$15,000, which had been seized in the ten houses in which raids were made by the committee in the early hours of yesterday morning, were being left in the custody of the property clerk.

"I don't mean to say," continued Colonel Murphy, "that there aren't a lot of gambling places. I'd be a fool if I did, and I don't mean to say that a man who wants to gamble and knows how it is done, can't find a place to go and sit down in a game any time he wants to. But there are no gambling houses in this city run like open business houses. These fellows are hard to catch. When they can't do business here, they slip around the corner and do business somewhere else. The only way to deal with them is to keep following them. I shall do just that. The raid last night shows the real condition of gambling in New-York. The gentlemen out last night came pretty near staking their all on the issue, and were sure of getting some game or they would not have gone out. But you see how poorly they succeeded."

"Do you want to be understood as criticizing the action of the Committee of Fifteen in making that raid?" he was asked.

"No, I don't deprecate the raid of the Fifteen. God forbid that I should. I am glad to get aid from anybody. I want the law enforced. I have impressed Cortright that I want these places closed up."

"Will you make any raids yourself?" "I may when I get proper information. If I don't meet with better success than the Fifteen did last night, I don't know what I'll think about it."

"Has Deputy Chief Cortright reported in the case of the complaints you received yesterday against women in Thirty-fifth-st.?" "Yes, he made a partial report to-day, and says he sent four men up there who remained until midnight last night and saw nothing. They examined two houses which are now under surveillance and he will until the allegations against them are either proved or disproved. They say there are immoral women there, but the question is how to catch them. They will be kept off the street. You can say that for me. I gave Cortright strict orders."

"Are you going to investigate the printed report that a policeman in full uniform went to the gambling place at No. 118 West Thirty-fifth-st. at 9:30 o'clock Tuesday night, and that after he had talked with the proprietor the place was closed and the gambling stuff taken away before the raid?"

"How could such a thing be? Justice Jerome had the warrants. He has himself stated so, and that he kept them in his pockets until he got to the West Thirtieth-st. station at midnight."

"It has been stated that the District Attorney gave the police notice before the raid?" "That is not so. I never received any notice of the raid until 1:15 o'clock this morning, when a newspaper man informed me by telephone."

"Are you going to investigate the captains of the precinct in which the raids occurred?" "I'll see about that later. When I get the captains' reports I can tell better what I'll do. I am informed that the captain of the Nineteenth Precinct (West Thirtieth-st. station) was absent from the city on a twenty days' leave of absence."

"Would an investigation include Inspector Thompson, in whose district the raids were made?" "I can't tell that yet."

"Why has not Canfield's place been closed by the police?" "You might as well ask why the Committee of Fifteen didn't raid it last night. I've scarcely been here a little over two days. I have scarcely learned the names of the people right around here. I'll shut up Canfield's place and every other one that's reported to me. I am playing my favorite. If you'll tell me where there's a gambling house I'll close it up in an hour."

"I offered Judge Crane yesterday, in the presence of two others, that if he would present an affidavit that gambling existed anywhere, I would execute any warrant he would give me in twenty-four hours and drive the gamblers out. He said he could not get affidavits without evidence, and he hadn't any evidence."

"Are you aware that the law empowers you to issue a 'chief's warrant' if you have suspicion that disorderly and gambling houses exist, and that you can make a search for evidence on this basis?" "You can depend on it. I'll exercise every bit of power I have. I'll not let anybody interfere with me in this office in the discharge of police duties. I am going to close New-York gambling resorts and keep them closed. I have received a lot more complaints in my mail to-day, and have ordered them to be investigated. This is the way we will investigate complaints. An investigation will be made by a man from the precinct. When his report disagrees with the complaint a third man will be sent. That will be apt to bring out the truth, won't it? I am surrounded by a lot of men who know the ins and outs of the police business. I'll have to trust to people who I think are all right until I know more myself."

"Will you announce the name of the other deputy commissioner to-day?" "No; but I guess I will before the week is over. He will probably be a Brooklyn man."

"I don't say that it won't be McLaughlin?" "Commissioner Murphy will try policemen from the five boroughs to-day."

TO GIVE MINERS EIGHT HOURS A DAY.

London, Feb. 27.—The House of Commons to-day, after a long debate, passed the second reading of a bill restricting the work of miners to eight hours a day by 219 votes.

