DEVERY GIVES AWAY ICE!

AND HIS ADMIRERS PREDICT A FROST FOR GOODWIN LATER ON.

William S. Devery, or "Big Bill," as his admirers call him, yesterday began his career as a midsummer Santa Claus by giving away 40-pound chunks of ice to all who applied at 6 o'clock in the morning at three different points in the IXth Assembly District. There was no lack of people. On Friday night Mr. Devery caused to be circulated a dodger reading as follows:

> FREE ICE
> Given to the Residents of the
> IXTH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT
> Through the Courtesy of
> WILLIAM S. DEVERY
> Every Morning at 6 o'clock.

Women and children, blinking and winking from having their sleep cut short, formed in long lines at Twenty-seventh-st. and Eighth-ave., Twenty-seventh-st. and Tenth-ave. and Twenty-ninth-st. and Tenth-ave., long before 6 o'clock. They came with pails and baskets and baby carriages. In the rush to get ice people were pushed and tousled, but they kept good natured about it on being assured that there was ice enough for all. Peter J. Garvey, one of Devery's political lieutenants, superintended the distribution. He was assisted by Matthew Gorman, Richard Butler, Patrick Regan, James Gorman, James O'Grady and John McDonald. Devery was on hand before 8 o'clock, making the trip from Far Rockaway on an early train in order to see his free ice boom started successfully.

"It's free ice for us now, and a frost for Goodwin later on," said a big Irish woman, who carried away two cakes in a clothes basket.

Devery said yesterday afternoon that he would be around last night with the details of a gift of money from philanthropists who had asked him to give away money for them. He did not come around, however. He is acquiring the habit of "disappearing," and his friends are beginning to worry over the possibility of his forgetting to do some of the many things he has said he would do.

DOCTORS WANT PURER MILK.

KINGS COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETIES WORKING TO THAT END.

To secure a supply of comparatively good milk which Brooklyn doctors can prescribe for their patients is the aim of the Kings County Medical Society and affiliated medical bodies in that borough. This milk will be certified and labelled in sealed bottles, and the purchasers will have a reasonable assurance that it does not contain more than thirty thousand bacteria to a cubic centimetre, equal to about fifteen drops.

According to the experts of the Hoagland Laboratory, a great deal of Brooklyn's milk is bad. As high as 43,000,000 bacteria were found in fifteen drops of one specimen of Brooklyn milk examined recently. It was for sale at a grocer's, was not sour, and its condition was not apparent on superficial examination. Dr. Ezra H. Wilson, director of the Hoagland Laboratory, said yesterday that it was desired to secure at least a sufficient supply of milk for physicians to prescribe for their patients. In order to do that the people must be educated to pay a little more for their milk than they have been paying. Milk could be bought for five cents a quart in many places and for three cents a quart in some. The milk that would bear the label of the medical society would cost ten cents a quart. It could not be produced cheaper, as the dealer must pay the farmer more for it, and it must receive more care in transit and in the shop. On account of the comparatively high price of the milk that would bear the label, immediate relief for the tenement house babies, among whom there was usually such great mortality in the summer, was not in sight. It could not be hoped to alter the conditions which prescribed that the cheaper the milk the worse and the dirtier it would be. All that the society could hope to do would be to set a standard of purity, and thereby save as many infants' lives as possible.

FULLER CO. MAY BUILD ABROAD.

CENTRAL REALTY, BOND AND TRUST COMPANY WILL FINANCE NEW TRUST.

The George A. Fuller Company, the largest building construction company in this country, may do business abroad. A stockholder of the company said yesterday that the company had been asked to erect a number of buildings in London. This is one of the companies that will form part of the proposed $60,000,000 corporation if the movement to form it is successful.

It was also said yesterday that the financing of the proposed $60,000,000 realty and construction corporation is to be undertaken by the Central Realty, Bond and Trust Company, of which Henry Morgenthau is president. The Central Realty, Bond and Trust Company will only dispose of its real estate interests to the proposed corporation, and will occupy the same relation to it that it holds now toward some realty, trust, mortgage and title insurance companies.

SAYS HE WAS BEATEN BY POLICE.

ITALIAN DYING IN WILLIAMSBURG HOSPITAL ACCUSES THEM.

John Sabardin, an Italian, of No. 35 Havemeyer-st., is dying in the Williamsburg Hospital as the result of injuries inflicted upon him by a mob and, he says, by several policemen, whose names he does not know. Coroner Williams has taken the man's ante-mortem statement, and a rigid investigation of the circumstances of the case will be made. Sabardin was arrested on Thursday night after, as alleged, he had stabbed John Van Brunt, of No. 100 Oakland-st., in a quarrel. At 10:30 o'clock that night Sabardin seemed to be sick in his cell in the Bedford-ave. station., and Ambulance Surgeon McEntee, of St. Catharine's Hospital, was sent for. He declares that at the time there was no sign of external or internal injuries, and he believes the prisoner was suffering only from extreme fright. So Sabardin remained in his cell. On Friday morning, as he was being arraigned in court, the prisoner collapsed.

At the Williamsburg Hospital it was found that the man's spleen had been ruptured, and he had been slowly bleeding to death from internal hemorrhages. In his statement to the Coroner Sabardin declared that he had not only been beaten by a crowd on the ferryboat but had been roughly used by the police. At the Bedford-ave. station it is denied that any harsh treatment was given to the prisoner.

CRITICISE BARGE OFFICE AGAIN.

ITALIAN SOCIETY PROTESTS AGAINST CONDITIONS AT IMMIGRANTS' LANDING.

