FERRETS FOR FIREBUGS

SECRETLY THWARTS 'EM.

Remarkable Association That Prevents Incendiary Fires.

If losses by incendiary fires be reduced in this city to a point where they cease to influence insurance rates, much of the credit will belong to an association of fire insurance men of which the public has been ignorant. Even the name of the association is unknown. It has no constitution or bylaws, and its operations are conducted with a secrecy which prevents one member of the association from knowing what action another member takes in aiding what is a common cause for all the membership.

It is, in fact, the secrecy of the association which makes its work so effective, because no act of the association can be stopped by an injunction; no person who is hurt can sue for damages, and the plotter of incendiary fires receives a blow in the dark which upsets all his calculations and leaves him powerless. It is hardly necessary to say that the association's work is in the line of preventing incendiary fires, not seeking evidence to convict persons of arson. The association is held together by the belief that in preventing losses by incendiary fires its members are doing a service to the public.

The association has no officers, bookkeepers or treasury. It has only one employe, a man who holds the confidence of all the members. His services are simple and easy. When he receives from one member of the association an unsigned note, in a handwriting that he knows and marked with a number which to him alone tells the name and address of the sender, he makes as many copies of that note as there are members, and sends one copy to each member. The original goes into a safe from which no subpœna can draw it, to be used only for inquiry of the sender in case there comes to be reason to believe a mistake has been make. The note invariably consists of a single line:

"Look out for —— —— at No. 13 Blank-st."

The members of the association now include representatives of nearly every important fire insurance company having offices in this city. Within a few hours after the copies of the note have been distributed, —— ——, at No. 13 Blank-st., receives notices from the companies which have issued insurance policies to him that the policies are to be cancelled. When he tries to get insurance in other companies he is met by refusal, but if he asks why the insurance is refused he gets no information. If he has planned to collect payment for a stock of unsalable goods from the insurance companies he finds himself completely baffled.

Sometimes No. 13 Blank-st. is a building in which there are several stores or offices, and the other tenants are astonished when they receive notice that their insurance is to be taken away and there is no possibility of getting new insurance. They meet the same refusal of information from the companies. The owner of the building may receive the same treatment. Then there is a consultation of the tenants, and frequently suspicion points so directly at —— —— that he is invited in terms more eloquent than polite to move. As soon as he leaves the building, the owner and other tenants find no trouble in renewing their insurance.

The secret warning of the association is sent only in cases where there is good reason to believe that —— —— is making ready to "have a fire." Rarely a mistake is made, although, of necessity, the proof against the suspected man is usually more of the moral than of the legal sort. The question naturally arises: How does a member of the association become possessed of the information which he imparts so secretly to the others?

Every insurance firm and company of importance in this city has employes who acquire by experience the art of "smelling fires." These employes go about investigating risks. It is their business to find out if an insured merchant is doing a good or bad business, if he is making or losing money. They examine goods insured to see if they are salable and are worth more than they are insured for, and they look for evidences of preparation for fires which would escape the attention of less expert men. The association began when a few fire insurance men, talking over their luncheon, agreed to the proposition advanced by one of them: "Why shouldn't we get the benefit of each other's investigations?" After it was started, the association grew to its present large membership by one member taking in other new members.

As an example of the method of "smelling fires," a member of the association told yesterday to a Tribune reporter the following tale: "We had here a young Yale graduate who was set to work investigating fire risks. He was sent to a building in which a merchant had asked for insurance amounting to $40,000 on his stock. There were several merchants in the building, and the report which he turned in dealt with all of them. When he came to describe the stock of the merchant who had asked for insurance of $40,000 he wrote that while most of the goods on the counters were new and salable, most of the stock was under the counters, and apparently had been carried over for some years. He added, significantly, that it seemed to be a store in which a fire would be profitable. Our company withdrew a policy of $8,000 on the stock, and a few weeks later a fire cleaned out the store. If the association had been in operation then, all that merchant's insurance might have gone, and the fire might never have occurred. That Yale man has risen in the insurance business."