The bill is a private measure. The opponents of the restriction of the hours of labor insisted that such action would enormously enhance the price of coal.

Sir Alfred Hickman, Conservative, said the country in the last year had had an object lesson of the effect of dear coal. The British government had had to buy bridges in America for Egypt and Burma. The railroads bought rails in America, and even coal had to be imported into this country. In the United States miners produce 50 per cent more coal than they did in England, not because they were more skilful, but because they worked ten hours a day.

REUNION OF ROYAL ARCANUM.

It is proposed to have a union meeting of all the Royal Arcanum councils of Kings and Queens counties on the evening of March 15 at the 4th Regiment Armory, Marcy-ave. and Heyward-st., Brooklyn. The expectation is that one thousand candidates will be initiated, and that Vice-President Roosevelt will stand for the Presidential degree.

NOTED SWINDLER FORGES AND ELOPES.

San Francisco, Feb. 27 (Special).—Harry Westwood Cooper, one of the most accomplished forgers and swindlers in this country, who has been out of San Quentin only six weeks, has eloped with the daughter of a hotel keeper at Vallejo Junction, after swindling several people here by bogus checks. Cooper, who spent two years in prison for passing forged checks, posed as an Australian doctor, who had just received word of a large estate left to him in England. He secured credit at a bank, and but for his mother's absence on Saturday married Miss Schaefer, a young girl from heart trouble. He fled away by train with his bride. Cooper has a record in Chicago and Toronto as a swindler.

SEA CAPTAIN SHOTS HIMSELF.

Charles Hanson, a sea captain, fifty years old, committed suicide at his home, No. 28 Clinton-st., Brooklyn, last evening by shooting himself in the head. He was formerly in command of a ship plying between this port and Halifax. Having suffered from a long time from heart trouble, it is supposed his illness made him despondent. He leaves a widow.

TESTING TUNNEL TRACK.

A QUARTER MILE OF IT LAID NEAR JAMAICA AS AN EXPERIMENT.

HAVE THE BIGGEST DAYS' BUSINESS.

John B. McDonald, the general contractor for the rapid transit tunnel, has completed and has had in operation for a week a quarter mile of track exactly like that which will be ridden over by New-York people after the underground road is done. The track referred to is just a little west of the old village of Jamaica, on the Long Island Railroad, and all the eastbound trains on that line run over it. Mr. McDonald stood the entire expense of building it, and Chief Engineer Parsons and his engineers have been watching the wear and tear on the roadbed and rails since it was laid.

The rails rest on continuous rows of wooden blocks about two and one-half inches thick, twelve inches long and about ten inches wide. These blocks, which are placed side by side like matched flooring, rest on a solid bed of concrete. Just as the subway rails and blocks will be placed. The continuous row of blocks affords a wooden cushion for the rails. They are kept in place by spikes driven alongside the rails and by "angles." Up to the present the results have been all that could be desired, with the exception of the detonation or vibration. The noise is a little greater than it would be if the rails were on regular cross ties. This defect will probably be overcome by a layer of felt on the blocks.

"The great advantage of the new plan in laying the rails," said Assistant Engineer George S. Rice yesterday, "is that there is no dust, the concrete on which the blocks rest is being smooth and clean. Wornout rails can be replaced with the greatest ease by the new plan, as it will only be necessary to draw the spikes and lift out the separate blocks. Rails will be replaced without detention of traffic. The track at Jamaica was built by Mr. McDonald in order to give him exact knowledge of what will be wanted when the time comes to lay the subway tracks."

HEAVY LOSS TO GAMBLERS.

PARAPHERNALIA SAID TO BE WORTH \$15,000 SEIZED BY THE POLICE.

The gambling fraternity suffered a heavy pecuniary loss through the raid of the Fifteen. At least fifteen wagonloads of furniture were taken from the ten places upon which swoops were made, and its value was estimated at about \$15,000. Roulette wheels are expensive articles, and there were many of them in the loot. Tables of many kinds showed costly wood and the workmanship. There was a great deal of cheap stuff also, but it will cost a lot of money to replace it.

Another damage consequent upon the raid will be the loss of business that will follow, since the average man who dabbles in gambling once in a while is not likely to be well known to the police, at least, for fear of being arrested and having his name published. Only the confirmed gamblers will be known to the police, and it will be some time before the police can get the names of the gamblers who look for their revenge.