Still another protest has been made against the bad state of affairs existing at the Barge Office landing. For some time the public has known in a general way that the conditions there need remedying. Now the Society for the Protection of Italian Immigrants has issued a statement compiled after a careful investigation of the situation. This report praises the work of Inspector Brooks in attempting to improve the conditions and calls attention to the fact that the greater part of the improvements made by him have been abandoned by Inspector Cross, who succeeded him. Despite the frequent calling of the attention of Inspector Cross to the bad situation by the society, it reports that he had not materially aided in improving it.

In its report the society recommends that the immigrants be landed in the Barge Office itself and there met by intelligent policemen, preferably those speaking Italian, as well as by representatives of the societies and by their recognized friends. Much of the danger attending the landing of the foreigners, it says, and their likelihood of becoming the victims of various sharpers would in this way be prevented.

If this cannot be done, the society asks that the force of policemen on duty at the landing be increased, and that the officers work in conjunction with the representatives of the society. They also recommend that express men who work with "runners" be excluded and kept on the other side of Whitehall-st. The report further advises that Battery Park, which is haunted with sharpers of every sort, be patrolled; that no license be issued to a boardinghouse keeper for Italians or to any runner, except his application be indorsed by the society; that the runners be kept off the boats plying to Ellis Island, and that a schedule of rates be fixed which the runners can legally charge.

The society has spent much time in the study of these conditions, and in pointing out the need of reform and in recommending certain improvements, calls attention to the fact that conditions at the Barge Office landing have been such as to move the Italian Consul to call them to the attention of the authorities. In ending the report places the blame for the evils on the police, as the only body which could improve the conditions and has so far failed to do so.

FOR A CLOSER COMBINATION.

NEGOTIATIONS SAID TO BE IN PROGRESS BETWEEN ST. LOUIS SOUTHWESTERN AND CHICAGO AND EASTERN ILLINOIS.

It was said yesterday on excellent authority that negotiations are in progress for a closer combination between the St. Louis Southwestern Railway Company and the Chicago and Eastern Illinois Railroad Company. The probability of the establishment of such an arrangement has many times been mentioned in The Tribune. A combination between the two roads would mean the formation of a new through line between Chicago and the Southwest, the roads now making direct connection at Gray's Ferry, Mo., and Thebes, Ill., which two towns are joined by a railway bridge over the Mississippi River. The St. Louis Southwestern is a Gould road, with a total mileage of about thirteen hundred, and extends from Gray's Ferry and Bird's Point, opposite Cairo, Ill., to Sherman, Fort Worth, Dallas and other points in Texas. It has outstanding $16,500,000 common and $20,000,000 5 per cent preferred stock. The Chicago and Eastern Illinois, the controlling interests in which are H. H. Porter and his associates, has recently had a large advance in the market, the common stock now ruling at nearly 210. The outstanding common stock amounts to $7,197,800, and the preferred to $6,830,700. The mileage is 738, including seventeen miles of trackage from Dolton, Ill., to Chicago. The main line extends from Dolton to Thebes, on the Mississippi, and another line runs from La Crosse to Brazil, Ind., with a branch to Terre Haute.

FROM DENVER TO PACIFIC OCEAN.

PLAN OF THE CORPORATORS OF THE DENVER, NORTHWESTERN AND PACIFIC RAILWAY.

The Denver, Northwestern and Pacific Railway Company filed articles of incorporation in Denver on Friday. This road will connect at Salt Lake City with the San Pedro, Los Angeles and Salt Lake Railway, forming a new trunk line west from Denver to the Pacific Ocean, and enter into direct competition with the Gould and Harriman railroad systems. The capital stock is $20,000,000, of which $10,000,000 is preferred 5 per cent non-cumulative, and $10,000,000 common. The directors are David H. Moffat, Walter S. Cheeseman, William G. Evans, Charles J. Hughes, jr., George E. Ross-Lewin, Samuel M. Perry and Frank B. Gibson, all of Denver. Several of these directors took an active part in the building of the first railway into Denver, in 1870, and since that time they have been prominent in many railroad enterprises. D. H. Moffat, president of the First National Bank of Denver, formerly president of the Denver and Rio Grande Railway, was elected president of the new company: W. G. Evans, vice-president; George E. Ross-Lewin, treasurer, and F. B. Gibson, secretary.

Construction work is being actively pushed west of Denver. Since the announcement was made that the building of this road had been begun through a great territory which is traversed by no railroad, it is reported from Denver there has been a rush to take up farm land in the fertile valleys.

STREET DID NOT ACCEPT IT.

REPORTED AGREEMENT BETWEEN PENNSYLVANIA AND NEW-YORK CENTRAL INTERESTS AND THE GOULDS.

Some attention was given by Wall Street yesterday to a published statement that the Pennsylvania and New-York Central interests had reached an agreement with the Goulds under which the contest between the latter and the Pennsylvania Railroad Company would be at once terminated and the Gould system would be allowed to carry out without further opposition its plan of extension to the Atlantic seaboard. Partly perhaps, as a result of this story Pennsylvania advanced 3 points in the stock market and Western Union 1⅞ points.

George J. Gould and his brothers were all out of town, as was also Winslow S. Pierce, who has been prominent in the working out of the Gould plans in Maryland and West Virginia. At the Grand Central station none of the higher officers of the New-York Central could be found, and E. H. Harriman, it was said at his office, was at his country home. In the absence of authoritative confirmation or denial of the report, the Street declined to accept it as accurate, believing it to be at least premature; although it is generally recognized as a fact that a composition of the existing hostility between the Pennsylvania and the Gould system must before very long be effected.

