DELAYS IN SITE BUYING.

Commissioners of Education Think Board Should Make Purchases.

A SCHOOL BUILDING THREATENED.

Besides the difficulties which meet the building department of the Board of Education through the regulations and conditions which are said to prohibit the hastening of work on school buildings in ordinary ways, other difficulties arise through the complicated methods of procedure required by law in the selection and purchase of school sites. There is a regular standing committee of the Board of Education which attends to the selection of sites. Secretary Palmer forwards the notification of the selections of the committee to Controller Grout and with that the matter is practically out of the hands of the board.

In the course of time, Controller Grout reports on the proposed school sites to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, and the money necessary for purchasing them is, or is not, as the case may be, appropriated. On an average, the time which elapses between the report of the committee on sites to the Controller until the actual purchase of the sites is announced to the Building Department is three months. There are exceptions in which this process has taken in the neighborhood of three years.

This method of acquiring property for school sites is unsatisfactory to the commissioners of the Board of Education, and scarcely a meeting passes when no mention of the subject is made. When Chairman William Harkness of the committee on sites, was asked recently to express his views on the question of the acquisition of school sites, he said:

"I believe that it would be better if the Board of Education had the power to purchase, as well as select, school sites. It has been my experience that this plan is productive of better results than the one under which we work at present. During the eighteen years in which I was chairman of the committee on sites of the old Brooklyn Board of Education, which possessed both powers, we found it expedient to condemn only two pieces of property. We never again attempted condemnation proceedings, because of their great additional expense. I bought most of the school sites myself. As a rule, the owners parted with their properties without knowing why I was buying them. We consequently were always able to get our sites at a very reasonable figure.

"Under the present system we select our sites and report to the Controller. He sends his people to investigate, and the owners are practically told that the city desires their lands. They immediately raise the prices, condemnation proceedings are made necessary, and the city is the great loser in trouble, time and money."

Chairman Richard H. Adam, of the committee on buildings, indorsed Commissioner Harkness's views, as did also a number of other prominent members and officials of the Board of Education. The committee of five, which a few days ago reported on possible economies in the running of the board, mentioned this subject, as follows:

> We are confident, after examining the reports of the Controller with regard to the purchase of sites and the leasing of buildings, that both of these functions would be much more economically and promptly performed if removed, the one from the Controller, the other from the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund, and both placed in the hands of the Board of Education.

The Board of Estimate and Apportionment recently passed a resolution, asking the reasons why various sites for schools are necessary and when the Department of Buildings will be ready to use them.

The congested East Side is threatened with further difficulties by the proposal to connect the terminals of the two East River bridges through Baxter-st. The proposed course would pass directly through the centre of Public School No. 130, of which Miss Ellen T. Ahearn is principal. This school is attended by nearly a thousand pupils. If it must be torn down, it will put nearly two thousand more children on part time in a part of the city where school accommodations are least in proportion to the school population.

SING SING DEATH HOUSE CROWDED.

Every Cell Full—Warden Says Confinement Affects Prisoners' Minds.

For the first time in years every cell in the death house of Sing Sing Prison is occupied by condemned murderers.

"There are twelve prisoners awaiting electrocution," said Warden Johnson yesterday, "and the death house is crowded to the limit. I don't know what I will do if I get any more. The law says that condemned prisoners must be kept in solitary confinement. The State will have to take action soon if the rush continues. What is needed at Sing Sing is a new death house, as the present one is poorly lighted and the ventilation is bad. There is a bill pending in the legislature appropriating $40,000 for a new building, which I hope will pass. Murderers who have obtained stays and appeals have been kept in these little cells for two years, and, as they cannot have proper exercise, their minds become actually weakened."

SPUTTERING SPOILS DINNER.

Defective Insulation Gives New-Amsterdam Guests a Scare.

The defective insulation of an electric light wire created considerable excitement last evening in the New-Amsterdam Hotel, at the southeast corner of Twenty-first-st. and Fourth-ave. Eight people were seated in an extension to the dining room on the ground floor, when they heard a sputtering, and, looking up, saw a half circle of blue flame on the ceiling near the chandelier. Six of the guests kept their seats, but two men hurriedly left the room. One turned in a fire alarm, while the other ran through the hotel, assuring every one he met that there was no danger from the fire. This naturally led to excited questions as to where the fire was, and soon the office of the hotel was filled with excited men and women. This excitement was augmented by the arrival of the firemen, who rushed pell mell into the hotel to see where the fire was.

In the mean time a bellboy had turned off the lights in the dining room extension, and the blaze disappeared.

FAKIR SENT TO ISLAND.

Posed as Actor—Has Yellow Dog in Arms in Court.

Henry C. Carter, for whom the police have been on the lookout for a long time, was arraigned before Magistrate Crane in the Yorkville court yesterday, and sent to the Island for six months. He was arrested by Detective Sergeants Barry and Flynn, who are attached to the Charities Organization Society. He had a small yellow dog in his arms when taken into court, and said that the dog had been his companion for thirteen years.

