FOUR TENDERLOIN FIRES.

ONE IN THE FLATIRON.

Many People in Victoria Hotel and Apartment Houses Scared.

Four fires in the Tenderloin district created much excitement in that part of the city yesterday. The most serious blaze scared many guests in the Victoria Hotel and annex and occupants of two fashionable Fifth-ave. apartment houses early in the morning, and caused a loss of about $100,000. The Flatiron Building was the scene of a slight but exciting fire at noon. All the fires in the district were believed to be of accidental origin.

The early morning fire was in the middle of the block bounded by Twenty-sixth and Twenty-seventh-sts. and Broadway and Fifth-ave., in a warehouse used by John F. Douthitt, a decorator, for the storage of paintings and furniture. His store is on the ground floor of the apartment house No. 220 and 222 Fifth-ave., next door to the Croisic apartments, at Twenty-sixth-st. The flames in the warehouse gained considerable headway before they were discovered, and smoke entered both the apartment houses and the Victoria Hotel and annex in volumes sufficient to cause alarm. Three hundred guests in the hotel were turned out of their rooms, and were forced to take refuge in the restaurant of the hotel until the danger was over. Many actors and actresses in the annex went to the fire escapes, but learned that there was no immediate danger and returned to their rooms later.

The firemen went into the Croisic and helped to rescue several women from the smoke. A panic there was averted by the presence of the firemen, although many persons in the house left their apartments for a time. In the apartment house next door Mrs. Huntington, Miss Penfield and Miss Leiter, a niece of the Chicago merchant, were rescued from the smoke by policemen. Patrolman Duffy found Mrs. Higginson and her daughter chasing two prize winning Angora cats on the top floor. The women refused to be rescued until they had caught the cats and had seen them safely stowed in baskets. Then they walked downstairs with the policeman, who carried out the cats.

Captain Zalinski, the inventor of the dynamite gun, who is an invalid, was carried out of his room by firemen, although he protested that he wanted to stay and look after some papers and models relating to new inventions. His nephew, S. L. Adler, looked after them, however.

The firemen directed most of their efforts for a time to keeping the flames from spreading to the hotel and apartment houses, and it was about 5 a. m. when the fire in the warehouse was subdued. Then most of the persons who had been frightened returned to their rooms. Mr. Douthitt's loss by the fire was said to be about $100,000, as many valuable paintings were destroyed, and his insurance was said to be $40,000. Among the paintings were four by Delgardo, depicting sporting life in Spain; the "Original Lion," by Drake; a number of paintings by Felix, a landscape by Raschmiel, valued at $2,000, and numerous engravings by Kaufman. A large collection of draperies and tapestries was also destroyed. Raschmiel, whose landscape was destroyed, is painting several pictures for Andrew Carnegie.

The second fire, originating in a defective flue, was discovered at 8.30 a. m., in the Japanese goods store of Chon, Yum & Co., at No. 60 West Thirty-third-st. The firemen extinguished the flames before there was serious damage, but considerable excitement was created in the Martinique apartment hotel. The clerk in the hotel was kept busy for a time answering anxious inquiries on the telephone from upper rooms.

A defective electric light wire started a fire at noon in the glass extension of the Flatiron Building, on the ground floor, at the sharp Twenty-third-st. corner, where the United Cigar Stores Company had an Easter display of artificial flowers. The flames broke through the glass, causing a display not expected. The firemen responded quickly to an alarm, and in ten minutes the fire was out. When the firemen reached the building the cigar store was filled with a thick smoke. Many of the tenants in the building became excited, and rushed down the stairs to the street, while others contented themselves by looking out of the office windows at the fire. The crowd became so large that Captain O'Connor, of the West Thirtieth-st. station, hastened to the scene with the reserves.

The fourth fire in the district created a scare in the building No. 42 West Twenty-eighth-st., the ground floor of which is occupied by Young & Nugent, wholesale florists. A tent in the back yard, sheltering a large consignment of Easter flowers, caught fire. Many women were in the place when the fire was discovered, and there was a stampede, while persons on the upper floors of the house were hurling water from rear windows on the tent. The firemen made short work of the fire when they got there, and the loss was only about $200.

SAYS PATIENT ASSAULTED HIM.

Orderly of New-York Hospital Applies for Warrant.

A man who said he was Thomas Lyden, an orderly employed in the New-York Hospital, called at the West Thirtieth-st. station last night and said he wanted a warrant for a patient at the New-York Hospital, who, he alleges, assaulted him with a bottle. He showed the sergeant a cut on his forehead which he said had been caused by the blow from the bottle.

"The man is to be discharged from the hospital to-morrow morning," said Lyden, "and Dr. Warren told me to come here and get a warrant for his arrest."

The sergeant told him that he could not issue a warrant, and that he would have to go to a magistrate's court. Lyden said that the man had struck him without provocation, and that he had not assaulted the man in return.

At the New-York Hospital the clerk at the office refused to talk about the case, referring the reporter to the superintendent. He said that the superintendent could not be seen until this morning.