Sometimes the record of a man gives the clew to the investigator. If a man who has had three fires asks for insurance on stock that does not appear to the investigator to be salable, he usually is made the subject of a warning note. Sometimes a single fire will direct suspicion against a man. An investigator for one of the insurance companies looked in at an East Side shop where there had been a small fire. The firemen said a cat evidently had overturned a lighted lamp in the place at a time when the place was left in charge of the cat. Then the cat became frightened, and its yowls directed attention to the fire so quickly that the loss was slight. The investigator noticed that there was a fish on the table where the lamp had been. The lighted lamp apparently had been placed on the fish before the owner of the place had gone out and locked the cat in. Cats love fish; what more natural than that the cat should try to get the fish and upset the lamp? The investigator reported that a man so ingenious as the owner of the shop did not need fire insurance, and the report caused the issuance of a warning note to the association.

MRS. STETSON DID LEARN NAME.

Dr. Pease Contradicts Statement She Made to First Church of Christ, Scientist.

Dr. Charles G. Pease, of No. 101 West Seventy-second-st., in a talk with a Tribune reporter last evening would neither deny nor affirm a published story that he was responsible for certain reports regarding Mrs. Augusta E. Stetson, of the First Church of Christ, Scientist, Ninety-sixth-st. and Central Park West. He said the report published yesterday afternoon was garbled, that he told the reporter he would certainly not acknowledge such responsibility and that he did not care to discuss the matter.

Dr. Pease did say last evening, however:

I am among those who feel that the methods of the First Church in reference to the dearest women who ever entered any church is not in our opinion Christian, and that where one member is directed to turn a cold shoulder on a sister member who may not be considered loyal we cannot feel it is acting out "the sweet amenities of love," but its opposite, indicated by the act.

As to the statement made by Mrs. Stetson at the annual meeting on Tuesday that she made no effort to discover the identity of the one making reports to the papers, did not know who it was and did not want to know. I have to say that I have learned to-day that Mrs. Stetson made every effort to obtain the name of said person from the representatives of the press, and I had evidence brought to me two weeks ago that Mrs. Stetson had made the statement to members of the church that she knew who the person was who made the statements to the press, calling him by name and instructing the members to have nothing to do with him. Contrasting this evidence with the above statement, what conclusions are we to reach?

SCOTS HOLD BURNS CELEBRATION.

The New-York Scottish Society, of which Andrew Carnegie is the honorary president, held in Knabe Hall, at Fifth-ave. and Twentieth-st., last evening its sixteenth annual Burns celebration. All the Scottish societies in New-York and Brooklyn were represented. Mr. Carnegie acted as chairman and introduced the Rev. Andrew Gillies, pastor of St. Andrew's Methodist Episcopal Church, who made an address on the life of Robert Burns.

ALL BECHTELS CALLED.

Young Sister Tells of Trouble in the Family.

Allentown, Penn., Jan. 22.—Martha, the sixteen-year-old sister of Mabel Bechtel, was called to the stand this afternoon to testify in the case of Mrs. Bechtel, who is charged with being an accessory after the fact in the murder of Mabel. Martha is also under indictment, charged with being an accessory after the murder.

In her direct examination the story Martha told was substantially the same as that given by her mother. On cross-examination she admitted that there was considerable trouble between her mother and Mabel about Weisenberg, and that Tom and Mabel did not speak to each other for a year, even when they met at the table.

John and Charles Bechtel, who, with Martha and the mother, are also charged with being accessories after the fact to the murder of Mabel, were also witnesses. They denied that they knew anything about the death of their sister. Charles admitted that the bloody father's hatchet was his, and said that he frequently cut his fingers while at work. He broke the handle in 1902, while at work, he said.

A night session was held to hasten the trial. At this, James T. Eckert and Amos Meas swore that they saw Mabel Bechtel on the street at different times on Monday, October 26, the day after the prosecution charges that she was killed.

Mrs. Bechtel finished her testimony at the morning session.

DIE TEN MINUTES APART.

One Dominican Priest Succumbs at White Plains, Another Here.