The Charity Organization has received numerous complaints of him. Members of the Players have been victims of his schemes. To them he posed as an actor out of work. A member of the Actors' Fund pointed Carter out to the detectives. They saw him enter a drug store, and watched him while he wrote a letter. Then he went to the home of Mrs. Carson, at No. 149 East Thirty-seventh-st. The detectives followed, and saw him deliver the letter, and arrested him. The letter was signed "George W. Robinson," and said that the person presenting it was a son of Mrs. Emily Robinson, an old friend of Mrs. Carson, and asked that he be furnished with sufficient money to get to Peekskill.

He also wrote to Mrs. Charles S. Fairchild, of No. 10 West Eighth-st., asking for money for transportation to Orange. Letters were also written to Miss Satterlee, of No. 31 East Twenty-eighth-st., and Miss Whiting, a member of the Church of the Ascension. To Miss Whiting he represented that he had been sent by the Rev. Dr. Percy S. Grant, and posed as a Quaker to Mrs. Charles W. Lawrence, of No. 227 East Forty-eighth-st.

Y. M. C. A. MEETING IN CATACOMBS.

John R. Mott, who has just returned from a tour in Italy and France in the interest of the Student Young Men's Christian Associations, describes a novel meeting held by the leaders of the movement in the Latin countries. Italians, Frenchmen, Spaniards, Americans and Swiss met one Sunday morning in the ancient assembling place of the early Christians in the Catacomb of Domitilla. A trustworthy tradition points to the place where these student leaders met as the very spot where the persecuted disciples of Christ of the first centuries came for secret worship amid their buried dead. The service held by Mr. Mott and his colleagues was conducted in many languages. While English was intelligible to most of them, they prayed and sang the great hymn of Luther in their own tongues. The service closed with one of the ancient doxologies. These men represent Christian forces in the universities of the Latin countries.

PATROLMAN A SUICIDE.

Puts Two Bullets Into Temple in Restaurant—Cause a Mystery.

Thomas J. McGowan, twenty-six years old, a patrolman attached to the Oak-st. station, living at No. 114 East Ninetieth-st., committed suicide about 9:30 a. m. yesterday in the Rose Café, at No. 1 Duane-st. He shot himself twice in the right temple.

Saturday night McGowan told Sergeant Leonard that he was feeling bad and asked to be placed on the sick list. Sergeant Leonard complied with the request. McGowan was not seen again by friends until he shot himself. Martin Siguard, the manager, with an employe, was cleaning the café when McGowan in full uniform entered. He asked for a cup of tea, and while Siguard was making it the patrolman sat down. He ate breakfast, went out, walked as far as New-Chambers-st. and the Bowery and returned to the café. Siguard, who was behind the bar, heard McGowan walking up and down, and seeing that McGowan appeared to be extremely nervous, asked him what the trouble was. McGowan made no answer, but suddenly took out his revolver and swung it in a careless manner about in his hand. Siguard made a motion as if to take the revolver away. McGowan shouted: "Now, get out of here or I'll shoot you, too!"

Siguard ran to the door and saw Patrolman Murphy, of the Oak-st. station, passing. Siguard rapped on the window pane for him, and Murphy entered. As he did so McGowan put the pistol to his head and fired twice. Death was instantaneous.

McGowan lived with his father, Thomas, who is also a patrolman, attached to the House of Detention. Young McGowan had been on the force since September 8, 1902, and had always been at the Oak-st. station. Captain Hodgins said he was an excellent and capable officer. They could give no cause for the suicide.

BRONX MEN NEED WORK.

Aldermen Urged to Expedite Building of Railroad.

The Property Owners' Association of the Twenty-third Ward has sent the following letter to the Board of Aldermen:

> The Twenty-third Ward Property Owners' Association begs to be informed by you when you will act favorably upon the application of the New-York and Port Chester Railroad, now before your honorable body.
>
> At every hearing which has been held in the matter of the New-York and Port Chester Railroad Company or the alleged and defunct corporation which has been opposing that company this association has appeared before your body and advocated the immediate favorable action of your body on the New-York and Port Chester Railroad Company's application. We do not know why there should be any necessity for further hearings in this matter, as the public has unanimously told you of its desire for favorable action on the New-York and Port Chester Railroad's application, and has almost equally as unanimously opposed any favorable action of your body on the application of its fake opponent, known as the "Rip Van Winkle road." Should you deem it necessary to have any further hearings, The Bronx will attend as a body.
>
> In connection herewith, we beg to call your attention to the fact that, even after your honorable board acts favorably upon the application of the New-York and Port Chester Railroad, there yet remains considerable detail to be completed before actual work can be begun. This detail consists in a fixing and determination by the Railroad Commission of this State of all of the highway crossings, which is a considerable matter, and which will require some months to consummate after you act favorably. In addition to the foregoing, as you are aware, there are other legal requisites which must be consummated, which may require some months.
>
> It is on account of the fact that after you act favorably on the application of the New-York and Port Chester Railroad the foregoing legal details must be consummated that we ask you kindly to expedite favorable action on that matter, for the reason that so soon as the legal details are consummated work will be begun by the New-York and Port Chester Railroad, on account of the fact that they have sustained unanimously their legal position through all of the courts of the State of New-York, which will enable them to proceed with their work, and consequently give employment to thousands of men of the Borough of The Bronx and Westchester County who are now idle. In addition, the consummation of that work will, as you are aware, incalculably benefit The Bronx and Westchester County.
>
> We suggest that if you have any further details in connection with this matter to consummate you notify the officers of the New-York and Port Chester Railroad Company, and notify us and other representatives of The Bronx, and we will all meet you in executive session and finally and definitely determine the conclusion, which will materially expedite the time within which you can pass the New-York and Port Chester Railroad ordinance and relieve The Bronx and Westchester County. We do not see why you should not pass the New-York and Port Chester Railroad ordinance in a form acceptable to the Port Chester company within the next thirty days.