ALLEGES HER SON DEFRAUDED HER.

An action to set aside twenty deeds to real estate in Brooklyn as fraudulent and void was begun yesterday in the Supreme Court by Mrs. Ellen T. Martin against her son, George W. Martin, and William J. Donnelly, who was mentioned in the complaint as a "mere tool and dummy" for his fellow defendant. A lis pendens against the property covered by the deeds from Martin to Donnelly was filed yesterday with the County Clerk.

MAY NOT BE READY JAN. 1.

Difficulties to Overcome in Subway Between Worth and Canal Sts.

Engineers not connected with the Rapid Transit Commission are wellnigh unanimous in the belief that it will be impossible for the subway between Worth and Canal sts. to be finished in time for the road to be opened by the beginning of next year. The amount of work between the points specified yet to be done by the Degnon-McLean Contracting Company is tremendous. The grade runs to such a low level at Canal-st. that the subway floor is covered with water. That, however, is not so serious an obstacle as the fact that between Worth and Canal sts. excavation for only two of the four tracks has yet been done. The sub-surface work between the points named is about the slowest and most difficult that the contractors have encountered. There are heavy mains to be moved, and a large amount of excavation. North of Spring-st. the outlook is a good deal better. Between Spring and Great Jones sts. the steel is all in and the street is partly graded for the new granite block paving that is to be laid on a concrete foundation.

The present condition of the crossings in Elm-st., between Worth and Spring sts., makes it almost impossible for wagons to move there with heavy loads. The Rapid Transit Commission recently authorized Chief Engineer Parsons to hurry up the work of making Elm-st. usable. Mr. Parsons has issued several optimistic bulletins about the early completion of the work in Elm-st., but an inspection of the street yesterday did not reveal progress that warrants the hope that the street below Canal-st. will be ready for traffic before late next fall.

SHIFTED TO THE PEOPLE.

Beck Says That Consolidations Are Now a Subject for Legislation.

Philadelphia, April 10.—James M. Beck, Assistant Attorney General, who argued the Northern Securities case, and the recently decided lottery cases, for the government, when questioned to-day as to the scope of the decision in the former case, said:

The decision of the Circuit Court of Appeals destroys the last legal device for the suppression of competition, and shifts the whole question from the courts to the people, and leaves for their consideration and ultimate decision the question whether railway consolidation, under proper regulation, is desirable, or whether it should be altogether prohibited. The wild suggestion that this decision is "revolutionary" and will disrupt the American railway system is absurd. It simply reaffirms existing principles, and has no application whatever to legitimate extensions of railway lines, but solely applies to the suppression of competition by railway consolidation.

Judge Thayer's decision, in effect, demonstrates the inaccuracy of the phrase "holding company," and also shows that the "community of interest" plan through stock ownership, when it suppresses competition and promotes monopoly, is unlawful. The fact that each of the competing lines is nominally operated by a separate board of directors is held immaterial.

The decision is also of first importance in holding that the mere ownership of stock in an interstate railroad brings the owner in such direct relation with interstate commerce as to subject him to the plenary powers of the federal government with respect thereto. Perhaps this holding gives the decision its greatest importance. The defendant's attorneys contended that the mere acquisition of such shares had either no direct relation to interstate commerce, or that in any event such relation was indirect, collateral and remote. They sought to establish an unsound distinction between ownership of a road and its operation. This view the court negatives, and holds that the purchase of shares of stock in an interstate railway subjects the purchaser to the constitutional power of the federal government. The importance of this holding, coming, as it does, upon the heels of the lottery cases, cannot well be overestimated. It greatly widens the scope of federal activity. The constitution remains unchanged, but the sphere of human action, to which it is applied, is by means of wholly exterior forces greatly widened.

The Attorney General's view of the existing law has been fully sustained and his courageous action fully vindicated, and the responsibility must now rest with the American people to determine, as a legislative and not as a judicial question, how far and under what conditions the public interest may, if at all, justify such railway consolidations as are in restraint of competition.

PROMISES IMPRISONMENT HEREAFTER

Justice Mayer Declares That Barricading by Lawbreakers Will Not Be Tolerated.

Under Section 343 of the Penal Code, Charles Kelly and Daniel McCullough were yesterday arraigned in the Court of Special Sessions, charged with a misdemeanor in keeping and maintaining a poolroom at No. 236 Fourth-ave. This was the first case where men charged with running a poolroom were arraigned under that section, such prisoners formerly being charged with felony. Punishment for misdemeanor is not so great as that for felony. The District Attorney's office changed the complaint to make the handling of the cases more expeditious, as by the new way the case goes direct to the Court of Special Sessions from the magistrate's court. The prisoners were discharged on account of lack of evidence.

When John Gagle, John Foley, William Collins and William Montgomery were arraigned their counsel contended that the offence alleged was a felony. Justice Mayer fined Gagle $400, and Foley, Collins and Montgomery $75 each.

