FEDERATION TO BAER.

REPLIES TO CHARGES.

Says He Gave Erroneous Description of Work of Committee.

The officers of the National Civic Federation issued an official reply yesterday to the remarks of President Baer of the Philadelphia and Reading Railway, in which he criticised the conciliation committee of the federation for failure to call a meeting to hear the final report of the joint committee which tried to avert the coal strike. It had been arranged to call this meeting to hear the final report before the last meeting of the joint committee was held. The reply said in part:

Mr. Baer, in a speech before the Coal Strike Commission last week, made reference to the part taken by the National Civic Federation in the effort to avert the threatened strike of the anthracite coal miners, which reference gives an erroneous description of what took place at the time referred to.

Briefly, the connection of the conciliation committee of the National Civic Federation with this matter from the time of the Shamokin convention, March 18, to the declaration for a strike at the Hazleton convention, May 12, was as follows:

The Shamokin convention voted a suspension of three days a week, to take effect on April 1, unless a satisfactory arrangement for a wage scale the coming year could be made in the mean time.

As all their requests for a conference with the operators had been refused, an appeal was made by the convention to the conciliation committee of the National Civic Federation for its assistance in securing such a conference, in order that the threatened strike might be averted. The conciliation committee secured such a conference, Presidents Baer, Truesdale, Thomas and Oliphant, representing the anthracite coal roads, reluctantly accepting the invitation to meet the miners, and with the stipulation that they would meet them as individuals only.

The meeting was held at the rooms of the National Civic Federation on March 27, and a full and free discussion was entered into by both sides, the chairman and members of the committee participating and making every effort to avoid an open rupture, which several times seemed imminent. No agreement was reached, however, on the merits of the controversy, but the committee prevailed upon the miners to postpone their strike for thirty days, the operators agreeing in the mean time, upon request of the miners, not to mine more than the normal amount of coal.

Pending the thirty days the chairman and members of the conciliation committee used their individual and united efforts to remove the obstacles to a satisfactory solution.

In accordance with the adjournment the second meeting was held at the same place on April 27, the same operators and officials of the mine workers being present, and in addition a delegation of twenty-four employes of collieries. The discussion took up pretty much of the whole day, several of the operators reading from statements they had prepared, and counter-statements were read by several of the representatives of the coal miners. A much better feeling was manifested than at the first meeting, yet neither side consented to make any concession. The second conference being on the point of adjourning without any tangible results, it was proposed by the conciliation committee that a committee of the coal miners meet a committee of the operators and discuss the matter further, with the hope that by that time a "face to face" conference would lead to a satisfactory adjustment. As none of the conciliation committee would be present at this last conference, it was suggested that a report of its result be made to the committee.

This conference resulted as the preceding ones, no concession being made by either party. At its close, which was on Wednesday afternoon, Mr. Mitchell notified the secretary of the federation that the conference had disagreed, and asked when the conciliation committee could be called together to hear the report. The officers decided that it was useless to call the committee together simply to receive such a report, and resolved to redouble its efforts, if possible, to aid the parties in coming to some more hopeful conclusion.

A meeting of the committee was held that night and a programme for definite work mapped out, in accordance with which two members of the committee called the next morning (Thursday) upon the operators and urged them to grant a 5 per cent advance, the committee feeling confident that such a concession would be accepted. This was peremptorily refused, the operators stating with emphasis that they would make no concessions whatever; that from their advices they were convinced that the miners would not strike, and that even if they did the quicker this thing was fought out the better. From Thursday noon until Saturday morning, when Mr. Mitchell issued his call for the miners' executive committee to meet, no less than eight conferences were held with the operators and the persons holding the controlling interests in the coal roads. The conciliation committee had enlisted the active co-operation of many of the most influential men in New-York and Philadelphia in the effort to secure even the slightest concession, but to all entreaties, from whatever source, came the stereotyped answers: "We will not concede a single thing"; "No concession whatever," etc. It was plain that any further effort along that line would be simply useless.

A second truce was proposed by the conciliation committee, but Mr. Mitchell did not agree to that, as he as well as the Civic Federation, had already been criticised by his people for agreeing to the first one the miners alleging it to have been a trick of the operators to gain time to pile up coal.

The conciliation committee then directed its efforts toward securing conservative action by the miners.

The Hazleton convention was called for May 12, and an appeal was laid before it by President Mitchell, and its acceptance urged by him in a vigorous speech:

As is well known, the convention did not accept President Mitchell's advice, but decided to strike.

The committee feels convinced that if the coal road presidents had made the concessions in March last which Mr. Baer offered last week in his closing address before the Anthracite Coal Commission, or would have consented, as urged by our committee, to leave the whole question to an impartial arbitration, whether the arbitrators were selected from the members of the Civic Federation or in any other manner, the terrible sufferings, loss of life and disturbance of our commercial interests attendant upon this most serious and embittered conflict in our industrial history would have been averted.

CHARGED WITH ROBBING CIGAR STORE

Mrs. W. H. Clark Also Said To Be Victim of Clerk.