PADDLE WHEEL INJURED TWICE.

Sound Steamer Plymouth Late in Reaching Her Pier.

The Plymouth, of the Fall River Line, had to come to anchor in the East River yesterday on her way to this city because of an accident to her port wheel. Except for some chafing at the delay on the part of the passengers there was no excitement, according to Captain J. S. Vibber. He said that the wheel became disabled between Fall River and Newport on Saturday night, but the passengers were not aware of it. The wheel was repaired in Newport, and the boat proceeded after a short delay.

Coming through the rushing tide of Hell Gate the port bucket again gave way, and the boat was compelled to anchor as soon as safe water under the Williamsburg Bridge was reached. Half a dozen tugs volunteered assistance, but Captain Vibber refused all offers.

Two tugs of the Fall River Line, which came along before the wheel was repaired, accompanied the Plymouth to her pier, which she made under her own steam. The delay in the river lasted fifty minutes, and the boat reached her pier shortly after 9 o'clock. Besides a bucket, two arms of the wheel were broken, presumably by ice.

NOT WORRYING ABOUT MISSING MAN.

Will Know Where to Look for Him, Wife Says—Accounts Alleged Short.

The whereabouts of William Howard Mackey, of No. 78 West Eighty-second-st., who has been missing since February 26, are still a mystery, although Mrs. Mackey declares that she is not worrying about him. Mackey was the vice-president of the Chase Granite Company, of No. 11 Broadway, and secretary to Henry B. Slaven, of the Slaven Dredging Company, of the same address, and, it is alleged, left an apparent discrepancy in his accounts of $3,400.

At her home in Eighty-second-st. yesterday Mrs. Mackey said Mr. Slaven told her he was not worrying. She is convinced that Mr. Mackey is out of his head, and that when he realizes what he has done he will come back. When he was wanted, she said, they would know where to look for him.

OFFERS $500 FOR ALLEGED MURDERER.

Man Thought To Be Half Witted Baffles Wayne County Authorities.

Rochester, March 6.—Sheriff Yeomans of Wayne County will to-morrow send out a circular offering a reward of $500 for the capture of Jerome Dermody, charged with the murder of Desmond Snyder, near Lyons, on March 2.

The authorities appear to have exhausted every clew to the man's whereabouts. Dermody has covered up his tracks completely. He bore the reputation of being about half witted, but he has baffled his pursuers in a way that would seem almost incredible.

HONEY SWEETENS RIVER BOTTOM.

The steam lighter Valvoline, owned by the Standard Oil Company, was burned to the water's edge at Pier 8, Old Slip, yesterday. She was laden with 125 barrels of honey and twenty-five barrels of valvoline. The fireboat New-Yorker towed the hulk to the Brooklyn shore. The damage is estimated at $2,000.

THE FIRE RECORD YESTERDAY.

1:35 a. m.—No. 213 East Seventy-third-st.; Gerolem Gerosolo; $1,200.
3 a. m.—No. 10 East Houston-st.; Fisher & Bird; trifling.
3:15 a. m.—No. 184 Ludlow-st.; S. Brodsky; trifling.
4:07 a. m.—No. 20 East Ninth-st.; Carl Huber; trifling.
5:13 a. m.—Pier 8, East River; lighter Valvoline; $2,000.
6:25 a. m.—Nos. 295 and 297 Broome-st.; H. Zelinger; trifling.
8 a. m.—No. 1,034 East One-hundred-and-seventy-sixth-st.; E. Denist; $50.
10:30 a. m.—East Eighth-st.; Street Cleaning Department; $150.
11 a. m.—No. 161 East Thirty-fourth-st.; Fred K. Schellhamm; trifling.
11:20 a. m.—No. 172 Henry-st.; David Idelson; $50.
12:45 p. m.—Broadway and Thirty-fifth-st.; Herald Building; $250.
1 p. m.—No. 344 Madison-st.; Hermann Weissberger; $10.
6 p. m.—Southeast corner Twenty-first-st. and Fourth-ave.; Edward Coyne, New-Amsterdam Hotel; trifling.
6:20 p. m.—No. 807 East Tenth-st.; Sherman Blick; $50.
6:45 p. m.—No. 102 Morton-st.; William Ryan; $20.
7:10 p. m.—No. 2,197 Second-ave.; Kohen Grocery Store; $500.
7:30 p. m.—Trempont and Third aves.; Union Railway Company; $10.
7:50 p. m.—No. 221 Clinton-st.; Herman Menketof; trifling.
8 p. m.—Nos. 17 and 19 Bloomfield-st.; city property; trifling.