"We think it fair," said the justice, "to announce that in the event of future violations of Section 343 persons convicted may expect imprisonment and not a fine. The testimony in this case disclosed the fact that there was a well guarded effort to disobey the law of the State, as we understand it to be, by the locking of doors and the practical barricading of this fortress, which the people of this community will not permit or suffer to be continued."

Counsel announced that he would appeal from the conviction under the misdemeanor section.

THE WEDDING BELLS WILL SOON RING OUT for Reginald C. Vanderbilt and Cathleen Neilson. Advance account of the wedding, with photos of the bride and bridegroom, best man and maid of honor; also interior view of cottage where ceremony will be performed. In to-morrow's Tribune.

W. S. GOULD HAS BUTLER ARRAIGNED.

A Japanese butler, Masahorn Inagaki, until recently in the employ of William S. Gould, of No. 34 East Seventy-fourth-st., treasurer of the Gould Coupler Company, was held in $1,000 bail for trial by Magistrate Zeller in the Yorkville Court yesterday, on a charge of grand larceny, preferred by Mr. Gould. The Jap was to marry an American girl in Ridgewood, N. J. On February 6 Mr. Gould testified, the Jap disappeared with silverware worth $86. A detective traced the Jap to Ridgewood, to the young woman's house. He was arrested on his return here. He had a pawn ticket calling for the missing articles, the detective declared.

IDENTIFIED AS CEMETERY BURGLAR.

Detective Nelson, of Hoboken, yesterday identified Frank Avery, arrested here on Thursday night, as one of the burglars who attempted to break into the cottage of the superintendent of the Hoboken cemetery on Wednesday night. Two of the burglars were caught, and Avery and another man escaped. The police here expect to arrest the fourth man soon.

Inspector McClusky said: "Avery was the brains of the gang, and is one of the cleverest safe breakers in the country. The prisoner Maroney was an all-round thief, and has only taken up safe breaking lately. Matthews, or Gallagher, when he was working for Mr. Marvin opened safes whose combinations or keys had been lost by the owners."

The pictures of all are in the Rogues' Gallery. Avery was held for further examination.

STILL POURING IN.

Heaviest April Week at Ellis Island—38,076 Since First of Month.

The heaviest week that the Immigration Bureau at Ellis Island has ever had in April, and the record ten days for the first part of April, ended yesterday with the landing and shipping to other places of 38,076 immigrants. This number has arrived and landed here since April 1. The record of last year for the first ten days of April was 26,789, 11,287 less than for the same period this spring. Yesterday alone there were 10,175 immigrants in port to be landed, of which number about 7,055 were examined, leaving 3,120 on board ship, to be landed to-day. In order to relieve the pressure at Ellis Island, 240 steerage passengers who arrived here yesterday afternoon on the Anchoria, of the Anchor Line, were landed on the pier at West Twenty-fourth-st., and examined there.

The immigrants arriving were said to be above the average as to education and cultivation. A large majority of them were bound for the West and Northwest, only a few remaining in New-York and its vicinity. The Labor Bureau at the Immigration Bureau has been flooded with applications for laborers to go to the Northwest.

NEW STEEL PROCESS.

Converting by Chemicals May Revolutionize Trade.

What no small number of experts who have examined it say may revolutionize the process of converting steel from the cheapest to the highest grade is the invention which George E. Pinkham, of Norfolk, Va., who is now in this city, has made after experiments of twenty-seven years. Mr. Pinkham is here to meet W. E. Corey, president of the Carnegie Steel Company, who is coming to this city from Pittsburg next week. The new process which Mr. Pinkham has invented is based on chemicals. To a Tribune reporter yesterday Mr. Pinkham said:

This process will make a better steel at a cost of about two cents a pound than any steel I have ever seen—even that metal that retails at 90 cents a pound. By its use old steel tools, even those that have been burned and are supposedly worthless, can be made as good as the finest grade. Just by hand work I can transform two hundred pounds of steel a day from 10 cent to 50 cent steel.

An exceptionally interesting story is connected with the invention. In 1875 Mr. Pinkham, then fourteen years old, found under an old stone house on Promenade Hill, Hudson, N. Y., a rusty knife. He took it home and his father cleaned it. On the bone handle were then found the initials "A. P." These, Mr. Pinkham's father said, were the initials of the lad's great-grandfather, Abisha Pinkham, who built the stone house where the knife had been found in 1782 and lived in it until 1790. The knife, therefore, must have been lost for over eighty years. The curious thing about it was its remarkably good temper, and this, men familiar with steel manufacture then said, was due to its being under ground so long. Young Mr. Pinkham afterward began experimenting, in the hope of finding how to imitate nature in what he supposed was the tempering of steel. Putting steel in the ground at random at various heats, he found that at times he got an excellent temper and at other times none at all. Then, about twenty years ago, he began using chemicals, but not until about four months ago did he meet success. Then, he says, he found that, instead of tempering steel, he had learned about a month ago how to convert it.