As to the Reading control there was no development yesterday. The popular belief is that control of the Reading is to pass, if it has not already passed, to the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, but there are many who insist that it will be found to be the New-York Central which has taken over this important anthracite carrying and anthracite owning property.

CHILD LABOR IN THE COTTON MILLS.

GEORGIA MANUFACTURERS WILL NOT ENCOURAGE REFORMATION ON THE PART OF "INTERFERING" LEADERS.

"Child Labor in the Cotton Mills of the South" is the subject of an article in the current number of "The Dry Goods Economist," by E. J. Lister. Mr. Lister is making a tour of inspection through mills in South Carolina, Georgia and other States in which there is no statutory restriction of child labor. Tennessee and Louisiana are the only Southern States where such restriction exists, and Mr. Lister writes that the conditions, while sometimes overdrawn, are extremely bad. He cites Elbert Hubbard's article in the May "Philistine" as overdrawn at many points, and is of the opinion that Mr. Hubbard has done more harm than good by what he calls misrepresentations probably unintentional.

A study of the cotton mills in the vicinity of Augusta and Atlanta, Ga., and Columbia and Clinton, S. C., leads Mr. Lister to the conclusion that children of twelve years of age and under, employed in the work of tying broken threads and "doffing," that is, clearing frames of filled bobbins and substituting empty ones, and working at this employment for sixty-six hours a week, present a system of "slavery infinitely more cruel and debasing than the worst that ever existed in the darkest days prior to the dawn of negro emancipation." The children have the "prison pallor" and pinched and haggard faces. They are utterly illiterate. The mill owners disclaim responsibility for this condition on the ground that the parents are not alive to the necessity of education, and that the mill owners themselves support special schools in the neighborhood of their mills. Often the children and their mothers have to support their fathers, "Crackers" as they are called, who live on the income of the family until the boys are twenty-one, and, in the case of the girls, eighteen. Children get from 40 to 60 cents a day of eleven hours, or, in the case of very young children, 10 cents.

In Georgia the mill owners have formed an Industrial Association, and have voluntarily bound themselves to some restrictions, which amount to setting ten years as the minimum age for operatives. They opposed the Child Labor bill introduced at the last session of the legislature on the ground that it was fostered by labor leaders. They say the South will make every effort to escape the "interference" of labor leaders experienced in the North and East. The great expansion of textile manufacturing in the South from an invested capital of $1,000,000 to $3,000,000 in 1866 to the present amount, estimated at $175,000,000, is said to have outstripped the supply of labor, and if mill owners refused to employ children the families, they say, would remove. They point out that young children, especially illiterate children, make unprofitable workers. Yet, as Mr. Lister remarks, they oppose restrictive legislation which would relieve them of such difficulties, and, while doing so on the ground of the source of this legislation, they make no attempt to initiate any themselves.

BLACK DIAMOND CO. AT POTTSVILLE.

F. P. Christian, general manager and one of the directors of the Black Diamond Anthracite Coal Company, of which T. V. Powderly is president, makes his headquarters at Pottsville, Penn., with offices in the Pennsylvania National Bank Building. A large contract has been closed with Kingsley & Westcott for the cutting of the timber, of which there are seventy-five acres on the tract, for the erection of the company's breaker and timbering slope. A corps of surveyors, under the supervision of a well known mining engineer, T. H. Clemmens, is also at work on the property.

TIME AND MONEY.

It may cost you a little time, but it might save you many dollars, for what you need may be found in the little advertisements in the narrow columns.

RACE WEEK AT LARCHMONT

A GOOD BREEZE FOR THE OPENING REGATTA.

A large number of yachtsmen assembled at the Larchmont Yacht Club yesterday to witness the opening regatta of race week. There was a splendid breeze all day and there were many close and exciting finishes. About fifty of the finest sailing yachts along the coast were entered. The harbor contained many steam yachts which brought parties to witness the regatta and the opening of the new theatre in the evening. The opening performance in the theatre consisted of a pandemonium and musical frolic. Among the yachts having parties aboard were the Helenita, owned by Frank J. Gould; the Buccaneer, chartered by A. Baudouine; A. H. Alkers's Florence, Stephen W. Roach's Emeline, August Belmont's Scout, J. Rogers Maxwell's Kismet, Eugene Tompkins's Idalia, J. M. McDonough's houseboat Cachalot, the steam yachts Quickstep and Celt and Henry R. Wolcott's big schooner Fortuna. Many of the guests came from points along the Hudson in automobiles. The day, though it was a great one for yachtsmen on account of the cool winds, kept many persons at home. The beaches and shore resorts were deserted all day.

It was announced yesterday by George G. Murray, who is in charge of the minstrel show to be held in the Larchmont Yacht Club's theatre on Wednesday evening, that the performance would be given by the young men of the Larchmont Athletic Club. It is to be the same as they gave a few weeks ago in the Murray Memorial Hall. The only new features will be a sextet of yachtsmen, who are being rehearsed for a "turn" by ex-Commodore H. M. Gillig, and some new jokes. Mr. Murray is to be the interlocutor. The bones will be L. G. Spence and P. J. Kane, while T. J. S. Flint and C. L. Perrin will rattle the tambourines.

A committee is now making preparations for the annual parade of the model fire department of Larchmont. It is to be held on Saturday, August 30. It will be followed by a dinner at one of the summer hotels.

A New-York hotel man has leased a site overlooking the Sound at Larchmont and will build a large casino there. The property adjoins the estate of Mrs. Crocker. The casino will not be ready for use until next season.

Mr. and Mrs. D. Percy Morgan, of Harrison, have closed the Jay mansion and gone to Lenox for the season.