SPORTS AND RECREATION

IN THE WORLD OF SPORTS

WANDERERS CHAMPIONS.

Successful in Hockey League—Two Big Athletic Meets.

The Sportsman's Show, which closed Saturday night, was the most successful one ever held in this city. For the little over two weeks it lasted the big amphitheatre was crowded with spectators every day. The exhibition of motor boats in the miniature lake was an attraction that aroused much interest. Probably the busiest man at the Garden in the time the show lasted was Harry C. Palmer, the press agent. There was not a thing of interest at the show that Harry did not know and let be known. He was assisted by a few other good men. The work of a good press agent does much for the success of an affair, and he is one of this sort. Palmer comes from Kentucky, and in the early 80's he held places on "The Chicago Times," "The Chicago Tribune" and "The Chicago Evening Journal," in the order named. In 1888 and in 1889 he acted as press representative of Spalding's All-American baseball team, which toured the world, and was special correspondent for a number of well known papers. In 1890 he established "The Sportsman's Review and Sporting Goods Dealer" in Chicago; in 1893 he was business manager of "Shooting and Fishing." Together with J. A. H. Dresse, he organized the Sportsman's Association, and planned the first show at Madison Square Garden. He has directed the press work of the show since. He was sporting editor of "The New-York Commercial Advertiser" from 1897 to 1902. He is now advertising manager and associate editor of "The Rider and Driver."

The hockey game between the Crescent Athletic Club and the Wanderers at the St. Nicholas Skating Rink on Friday night, which was won by the latter team, gives it the championship of the American Amateur Hockey League, which the Crescent Athletic Club held four consecutive years. The Wanderers made a grand record, not losing a game in the series. The Crescent defeat can probably be laid to the fact that two of its good men of last year's team were not in the lineup this year. The Wanderers' seven, on the contrary, was composed of four of the old players of the former New-York Athletic and St. Nicholas Skating club teams. The "half moon" team, however, put up a splendid exhibition, and kept its opponents on the hustle throughout the contest. Although the Wanderers took the lead in the first half, it was not until the game ended that their chances looked rosy. Both severs will meet again on Wednesday night at the Clermont Avenue Rink, Brooklyn, and another good battle is expected.

The fight between "Dave" Sullivan and "Young Corbett" in San Francisco on Monday night was another degrading exhibition. The result showed how unevenly the men were matched. "Young Corbett" sent his opponent to the floor a score of times in the eleven rounds and pounded him severely. He had Sullivan in a "groggy" condition most of the time, and in the eleventh round beat him so unmercifully and had him bleeding so badly that the crowd yelled to the referee to stop the fight, which he finally did when it became evident that Sullivan could hardly hold up his hands. Sullivan is a fighter who has been in the business many years, and is considered a "has been." Corbett is the featherweight champion, and, on the contrary, is a new man in comparison with Sullivan, and the fight should never have been allowed to take place. Another match was made last week that seems just about as uneven—the one between Monroe and Jeffries. Monroe is practically a new man in fighting, and in the several battles in which he has taken part has never shown much science or skill. His showing against Sharkey two weeks ago was nothing to what had been expected of him. The experts assert that this will be another Sullivan-Corbett match.

The announcement that James Butler, the president of the Empire City Trotting Club, will promote a trotting tournament at Brighton Beach this year, and will continue as president of the New-York Trotting Association, shows that there will be some lively matches on the track by the sea this summer. Alfred Reeves, who has done so much for the welfare of the sport, will be secretary of the Empire track and will fill the same place at Brighton Beach. Under this arrangement two weeks of continuous trotting in New-York will be given. Early closing stakes will be announced this week, and the purses, it is said, will amount to $48,000. There will be eight stake contests of $5,000 each and four races of $2,000 each. The races at the Empire track open on August 8, and those at Brighton Beach on August 15. Entries close with Alfred Reeves, secretary, at No. 330 Washington-st., Brooklyn.

This week will see two of the biggest athletic indoor meets ever held in this city. The New-York Athletic Club has engaged Madison Square Garden for to-morrow night, while the Greater New-York Irish Athletic Association will take possession of the building on Saturday night. In both games star runners from various colleges and athletic clubs are entered, and as each organization has many contests on its programme, fine sport is expected to be the outcome.