Charged with the larceny of goods from the United Cigar Stores Company and also with having in his possession jewelry, a young clerk, who said he was Alexander Smith, employed at the Flatiron Building store of the company, and living at No. 11 West Nineteenth-st., was arrested last evening.

The prisoner was employed at the cigar store for six weeks. Recently presents given as premiums and stock have been missing, and complaint was made to Captain O'Reilly, who put detectives on the case. In the prisoner's room were found many of the missing things, including a large number of cigars.

At the station one of the detectives said that a woman who had lost jewelry worth $2,500 wanted the prisoner also. Among the articles lost were two diamond rings and a pear-shaped diamond pin. The woman is Mrs. William H. Clark, of No. 56 West Twenty-first-st., said to be the widow of ex-Corporation Counsel Clark. The prisoner said the jewelry or part of it had been given to him by Mrs. Clark.

At the station it was said that the prisoner's real name was Alexander Thigpen.

"POLY" ALUMNI JUBILEE FUND.

They Will Try to Obtain $100,000—The Institution's Plans for Moving.

The fiftieth anniversary of the Polytechnic Institute, of Brooklyn, will be observed a year from June. The Alumni Association has determined to raise a jubilee fund of $100,000, which will be presented to the trustees of the institute on that occasion to assist them to carry out their plans for the development of the school. At a meeting of the Alumni Association on Saturday night steps were taken to start the fund.

The trustees of the Polytechnic Institute have in mind a plan to abandon the present site, in Livingston-st., and obtain a more suitable one in a less thickly settled part of the city. Sites on the Eastern Parkway have been considered, and some of the trustees even favor going as far as Richmond Hill, in case no suitable place can be found nearer. The present buildings are in the heart of the business district, only a short block from Fulton-st. The site is a noisy one, and entirely unsuited to scholastic pursuits. There is no room for expansion, and not a shadow of a campus.

OCEAN RACE IN GALES

Philadelphia Beats Her Old Rival the Lucania.

The American Line steamship Philadelphia and the Cunard liner Lucania reached their piers yesterday after a close finish and a rough trip. The Lucania left Liverpool on February 7 and the Philadelphia sailed from Southampton on the same day. Both encountered a series of gales and high seas. On Friday, the 13th, the worst weather was encountered. On that day violent squalls followed each other, and the sea was exceptionally high. On the same day the Philadelphia made 383 knots and the Lucania 336.

The vessels were in wireless communication on the 11th, when they sighted each other in the afternoon. The Lucania soon passed ahead and was lost to sight as night fell. On Saturday the Philadelphia caught up to the Lucania and took the lead, which she maintained to the lightship.

OUT OF HOUSE ONCE IN 22 YEARS.

Hoboken Woman, Just Dead, Had Remarkable Whim.

There died yesterday in St. Mary's Hospital, Hoboken, a woman who before she was taken to the hospital on Saturday had been out of her home only once in twenty-two years. In the same period no person entered her home, except her husband and her two sons, and not once was a meal cooked in the house. The one occasion on which the woman left the house was the funeral of her husband, about ten years ago.

The woman was Mrs. Bettie Staab. She was eighty-two years old when she died. Her home was at No. 135 Bloomfield-st., Hoboken. Just why she adopted her eccentric mode of living is not known. She spent most of her time with books. From the time she became a recluse the front blinds of the house were never opened. All the meals were cooked and prepared at a restaurant not far from the house.

About two years ago the neighbors became convinced that because the blinds were always closed and apparently no repairs had ever been made to the house it must be unsanitary. The Board of Health was informed and an inspector was detailed to investigate. He was met at the door by Mrs. Staab, who refused him admittance.

Last week Mrs. Staab was taken ill, and on Saturday for the first time a stranger entered her home. He was a doctor. He found her suffering from dropsy, and advised her removal to the hospital.

ASKS FUNDS FOR CONSUMPTIVES.

Charity Organization Society Plans House in Country for Women Patients.

The Charity Organization Society's committee on the prevention of tuberculosis now has charge of one hundred families, in each of which there are one or more sufferers from the disease. Among these there are not less than twenty for whom care in sanatoriums or board in private families in the country is regarded by their physicians as essential. All of the sanatoriums are filled to overflowing, and most have waiting lists. The committee is therefore obliged to accept the alternative of boarding these patients in suitable boarding houses. There has been much difficulty in finding such places.

For the remaining patients, who cannot be removed from their homes, special diet and other forms of relief are required in an amount which cannot easily be supplied from existing relief agencies.

The committee asks for a special fund of $5,000 for the relief of cases under its care. It is desired to rent, in a suitable situation, a farmhouse, and to equip and maintain a modest boarding house in which accommodations can be provided, under medical supervision, for from twelve to fifteen young women, whose removal from their present unfavorable surroundings is most imperative. A portion of this sum should also be available for the relief of those who must remain at home. Contributions will be publicly acknowledged, and will be devoted strictly to the purpose indicated.

For the expense of its general work the committee last summer appealed for $10,000 and received $8,000. The remaining $2,000 asked for will barely be sufficient to carry through the current year the work which the committee has undertaken. Contributions for either purpose should be sent to the Charity Organization Society, No. 105 East Twenty-second-st.