A number of large cash offers for his invention have already been made to Mr. Pinkham, both at Norfolk and this city, but these have been declined. The inventor is so well satisfied that he has an extremely remarkable process that he is proceeding slowly. He is now in the city chiefly for a rest, which his doctor and attorney insist on. Mr. Pinkham for the last twenty years has been machinist and superintendent of the finishing department in several large knitting mills at Hudson and at Norfolk. He resigned his place at the Elizabeth Knitting Mills, at Berkeley, near Norfolk, several weeks ago.

ROBS HOUSE WHILE OWNER IS IN BED.

Edward Carney, a fish dealer, returned to his home, No. 223 Havemeyer-st., Brooklyn, on Thursday afternoon somewhat indisposed. His wife saw him safely to bed, and went over to the store, after locking the doors of the house. When she came back, several hours later, she found the basement door open, and, hurrying to the parlor, discovered that about $1,500 worth of jewelry and $200 in cash had been stolen.

THE COMIC SIDE OF ALBANY.

The Legislators Must Have Their Fun, as Is Told in "Capitol Stories."

The comedy of legislative life, as enacted this session at Albany, is reflected by "Capitol Stories," written by F. Severance Johnson, of The Tribune's staff, and reprinted from The Sunday Tribune. The book has just been published, and is the third of a series dating back to the session of 1901. According to the yarns told in "Capitol Stories," the Albany legislators do not spend all their time with the solemn cares of state, but in moments of relaxation, or even in the midst of debate, they vie with one another in repartee, with now and then a downright practical joke of the schoolboy order. Some of the chapters of "Capitol Stories," for example, have such titles as these: "The Snorer and the Folding Bed," "Colonel Dunn as an Umpire," "Cook's Horse Likes Baseball," "The Dinner That Was Not Eaten" and "The Assembly Dromios."

ART CULTURE LEAGUE EXHIBIT.

Pictures of city and riverboard and several portraits make up the third annual exhibition of canvases of the Art Culture League, which opened at the Educational Alliance Hall last evening. The exhibition was formally opened by Carroll Beckwith, who spoke of the future promise shadowed forth by these beginnings—the handiwork of young men. The pictures, which are some twoscore in number, and, excepting one or two pastels, oils, comprise half a dozen canvases by S. A. Weiss, who is also represented at the present exhibition by the Society of American Artists; one of N. Loewenberg's illustrations for Rosenfeld's poem, and portraits and studies by Miss R. Mahler and Miss Jacobson. Zim Marco has four oil paintings on view. Many of the painters are students at the Academy of Design. The exhibition is on view daily until April 20, from 2:30 to 5:30 p. m. and from 7:30 to 10 p. m. Admission is free. The Art Culture League was born, some two years ago, for the purpose of stimulating interest in art on the lower East Side.

WARNING TO LAKEWOOD COACH OWNERS

New-Brunswick, April 10.—Arthur O'Neil, chairman of the Bridge Committee of the County Board of Freeholders, has warned the drivers, managers and owners of the Lakewood coach, which travels between New-York and Lakewood, that Weston's Mill Bridge, near here, has been weakened by the heavy coach crossing it with the horses at a gallop, and that the coach owners will use the bridge at their own risk. The notice has been served to clear the county of responsibility in case of an accident.

TO RENOVATE CALVARY P. E. CHURCH.

A letter has been issued by the vestry of Calvary Protestant Episcopal Church, Fourth-ave. and Twenty-first-st., asking for gifts for the renovation of the church. The letter says: "The need of renovation is imperative, and the vestry has determined to redecorate the church, to install an improved system of electric lights, and to tile the floors. It is estimated that the cost of these repairs will be about $8,000."

Charles C. Height has been selected as the architect for the work.

ARRIVALS OF BUYERS.

W. Catzen & Co., Baltimore; W. Catzen, clothing; Broadway Central.

Myers & Andrews, Boston, manufacturers of clothing; Murray Hill.

A. B. Gamler, Corning, N. Y., clothing; Union Square.

Richardson & Knight, Jackson, Mich; E. Knight, millinery; Hotel St. Denis.

F. H. Kissane, Malone, N. Y., general merchandise; Sinclair House.

Barnham, Rogers & Co., Petersburg, Va.; A. Wright, drygoods; Plaza.

J. Horne Company, Pittsburg; C. H. Baker, drygoods; Herald Square.

W. D. Kingsman, Springfield, Mass., notions; Hotel Manhattan.

York Hat Company, York, Penn.; G. P. Smyse, hats, caps; Astor House.

J. R. Pearl & Co., Zanesville, O.; W. D. Schultz, tailors; Albemarle.

Miss Sullivan, Boston, millinery, etc.; Hotel St. Denis.

Hoskins & Olney, Auburn, N. Y.; B. C. Olney, shirt waists; Broadway Central.

J. W. Rice, Albany, drygoods; Herald Square.

F. L. Crane, Scranton, Penn., cloaks; Hotel Albert.

J. M. Anderson, Seneca Falls, N. Y., drygoods; Continental.

LABOR IN FREE FIGHTS.