Joseph Leiter came to the Larchmont Yacht Club house this week on the steam yacht Taurus, which he has chartered from John H. Hanan for five months. He has just returned from a cruise to Newport and Bar Harbor with a party. Mr. Leiter will spend the summer afloat.

Ex-Congressman William L. Ward, who is occupying the Spray cottage at Shell Island, off Port Chester, is making extensive preparations for a large clambake next month, at which it is expected that Senator Platt, ex-Speaker Reed, Governor Odell, Mayor Low and about twenty other well known Republican leaders throughout the State will be present.

It is said to be the intention of the wealthy persons at Byram Shore and Rye to do away with the summer resort business there as far as it lies in their power, as they believe that it is a serious detriment to the tone of the neighborhood. The rich people complain that the noise made by the excursionists with their brass bands and merry-go-rounds annoys them at night so that they cannot sleep. Their plan is to buy up all the shore front, and they are doing so as rapidly as possible.

The annual reception and lawn party given by Miss Mary M. Butler, president of the Woman's Institute of Yonkers, was held on Thursday night at her home, Round Oak. There were 250 guests. The grounds were illuminated, and music was furnished by a band stationed in a pergola. William Allen Butler, as has been his annual custom, welcomed the visitors to Round Oak.

BROADWAY CAR ON FIRE.

PASSENGERS JUMP OUT IN A HURRY AT THIRTY-FOURTH-ST.

A Broadway car caught fire at Thirty-third-st. and Broadway last evening, and there was a mild panic among the passengers before all got off. The burning out of a fuse caused the blaze. The damage was $25.

Just after the car had left Thirty-third-st. there was an explosion, and smoke poured from under the car. As it stopped at Thirty-fourth-st. flames came up through the floor. Men and women fled to the street. Those who were on the side near the other tracks climbed under the side rail. Policeman Mury, of the West Thirtieth-st. station, aided by some men, assisted the women to get off and prevented a crush. In spite of this, however, one woman in getting under the rail fell and ruined her dress in the mud. She was not hurt.

After the passengers had been taken off firemen put the fire out.

EXCITEMENT OVER OATS IN CHICAGO.

HIGHEST PRICE SINCE 1874 WAS REACHED—SHORTS IN FEAR.

Chicago, July 19.—Fear that they could not secure enough of the new standard contract oats to fill July contracts created great excitement among shorts on the Board of Trade to-day, and July oats soared to 65 cents, the highest price since 1874. This point marked a gain for the day of 7¾ cents, and of 15 cents for three days. The market had been excited for the last three days over the weather, and it needed only to-day's reports of the devastations of the weather to bring on a semi-panic. The supply of contract oats at present is almost nil, and of to-day's scant receipts only twenty-eight cars were up to the new standard which oats must grade to be deliverable on contracts. July oats closed 7¼ cents up at 64¼ cents.

PREDICTS EIGHTEEN HOUR TRAINS.

EASY TO COVER DISTANCE BETWEEN NEW-YORK AND CHICAGO IN THAT TIME.

Pittsburg, July 19.—General Passenger Agent E. A. Ford of the Pennsylvania lines predicts the establishment of eighteen hour trains between Chicago and New-York. His prediction is evidently based on his knowledge of what the Pennsylvania special can accomplish when required to cover delays and keep within its schedule. During the time that train has been running it has been demonstrated that eighteen hour trains between Chicago and New-York are not only a possibility, but that the time can be cut to sixteen hours, if necessary.

On a recent run from Alliance to Pittsburg the Pennsylvania special covered the distance, eighty-three and two-tenths miles, in exactly 1 hour and 30 minutes, an average of fifty-five and three-tenths miles an hour.

When the train reached Garfield, seven miles from Alliance, it struck a seventy-two-mile gait, and before it passed through New-Waterford was covering eighty-one miles an hour. Twenty-four minutes was made up on the run, and Pittsburg was reached on time. At this rate of speed the run from Chicago to New-York can be made in about sixteen hours.

RUSSIAN BATTLESHIP LAUNCHED.

THE CZAR WATCHES THE OREL TAKE HER FIRST DIP.

St. Petersburg, July 19.—The Czar, the Empress Dowager, and other royal personages and a number of diplomats, were present to-day at the launching of the battleship Orel and the laying of the keel plate of the battleship Oleg.

The battleship Orel is a steel vessel of 13,600 tons displacement. She is 376 feet 5 inches in length, 76 feet breadth of beam and draws 26 feet of water. Her indicated horsepower is 16,000. Her armament will consist of four 12-inch guns, twelve 6-inch quick firers, twenty 3-inch guns, twenty 3-pounders and six 1-pounders. She has six torpedo tubes, two of them submerged.

AGED ENGINEER DIES AFTER A FALL.

John M. Carpenter, eighty-two years old, who had been an engineer on the New-York, New-Haven and Hartford Railroad for a generation, fell from the window of his home, No. 380 Decatur-st., Brooklyn, early on Wednesday morning, July 9, while suffering from a paralytic stroke. He died yesterday morning. Mr. Carpenter fell from the second story, but his fall was broken by an arbor and he landed on his feet. His physician said yesterday that while his escape from instant death from his fall was remarkable, his death was really due to paralysis. He had suffered from a paralytic stroke a day or two before, which had weakened him, and it is thought that he fell from the low window while standing there to get a breath of fresh air.

Mr. Carpenter left the service of the railroad about ten years ago. He was a member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, Division No. 77 of New-Haven. He leaves a daughter. The funeral will take place this afternoon at his home. The burial will be in New-Haven to-morrow.