Two priests of the Dominican Priory, No. 869 Lexington-ave., long associated in the work of their order, died almost simultaneously yesterday. They were Father Peter A. Dinahan, fifty-six years old, and Father Q. Pius Conly, fifty-seven.

Father Dinahan, after a long illness from cancer, died at the priory at 12:10 p. m., and ten minutes later Father Conly, who was at the dining table in the convent of the Sisters of Mercy at White Plains, was stricken by apoplexy and fell dead to the floor.

A double funeral for the dead priests will be held at 9:30 a. m. to-day at St. Vincent Ferrer Church, Sixty-sixth-st. and Lexington-ave. It will be attended by the Archbishop and a large number of invited clergy.

Both priests had been engaged as priests and missionaries in the Eastern States for thirty years. Father Dinahan was a native of London, Canada, and Father Conly of New-Lexington, Ohio.

VREELAND WILL APPEAL.

Refuses Transfers at Some Points to Save Lives, He Says.

H. H. Vreeland, president of the Interurban Street Railway Company, said yesterday that counsel for the company would appeal from the decision of the Supreme Court in the Topham case, and that in all probability the appeal would be argued in February. This is the case in which the company got a decision in its favor in a district court when sued by a passenger to whom a transfer had been refused. The Appellate Term of the Supreme Court reversed the decision. Regarding the transfer litigation, Mr. Vreeland said:

When the Metropolitan Street Railway Company established a practically universal transfer system it intentionally excluded several points where the granting of such a privilege would be a menace to life and limb. Of these excluded points the intersection of Twenty-third-st. and Broadway and that at Twenty-third-st. and Sixth-ave. are the only important ones. There is no question of economy involved here. The establishment of transfers at these points would not make any money loss or gain to the company, but it would make a great difference to the public in the matter of safety, and altogether destroy that security which it is the part of railway management to secure to travellers. At these excluded points the congestion of traffic is so great as to make it impracticable to establish transfer stations. During the busiest hours the meeting on the streets of tides of people coming from north, south, east and west at these intersections would result in stopping vehicular traffic and probably in loss of life. The company's policy as to transfers has been very liberal, as it permits transfers at many points where it is not claimed an obligation to furnish them exists.

Mr. Vreeland said that the company had established four hundred points of transfer in Manhattan, and had continued all those transfers for the public accommodation, although at 125 points the company was in no way required by law to have any transfers. The 125 points he mentioned are at the intersection of lines owned by the Metropolitan system with leased lines in Fulton, Twenty-eighth, Twenty-ninth, Thirty-fourth and Forty-second sts., and Mr. Vreeland said the latter lines were still controlled by their own boards of directors, although nominally a part of the Interurban system.

James S. Lehmaier, chairman of the executive and law committees of the Transit Reform Committee of One Hundred, said last evening:

Mr. Vreeland's excuse for the failure of the Interurban company to give transfers at Twenty-third-st. and Broadway and Twenty-third-st. and Sixth-ave. is sophistical. In the first place, the question is one of law. If the Interurban company is compelled by law to give transfers at intersecting points it is bound to issue them, no matter what its objections may be; but I may call attention to the fact that in the Blume case, which was the original transfer case, and which was tried before Justice Worcester in March, 1903, the superintendent of the Interurban company testified—as, indeed, Mr. Vreeland himself stated before the State Railroad Commissioners in January of last year—that the most congested traffic point in the city was the junction of Thirty-fourth-st., Broadway and Sixth-ave., where three lines of cars intersect and where some transfers are given.

SAY ACT WOULD LIMIT COMMERCE.

Merchants' Association Opposes Philippine Commerce Bill in Open Letter.

The bill on Philippine commerce, known as Senate bill No. 2,259, is being actively opposed by the Merchants' Association, of this city. In a letter made public yesterday from the committee on ship subsidies and shipping of the association to Henry Cabot Lodge, chairman of the Senate Committee on the Philippines, are given the results of an inquiry into the character and condition of the tonnage alleged to be available for the Philippine service under the terms of the bill.