Parks and Buchanan Men Punch One Another.

SAY STRIKES WILL BE SETTLED.

After a stormy meeting last night at Maennerchor Hall of Local Union No. 2 of the Bridge and Structural Iron Workers' Association, it was announced that a meeting would be held on Monday at 10 a. m. at the offices of the American Bridge Company, which promises to bring to an end the steel strike.

Frank Buchanan, president of the International Association of the Bridge and Structural Iron Workers, addressed two thousand members of the local union, and asked them to reaffirm their previous action to stand by the international association in dealing with the American Bridge Company. After half a dozen fist fights, which resulted in the election of nearly a score of men, the members unanimously reaffirmed their previous action.

A committee was appointed to meet the officers of the American Bridge Company to adjust the differences between the men and the bridge company. The committee appointed is as follows: President Buchanan, John W. Johnson, secretary and treasurer of the international association; R. E. Neidig, president of the local association, and Samuel Parks.

A member of this committee said that the meeting on Monday meant the ending of the strike.

It was announced a few days ago that the international association would not enter into any negotiations with the American Bridge Company officials unless the company first made overtures to the officers of the association. Now that the international association officers are going to meet the American Bridge Company's officials, it is looked on as a big victory by the men.

The meeting last night lasted over five hours. There were repeated quarrels between friends of Samuel Parks and Buchanan's followers. Six or seven men, after some hot words, started to punch one another in the crowded hall, and created such an uproar that they had to be ejected. This fight was followed by others. At one time one of the fights nearly resulted in a general battle. Two or three men started to throw chairs, and there was a rush for the doors. The sergeant at arms had a hard time trying to keep order.

GENERAL STRIKE MAY 1.

One Will Be Ordered Against Bridge Company Then, It Is Said.

Baltimore, April 10.—Labor leaders report here to-night that the executive board of the national body of structural iron workers decided recently to order a general strike of the structural iron workers on May 1 unless the American Bridge Company had by that time acceded to the demands of its employes. It is possible that the building trades of this city will also strike on that date for the recognition of the union card system. Nine thousand men will probably be involved in this strike.

The representative of the American Bridge Company, after shipping to Pittsburg about two hundred men to take the places of the strikers of that company, has left this city.

THE HEARING AT LOWELL.

Operatives Refuse to Testify—Mills Not to Open Monday.

Lowell, Mass., April 10.—When those interested in the State investigation of the textile industry in Lowell, now being conducted by the members of the State Board of Conciliation and Arbitration, appeared at the City Hall hearing room this forenoon, neither side seemed to be any more enthusiastic concerning the practical effect of the inquiry than they were at yesterday's brief proceedings.

Just before the hearing was called to order the mill representatives stated that there was no intention of attempting to start the mills on Monday.

The hearing was largely attended to-day by operatives and their friends. Robert F. Conroy, president of the council, informed the board that the council had authorized the executive committee to appear. The mills were more fully represented than yesterday. Mr. Cumnock, treasurer of the Appleton Mills, and W. S. Southworth, agent of the Massachusetts Mills and head of the Agents' Association, were present to-day. The operatives were represented by Edward D. McVey and Mr. Osgood. Mr. McVey, speaking for the council, said he thought that there was no reason why the operatives should go ahead in this hearing, for the reason that a prima facie case was admitted by the manufacturers. The council contended that as Fall River and New-Bedford paid higher wages than Lowell, the operatives here were justified in striking for more wages.

Mr. Dunbar, for the manufacturers, stated that wages in Lowell were as high as in Fall River and New-Bedford, while the product was not the same.

Mr. McVey quoted from a statement made by Mr. Southworth at a conference between the agents and the Textile Council, in which Mr. Southworth, in replying to the assertion that the mills of Fall River and New-Bedford paid higher wages, was quoted as saying: "We acknowledge they do, and what is the use of discussing it."

Mr. Reed, chairman of the Board of Arbitration, requested a history of the trouble, and Mr. Southworth read from previous statements of the agents, in which they said they could not afford an advance. He explained at great length what each side had claimed at the conference between the agents and council committee. The agents held that an advance in wages was an anticipation of future conditions, and that it could not be afforded. When an advance was given in Fall River, Mr. Southworth said, the price of print cloth was raised, so that the cost of the advance came out of the pockets of the consumers. He told of the refusal of the male employes of essential departments to go to work on a declaration of a strike and of the closing of the cloth mills. He explained the varieties of goods made by each corporation. At one time there were only six varieties, but when the mills closed the other day there were ninety-seven in the looms. Mr. Southworth told of the change from coarse to fine goods to meet the demand of to-day. His company's buildings and the machinery were old, and the machinery was not adapted to finer goods, but the product has been diversified as much as possible under the conditions. At the close of Mr. Southworth's statement the operatives declined to put in testimony.

Mr. Southworth at the afternoon session denied that there was any combination of mill owners to control the prices of goods or to keep down wages.