RUN OF "THE CHAPERONS" TO END.

It was decided last night to close the run of "The Chaperons" at the New-York Theatre roof garden next Saturday night. A straight vaudeville bill will be given for two weeks more, and then the Sire Brothers will put on a new burlesque of their own, which, however, is not yet named or in definite shape.

A GOOD BUSINESS CHANCE

is often advertised under the "Little Ads. of the People."

CORONER ABSOLVES DR. HELD.

A CITY ENGINEER MENTIONED IN CONNECTION WITH MISS EARL'S DEATH.

Coroner's Physician Weston yesterday performed an autopsy on the body of Miss Isabella Earl, whose death in a private sanatorium at No. 26 West Sixty-first-st. on Friday night was related in yesterday's Tribune, and found that her death had been due to a criminal operation, whether self-performed or otherwise he was unable to determine.

Miss Earl came from a well known Southern family, who formerly lived in or near Knoxville, Tenn. Her father, David M. Earl, was at one time a prominent merchant of this city, and her mother now lives at No. 18 East One-hundred-and-thirty-first-st.

At the home of Mrs. Earl it was said yesterday that there had been four children—three daughters and one son. One daughter died away from home some years ago. The son, David, was a member of the 71st Regiment, served in the Spanish-American War, and died away from home from fever contracted in San Juan. Isabella was the third child to die away from home.

"I have learned," said Coroner Goldenkranz yesterday, "that Miss Earl was employed in one of Huyler's candy stores. Until six months ago she lived with her mother at No. 18 East One-hundred-and-thirty-first-st., and at that time she left and went to board with Mrs. Robbins, at No. 147 West Sixty-sixth-st. I learned that she was taken ill there, and that Dr. Held, of No. 320 Central Park West, was called in to attend her. He says that he questioned the girl, and she told him that she had performed an operation on herself. The case mystified him, and he called Dr. Clifton, of No. 65 Central Park West, in consultation. In a consultation on Wednesday morning the doctors decided that she should be removed to a hospital. They could not secure accommodations at the Roosevelt Hospital, and she was then taken to Mrs. Alston's sanatorium, where she died at 11 o'clock Thursday morning, thirty-one hours after she had been taken there.

"I went to see the girl's mother at her home, and at first she refused to discuss the case. But finally she intimated to me that a prominent civil engineer, holding a city contract, was probably responsible for her daughter's condition. I am investigating the matter, and an arrest may follow. Mrs. Earl said that the girl left home as the result of a family quarrel. I have found that she was intimately acquainted with another girl who lived with her at Mrs. Robbins's. She is now, I believe, at Sheepshead Bay, and I will summon her to come to this city to tell what she knows of the case. If she does not come a warrant will be issued for her apprehension. The people who were in the sanatorium at the time she died will also be summoned."

He said that Dr. Held was not to be blamed, and that he informed the Board of Health of the case and that they told him to report the case to the coroner.

TO INVESTIGATE ASSESSMENTS.

MR. GROUT AGREES WITH THE MAYOR ABOUT REALTY VALUATIONS.

Controller Grout has started an investigation of the method of assessing property in the city, from which it is expected that glaring inequalities will be brought to light. Mr. Grout was asked yesterday if he knew how much money the city would have to pay the State on account of the discovery that city property is assessed at only about 50 per cent of its value, instead of 67 per cent, as the State authorities thought it was.

"I cannot say just now," he replied, "but I am going to investigate this matter of assessments very thoroughly. I do not think that there is any field in the city government where there has been so much unfairness. I do not mean to reflect on any particular administration. The matter covers a period of some twenty years back. There are many inequalities in the assessments, and I think that by assessing property at its full value much of this inequality will be done away with."

This move of the Controller is in line with the suggestions made by Mayor Low in his last "short talk," when he pointed out the advantages which would result to the city from the proper assessment of real estate.

RADICAL DEMOCRATS PRAISE LOW.

The Radical Democrats, of Brooklyn, an organization made up largely of admirers of William J. Bryan and of advocates of Henry George's doctrines, are pleased with Mayor Low's advocacy of levying assessment upon real estate at its full value. The Radical Democracy yesterday sent the following letter to the Mayor:

> The Radical Democracy of Brooklyn desires to congratulate you and your administration, as well as the city at large, upon the remarkably clear and convincing statement just issued by you to the public press, of the injurious effect upon the finances of the city, produced by the prevailing illegal practice of assessing real estate at less than its true value.
>
> We observe that you anticipate some opposition to your proposal to enforce the law from certain real estate interests, but confess our inability to agree with you that there is even the shadow of an excuse for such opposition. The reform you propose, as we understand it, does not involve any increase, and may result in a positive decrease in the actual taxes imposed.
>
> The city's debt limit being determined by the assessed valuation of its real estate, the borrowing capacity of the city can be increased at least 25 per cent by the plan you propose, while the higher assessment may be quite offset, in so far as the actual burden of taxes is concerned, by a lower tax rate.
>
> As you very truly remark, the proposed improvement in interborough communication will greatly increase the value of real estate throughout the city, by which real estate you clearly refer to the land and not the improvements.
>
> In view of this fact, another phase of this subject not mentioned in your statement assumes considerable importance. We refer to the prevailing practice of assessing unimproved real estate at a much lower percentage of its selling value than that which is improved. We earnestly trust that this practice will receive the attention it deserves, when your proposed reform is inaugurated, as obedience to the law in this respect will not only materially increase the city's revenues, but will also tend to decrease the burden now resting upon the small home owners and tenants.

THIEF CHASE IN CITY HALL.