WATER RUNNING LOW IN BROOKLYN.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER HOPES TO AVOID SHUTTING DOWN A MAIN.

In order to have plenty of water for the ponds and lakes in the park, and for sprinkling the roads during the summer, Park Commissioner Brower of Brooklyn has proposed to the Board of Estimate for an appropriation to sink another driven well and build a pumping station with power enough to run a large dynamo to furnish all the electric lights in Prospect Park. The station will be placed at the large lake at the foot of Mount Prospect.

Deputy Commissioner Moffett of the Water Supply Department said yesterday that the Bushwick reservoir at Ridgewood, which has been overflowing for a number of days, is being drained by resorting to the drastic measure of shutting down the water. Mr. Moffett thought the present situation was the worst that could be expected, and in the mean time there might be rain.

ANNOUNCES THE END OF THE WORLD.

OLD MAN STARTLES CONGREGATION IN CHAPEL OF WEST END PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The large congregation at the regular Wednesday night service in the chapel of the West End Presbyterian Church, One-hundred-and-fifth-st. and Amsterdam-ave., last evening was startled when a man with a long grey beard arose in his seat and announced that the world was coming to an end.

The Rev. Dr. J. Balcomb Shaw was about to finish his discourse, when he was interrupted by the stranger, who exclaimed:

"Prepare thyself, for the day of judgment is coming!" Dr. Shaw replied, saying, "Yes, and we're all preparing for it."

The man continued to talk. "Remember, the world is coming to an end," he said. Many of the women present had become alarmed by this time. Several ushers hastened to the man's side and succeeded in quieting him. They then got him out of the church. After a few minutes of coaxing the man was prevailed upon to go to his home. The police did not get his name.

SUSPECTED OF BEING AN INCENDIARY.

Detectives Clare and Gannon, of the Hamilton-ave. station, Brooklyn, last evening arrested Mrs. Margaret Graham, 43 Hamilton-ave., Brooklyn, on suspicion of having set fire to the apartments of Mrs. Margaret Graham, No. 43 Hick-st., Brooklyn, on Saturday evening last. In the absence of Mrs. Graham some one entered her apartments, put several of her dresses on the floor and, after covering them with kerosene oil, set fire to them. The fire was extinguished by Graham, who was asleep in bed at the time. August Voss, the watchman of the building, quickly extinguished the fire.

NAVY YARD NOTES.

As Captain Henry C. Taylor, of the receiving ship Vermont, has been ordered to the New-York Brooklyn Navy Yard will lose a popular commanding officer. It is thought he will be succeeded by Captain A. S. Snow, now attached to the office of Rear-Admiral Barker. Captain Snow formerly commanded the New-York.

Orders were drafted yesterday on the Vermont to make up a draft of one hundred men of the engineering force to go on the New-York and Atlantic States. There are eighty already on the Vermont.

It was learned yesterday at the yard that the Maydower, the private yacht of Governor Allen of Porto Rico, would not come to the yard for repairs and that the Government is not in the tropics. It is thought the Government is unable to give her up for repairs till late in the summer.

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ACTIVITY IN STEEL.

BROKERS OF THE "CURB" MARKET HAVE THE BIGGEST DAYS' BUSINESS.

ESTIMATED VALUATION OF STOCKS OF THE VARIOUS COMPANIES—MORE RUMORS OF OPPOSITION.

The brokers of the "curb" market yesterday transacted the largest day's business in the existence of that institution, a record due to the heavy dealings in the stock of the new United States Steel Corporation, "when and as issued." The total transactions in these shares were said to be as much as one hundred thousand shares, and many of the sales were in one thousand share lots. American stock opened at 49 1/2, and soon declined under heavy selling pressure to 37 1/2. The close was at 38 bid, 38 1/2 asked. The preferred opened at 84, advanced to 87, declined to 84, and closed at 83 1/2 bid, 83 1/2 asked.

On the Stock Exchange the steel and iron group showed strength at the outset. Federal Steel preferred was up a point, and later it gained another point. American Steel and Wire shares were higher than "Tuesday's" close. The close, however, showed net losses for the day in all the common stocks except Steel Hoop, which gained 1/4 per cent, the most marked decline being 3/4 per cent in National Tube, the preferred stock of which company also lost 1/4 points.