TO OPPOSE NEW EXCISE LAW.

Representatives of Temperance and Religious Bodies to Go to Albany To-day.

Representatives of several local temperance societies and religious bodies are about to go to Albany in a special train to oppose a bill providing for the opening of saloons on certain hours on Sunday. The bill, which is to be considered by a committee of the Assembly, has the approval, it is said, not only of District Attorney Jerome, but of Bishop Potter, the Rev. Dr. Rainsford and others.

Colonel B. F. Watson, of No. 445 Park-ave., speaking for the Church Temperance Society, of which he is chairman of the executive committee, said last night:

"We have made a thorough investigation of this question, and we have found that the people of this city and State as a whole do not want the saloons open at any time on Sunday. Our society is liberal in its views on this subject, but we don't believe it right that the saloon men should be permitted to have so much influence that they can control the machinery of the city or State. There are some eighty bishops and a great many clergymen of the Episcopal Church, the majority of whom are not in favor of keeping the saloon open on Sunday. Bishop Potter has been, I believe, in favor of a liberal enforcement of the law, and so have been a few others."

STORM TROUBLES ELEVATED LINES.

Sleet Hinders Traffic Mostly on Sixth-ave. Road—Slush on Streets.

For the third time this winter the Manhattan Railway Company's elevated service was crippled last night, as a result of the ice forming on the third, or contact, rail. All afternoon there had been a drizzling rain, which followed a stiff snowfall in the early morning hours, and the streets were soon covered with a slush of half an inch or more in depth. Following the cessation of the snowfall, there was a slight rise in the temperature, and up to 4 o'clock in the afternoon the thermometer just hovered around the freezing point. It was not cold enough, however, to make any trouble on the elevated lines. At 6 o'clock the temperature dropped a degree, to 31, and then the ice began to form on the third rails. An hour or so later there was still another degree difference, and the ice began to form quickly as the drizzle of rain or heavy mist kept falling.

By 10 o'clock the real trouble began. It was not nearly so bad as on the two former occasions when the elevated roads were tied up, some of the branches shutting down altogether, while others only ran trains intermittently and carried but few passengers. The Sixth-ave. line seemed to be the first to feel the effects of the ice on the third rail. Presumably the sharp curves at Fifty-third-st., Third-st., and other points on the road made it harder for trains on that line to get along. On the Ninth-ave. line most of the trains are still pulled by engines, so there was little trouble there, except as the steam trains were delayed in waiting for the motor cars to creep out of their way.

On the Second and Third ave. lines trains were delayed before midnight. After that the rain seemed to have washed the ice from the third rail, and by 2 o'clock a semblance of regularity was obtained in the running time. In the delay before midnight the platform at City Hall was crowded.

Nearly all the motor trains are now equipped with the small steel brushes running along in front of the shoe which picks up and conveys the current from the contact rail to the motor. In spite of these brushes, however, ice would collect under the shoes, and then would follow most brilliant electrical displays. Though not nearly so brilliant as before, when the road had been blocked for hours in the last sleet storm, the flashes of electric fire were sufficient to bring many to their windows, where they watched the trains as they passed, spitting great sheets of many colored flame from the shoes.

Conditions on the surface lines were far better than on the elevated lines. In some places, for instance, the steep hill in Amsterdam-ave., at One-hundred-and-twenty-ninth-st., on Lexington-ave., at Ninety-ninth-st., and on the approaches to the Brooklyn Bridge, the trolley cars labored along and climbed up slowly. Liberal applications of sand generally saved the day, however.

The sidewalks were in a deplorable condition. There had not been enough snow to call out the snow brigade, so it just melted during the afternoon and turned into mud and slush. The pavements were slippery, and had it been a weekday truck horses would have fared badly. As it was, cab and carriage horses had a hard time in Broadway and about the theatres and uptown restaurants.

SAY HE LOOTED HOTEL.

Woman Confederate, Police Declare, Stole from Many Flats.

Looting flats and also the Waldorf-Astoria is the charge that led to the arrest of Mary Burke, thirty-five years old, and William Cox, twenty-three years old, of No. 213 Ninth-ave., and the cause of their being held yesterday by Magistrate Mayo, sitting in the Jefferson Market police court, in $1,000 each for examination. According to the police, they have looted over fifty flats in a few months, and Cox, in league with several Waldorf-Astoria employes, has been looting that hotel for some time. The Burke woman, it is alleged, would get engagements as a servant and suddenly disappear with anything she could lay her hands on. Often she would stay in a place only an hour.

Nearly a dozen complainants were in court yesterday. The principal ones were Mrs. Margaret Gross, of No. 326 West Twenty-sixth-st.; George Hill, of No. 213 Ninth-ave., and John F. Keegan, employed in the Waldorf. Mrs. Gross declared that Mary Burke called on her in answer to an advertisement, and that an hour after she hired the woman she disappeared. Soon afterward a suit case, a dress suit and a spring overcoat, belonging to her husband, were missing. They were valued at $85. The woman was traced to her home, where, it is alleged, she admitted the theft, and said she turned the things over to Cox. He in turn said he sold them to a waiter, it is charged.