Some of these boats, the letter claims, are too large for the requirements of the trade, others are on routes from which they cannot be spared, still others are too old, and a few are described as tank steamers, entirely unsuitable for Philippine trade.

The committee says that what is demanded for this trade is a fleet of steamers having a carrying capacity of from 4,000 to 6,000 tons. The Senate committee is asked to bear in mind that a mere sufficiency of tonnage would not be a warrant for the enactment of such legislation, because, it is claimed, the owners of a bare sufficiency of tonnage could and would combine among themselves to maintain an exorbitant tariff on freight, and thus limit the commerce between the Philippines and the home markets.

RULING ON DETECTIVE "SHADOWING."

The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court yesterday handed down a decision affirming the judgment of the Court of Special Sessions, convicting Lawrence H. St. Clair of a violation of Section 675 of the Penal Code. The defendant was employed by Meehan's Detective Agency, and he had been "shadowing" Frederick A. La Roche, a manufacturer of electrical apparatus at Thirteenth and Hudson sts. He did some of his "shadowing" on a bicycle while Mr. La Roche was in an automobile. Justice Laughlin, writing the opinion of the court, says the act which provides for the licensing of private detectives cannot be construed to grant permission to "annoy" or to "interfere" with other persons in a public place.

ACTOR A SUICIDE BEFORE BRIDE.

Columbus, Ohio, Jan. 22.—"Ned" Howard Fowler, leading man of the Empire Theatre Stock Company, shot and killed himself to-day in the presence of his wife, Laura Nelson Hall, whom he married since they came here with the stock organization, and Dr. Starling Wilcox, who had been called to attend him. Nervousness, due to overwork, is assigned as the cause.

Boston, Jan. 22.—"Ned" H. Fowler, who committed suicide in Columbus, Ohio, to-day, was well known in theatrical circles in this city. His home was in Westfield, this State. He came here eight or nine years ago to study in a school of acting. In May, 1897, he joined the Castle Square Stock Company, and three years later became leading man in companies on the road. He was about twenty-nine years old.

SHOOTS WIFE AND SON.

THEN KILLS HIMSELF.

Wounded Lad Fights Lithographer to Protect Mother.

Apparently crazed because his wife and son had deserted him on account of his intemperate habits, Frederick T. Thrush, a lithographer, employed by Julius Frank, at No. 56 University Place, attempted last evening to murder his wife, Cora, and his son, Frederick, seventeen years old, in the vestibule of the five story flathouse at No. 153 East Fifty-fourth-st.

After both had been seriously wounded he ran into the street as it to escape, but suddenly halted and fired a shot into his own head. Mrs. Thrush and the boy will probably live, but the husband and father died an hour after the shooting. Three months ago Mrs. Thrush and her son left the father and went to live with Miss Ida Fentzleff.

According to the son they did not see the father again until last evening. Frederick, returning home from his work, saw his father in front of the house. He said he wanted to see his wife on business. She was out, and her son, thinking she would go home by way of Lexington-ave., left the father standing at the stoop and walked in that direction. Not meeting her, he returned, and saw his mother and father talking in the vestibule of the house.

When Thrush heard the footsteps of his son, he wheeled about and said:

"Come in here, Freddy, I want to see you."

The boy continued until he was just inside the door.

"I hope your health is good, my son," said the father. "I came here to give you some money. Here, hold out your hand and take it."

As he spoke Thrush held out his left hand, and there appeared to be something in it. The boy put out his right hand.

"Take this, instead!" shouted Thrush, and drawing a revolver from a pocket he fired at the lad. The ball cut a deep gash in the right side of his neck and glanced upward, lodging in the mouth.

The boy ran from the vestibule, but, thinking of his mother, returned. He grappled with his father, but the latter threw him into the street. He fell down the stoop and rolled over on the sidewalk, blood streaming from his wound.