SAYS UNIONS WILL FOLLOW THE FLAG.

President Gompers Declares That Spirit of Organization Is Rampant in the Land.

President Samuel Gompers of the American Federation of Labor addressed about one hundred and fifty members of the Longshoremen's Union Protective Association of the Port of New-York in Everett Hall, in East Fourth-st., last night. An effort is being made to affiliate the various unions of longshoremen in this city with the International Longshoremen's Union. Mr. Gompers said in part:

I have often been asked of late what is the reason for the failure of labor organizations. My reply is always the same—the yet unorganized workingman. But the pendulum is swinging in our direction. The spirit of organization is rampant in the land. Workingmen are beginning to appreciate that the only safeguard of the republic, liberty and our children is organized labor.

The time is coming when you will find our organizations in Cuba, Porto Rico, the Phillipines—wherever the American flag flies. I don't know where it is going to fly next year or next week; but wherever it flies organized labor will follow it.

O'REILLY AFTER FORTUNE TELLERS.

Makes a Raid and an Arrest in His Precinct.

Police Captain Miles O'Reilly, having spread consternation in euchre playing circles in Brooklyn, has declared war on the fortune tellers, and proposes to drive them out of his precinct. His first raid was made on Thursday, when he arrested Miss Georgia Donovan, of No. 681 Madison-st.

In the Gates-ave. court yesterday Detective Reynolds, who accompanied the captain when he made the arrest, was the complainant. He said that Miss Donovan had cast the horoscopes of many well known persons. When she offered to tell Captain O'Reilly's fortune for 25 cents she was arrested, but was bailed out at the station house. In court she acknowledged that she was a fortune teller, and was admitted to bail in $500 by Magistrate Furlong for examination on Wednesday next.

Captain O'Reilly said afterward that he did not think there was anything unusual in the arrest of a fortune teller. He did not know what was being done in other precincts, but so far as his own was concerned he would not allow people to tell fortunes and charge for it. "I propose to do my whole duty," added the captain, emphatically.

NO ELEVATED STRIKE.

Higher Wages Conceded—The Men Still Wish Nine Hour Day.

Meetings of Manhattan Division of the International Association of Street Railway Employes, representing the elevated railroad men, were held last evening in Colonial Hall, One-hundred-and-first-st. and Columbus-ave., to enroll members and consider a new wage scale proposed by the company. It was the regular fortnightly meeting of the union, but there was the usual hue and cry about an impending strike.

President George E. Pepper made a statement last night, in which he said, among other things:

You can say positively that no strike is contemplated on the elevated railroad. Any man who says there is going to be a strike is either talking in ignorance or trying to injure our organization. We are making a fight for better conditions, but we are making it in a business-like way. The officials of the Interborough Rapid Transit Company have been ready at all times to meet us halfway, and are more than fair in treating with our committees. We will have no strike, and everything will be settled satisfactorily.

Mr. Pepper said that the company had offered the following sliding scale of wages: Ticket choppers, $1 25 to $1 40 a day; guards, $1 55 to $1 95; conductors, $2 10 to $2 40; ticket agents, $1 75 to $2; telegraphers, $2 25; hand switchmen, $2 10 to $2 20; tower switchmen, $2 31 to $2 47. The men demand a nine hour workday, with the exception of the tower switchmen, who demand an eight hour day. The new wage scale goes into effect on April 12.

The new wage scale was the result of a conference between the representatives of the men and the company last Tuesday. It was decided to accept the wage offers and keep up the fight for a nine hour day. Another conference on this point will be held in the near future.

GOMPERS SEEKS PEACE.

Hopeful of Settling Dispute Between Carpenters' Unions.

President Samuel Gompers of the American Federation of Labor is making an earnest effort to bring about a settlement of the differences between the Brotherhood of Carpenters and the Amalgamated Carpenters' Society. He called together yesterday committees of the Brotherhood and of the Amalgamated Society, which were in session with him all day at the Ashland House, to try to bring about a settlement. The Board of Building Trades held a meeting while the negotiations were going on, and decided to hold to its original decision to stand by the Amalgamated Carpenters' Society. Should no settlement be reached and the strikes continue, the unions represented in the board will direct their members not to work with Brotherhood men. Instead of fighting some 1,000 or 2,000 carpenters in this city, the Brotherhood would then be fighting unions representing 60,000 mechanics in over thirty trades.

The following statement was given out by Mr. Gompers after the conferences:

As the two unions belong to the American Federation of Labor and I was coming to New-York, I telegraphed to the members of both committees to meet me to see if a settlement of the trouble could not be reached. The situation has been fully discussed from every point of view. Finally, a sub-committee was appointed to try to draw up a plan of settlement on lines satisfactory to both sides. This sub-committee will report at 10 o'clock to-morrow at another conference.

Asked if he thought there would be a settlement, Mr. Gompers said: "I am hopeful. I am always hopeful."