The yachting members of the newly organized Edgemere Club, at Edgemere, Long Island, are enthusiastic over Sir Thomas Lipton being elected an honorary member of the club. While it is not primarily a yacht club, yachting will be a leading feature of the organization. Since the invitation by the Meadow Brook Club, of Cedarhurst, Long Island, to accept its courtesies, the Edgemere Club has received many similar invitations from prominent clubs in this city and elsewhere, which will be returned in the coming season. At a meeting of the board of governors it was planned to hold a Japanese fête at the clubhouse and grounds as soon as the weather permits.

The New West Side Athletic Club has arranged a set of athletic games to be held at the 22d Regiment Armory on March 19. The following contests will be open to all registered athletes: Seventy-yard run, novice; seventy-yard run, handicap; 300-yard run, handicap; 600-yard run, novice; 880-yard run, handicap; one and one-half mile run, handicap; two mile bicycle race, handicap; putting twelve-pound shot, handicap; one-mile relay race, handicap, teams of four men, each man to run a quarter of a mile. Special contests: 880-yard run, for Amateur Athletic Union indoor championship; 220-yard run, novice, for public school boys; 440-yard run, handicap; one and one-half mile run, handicap, for members of the 22d Regiment. Entries close on March 12, with Dieges & Clust, No. 25 John-st.; Sergeant James G. Campion, 22d Regiment Armory, and games committee, New West Side Athletic Club, No. 339 West Fifty-fourth-st. Dancing will be held after the games.

Definite arrangements for holding the intercollegiate swimming meet have finally been made. It will be held on March 19, in the New-York Athletic Club tank, and will be under the auspices of that association. So far only three teams have signified their intention of entering—Pennsylvania, Yale and Columbia. Invitations have also been sent to Princeton and Harvard, but it is unlikely that either of these universities will be represented this year. While the programme is still in an indefinite state, the management has announced a relay race and several other swimming contests, in addition to a water polo game between Yale and Columbia. Contrary to recent reports, Pennsylvania will not entertain the Columbia team at Philadelphia in May, but will probably respond to Columbia's invitation to a dual meet in this city.

Manager Fallon of the Fordham track team received word on Saturday from Arthur Duffy, of Georgetown, that he would appear at the first indoor games of the college, in the 8th Regiment Armory on April 16. Torrey, of Yale; Eaton, of Amherst; Captain Fallon, of Fordham, and others will compete against the champion sprinter in the 60-yard dashes. A team race between St Francis Xavier College and Fordham has been arranged. A preliminary meet for trials has been announced by the Fordham trainer, McCarthy, to be held in the Fordham gymnasium on March 20. Forty men are training for the nine contests to be held on that occasion.

SHOOTING.

Dr. Luckett Makes Top Score with Revolver, and Lieutenant Sayre with Pistol.

Shooting in six cities by marksmen with the revolver and pistol for the indoor fifty-shot championship of the United States ended at midnight on Saturday. The competitions, which were open to all, were governed by the rules of the United States Revolver Association, and the scores were made and certified to by a member of that organization. The shooting in this city was at the ranges of the Manhattan Rifle and Revolver Club, at One-hundredth-st. and Broadway, A. L. A. Himmelwright and J. E. Silliman representing the association. The standard American target was used for both weapons, the distance being twenty yards, the shooting to be completed in one hour and by artificial light.

LIEUTENANT REGINALD H. SAYRE.
Of Squadron A, winner of pistol match at Manhattan Rifle and Revolver Club.
(Photograph by Pach Brothers.)

Six men entered as the representatives of this city. Dr. W. H. Luckett, of No. 112 West One-hundred-and-nineteenth-st., made the top score in the revolver match, and Lieutenant Reginald H. Sayre, of Squadron A, in the pistol match. The latter shot also with the revolver. Henry Klotz shot with both weapons, and J. A. Dietz used the pistol alone. The other revolver shots were A. L. A. Himmelwright and W. B. Martin. The latter's score was too low to count.

The scores follow:

Dr. W. H. Luckett (revolver)—First pair of targets, 86; second, 93; third, 93; fourth, 89; fifth, 86; total, 447.

Lieutenant R. H. Sayre (revolver)—First pair, 81; second, 83; third, 87; fourth, 83; fifth, 92; total, 425. (Pistol)—First pair, 90; second, 86; third, 87; fourth, 87; fifth, 86; total, 436.

A. L. A. Himmelwright (revolver)—First pair, 82; second, 81; third, 86; fourth, 77; fifth, 79; total, 405.

Henry Klotz (revolver)—First pair, 86; second, 80; third, 67; fourth, 76; fifth, 83; total, 392. (Pistol)—First pair, 89; second, 81; third, 75; fourth, 88; fifth, 81; total, 414.

J. A. Dietz, jr. (pistol)—First pair, 80; second, 86; third, 86; fourth, 91; fifth, 87; total, 430.

A silver cup and a gold medal will be awarded to the winner of each match.