The recognized authority yesterday published a table showing it is likely to be accepted as a fair valuation of the stocks of the company to be entered to the United States Steel Corporation. The prices are arrived at by a computation of the old stocks and their market value. These are the figures:

Federal Steel preferred, 86 1/2; common, 45 1/2; American Steel and Wire preferred, 85; common, 41 1/2; National Tube preferred, 101; common, 40 1/2; American Tin Plate preferred, 100; common, 70 1/2; American Sheet Steel preferred, 85; common, 50.

By the same process an average valuation of \$1 per share for the preferred shares of the new corporation and an average of 28 per cent for the common shares.

It is reported on good authority that the syndicate which Mr. Morgan is forming is to underwrite \$300,000,000 of the securities of the new corporation, and that fifteen months will be given it in which to complete its task; and it is also again declared that probably not more than 25 per cent of the amount for which the underwriters are to make themselves responsible will be required in cash. The financial interests, it is said, are represented in the syndicate by the following:

Reports still differ as to the men who are to be selected for the leading offices in the company. If Mr. Carnegie's wishes are carried out, it is certain that Mr. Schwab will be named for president. Frick above any other man for that place.

There are persistent rumors of trouble in prospect for the new corporation from the controlling interests in the American Steel and Wire Company, who are reported to be deeply incensed at the alleged discrimination against the matter of the percentages offered by J. P. Morgan & Co. for the exchange of stock of the several existing steel companies for the shares of the United States Steel Corporation.

Pittsburg, Feb. 27.—"The Pittsburg Leader" to-day says:

The stockholders of the National Tube Company in this city are not satisfied with the allotment made them by the Morgan syndicate of the issue of the United States Steel Corporation for their shares in the National Tube Company. So decided is the dissatisfaction that there are some of the stockholders who say that they will positively refuse to make good on their shares unless they are accorded more favorable terms. Indeed, the temper of some of the stockholders is such that they are ready to sue for the annulment of the whole deal as it is now proposed unless some concession is made to them.

Ten thousand shares of Crucible Steel common stock was sold at the first call of the Pittsburg Stock Exchange at 78 1/2 to 79, against 25 1/2 yesterday afternoon. The price advance was due to the report that the Crucible Steel Company would probably be included in the great steel deal. Negotiations, it is said, are under way which it is thought will end in the company becoming a part of Morgan's giant combination. Chairman C. H. Holcomb and Treasurer Reuben Miller, Jr., are now in New-York, and the report says they are conferring with the representatives of the United States Steel Corporation. The Crucible Steel Company controls 50 per cent of the output of the plant. Its capitalization is \$20,000,000 each of common and preferred stock.

EX-JUDGE GARY'S VIEWS.

PRESIDENT OF FEDERAL STEEL THINKS THE CONSOLIDATION WILL BE A GREAT SUCCESS.

Ex-Judge E. H. Gary, president of the Federal Steel Corporation, in response to a request for his views upon the consolidation of the steel properties, said yesterday:

"The consummation of the plans which J. P. Morgan & Co. have been considering for uniting under one management the several large iron and steel industries, as announced by them, will be favorably received. The business of the world is becoming more and more complex, and with great promptness. The circumstances which surrounded the enterprise at the present time are such that it is not possible to accomplish the desired result in any other way. The consolidation of the steel properties which have been pending will be completed at the greatest business achievement of this decade."

While there will doubtless be some disappointment among the stockholders of the respective companies, it is believed that the comparative values, which may be considered too low or the men in charge may be considered too inexperienced, which existed, done everything possible to protect the values fixed by the market. It is true that in any case, it is nevertheless, probably true that the holders of stock of the old companies will result in great benefit to them.

Notwithstanding the magnitude of the enterprise and the large amount of money involved, there is no unfavorable effect in business circles. It is proposed simply to withdraw from the market a number of corporations under a management, and place in their stead the stock of a new corporation, and the amount of money involved will be comparatively small and contributed largely by those who are now interested in the old companies. The consolidation of the steel properties will be beneficial, there being no apprehension, but there need be none, provided the interests of the consumer are not sacrificed, and it may be assumed that after the several different companies have been received, the question of the price of the new company will be taken up by the gentlemen who are interested in the success of the company, and determined solely by the demand of merit.