MAN CHARGED WITH STEALING $5 FROM BOY CAUGHT BY CANTOR'S CLERK.

The Saturday quiet of the City Hall was rudely broken in upon yesterday by a lively chase for a man who was charged with stealing $5 from the grandson of Mrs. Kate Mockin, of No. 86 New-Chambers-st. Mrs. Mockin drew $20 from the Emigrants' Savings Bank, in Chambers-st., yesterday and gave $5 of the money to her little grandson, intending to buy him a suit of clothes. As she and the boy came out of the bank a young man grabbed the $5 bill from the boy and made off. Private Detective Charles Schneider was standing in front of the bank and he at once gave chase when he heard Mrs. Mockin cry, "Stop thief!"

Across Chambers-st. to the County Court Building the man ran, up the steps, through the building, down again across the strip of City Hall Park between the County Court Building and the City Hall and into the City Hall itself. Schneider was hot on his trail, as were others who had been attracted by the chase. The fugitive led his pursuers a merry chase through the building until he was headed off by a clerk named Burke, in President Cantor's office.

The man was taken to the City Hall police station, where he said that he was William Simons, nineteen years old, a clerk. He said that he only arrived in this city a couple of days ago from Cleveland. He was searched and a $5 bill was found on him, which Mrs. Mockin said she believed to be the one taken from her grandson. It was tucked under Simons's belt.

TROLLEY CAR KILLS HORSE.

FURNITURE VAN STRUCK—DAMAGE IS "WIDESPREAD."

A large van, filled with furniture, was scattered about the surrounding country yesterday afternoon at 3 o'clock, when it was struck by a Bath Beach electric train at New-Utrecht-ave. and Sixtieth-st., Brooklyn. Thomas Collins, twenty-eight years old, of No. 291 Dean-st., the driver, was thrown a distance of fifty feet, and sustained injuries about the body and legs. He was attended by an ambulance surgeon, but refused to go to the hospital.

One of the horses was instantly killed and another severely injured. A part of the truck was hurled through a plate glass window in the store of F. W. Hanley, on the corner.

RETAIL BOOKSELLERS ORGANIZE.

At a meeting held Friday evening at Brentano's an organization was formed called the Booksellers of New-York City, composed of those engaged in selling books at retail in this city. The purpose of the new association is to promote generally the interest of the retail bookselling trade. The officers of the association are: President, Simon Brentano; vice-president, F. E. Grant; secretary, E. S. Gorham, and treasurer, H. C. Holtin.

The following houses have already joined it: The American Baptist Publication Society, American Tract Society, Ammon & Mackel, Brentano's, Bonnell, Silver & Co., Coryell & Co., R. W. Crothers, E. P. Dutton & Co., Dodd, Mead & Co., E. W. Dayton, Eaton & Mains, Charles P. Everitt, John Francis, F. E. Grant, Edwin S. Gorham, Henry C. Holtin, J. A. Jenkins, William R. Jenkins, L. Jonas & Co., Henry Malkan, T. J. McBride & Son, S. F. McLean & Co., G. P. Putnam's Sons, Charles S. Pratt, the Fleming H. Revell Company, Rohde & Haskins, the D. Van Nostrand Company, T. B. Ventrees, Miss M. J. Whaley and Thomas Whittaker.

ELECTRIC MERGER STORY DENIED.

The report from Pittsfield, Mass., that a merger has been effected between the Stanley Electric Manufacturing Company and the Electric Storage Battery Company is declared by a leading interest in the Stanley company to be unfounded. Conferences between representatives of the two companies have, however, been recently held.

MORE NEW WITNESSES.

LATIMER INQUEST TO BE RESUMED ON TUESDAY—MANY GROUNDLESS RUMORS.

Captain Reynolds, of the Detective Bureau, and Captain Buchanan, of the Gates-ave. station, both said last night that they had not succeeded in getting any further definite information that would tend to clear up the Latimer mystery, which has attracted more attention than any case in Brooklyn for many years. Many stories and rumors printed yesterday afternoon were, it is understood, investigated and discarded as worthless by the detectives many days ago. There are any number of new leads, however, which will be followed up between now and the next session of the inquest. That this session is expected to be an important one was shown yesterday, when it was announced that it would be held on Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock, instead of to-morrow night, as at first planned.

When, last Thursday, the inquest was adjourned until Monday night there were only a small number of witnesses in sight, although some of them were considered to be important. Since then, however, the results of the detectives' persistent work have brought up so many possibilities that it became apparent that any night inquiry would be prolonged far after midnight. It was for this reason that the change in time was made.

Among the witnesses that seem to be most promising are two servant girls who are employed in a house in Hancock-st., almost opposite the Latimers'. Captain Buchanan received word from a reliable woman in the neighborhood that these girls were saying that on the morning of the shooting they had seen a man on the Latimer piazza, that he had gone into the house through the parlor window, and had afterward come out the same way. When these girls were seen by the captain they appeared to be much frightened, and at first denied that they had seen anything. Close questioning, however, brought out the fact that the girls had seen a man on the piazza, or thought they had. They could not be induced to add that they had seen this man disappear through the window.

Captain Buchanan soon discovered that the young women were in great dread of getting their names into the papers and getting mixed up in the case. So in order to humor them he promised not to reveal their names at present. They were served with subpœnas, however, for the inquest on Tuesday. At that time they will be sharply questioned under oath, and then it will be learned whether their testimony is of value or worthless.