The sub-committee consists of George D. Gaillard, representing the Brotherhood; Samuel Roberts, representing the Amalgamated Carpenters' Society, and James Duncan, representing the American Federation of Labor.

The representatives of the American Federation of Labor proposed that the strikes be declared off preliminary to measures for amalgamating the two unions. The Amalgamated Society objected. It takes the stand that amalgamation would mean that it would be absorbed by the Brotherhood.

George Cavenagh, of the Amalgamated Society committee, said that his organization could never agree to amalgamation. On the other hand, Secretary Featherston, George D. Gaillard and other members of the Brotherhood committee said they were willing to unite. "The Amalgamated Society can join us or we can join it," said one of them. "We are even willing to amalgamate under a new name."

At the meeting of the Board of Building Trades it was stated that the board did not favor amalgamation.

WAR ON MOSQUITOES.

W. C. Whitney to Have Sheepshead Bay Breeding Places Destroyed.

William C. Whitney has employed Henry Clay Weeks, an engineer, to destroy scientifically the mosquito breeding grounds to the south and east of his racing stables at the Old Mill on Garretson's Creek, Sheepshead Bay. This will include the draining of some of the Jamaica Bay marsh lands and the treating of them with chemicals, as Mr. Weeks did at Centre Island, Oyster Bay, two summers ago.

Mr. Whitney hopes that his example will be followed by other property interests that are affected to their detriment by the extensive swamp and marsh lands adjoining Jamaica Bay and Gravesend Bay. To that end he has asked Mr. Weeks to inspect and make a report on the entire territory. Of it he has written to Mr. Whitney:

The marsh conditions from Jamaica Bay, Big Channel and Rockaway Inlet, all east of you, as well as that section about Plum Beach, Sheepshead Bay and Coney Island Creek, are substantially the same, and by drainage and fertilizing could be relieved from breeding. This would substantially free your own section, Sheepshead Bay, Manhattan Beach, Brighton Beach, etc., from mosquitoes. I would say it would absolutely free them, if I was sure of the co-operation of all owners. We could count on the co-operation of the Board of Health.

No very extensive engineering operations would at once be carried out, for the season is rather late for results from such, but these could be developed later in a way not only to relieve from mosquitoes, but to add millions of dollars to the valuation of these breeding grounds.

FIFTH-AVE. DOG CHASE.

Frothing Animal Creates Excitement Until Captured.

Fifth-ave. was treated yesterday to one of the "mad dog" scares which have occurred with such frequency of late. For twenty minutes or more the neighborhood of Thirty-fourth and Thirty-fifth sts. was thrown into a state of excitement, while dog catchers and policemen vainly endeavored to capture a big white mongrel cur, which, frothing at the mouth, snapping and snarling, for a long time successfully evaded their every effort at capture.

The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals had vainly tried to capture a big white mongrel which had made its headquarters in an inclosure in the rear of the art gallery of Samuel P. Avery, jr., at No. 366 Fifth-ave.

Yesterday afternoon a policeman of the West Thirtieth-st. station saw the dog at Thirty-fourth-st. and Fifth-ave., frothing at the mouth and running wildly about. He sent for the dog catchers, a big crowd gathered and the windows of the houses in the neighborhood were filled with curious persons. After a long chase the dog ran up the steps of the Engineers' Club, at Thirty-fifth-st. and Fifth-ave. The door was slammed, knocking the brute down, and he was captured. The police made inquiries, but could not learn that any one had been bitten.

DENY GROUT IS TO SEE MURPHY.

Controller Grout, who has been suffering somewhat from the grip for the last two weeks, went to Atlantic City on Wednesday. He is not expected home until Monday. The fact that Charles F. Murphy, of Tammany Hall, is at Atlantic City furnished sufficient foundation for a report yesterday that the two would confer on politics. Mr. Grout's friends say that he "isn't built that way."

"AGAG."

Pen sketch by "Ex-Attache" of George Wyndham, the author of the new Irish Land bill, and, next to Joseph Chamberlain, the most striking individuality of the British Cabinet. In to-morrow's Tribune.

HOSPITAL GETS SITE.

Red Cross Sisters Receive Present Worth $100,000.

William T. Wardwell has given as a gift to the New-York Red Cross Hospital and Training School for Red Cross Sisters the vacant plot, 99 by 100 feet, in Central Park West, 23.11 feet south of One-hundredth-st. The value of the land is said to be more than $100,000. On the premises is to be erected a permanent hospital building for the institution, which will contain some features which do not enter into the construction of local public hospitals.

A number of plans for the building have been drawn and are under consideration. The building will be about five stories high, of white stone, and will cost about $70,000. Private as well as public patients will be admitted, and each patient will have a room. The rooms will be so built that a view of each may be easily had from a hall into which they will open. This special work of the hospital is to train nurses to render surgical and medical aid in time of war. The organization has a charter from this State, and has maintained for some years a hospital at No. 110 West Eighty-second-st., conducted by the Sisters of the Red Cross. It has eighteen beds and also an outdoor department.