SHAW AND BARTLETT ARE WINNERS.

Defeat Crane and Winslow for the National Racquet Doubles Championship.

Philadelphia, March 6.—Quincy A. Shaw, jr., and Matthew Bartlett, of the Boston Athletic Club, today defeated Joshua Crane and C. G. Winslow, also of the Boston Athletic Club, for the national racquet championship in doubles on the courts of the Philadelphia Racquet Club. The score was 15—10, 15—8, 15—9, 15—11.

The championship was held by the Philadelphia Racquet Club, but its representative team was defeated in the preliminaries.

CHESS.

Competitors in the First Tourney Had Their Own Agreement About Prizes.

Monte Carlo, March 6.—Most of the masters engaged in the two international chess tournaments here have gone home. Marshall, the American, who tied with Swiderski, of Leipsic, for first prize in the Rice gambit tournament, after finishing third in the six-cornered masters' contest preceding it, will remain here a day or two longer and then proceed to Bradford, England. Here he will make his headquarters until the time arrives for his departure for America to participate in the Cambridge Springs chess congress. Despite the misunderstanding with the players concerning the tie in the Rice gambit contest, Arnous de Riviere, the manager, expresses his satisfaction with the four weeks' chess contests just brought to an end, and states his belief that they will be continued a year from now.

It has leaked out that Maroczy, Schlechter, Marshall, Gunsberg, Marco and Swiderski, the competitors in the first tourney, not satisfied with the manifestly unfair division of the prize money of some 8,000 francs, by which 5,000 were to go to the winner of the contest and the balance to the rest, entered into an agreement, prior to the beginning of the play, to divide the money on a more equitable basis. Accordingly, when the prizes were awarded, Maroczy gave up 1,750 francs of his 5,000, retaining only 3,250 for himself. In this way Schlechter received 1,800 as second prize winner; Marshall, 1,200; Gunsberg, 850, and Marco, 750. Swiderski, the tailender, received nothing.

CHESS NOTES.

The Committee of the Cambridge Springs Chess Congress announces that Herr Leopold Trobitsch, a leading citizen of Vienna and vice-president of the Vienna Chess Club, has been added to the list of patrons of the congress. The treasurer, Herman Ridder, Postoffice Box 1207, New-York, acknowledges further subscriptions to the congress fund, entitling subscribers to the daily printed bulletin, to be issued by the management, from the following: W. Y. Allen, J. B. Bartholomew, J. A. Blanco, Bishop Burgess, of Long Island; the Rev. F. X. Burque, J. W. De Armon, I. E. Doob, J. D. Dunbar, W. J. Ferris, J. M. Guerra, Dr. S. H. Hall, J. F. Hoffman, K. S. Howard, Dr. J. B. Kopf, F. Lamond, F. G. Naumann, C. L. Rand, Robert Raubitscheck, Rudolph Raubitscheck, W. J. Rosenstein, F. A. Schmidt, A. L. Schneider, H. Seybolt, B. Slegheim, C. B. Ward and J. S. Wood.

The Manhattan Chess Club has appointed the following reception committee from among its members to receive and entertain the competitors in the Cambridge Springs tournament in New-York prior to their departure for the contest: O. M. Bostwick, chairman; W. S. Bigelow, A. C. Cass, Dr. W. E. Dahl, Dr. Louis Cohn, Eugene Delmar, Major J. M. Hanham, Bruno Slegheim, Dr. G. Simonson and R. W. Ferguson.

In the Rice Gambit tournament just ended at Monte Carlo the Jasnogrodsky Defence proved Black's mainstay. Of the ten games in which it was adopted, six went to the credit of the defence, while the white pieces scored only four. The move initiating this defence is 10...Kt—R 4. Professor Rice, of this city, yesterday expressed his entire satisfaction over the outcome of the test his gambit was subjected to. He was especially gratified at the defeat of the Lasker Defence of 10...P—B 6, etc., which lost five of the ten games played at it, drew three and won only two. The 10...P—Kt 6 defence fared little better. As to the Jasnogrodsky Defence, he was surprised that the masters persisted in adhering mostly to one line, 11 P—Q 4, Castles; 12 R x B, Q x P; 13 R x Kt, Q x R. White playing with the exchange down. With this line the black pieces made a clean sweep in the final round. Instead, Professor Rice sees no reason why White on the twelfth move should not continue with P x B, creating a formidable centre. If in reply, Black plays Q x R P, White comes back with P—K 6, followed by 13...P—B 6; 14 P x P ch., R x P; 15 R—K 8 ch, or if 14...K moves; 15 Q—Q 4 ch. If, on the other hand, 13...P x P, then 14 P x P, threatening P—K 6, dis. ch. with a very promising game. This continuation was not once resorted to. Mr. Rice is confident that analysis will show White to have a valid continuation against the Polish expert's defence.