If the disposition of the assets of the new company is to secure increased earnings by economies in business, and not as the result of unreasonable prices to the consumer, or unfair wages to the workmen, surely there can be no cause for complaint. There are many large manufacturing concerns in this country, who produce a very large percentage of the total production in this country, outside and independent of the concerns included in the consolidation of the steel properties. There will still remain opportunity for spirited competition in every line; but there need not be a disposition to create a monopoly, or a trust, that serves only to destroy the properties and business of the competitor, to reduce to a starving condition the consumer, or to create a monopoly, and they will not be disposed to engage in any unreasonable business methods. It is expected to obtain great benefits from the proposed control of interests.

The companies interested have at the present time an abundance of money, and are making additions and improvements. This results largely from a disposition to create a monopoly, or a trust, that serves only to destroy the properties and business of the competitor, to reduce to a starving condition the consumer, or to create a monopoly, and they will not be disposed to engage in any unreasonable business methods. It is expected to obtain great benefits from the proposed control of interests.

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BOER SUPPLIES CAPTURED.

INFERENCE FROM LORD KITCHENER'S DISPATCH THAT BURGHERS ARE RAPIDLY BEING CRIPPLED.

London, Feb. 27.—General Kitchener, telegraphing from Middelburg, in the Transvaal, on the railroad between Pretoria and Fortingly East Africa, under date of February 27, says:

The following additional captures are reported by French up to February 25: Three hundred Boers surrendered; a nineteen-pounder Krupp's gun; a Maxim gun; 20,000 rounds of small arms ammunition; 133 rifles; 388 horses; 303 trek oxen; 5,000 cart, 9,500 sheep and 287 wagons and carts. The Boers' casualties were four killed and five wounded.

General French's recent success, combined with the other advantages gained by the British forces in South Africa, has created, it is said, a most hopeful feeling in the War Office here. Lord Raglan, Under Secretary for War, described it to-day as being "the thin edge of the wedge," and this also is the opinion of the military circles, who reiterate that while the war cannot be expected to end with a sudden stroke, this constant capturing of men, guns, supplies and horses means that the operations will soon be reduced to a Dacot stage. General French is the hero of the hour on Pall Mall, though, of course, General Kitchener's controlling hand is recognized under every circumstance. It is so by Mr. Brodick and Lord Roberts that is largely to diminish the Boers' supply of munitions and ammunition, they are achieving the only real objective at present in sight. It is not believed to be beyond the power of the War Office to grant any armistice, or to offer peace, or, if he does, he will not let the War Office know of it until he learns the result. The offer, for even if General French gave in, the War Office is inclined to consider that his action would only affect the force under his immediate command, and that the same power would be continued against the other Boer forces operating in vicinities far removed from the Boer commander-in-chief.

THE WEALTH OF THE STEEL TRUST. Cleveland, Ohio, Feb. 27.—It is estimated that the newly organized United States Steel Corporation takes in companies owning seventy-eight blast furnaces, 149 steel works and six finishing plants. This includes bar mills, structural steel and plate mills, tinplate works, sheet metal and wire rod and wire mill mills. The annual capacity in finished materials about 9,000,000 tons. The company owns Lake Superior mines which produced last year nearly 11,000,000 tons of iron. It has 18,300 coke ovens, 70,500 acres of coal land, and 1,000 acres of surface land in the coke regions. It has 100,000 number sixty-six vessels. When the Rockefeller and vessel interests are absorbed, which, it is said, will probably be done later, the iron ore carrying capacity will be about 2,000,000 tons a year and the number of lake carriers in all. A conservative estimate of the capacity of the seventy-eight blast furnaces is upwards of 10,000,000 tons of pig iron a year, or half the pig iron output of the United States in 1900.

THE ASPHALT CONTROVERSY. Washington, Feb. 27.—Through an unofficial but probably trustworthy source it has been received here that the issue has been made between the rival asphalt concerns, and a trial will be had soon before the Venezuelan courts. According to this statement, the issue was made by the appearance on La Felicidad, where a concession is worked by the New-York and Bermudez company, of workmen sent by the Warner-Quinlan syndicate. These were elected, and the Warner-Quinlan people immediately brought