Charles H. Zinn, a Manhattan produce dealer, who lives at No. 365 Jefferson-ave., which runs just north of Hancock-st., told yesterday of a mysterious man who dashed down the street on a bicycle, going in the direction of Bedford-ave., a few minutes after he heard the shots. Mr. Zinn perceived that there was no lamp on the bicycle, but he did not notice whether the man had a cap on or not. "I thought it so strange," said Mr. Zinn, "that this man should be riding so fast down the street when everybody else was going in the other direction, toward the Latimer house."

Captain Reynolds does not take much stock in the importance of this story.

"I heard a good deal about strange men on bicycles a short time after the shooting occurred," he said. "For my own satisfaction I spent several hours after midnight in that neighborhood on two separate occasions, and found that there were dozens of bicycles going in various directions during the time I watched."

MEETS JUDGMENT WITH DEATH.

EX-POLICEMAN KILLS HIMSELF WHEN DEPUTY SHERIFFS PRESENT BILL.

Brought face to face with three deputy sheriffs who had come to collect a judgment, John M. Murtha, an ex-policeman, of Brooklyn, blew his brains out yesterday afternoon in his real estate office, at Thirty-ninth-st. and Tenth-ave., that borough. He had been dealing and speculating in real estate for about two years, since his retirement from the police force. At one time he was worth considerable money, but had lost it all recently. He lived with his wife over his office, in Thirty-ninth-st. When the deputy sheriffs reached his office yesterday they presented a judgment for $30.

"Yes; I will give you the money," said Murtha as he went into the back office. Two minutes later a pistol shot was heard, and the sheriffs, running back, found the man stretched out on the floor.

Murtha was fifty years old, and was attached to the Hamilton-ave. station when he retired. Some twenty years ago, when attached to the Butler-st. station, he figured in a sensational case. John Loch, a German, living at Henry-st. and Fourth Place, went crazy one day, and started to make trouble. Patrolmen George Rogers and Murtha started into the house. Rogers went first, and received the charge of a double barrelled shotgun in his right side and arm. Murtha drew his revolver and shot Loch dead.

Rogers lingered between life and death for some time, but recovered, and for many years, prior to his death two years ago, was the doorman at Police Headquarters.

CHARGED WITH $400,000 THEFT.

POSTOFFICE OFFICIALS SAY MAN HAD GUILTY KNOWLEDGE OF DISCRETIONARY POOL.

United States Commissioner Hitchcock listened to arguments yesterday in the case of the United States against William H. Walker, who is charged by the postoffice officials with using the mails to defraud. It is alleged that Walker, with one W. W. O'Hara, conducted a discretionary pool on the races at Cincinnati, which cost the subscribers about $400,000. The government admits that O'Hara, now a fugitive from justice, organized the pool, but Assistant United States District Attorney Parsons contended that the government's witnesses had shown that Walker managed the details of the concern, and that he knew the alleged dividends were paid out of the money received from new customers, and not from profits derived from bets made on racetracks.

Walker's lawyer said that it had not been shown that O'Hara's scheme was illegitimate, or that, if such facts had been proved, there was no evidence before the Commissioner tending to prove that Walker was anything more than an employe of O'Hara, or that he knew that the scheme was fraudulent. Briefs were then submitted, and decision was reserved.

SALE OF HEAT, LIGHT AND POWER CO.

St. Joseph, Mo., July 19.—The property of the St. Joseph Railway, Light, Heat and Power Company, which includes the street railway system, an electric lighting plant, steam heating plant and other utilities, was yesterday sold by E. H. Harriman, of New-York, to Seligman & Co., and E. W. Clark & Co. The company is bonded for $3,500,000. There will be no change in the local management, President W. T. Van Brunt remaining in charge.

FIREWORKS CHANGES AT MANHATTAN.

Several changes will take place in the fireworks programmes in the amphitheatre at Manhattan Beach this week in addition to the spectacle of Ancient Rome. To-morrow will be the first of the children's Monday nights. Thursday there will be a specially arranged programme in honor of Ireland, and the harp that once through Tara's Halls, with the evergreen shamrock, will be shown in gold and green fire. The National Guard will be honored on Saturday night with one of the finest pyrotechnic displays of the season.

LARGE PURCHASE OF IRON ORE.

Marquette, Mich., July 19.—It is officially announced that the Cleveland Cliffs Iron Company has purchased the lease held by the Itasca Mining Company on one hundred and sixty acres of land adjoining the Hawkins mine, on the Western Mesaba range. The consideration was $500,000 cash and seven cents a ton for all ore now shown up (about five million tons) and all that yet to be found. The lease provides for the payment to the feeholders of a royalty of 20 cents a ton on all ore mined, which makes the total consideration considerably over $3,000,000, it being estimated that the tract contains fully 10,000,000 tons of ore.

THE PRINT CLOTH MARKET.

Fall River, Mass., July 19 (Special).—Local brokers report that the sales in the print cloth market during the week amounted to between 150,000 and 200,000, all of which were odd goods. This is the largest total in weeks, and, compared with the dulness of the last few weeks, the situation locally has assumed a brighter aspect. The accumulation has ceased, and manufacturers look for a brisk, healthy market in the near future. Although there were no sales of regulars during the week, numerous inquiries were made from various quarters, with bidding below market price, but manufacturers refused to consider business on any but a 3-cent basis. On wide goods outside mills have been underselling Fall River, but local treasurers are asking the full figures. The bidding has advanced during the week, buyers who previously offered from one-sixteenth to one-eighth below the market for goods having finally increased the figures until they are now on a par with the quoted prices. This is indicative of a better feeling in the market, and the outlook is considered much better than for many weeks. The prices are: 28 inch, 64x64, 3 cents; 28 inch, 64x60, 2⅞; 27 inch, 56x56, 2½; 39 inch, 68x72, 4½; 38½ inch, 64x64, 4 cents. The market is firm on a 3-cent basis.