W. E. Napier, of Pittsburg, one of the competitors in the forthcoming international tournament at Cambridge Springs, and a former champion of the Brooklyn Chess Club, arrived in town yesterday, and will begin a week's engagement at the Brooklyn Club to-morrow afternoon. Later he will probably give exhibitions at other clubs in the metropolis.

THE RACETRACK.

Spring Work of the Runners at Local Inclosures.

With the opening of the Bennings meeting, which marks the beginning of the Eastern racing season, scarcely three weeks away, and with the season at least three weeks behind time, it is not altogether to be wondered at that the trainer of a stable of thoroughbreds, who generally takes his troubles philosophically, is becoming a trifle peevish and fretful and inclined to "cuss the man who won't cuss the weather." Trainers who a year ago at this time were giving their animals stiff gallops of seven furlongs and a mile are now compelled to stand by and watch their pupils pick their way over tracks two feet deep in frost. The only satisfaction they can derive from the situation is the knowledge that the weather is impartially bad, and that they are all catching it alike. The owners who have shipped to Bennings in the hope of dodging some of the tenacious winter's wrath have fared little better, and only the Southern contingent knows what working weather is really like. Just at present there is more activity at Gravesend than on any of the other local tracks. Before the snow of yesterday morning changed to rain both the Boulevard and the track were utilized by trainers to give their strings a chance to get their feet wet, if nothing more. Newton Bennington came down to see his horses, and Fred Burlew, their trainer, sent out Embarrassment, Hello, Wine and Song and a number of two-year-olds, for walking and cantering exercise. Frank O'Neill, who, with Preubel and Brennan, is about the only jockey at present in the East, rode the filly Wine and Song. To one who has not seen the good Hello since his two-year-old form his apparent improvement is more marked than any in the Burlew lot. He has furnished out remarkably during the winter let-up, and promises to fulfil the predictions made by his trainer last year. Africander, with Treubel up, took his morning walk on the Boulevard in company with his stable companion Wotan and the three-year-old filly Senoma Belle, now owned by Harry Cochran's father.

Sunday as a day of rest is being observed by trainers far more generally than it was formerly. To attribute this to any newly discovered scruples might possibly be exaggeration, but six workdays a week are looked upon as sufficient for a horse as well as a man. Welsh, Mason and even "Father Bill" make a point of giving their horses Sunday to themselves.

The sight of Soffel, the steeplechase jockey, riding a buck jumping thoroughbred on the Gravesend track as blithely and unconcernedly as a bronco buster is proof enough that the steeplechase rider is endowed with as many lives as a cat and is as hard to kill. At the last Bennings meeting Soffel was thrown in a steeplechase and so seriously injured that the ambulance surgeon announced that he could not live long enough to be taken to the nearest hospital. For days the jockey's life hung in the balance, but he finally triumphed, and had the joint pleasure of fooling the surgeon and reading his own obituary. Yesterday he was up on the cross country veteran Gaspar, and although the black horse, in an excess of mirth, repeatedly tried to put him down, he failed signally. In company with Colonel Rowe, Gaspar had a couple of miles of walking and trotting in the open before the rain drove the horses to cover. Soffel has quite recovered from the effects of his fall, and will ride in the East again this season. Apropos of the accident which befell Soffel, some one once asked a well known rider of the "lepping" horse who had been strewn picturesquely around the infield of Morris Park to explain to him the art of falling from a horse. "If you think I know anything about the art of falling off a horse," exclaimed the literal minded jockey, indignantly, "me and you can settle it right here and now. I never fell off a horse in my life when I could have stayed on."

It is not thought that the action of the stewards of the Los Angeles meeting in ruling Arthur Redfern and his father off the track will interfere with the jockey's plans for the coming season or will result in his being kept on the ground for any length of time. His offence, which consisted of his refusal to ride a horse after he had accepted an engagement to ride it, is not in itself of a character to warrant any such drastic measure, and the ban, no doubt, was intended to apply only to the Los Angeles inclosure. The responsibility for the trouble is generally placed on Redfern, sr., and any sympathy which horsemen may bestow upon the clever lightweight jockey is not likely to be extended in the same measure to the boy's father, who acts as his agent, and with whom owners and trainers have frequently had misunderstandings in their efforts to engage the jockey's services. It is still the opinion that Redfern will do much of the riding for Thomas & Shields this year. A division of this stable, by the way, consisting of about a dozen horses, and in charge of "Willie" Shields, will be shipped to-day to the Gravesend track from the winter quarters at Bound Brook, N. J.