George Hill, who said he lived beneath the prisoner's room, declared that while he and his wife were out shopping one night last week some one entered his flat and took about $65 worth of clothing. The police searched Cox's apartments. They found in a stove, Hill declares, a score of partly burned papers, which, it was discovered, belonged to Keegan. Keegan identified them as some he left in an overcoat which had been taken from the Waldorf-Astoria. Investigation showed that such an overcoat had been pawned by Cox. He also declared that for several months many lockers besides his own had been broken into and cleaned out.

KILLS WOMAN AND POLICEMAN.

Murderer Had Been Convicted of Robbing His Victim's Stepfather.

Lebanon, Penn., Feb. 15.—A woman was shot dead on the streets of this city last night before scores of persons and the murderer killed a policeman before he was landed in jail. The dead woman was Mrs. Ira Baker, twenty-two years old. She was standing with her husband and several friends when a man, who at the time, was not recognized, walked up and shot her in the head. She died in ten minutes. The murderer escaped.

The woman's husband suspected David Shaud, twenty-five years old, who was convicted, but was out on bail pending application for a new trial, for robbing Mrs. Baker's stepfather, John Brownsberger, of $350. She was the principal witness aaginst him. The police at once began a search and at midnight Shaud was found. He resisted arrest and, in a desperate struggle with the police, killed Cyrus Schaffer, one of their number. The other policemen overpowered him and locked him up.

STRIKE OF COLORADO MILL MEN.

Three-fourths of Cripple Creek Mill Ore May Be Tied Up.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Colorado Springs, Col., Feb. 15.—The strike of the Standard mill employes, three hundred strong, ordered by the Western Federation of Miners, began at midnight with the closing of the mill. The strikers demand increased wages for men getting less than $3 a day, that the mill be unionized, and blacklisting stopped.

The Standard is operated by the United States Reduction and Refining Company, which owns also the Colorado mill. The capacity of the two is equal to one-half Cripple Creek's mill ore productions. Besides these mills here the company owns the Union and National and Metallic mills at Florence, and the United States smelting plant at Canon City, whose total capacity is 50,000 tons monthly. All these plants may be closed, and in that event only about 25 per cent. of the company's mill ore could be treated.

TOWNS FACE STARVATION.

Thousands of Cattle Dying in Colorado Storm.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Colorado Springs, Col., Feb. 15.—This State is storm bound, with snow from six inches to four feet deep, and with the temperature ranging from 6 degrees above to 40 below zero. The eastern and southern parts of the State, being mostly plains, are faring best, as there is little wind, but the mountain regions, and particularly those where the northern slopes are populated, are suffering the most severely. Small towns and hundreds of families are isolated and in danger from starvation. Many cases of suffering from cold and hunger are reported. To add to the danger, avalanches of snow are imminent. As the snow is not melting, the slides, if they occur, will not include bowlders, timber and debris.

Trains are reported lost or isolated and few are making good time. Range cattle are suffering; five thousand head are reported starving near Fort Morgan. They are freezing by droves, according to reports from other sections. The total loss may reach a hundred thousand head.

Guthrie, Okla., Feb. 15.—The worst storm of the winter struck Oklahoma about midnight, and has been raging with great fury since. Sleet and rain were followed by a driving snowstorm, a cold norther accompanying. On account of their good condition no damage to cattle or wheat is expected. The rain was preceded by a dense fog, the only one known to present residents of the Territory.

Kansas City, Feb. 15.—Snow has been falling in this city and Western Missouri at intervals for the last thirty hours, and now covers the ground to a depth of seven inches, making it the heaviest fall of the winter. Through trains are generally late, and streetcar traffic here is hampered. The telegraph and telephone companies have suffered.

CLERGYMAN PREACHES TO SPIRITS.

Mr. Wendel, of Trenton, Admits It—Also a Mesmerist and an Osteopath.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Trenton, Feb. 15.—The Rev. Hugo Wendel, pastor of the largest German church in this city, will be cited to appear before the Lutheran Synod to answer a charge of heresy, if a request made to that body by members of his congregation is complied with. The beliefs of Mr. Wendel were challenged by a German newspaper published in this city, which charged him with being a spiritualist, and quoted a number of his utterances to substantiate the charge.

Mr. Wendel to-night denied that he was a spiritualist in the accepted sense of the term, but said he did have communion with the spirit world. "Every day I preach to the spirits for hours," he declared, "and when I am through I am always very weak. I am ordained as a minister of the Gospel to preach to men, whether in the flesh or in the spirit. It is true also," he continued, "that I have practised osteopathy. I have a diploma as a doctor of mesmerism. Many persons have been cured by my treatment without the use of drugs."

W. G. CALDWELL ABLE TO SIT UP.

Charleston, W. Va., Feb. 15.—W. G. Caldwell, member of the legislature from Wheeling, and chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, was able to get out of bed to-day, but he was in a badly battered condition. He expects to be in his seat to-morrow in the House of Deputies. It is said that his colleague from Ohio County, Mr. Schwabe, will offer a resolution to investigate the failure of local officials to serve warrants on D. K. Hanna and John Winders, who are accused of assaulting Mr. Caldwell.