When the shot was fired there was a cry from the mother, and in the scuffle that followed she tried to gain entrance to the house. When the boy had been thrown out, Thrush turned the weapon on his wife and fired three times. The first shot struck her on the bridge of the nose, and, glancing upward, ploughed under the skin and around the skull to the rear, lodging in the back of the neck. Mrs. Thrush staggered and fell against the inside door. The second shot struck her in the right side of the neck as she was falling, inflicting a slight flesh wound. The third shot went wild.

With the smoking pistol still in his hand, Thrush ran into the street. On the curb in front of No. 155 he stopped, placed the revolver to his right temple and pulled the trigger. He fell and rolled into the gutter.

MEDICAL USE OF THORIUM

This Radio-active Substance Costs Only $7 a Pound.

Dr. Samuel G. Tracy has been conducting for some months a series of tests to determine, among other things, the therapeutic value of radium and radio-active substances. In the issue of "The Medical Record" out to-day is an article by him on "Thorium: A Radio-active Substance with Therapeutical Possibilities." He says in the article that the radio-activity of thorium is many thousand times less than that of pure radium, but thorium is also many thousand times cheaper ($7 a pound), and it can be used for a longer period of time at each treatment, thus making up by the increased duration of the treatment what it lacks in potency. He further says that it has been recently proved by scientists who have experimented with thorium that its radio-activity and emanations are antiseptic, antifermentative and inimical to germ life.

Regarding the use of thorium in the treatment of consumption, Dr. Tracy says in part as follows:

Dr. Soddy, of London, and Professor Rutherford, of Montreal, have suggested the use of thorium inhalations for tuberculosis. Certainly, from its antiseptic and antifermentative actions, it would appear to be a desirable agent to apply directly to the tissues affected in the fight against the tubercle bacillus. It is interesting to observe that the radio-activity of thorium can be proved, even after it has entered the lungs. If a patient inhales the thorium emanations, and then, while in a dark room, exhales, allowing the breath to come in contact with a photographic plate, the exhalation affects and partly decomposes the silver salts on the plate.

As the induced radio-activity of the thorium emanations lasts from twenty-four to forty-eight hours, this acts as a guide to indicate the proper frequency for the treatments. An inhalation given every day or every other day would keep the lung cells constantly in a radio-active and antiseptic condition. While the thermometer in the Lieber apparatus should indicate a temperature of from 250 degrees to 300 degrees Fahrenheit, the emanations are partly cooled by passing through the glass and rubber tubing, and may not be much above the normal body temperature at the moment of inhalation. These inhalations may be taken for a period of fifteen minutes at the outset, which period may be gradually increased to half an hour.

This method of treating tuberculosis will not interfere with other measures, such as dietetic, hygienic and even drug treatment.

MUST INSPECT ARMORIES.

Commanding Officers Directed to Have Sufficient Exits Provided.

Albany, Jan. 22.—The State Armory Commission has directed all commanding officers who are custodians of State armories to make a thorough inspection and report as to facilities for quick egress from the galleries and from the buildings in case of fire or panic, and to take immediate steps to have sufficient, suitable and safe exits provided wherever they are deemed necessary. At the office of the adjutant general to-day this statement was made:

Armories are planned and constructed for military purposes, but as large audiences often assemble in them this action was deemed advisable to insure complete safety. Most of the armories are already provided with proper exits, and only in a few instances, if any, will changes be required.

The attention of Mayor McClellan's committee which has been investigating theatre conditions in this city has been called to some of the armories in this city, and it is believed that the committee will recommend more exits in some cases. The destruction of the 71st Regiment Armory by fire furnished a warning which may be heeded now, although it did not serve at the time to direct the attention of officials to the need for more exits at the armories. The armory at Park-ave. and Thirty-fourth-st. was one of the newest and best in the city, it was supposed, and one in which there was no danger for large numbers of people to gather. Early on the morning of February 22, 1902, a policeman saw smoke issuing from the building and sent in an alarm, and so rapid was the spread of flames in the armory that when the first company of firemen responded to the alarm the whole interior of the building was ablaze and the flames were shooting out of the roof.