The recent death of Lord Abington, the English racing nobleman from whom the late August Belmont bought St. Blaise eighteen years ago, recalls one of the most sensational as well as the most ingeniously planned attempts to defraud a horse of a race he had won recorded in the history of the turf. A doctored set of scales was the medium employed, and that the scheme was not successful was due to the merest accident. The horse Catch 'Em Alive was the intended victim. In 1863 Catch 'Em Alive, carrying the colors of Lord Abington (then Mr. Sturt), won the Cambridgeshire Handicap in a most sensational finish from Lord Westmoreland's Merry Hart. After the race an objection was lodged with the stewards of the meeting, based on the ground that the rider of Catch 'Em Alive, when he came to weigh out, could not make the proper weight. The jockey first weighed without a whip, and, failing to make the weight, a whip was handed to him, which was said to be the one used by him in the race. This barely brought him up to the required figure, and Lord Westmoreland formally protested against the jockey's acceptance the whip after he had once been on the scales. The rider of Merry Hart had previously made his weight, and the stewards were on the point of disqualifying Catch 'Em Alive and giving the race to Merry Hart, when the rider of Summerside, which had finished third, stepped on the scales, and was also found short of weight. An examination was then made, and it was found that some lead had been attached to the bottom of the weight scale. When this was removed the jockeys were able to make their correct weight and the horses were placed as they finished. A large reward was offered for the apprehension of the man who had tampered with the scales, but they were never discovered.

The three-year-old filly Fine Arts, by Hastings—Fides, which was sold at the Belmont dispersal sale last year and is now in the care of "Ed" Greaves, has recovered from a case of thrush so severe that it threatened permanently to cripple her. This common affection of the hoof is not generally looked upon as in any way dangerous, but when neglected, as it was in the case of this Hastings filly, it is likely to result in contracted heels and permanent soreness.

"Ed" Speers, who handles E. E. Smathers's trotting horses, will try his luck in a small way on the running turf this year, and has turned over a couple of two-year-old fillies to Frank Taylor to train. They are in the same string with McChesney, Grand Opera, Stevedore and the rest of Mr. Smathers's thoroughbreds. The owner of McChesney, by the way, has not been down to see his champion since his return from Europe. The big red horse is getting more work than almost any other performer at Gravesend and Taylor has him out nearly every day. He is already hard and fit and beautifully muscled up.

TO-DAY'S NEW-ORLEANS ENTRIES.

First race (selling; six furlongs)—Sid Silver, 102; Uranium, 105; Dutch Carter, 105; Amorous, 107; Our Jessie, 108; Boundling, 110; Bud Embry, 105; Frank Rice, 105; Reckoner, 107; June Collins, 107; Pretorius, 110; Balm of Gilead, 113.

Second race (purse; five and a half furlongs)—Weird II, 99; Swer, 101; Dr. Loder, 101; I Must, 104; Arthur, 107; Sparrow Cop, 109; Caddie Mac, 99; Congress, 101, Triple Silver, 102; Young Jesse, 104; Magdala, 107; Tom O'Day, 112.

Third race (purse; one mile)—Redman, 93; Clangor, 96; The Regent, 104; Inquisitive Girl, 95; Plautus, 97; Lorelthrer, 105.

Fourth race (selling; one mile and seventy yards)—Silver Meade, 95; Rollick II, 105; John, 107; North Wind, 110; Bengal, 112; Satire, 115; Establish, 102; Minthed, 105; Past, 110; Jake Weber, 112; Prodigal Son, 115; Arden, 115.

Fifth race (selling; one mile)—Hickory Corners, 112; Badger, 116; Sabinal, 117; Dr. Carrick, 120; Sir Kingston, 121; Moderator, 124; Henry of Franstamar, 116; Anti Trust, 116; Nabocklish, 119; Aules, 121; Dr. Hart, 121; Prince Richard, 124.

Sixth race (selling; one mile and seventy yards)—Chanley, 105; Hardly, 105; Wellesley, 107; Larry Witt, 110; Georgia Gardner, 110; Bourke Cockran, 112; Feronia, 105; Louis Kraft, 105; Eliza Dillon, 110; Gracious, 110; Ermack, 110; Weird, 112.

OF INTEREST TO YACHTSMEN.

The new rating rules of the Yacht Racing Association of Gravesend Bay have been adopted by the New-York Canoe Club, and the members are looking forward to a fine season of racing in their yachting department. John R. Brophy, who has been a leader in the advancement of the yachting interests of the club, has been made commodore, and William Yelland, jr., is the captain. Important improvements are being made in the clubhouse at Bensonhurst. The other officers of the club are Woolsey Carmalt, president; A. Bigelow, secretary; R. S. Hawthorne, purser; trustees, Richard S. Taber, Elbert A. Bennett and Louis S. Tieman; auditing committee, Daniel B. Goodsell and Frank C. Hoyt.

The new schooner yacht being built on the Clyde from Fife's design is to have "Bob" Wringe as her captain. He was skipper of Sir Thomas Lipton's Shamrock III when she sailed against the Reliance last summer. He will again have as his rival in the races on the Clyde and in the Solent next summer Captain Charles Barr, who was skipper of the Reliance, for he has been engaged by Commodore M. F. Plant, of the New-York and Larchmont Yacht clubs, to handle his schooner Ingomar when she goes abroad in a few weeks.

John D. Archbold, of the New-York Yacht Club, who owns the fast steam yacht