DISAGREE ON GRAVE ROBBING CASE.

Indianapolis, Feb. 15.—After being out forty-eight hours, the jury in the case of Dr. J. C. Alexander failed to reach an agreement and was discharged this morning. On the final ballot the vote stood, eight for acquittal and four for conviction. The attorneys for the State have not decided what they will do. The majority of the jurors say that the question of the sanity of Cantrell received little consideration.

NO PARTNER IN OPERA.

Mr. Conried Says He Alone Will Be Head.

All day yesterday Heinrich Conried, the new director of the Metropolitan Opera House Company, was busy receiving the congratulations of his friends at his home, No. 65 West Seventy-first-st. He was so busy, he said, that he had not had time to consider further plans for the opera. Mr. Conried announced definitely that there would be "only one head to the new opera company, and that Heinrich Conried," thereby disposing of the rumors that he would associate with himself a co-director. As to the singers and conductors, Mr. Conried said he had not decided on any single one, "but," he added, "only the best is good enough for New-York."

The maintenance of the Opera House, the biggest playhouse in the city, when opera is not being produced, has always been a problem. This problem the new director has not had time to solve, but he said last night: "No one but myself will decide what shall be done."

To-day the company which was informally organized when it became known that Mr. Conried had obtained the lease of the Metropolitan Opera House will hold a meeting. Mr. Conried, George J. Gould, Jacob H. Schiff, Henry Morgenthau, James H. Hyde and William H. McIntyre have been named directors of the Heinrich Conried Opera Company, the new organization. To-day, one of the directors said, four others will be chosen. "We will try to organize," he added. "The whole project has moved so fast that we have hardly had a chance to settle anything. I haven't the least idea who the other directors will be. Ten times the $150,000 named as capital was offered, and there are so many willing to subscribe that only a consensus of opinion when we meet to-morrow will decide. We shall try to get together to-morrow, but it is possible that we shall not be able to take definite action then."

As to Mr. Conried's plans for opera, he emphasized yesterday that the best performers obtainable would be chosen, but he believes that "the opera's the thing." Another innovation contemplated in his plans is the abolishing of the trips from this city to Brooklyn and Philadelphia, which Mr. Conried considers unfair to singers and audiences. The repertoire will not be more German than usual, but works of all nations will be produced, with as much variety in the way of new operas as possible.

Mr. Conried intends to continue managing his Irving Place Theatre as usual for the present. He does not know what provision will be made for its future, but his friends feel confident that some measures will be taken to continue the theatre.

FREE RIDE HARD TO GET.

John Ford Suggests That Demand For Return of Fare Be Made.

The patient, long-suffering people of Manhattan have been keenly interested in the announcement that they are entitled to free transportation on the Manhattan Elevated Railway between 7:30 a. m. and 5 p. m., and 7 p. m. and 5:30 a. m., if no seats are obtainable. But on second thought they have been puzzled to know how to get these free rides. When the West Side Citizens' Transit Reform Committee of One Hundred, in its appeal to Attorney General Cunneen, said that there was a clause in the company's charter providing that the passenger must be carried free if no seat could be found for him outside of rush hours, old-timers, grown gray hanging to straps from Harlem to Park Place, shook their heads sadly, murmuring, "Oh, no! The company's too foxy for that." Less knowing ones have been hopefully asking how they are to avail themselves of their right to ride seated or free.

"No seat, no fare," said one Harlemite to another yesterday. "Very well; but how am I to get my money back after I've given my ticket to get on a crowded train? Go to a ticket seller and be laughed at? Again, how am I to get on the train without paying my fare?" His friend agreed that it looked somewhat dubious.

"I shouldn't want to be thrown around the station by a porter and afterward turned over to a policeman for not giving up my ticket," he said.

If a free fare provision existed against the surface roads it would be easy to make a test case, but with the elevated road some persons have said it would be impossible. When ex-Senator John Ford, one of the Committee of One Hundred, was asked about this yesterday, he said:

"Let the passenger refuse to pay his fare until he is sure of getting a seat. It's up to the public, you know. That point hinges on the present method of collecting the tickets. The Manhattan Railway Company has not the shadow of a right to make a person surrender his ticket before he is sure of transportation, even.

"The best way to test this would be to surrender the ticket; then, if no seat could be found, to ask for a return of fare, which, being refused, bring suit against the railroad. The courts would certainly have to decide in the passenger's favor, because that clause in the charter admits of no denial. Another way would be to refuse to give up the ticket before being sure of a seat. This would probably involve arrest for disorderly conduct, and would not be desirable.

"The railroad should collect the tickets on the trains, but—the present way is so much cheaper! Here, one man collects the tickets; if they were taken up on the train, one man for each train, possibly even two conductors, would be necessary. It is only another instance of the company's overriding all passengers' rights.

"We believe that the Attorney General will take prompt action on the article we submitted to him, but you suggest an interesting point. I believe a test case would win out in the courts."