It was said at the time that the rapidity of the fire was so great that it would have consumed the larger part of any audience that might have been in the building. Fortunately the building was empty when the fire started, except that an armorer lived there. For a time when the armory was blazing it was supposed that he had been unable to get out and had perished. It was learned later that he had had a narrow escape. In the early stages of the fire explosions of ammunition almost drove the firemen away from the building. The roof fell in and the walls tumbled in a few minutes after the firemen got to work. The tremendous shower of brands from the burning armory set fire to the Park Avenue Hotel, and the flames there caused loss of life.

There is reason to believe that some of the armories in the city, which are often used by large assemblages, are more unsafe than the 71st Regiment Armory was. The Mayor's committee is believed to have decided already on recommendations for extra exits or fire escapes.

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ALDERMEN RAISE DEAD.

Westchester Railroad Legally Defunct Since 1882.

Following the disclosure that four members out of nine composing the new railroad committee of the Board of Aldermen had been on the railroad committee of the last board, which held up the application of the New-York and Port Chester Railroad in the teeth of the urgent demand of the people of The Bronx, it was learned by The Tribune yesterday that the resurrected New-York, Westchester and Boston Railroad, which is seeking to shut out the Port Chester line, became legally defunct in 1882, and is one of numerous corporations that have unsuccessfully sought to sell out to the Port Chester road.

The revived Westchester and Boston company was incorporated in 1872, and, having failed to construct a road within ten years, is now legally dead. Even had the company not failed in this regard, the fact that within five years of its incorporation it had not expended 10 per cent of its capital would have invalidated its claims.

The constitution of the new railroad committee is held by many Bronx property holders to explain why the committee was in such haste to give a public hearing on the revived road's application to enter The Bronx.

The publication of the suppressed letter of the Twenty-third Ward Property Owners' Association, denying the legal existence of the resurrected company, is threatening a split in the ranks of the Tammany aldermen. Tammany capitalists who are interested in the Port Chester company have added to the trouble. The hearing for the revived company is announced for Monday at 1 o'clock, when a large representation of organizations, public men and property owners of The Bronx and Westchester County will appear in opposition. The Port Chester road will also probably be represented.

The dispatch with which the aldermanic clique is pushing the Rip Van Winkle company's resolution is in startling contrast with the methods that have been followed with regard to the Port Chester measure. This was introduced on May 5, but only after the most importunate appeals from The Bronx was a hearing granted on October 12. The committee pigeonholed the measure, and, finally, on December 14, gave a second hearing. Tammany members, however, prevented the board taking the resolution out of the hands of the committee, and it died with the passing of the old board.

With the exhumed Westchester road, however, a hearing for a resolution which was introduced only on January 12 was granted on January 19, and the hearing set for six days later.

DR. GRINNELL GETS $12,000.

Cost of Mistaken Identification and Arrest to Edward Weston.

For his mistake in identity Edward Weston, president of the Weston Electrical Instrument Company, of Newark, will pay Dr. Ashbel P. Grinnell, of the University of Vermont, $12,500 damages, a jury before Justice Truax, in the Supreme Court, yesterday returning a verdict for that amount. Mrs. Grinnell, who was arrested with her husband, also has a suit pending against Mr. Weston, like her husband's, for $50,000.

In his complaint Dr. Grinnell asserted that on March 22, 1902, he was arrested at the Grand Central Station when about to take a train for his home, in Burlington, Vt. Dr. and Mrs. Grinnell were taken to Police Headquarters, held there for a couple of hours, and then arraigned in Jefferson Market Police Court. There they were identified and discharged by Magistrate Hogan.

Mr. Weston admitted in court that he had mistaken Dr. Grinnell for a swindler known to him as Raymore. Raymore had buncoed Mr. Weston out of $90. Subsequently Mr. Weston saw Dr. Grinnell at the Waldorf-Astoria and identified him as Raymore. He caused the doctor to be shadowed by detectives, and finally caused his arrest. In his charge to the jury Justice Truax instructed them that Dr. Grinnell was at least entitled to compensatory damages.

MAYOR ASKS McADOO WHY.