Financial.

The Financial World.

If the market keeps up its present pace, we shall have the whole corn crop harvested by the end of the month; for there is no question that the advance in prices is the discounting of the crop prospects. The West was never yet hurt by too much rain, and too much rain being the only complaint which has been heard from that section, it is safe betting that the crops this year will be such as to fully justify the present rising bull market.

The latest leader has been Pennsylvania, which has scored an advance during the week from 154 to 160. It would be more correct to say the advance was from 150, as the stock had hung around this figure for a long while, and only about ten days ago started on its upward move. Here is an advance which is likely to hold. Pennsylvania can find as solid a market at 160 as 150. If there is any difference, it is rather in favor of the 160 level. No stock on the list has more friends, or is better thought of. It is a favorite investment property, because of its long and honorable record.

Furthermore, the Pennsylvania management is one which inspires confidence. The managers seem to be men who sit up nights thinking how they can improve the property. Their plan for coming into this city was adopted just as soon as a certain engineer discovered how a practicable tunnel could be run through the soft silt which forms the bed of the Hudson river; and the financing of this costly piece of work was as careful and skilful as anything in that line which the company ever did. Which calls to mind the fact that the Pennsylvania 3½ per cent warrants, issued for this purpose, and convertible into stock of the company at 140 in two years, are a first class investment. Nothing safer can be found, and the conversion clause gives them a speculative value of considerable importance. Apropos of Pennsylvania financing, a leading banker lately remarked that he knew of no large company which was more completely independent of "banking favors" than the Pennsylvania.

Perhaps after so quick a rise as the stock has had in the past day or two, it may react a little on profit taking. Nevertheless, no one need be afraid of Pennsylvania around present figures. If the price runs off somewhat, it will come back again all right.

It was stated here last week, that while there would be no increase in the next Union Pacific dividend, there would soon be some "rights," in connection with the refunding of the Oregon Short Line's debt. The refunding scheme has since been advertised. It is simply the making over of a floating debt into a 25 year bond; the money having been originally expended in the purchase of Northern Pacific stock, now represented by Northern Securities stock. The bonds are secure of their 4 per cent interest, and the bondholder has the right to anything over this which the Northern Securities Company may pay. So the bond may be said to be 4 per cent sure and anything contingent. The market value of the "rights" figures out now a fraction or so over 1 per cent; which, in a way, raises the next dividend on Union Pacific that amount. The stockholder, therefore, gets the same return as if the dividend had been formally increased, or a trifle more.

The small stocks of the list have been having an innings, which was to be expected if the market generally was to move forward. Chesapeake & Ohio was run up six or seven points, on no particular news, but with the usual flood of rumors. This is a controlled property of the Pennsylvania, and pays at present one per cent per year. It is probable that the road's soft coal business has lately been largely augmented, promising an increase of the dividend in the fall. Norfolk and Western, another controlled property, and wholly a soft coal road, was also lifted; on the same reasoning. The movements were credited to the Gates party; as was also, a violent outburst of trading in Southern common, which carried that stock up to 40, the dealings being in enormous blocks of stock, a single sale of 10,000 shares being recorded at one time. Naturally, when transactions on this scale are seen, the inquiry suggests itself, who are the people who want to buy all this stock and who are the people who have such masses to sell? There was another such outburst in Southern common when the Louisville & Nashville purchase was effected. As far as one can judge, speaking as a believer in Southern, 40 is about as high as the common ought to sell, on present prospects. It will be a dividend payer some day, sure enough; but the day is some distance off.

Missouri Pacific has hung back during the week, showing the effect of realizing sales; but unless the whole list reacts, it will go forward again; and the M., K. & T. stocks should be good for higher figures, considering the excellence of the traffic outlook for the road. It is to be noted that Atchison common crossed 90 the other day, when President Ripley came out with a bull interview on the business conditions and prospects in the Atchison's territory. It may be assumed there will be a great many exultant "I told you so's" among the Atchison people when their stock sells as high as Union Pacific, which the more enthusiastic among them have repeatedly declared it will.

It is astonishing to see stocks which a few years ago seemed by their bulk hopelessly out of sight of a dividend, now by the immense growth of the earnings of the companies brought into the dividend paying list. But, after all, it is not more surprising than to see the farmers of the country enjoying years of prosperity with wheat at 75 cents, whereas it was not so far in the past that the same classes thought themselves about ruined when wheat broke a dollar. Dollar wheat at Chicago used to be thought the standard price, upon which the welfare of the farmer absolutely depended. India and the Argentine knocked it out.

Outside of the railroads there has been a good deal of trading in the copper stocks. The talk about the copper trade is still very pessimistic, but the Boston & Montana company, the principal subsidiary company of the Amalgamated, has just paid its $2 per share; and the principal subsidiary company of the United Copper Company has also paid the same dividend. The steel stocks have been steady to strong, and this is substantially all the Morgan people want to do with them. They are on guard to defend them in the market against the attacks which have been an accompaniment of the blackmailing lawsuits; but beyond this, they let them take care of themselves.

The contest for control of the Colorado Fuel Company has reached an interesting stage. The Gates party have sent out a circular asking for proxies, and they ought to get the proxy of every independent stockholder—which most likely they will do. The sooner the present management is ousted, the better it will be for the property.

CUTHBERT MILLS.

OF COURSE YOU WOULD.

If you wanted a certain article, wouldn't you thank a friend for putting you on the right track to get it? You may find what you want in the "Little Ads. of the People."