James S. Lehmaier, chairman of the committee, indorsed Mr. Ford's arguments heartily.

SAVANNAH LOSES GOOD SERVANTS.

Only Worthless Ones There Now; Those of Any Value Sent Here.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Savannah, Ga., Feb. 15.—Several hundred negro domestics of the better class have within the last few months been sent to New-York by an agent here of an employment bureau, leaving this city with only inferior servants, and the police have been called on to stop the practice. An almost prohibitory license is placed on immigration agents in every county in this State, and the police have informed the local representative of the New-York bureau that the license will be collected if any more negroes are sent North.

The sending away of the negroes was first called to the attention of the Mayor by the authorities of New-York, who complained that many of the negroes soon became public charges. The servants, however, are being secured from other parts of the State, and twenty were shipped to-day from here by steamer.

DISCUSSES BILL FOR LOCAL BOARD.

J. S. Lehmaier Tells About Proposed Law to Give This City a Railroad Commission.

In regard to the bill drafted by the West Side Citizens' Transit Reform Committee of One Hundred and introduced in the Senate by John W. Russell and in the Assembly by Frederick E. Wood, providing for a local board of railway commissioners, James S. Lehmaier, chairman of the committee on laws and legislation of the committee, said:

The bill provides for three commissioners, to be appointed by the Mayor, the first set to serve two, four and six years, and their successors six years. In providing for their appointment we had in mind that their duties would be quasi judicial as well as administrative. They would be empowered to adopt and enforce laws to govern traffic. We also had in mind that the Mayor should appoint one commissioner from Manhattan, one from Kings and one from the outlying boroughs, so that the board would be constituted of men familiar with the conditions in different parts of the city.

The bill provides that the salary of each commissioner shall be $5,000, to be charged against the city, and the board is given power to appoint such assistants as may be necessary. The bill further provides that the commissioners may, in business hours, enter the cars, offices and stations of all railroad corporations under their control, and may examine the books and affairs of any such corporation.

It is also provided that the board shall investigate the cause of any accidents on such railroads. If any railroad appears to be violating or neglecting the provisions of any law or recommendation of the board, after giving notice to the corporation, the board is, according to the proposed law, to present the subject to the Attorney General for action. The provisions of the bill are to apply to all railroads wholly or for the most part in the city of New-York, and to the corporations or individuals operating or leasing them.

TALK OF A RECEIVER FOR ASBURY BANK.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Asbury Park, N. J., Feb. 15.—Unconfirmed rumors are afloat that the stockholders of the First National Bank will ask the government to appoint Edmund Wilson, a Red Bank lawyer, receiver for the institution. Officials of the Monmouth Trust and Safe Deposit Company to-day declared they could not say when the concern would open again.

YOUNG'S SISTER HERE.

She Left Father of Convicted Murderer in Europe.

Miss Mary Young, sister of William Hooper Young, who on Friday was taken to Sing Sing Prison, where he is to serve a life sentence for the confessed murder of Mrs. Anna Pulitzer, arrived on the Philadelphia yesterday.

Miss Young is the fiancée of Harold Eldredge, a nephew of Senator-elect Reed Smoot, of Utah. The wedding is expected to take place in this city in the spring, some three weeks before that of John W. Young, the woman's father.

Mr. Eldredge is high in Mormon Church circles, and is now in Europe, doing missionary work. The two met in Paris, where Miss Young was with her father. He is still in that city.

Where Miss Young went on leaving the pier yesterday could not be ascertained. She could not be found at any of the hotels. At No. 103 West Fifty-eighth-st., where John W. Young formerly lived, and where the murder of the Pulitzer woman was committed, it was said last night that the Young family had left the house, the furniture being moved out on Saturday. Most of it had been taken to a storage warehouse, but where no one seemed to know. It was said that Wesley Young, a brother of Miss Mary Young, had been at the apartment as late as 10 o'clock last evening, and had taken some of the more fragile furnishings away with him. It was said that he had left word that he would be back there this forenoon for other things.

No one could be found about the apartment house who knew or would tell where the Young family had moved to. The elevator boy was asked if there were not other Mormons living in the house, that might know, but he smiled and shook his head, and said:

"No, they've all gone. We've got 'em all out."

DAMNABLE HERESY, SAYS HILLIS.

He Thus Characterizes Statement "That This Is a White Man's Country."

That we might be "saved from this new and damnable heresy that holds that this is a white man's country" was the prayer offered by Dr. Newell Dwight Hillis in Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, last night. The prayer was at the end of a sermon on "Lessons from the Birthday of Abraham Lincoln." In the sermon Dr Hillis did not refer to the present condition of the negro in the South, but spoke almost wholly of the religious side of Lincoln's life. In the final prayer he said:

"We ask Thee, O Lord, that Thou wilt raise up men who will save us from this new and damnable heresy that this is a white man's country, and that there is no place here for the black man; raise up some widow's son who is now at his mother's knee to the task of saving the black slaves, not from the shackles of iron, but from the shackles of prejudice. Save the black race from hatred; save the white from supercilious contempt; save the white man from his degradation and lift him up until he can learn to love his fellow man, made in God's own image."