For about five years Mr. Wardwell has been president of the organization. In the Spanish-American War the association did much work in the field. This gift revealed the fact that for some weeks Mr. Wardwell has been seriously sick. On Thursday last he was able to sit up for the first time in many days. A meeting of the board of trustees of the institution was held at his house, No. 21 West Fifty-eighth-st. At the meeting he formally presented the plot of ground to the hospital.

NOTES OF THE STAGE.

The Tale of a Dog, a Comedy in Three Wags—Mrs. Mack To Be an "Artist."

Last night two women appeared at the Casino, bought seats, and started to enter the house. One of the women had a tiny dog hidden in her wrap; so tiny that he was no bigger than the immortal Pinky Panky Poo, and, as she supposed, far nearer invisible. But the doorkeeper spotted him.

"You cannot come in," he told her, barring the way.

"Why not?" she demanded. "I have a seat."

"But that dog under your wrap hasn't," said the doorkeeper. "No 'barkers' are allowed in this house, anyway."

The woman was so taken by surprise, either at his perspicacity or his pun, that she nearly dropped the animal, which gave an angry yelp and exhibited himself as a mite of a brown thing with big, sharp ears and a green flannel blanket.

"Check the beast and let us get in," said a coarse mere man waiting behind her. She adopted the suggestion, and went back to the cloak room. After much parley, "Ray," for so the dog was named, was accepted by Peter, the cloak room boy, who gave the mistress a check. The dog was tucked into the corresponding box compartment built for hats and coats, and his leather leading strap tied to a nail.

Hardly was the performance above well under way when Ray set up a barking ridiculously disproportionate to his size as a dog, and no effort of Peter could quiet him. Accordingly Peter took him out of the box and led him up and down the sidewalk outside, which seemed to have a soothing effect. Finally, Peter was told to go down to the Herald Square Theatre on an errand, so he led Ray with him.

While he was gone the first act closed, and the dog's mistress came downstairs to see her pet. She looked once into the empty cloakroom and screamed, "Where's little Ray?"

"Here I am," said Ray Comstock, the young ticket seller, coming forth blushing.

"I don't mean you; I mean my dog," said the woman angrily.

The ticket seller looked disappointed.

Just then Peter returned with Ray in tow. "My, marm!" said he, "but I got a scare. William A. Brady's bullpup Puddin' nearly caught him. He'd have chewed him up."

The woman did not stay for a second act, but went away, muttering about the bad management of the Casino.

Miss Helena Frederick, the prima donna of "The Emerald Isle," is to star in May in a new musical comedy called "The Wood Witch," composed by Albert Mildenberg and written by Willard Holcomb.

When James T. Powers opened at the Criterion in "The Jewel of Asia" he required a stout woman to help him out in his song about the cook. He picked out one of the theatre cleaners, Mrs. Mary Mack, and she made such a hit in the part that she was continued at every performance. When the musical comedy was moved to Daly's Mrs. Mack was taken along. Now the show goes on the road, and Powers still wants the cleaner for his song. As a result of this the following correspondence passed yesterday between Mr. Powers and Wells Hawks, the manager of the Criterion:

Daly's Theatre.

My Dear Mr. Hawks: If possible, I would like to take Mrs. Mack on tour with "The Jewel of Asia." Can you arrange to let her go? Sincerely,

JAMES T. POWERS.

To which Mr. Hawks, obliging, replied:

Criterion Theatre.

My Dear Mr. Powers: I shall be pleased to let Mrs. Mack, of the Criterion corps of cleaners, continue her artistic duties with you. This morning I rehearsed an understudy for her work here. This was successful, especially in the difficult parts of cleaning the marble steps of the balcony staircase. Mrs. Mack is therefore loaned to you for your song, but with this provision—we must have a credit line on the programme. Sincerely,

WELLS HAWKS.

Mrs. Mack will therefore lay aside her feather duster for a while and follow Mr. Powers and his troupe to the gay city of Philadelphia.

The Royal Hawaiian Band and Glee Club gave an unusual entertainment for the benefit of Miss Cahill and the "Nancy Brown" company at the Bijou last night after the performance. In their native costumes they sang and played some of their native airs, and then rendered "On the Congo" and "Under the Bamboo Tree" as they thought those songs should go. None of them ever heard Miss Cahill or an American band render the selections (though how they escaped the hurdy-gurdies is a source of wonder), and at their hands the tunes suffered an island change into something new and strange.

The New-York Life Insurance and Trust Company has been appointed trustee of the Clara Morris testimonial fund. The benefit performance, under the auspices of Miss Amelia Bingham, will be given at the Broadway Theatre on Tuesday. Contributions will be thankfully acknowledged by Miss Amelia Bingham, No. 40 East Thirty-first-st., or by the Rev. Dr. Underhill, of Yonkers, N. Y.

The next matinee of the Stanhope-Wheatcroft Dramatic School will be given on Friday afternoon, April 17, at the Madison Square Theatre, when the following programme will be presented by the students: An abridged version of "The I