Latter's Request for More Pay for Stenographer Refused.

Mayor McClellan startled the clerks of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment yesterday at a meeting of that body. He found some of the records unfinished as far back as November 20, 1903, and remarked that with some sixteen persons to keep the records, at a cost to the city of $30,000 a year, the minutes ought to be kept up to within at least a month of meeting days.

The board granted $15,000 to the Board of Health for the free distribution of diphtheria and other antitoxins.

When a request for a transfer of $27,000 was made by the Fire Commissioner for the salaries of a new Deputy Chief and eight chiefs of battalion, Mayor McClellan wanted a full explanation. The calendar stated that Commissioner Sturgis had made the appointments, which made the payroll for the year $107,700, against an appropriation of $88,653 38, leaving a deficit of $19,046, which will be increased when the vacant positions of chief of the department and chief instructor are filled.

Mayor McClellan said if the new officers were not necessary to the department Commissioner Sturgis had been guilty of an illegal act, and it would have to be remedied. At his suggestion the request was denied and Commissioner Hayes was instructed to report.

A request from Police Commissioner McAdoo for an increase from $1,200 to $1,400 for his stenographer was referred back, at the Mayor's request, for an explanation.

The board voted to increase the salaries of eight stenographers in the Brooklyn magistrates' courts from $1,800 to $2,000, and twenty police clerk's assistants from $1,500 to $1,800. The increase was made to equalize the salaries to those paid for similar work in Manhattan.

CREA GETS GOOD BERTH.

Murphy's Brother-in-Law Cared for—Cowan "After a Reputation."

The transfer of Sergeant Patrick Crea from the Long Island City station to the headquarters of the Health Board was announced yesterday by Police Commissioner McAdoo. It was said that the transfer had been made by "request." Crea is a brother-in-law of Charles F. Murphy, the Tammany leader. He was a police favorite in the Van Wyck administration, but at the advent of the Low administration he was exiled to Long Island City, and he failed of promotion to the rank of captain because he could not get high enough on the eligible list. Now his chances for a captaincy are said to be excellent. It is said that the "request" for his transfer to the Sanitary Squad came through Deputy Commissioner McAvoy.

Mr. McAdoo's attention was called yesterday to a reduction of a fine in the case of Patrolman Horace R. Barnes, of the Church-st. station, who lives in McAvoy's Assembly district. Deputy Commissioner Cowan fined Barnes ten days' pay for being off post in a liquor store, but he saw a "new light" after McAvoy heard of the case.

"I do not care how much criticism it may arouse," Cowan said yesterday, "because I did my duty as I saw it. I have been told that an officer would have been fined thirty days' pay for a similar offence under the former administration, but I care nothing for that. I am here to make a reputation, not to break one."

POLICEMEN GUESTS OF JUSTICE.

Inspectors and Their Wives and Captains Also Received by Commissioner.

Justice MacLean, of the Supreme Court, and Mrs. MacLean gave a reception for the inspectors and captains of the Police Department at their home, No. 2,122 Fifth-ave., last night. Police Commissioner McAdoo and Mrs. McAdoo assisted the justice and his wife in receiving the inspectors and captains, and as they were announced the justice greeted each of them with a handshake, talking for a moment with some of the older inspectors and captains that he knew when he was a Commissioner of Police.

All the Manhattan inspectors were present. Inspector W. W. McLaughlin was accompanied by his wife and two daughters, and Inspectors Smith, Schmittberger and Brooks by their wives. Brooklyn was represented by Inspectors Murphy and Druhan, Captain Miles O'Reilly, Captain Dooley, from Coney Island, and Captain Naughton, from Staten Island. Captain Burfeind stopped hunting gamblers in the Tenderloin long enough to be present. All wore dress uniforms.

HALF OF MINE SELLS FOR $750,000.

Marquette, Mich., Jan. 22.—A half-interest in the lease of the Negaunee mine has been sold by the Cleveland Cliffs Company to the Lackawanna Steel Company for $750,000.

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Sells in Russia
Sells in France
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