The Wanamaker Store.

Annual Sale of
Watches and Clocks

WE announce today a movement that will make a greater sensation in the trade than it will to the public.

Watch manufacturers simply can't supply the demand for movements. Retailers who formerly got discounts from the lists of movements are today offering a premium on list prices to get movements to fill the cases they have obtained from the manufacturers, and yet cannot secure them.

To make such an announcement as we make today in face of market conditions is most extraordinary; for we shall sell the great variety of Watches below, with Elgin, Waltham, and a small quantity of best Swiss movements, at

An Average of a Quarter Under-Price

While some are only twenty per cent. under-price, others are reduced fully forty per cent.

The occasion is the result of trade efforts reaching back almost a year, in the accumulation of the movements for this annual event.

The variety of Watches is so great that men and women may take advantage of the decisive savings while securing exactly the style of watch desired.

Men's 14k. Gold Open-face Watches, 16-size; 7-jewel Waltham and Elgin movements; $21, $22.50, $28.50; with 15-jewel movements, $27, $29.75, $31.50, $34.

Men's 14k. Gold Hunting-case Watches, 16-size; 7-jewel Waltham and Elgin movements; $25, $26, $27.50; with 15-jewel movements, $27.50, $30, $31.75, $40, $49; with higher-grade movements, $43 to $86.

Men's 14k. Gold Hunting-case Watches, 12-size; 7-jewel Waltham movements; $21, $26.25, $30, $33; with 15-jewel movements, $28.75, $30, $34.75, $38.50.

Men's 14k. Gold Open-face Watches, 7-jewel Waltham movements, $19.25, $21, $23, $30, $33.75, $40.

Men's 25-year Gold-filled Watches, 16-size, open-face; Waltham and Elgin 7-jewel movements; $9.75, $14.75.

Men's 25-year Gold-filled Watches, 16-size; hunting case; Waltham and Elgin movements, 15-jewel; $18.25, $19.25.

Men's 20-year Gold-filled Watches, 16-size; open-face; Waltham and Elgin movements, 7-jewel, $7.75, $8.50, $9; with 15-jewel movements, $12, $12.50, $13.25.

Men's 20-year Gold-filled Watches, 16-size; hunting case; Waltham and Elgin 7-jewel movements $10.50, $11.75, $13.50; with 15-jewel movements, $14, $15.25.

Men's 25-year Gold-filled Watches, 12-size; open-face; Waltham and Elgin 7-jewel movements; $13.75, $14.50, $15.25.

Men's 25-year Gold-filled Watches, hunting-case; Waltham and Elgin 7-jewel movements; $13, $15.25.

Men's 20-year Gold-filled Watches, open-face; Waltham and Elgin movements, 7-jewel; $9.75, $10, $12.75, $14.50.

Men's 20-year Gold-filled Watches, hunting-case; Waltham and Elgin movements, 7-jewel; $10.75, $11.50, $14, $15.25.

Men's 25-year Gold-filled Watches, open-face, 18-size, Waltham and Elgin movements, 7-jewel, $14.50; 15-jewel, $16; hunting-case, $12.75, $14.75, $15.75.

Men's 20-year Gold-filled Watches, 18-size; open-face; Waltham and Elgin movements; $9.75, $10.75, $11.50, $12, $13.

Motormen's Open-face Silveroid Watches, 7-jewel Waltham and Elgin movements, $5.25, $5.50.

Boys' Silver Open-face Watches, $7.50.

Boys' 25-year Gold-filled Watches, $12.25, $13.

Women's 14k. Gold Chatelaine Watches; cases enameled in red, blue, green, and with miniatures; fine Swiss movements; $13, $15, $18.75, $25, $31, $45 to $64.

Women's 14k. Gold Open-face Watches, Waltham movements, $16.

Women's 14k. Gold Hunting-case Watches, 7-jewel Waltham movements, $15, $16, $18.50; with 15-jewel movements, $18.50, $21, $23, $25; with higher-grade movements, $26.25, $31.

Women's 14k. Gold Watches; extra heavy hunting case; very fine Swiss movements, $40.

Women's 25-year Gold-filled Watches, 15-jewel Waltham and Elgin movements, $16.75, $17.50.

Women's 20-year Gold-filled Watches, 7-jewel Waltham and Elgin movements, $12.75.

Women's Silver Open-face Watches, with fine 15-jewel Swiss movements, $5, $7.

Jewelry Store, Broadway and Tenth street.

The Clock Sale presents scarcely less notable offerings, and reductions on Fine American and French Clocks of a quarter to a half of their former values.

Here are the items in detail:

Gilt Clock Sets, 3 pieces, American movements, at $18.75, $20, $20.75, $22.50, $27.50.

8-day Gilt Clocks, American movements, $14.

8-day Gilt Clocks, figure top, American movements, at $12.

8-day Clocks, bronze finish, American movements, at $6.50 and $8.

8-day Clocks, bronze-finish, figure-top, American movements, at $5.

8-day Gilt Clocks, at $2.25 and $3.25; set with brilliants, at $3.25 and $4.25.

1-day Gilt Clocks, at $1, $1.25, $1.75, $2, $2.50, $3, $4 and $4.50.

1-day Gilt Clocks, set with brilliants, at $2.50, $3, $3.50 and $3.75.

1-day Clocks, bronze-finish, $1.50, $2.50, $4.50.

Iron Mantel Clocks, American movements, at $3.50, $3.75, $4.25, $4.50, $5 and $7.

Porcelain Mantel Clocks, American movements, at $3.50.

Mantel Chime Clocks, mahogany-finished cases, at $12.50.

Weathered Oak Dutch Clocks, for hall, library, dining room and office, at $20.

8-day Manel Clocks, bronze-finish, figure ornaments, American movements, at $10.

Frying-pan Clocks, $1.

China Desk Clocks, 85c.

Nickel Alarm Clocks, at 65c.

Nickel Watches, stem-winders, American movements, at 90c.

Cuckoo Clocks, at $4.25, $4.50, $5, $5.25, $5.75, $6.25, $6.75, $7, $7.25, $7.50, $8, to $28.25.

Swiss Carved Clocks, not guaranteed as time-keepers, at 75c, $1, $1.25 and $1.75.

An assortment of very fine French Clocks, in onyx, porcelain, marble and enamel cases; only one of a kind, at $10 to $40.

Onyx and Gilt Clocks, slightly shop worn, fine French movements, at $15, were $23.50; at $20, were $26.50; at $25, were $32, $34, $35; at $27, were $37.

Gilt and Crystal Regulators, slightly shop-worn, Fine French movements, at $18, were $27.50; at $20, were $31; at $25, were $40; at $30, were $40; at $35, were $45.50 to $48; at $40, were $62; at $45, were $62.50.

Basement.

A Particularly Fine Group Of FURNITURE

ONE of the choicest plums of this February Sale comes forward in this group of unique and original, as well as quite elegant Bedroom Furniture.

For some years the ideas of simpler lines, less gaudy carvings, plainer trimmings have been growing in popularity with maker, seller and consumer. Furniture of severely plain lines, heavy, substantial materials, dull finishes and plain trimmings has been largely manufactured for dining-rooms, halls, dens, living-rooms and libraries. Now this fashion has extended to bedrooms; and for the latter the designs follow quaint lines of antique character and fine old Colonial simplicity.

Today we have a group of this characteristic furniture, made by one of the best firms of thorough cabinet-makers in America; and the furniture goes to you, as it came to us.

At Half Price

The refinement of simplicity, and the strong beauty of these old Colonial designs can scarcely be described. Those who do not like such furniture will not be interested; but those who love true artistic furnishings will be delighted and surprised by this remarkable offering:

At $157.50, from $315—Solid mahogany Bedroom Suite, consisting of full size double bedstead, bureau, toilet table, chiffonnier, cheval glass and washstand. Bedstead has heavy raised panels and thick frame-work. Drawers have quaint wood handles. Bureau and toilet table have plain French plate mirrors. Finish is medium dark natural mahogany on beautifully grained wood. We have similar suites, consisting of bedstead, bureau, chiffonnier and washstand at proportionate prices.

At $57.50, from $115—Weathered oak Bedroom Suite, containing full size double bedstead and large size bureau; bureau has large oval mirror, wood-work is finished and decorated with large purple poppies.

At $97.50, from $195—Yellow pine Bedroom Suite of solid wood in hard, smooth dull finish; suite consists of full-size double bedstead, bureau, chiffonnier, bedroom table, washstand, two cane-seat chairs, one cane-seat rocker; bureau has large, plain French plate mirror; wood-work is beautifully finished and the entire suite is of fine design.

At $107.50, from $215—Solid Sycamore Bedroom Suite, consisting of bureau, toilet table, wardrobe, washstand, two chairs and one rocker. The wood is beautifully grained and finished hard and dull; French plate mirrors with bevelled edges in bureau, toilet table and wardrobe.

At $125, from $250—Mahogany Bedroom Suite, finished in a rich dark red; suite consists of bureau, full-size double bedstead, cheval glass and washstand. Bedstead is handsomely panelled, and the panels have very graceful, sunken carvings. Bureau has large square mirror.

At $111.25, from $222.50—Weathered oak Bedroom Suite, consisting of bureau, chiffonnier, wardrobe, washstand, two chairs, one rocker; heavy, fine construction with hard, full finish.

At $56, from $112—Sycamore Bedroom Suite of five pieces—bureau, washstand, two chairs, one rocker; beautifully marked wood with dull finish.

In the natural red mahogany we have two odd Chiffonniers at $25, from $50; four odd Bureaus at $42.50, from $85.

In the yellow pine we have odd Bedroom Tables at $5, from $10; Chairs at $3, from $6; Rockers at $4, from $8.

In the weathered oak we have odd Chairs at $3.50, from $7; Rockers at $4.25, from $8.50.

Fourth floor.

JOHN WANAMAKER

Formerly A. T. Stewart & Co. Broadway, 4th ave., 9th and 10th sts.