

TO AID GOLD IMPORTS.

SECRETARY SHAW'S PLAN.

Advances to Banks on Savings Banks' Collateral.

A novel expedient for facilitating the import of gold has been approved and put into effect by the Secretary of the Treasury.

The price of exchange having reached the point where gold ought to have been imported, and believing the reason why it was not engaged to be the loss of its use during transit, the Secretary at New York was authorized on Thursday afternoon to accept bonds available as security to savings banks and to increase the deposit of any national bank desiring to import gold to any amount not exceeding \$500,000.

The Secretary called attention to the fact that in this way the banks will be able to import gold without losing its use during shipment. Formerly the banks were permitted to count in their reserve gold in transit. This rule has been changed and the new rule is now adopted of advancing the money on proper security to be returned immediately on the arrival of the gold.

Under this arrangement \$12,000,000 gold has already been engaged for import, \$5,000,000 by the National City Bank in the middle of the week and another \$5,000,000 yesterday, and \$2,000,000 by the Hanover National Bank. It is probable that large additional engagements will within the next few days be made by these institutions, unless some radical advance should occur in the foreign exchange rate, which rose 1/2 cent yesterday, and that national banks in one or more interior cities may also import the metal.

The accommodation offered by the Secretary, of course, cannot be extended to trust companies or private banking houses, which at the present juncture would not be able to import the metal, but it is understood that the lending of government funds to national banks in the manner prescribed by Secretary Shaw, and for the express and sole purpose of enabling gold to be brought into the country, will be allowed only at times when, in the judgment of the Secretary of the Treasury, money market conditions are so serious as to make it desirable in the interests of general business that the United States Treasury should take measures for relieving the situation.

Secretary Shaw has in the past put in operation original plans for lessening money market stringency, notably in the fall of 1902, when he allowed the banks to deposit and draw municipal bonds as a basis for new circulation.

TO SHIP \$2,500,000 FROM ENGLAND.

London, April 14.—Bullion amounting to \$2,500,000 was withdrawn from the Bank of England today for shipment to the United States.

NATIONAL BANK NOTES ISSUE.

A plan devised by Victor Morawetz, the well known corporation lawyer, for the issue of an issue of national bank notes, with the view of providing a more elastic currency, has, at the suggestion of Jacob H. Schiff, been submitted to the special committee on currency reform of the Chamber of Commerce, and appears in full in the current number of "The Financial Chronicle".

National banks, with aggregate capital not less than \$200,000, to form an association, and to apply to the government for the necessary legislation, each member to pay an admission fee equal to 1 per cent of its capital, receiving a certificate therefor entitling it to a 4 per cent interest, this fund to provide buildings and working capital. The affairs of the association to be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury and inspection by the National Banking Department. The association to issue to its members, on request, notes not exceeding the capital stock of the bank making the request, against deposit of a certain percentage of gold or United States notes, exchangeable for gold, and the balance in adequate collateral of any good banking asset approved by the governing board, to have a redemption fund of gold or United States notes equal to at least 30 per cent of the aggregate of notes outstanding. Notes to be issued under these notes to be liberally and without restriction, or on payment of gold or United States currency to the amount of the collateral, to be drawn. Each bank to be treated as a member of the association for its amount of notes and creditor for the cash and collateral furnished by it. Upon failure of any bank the association is absolutely secured by the deposit in collateral. Each bank to pay a graduated annual government tax on its outstanding notes.

PERSONAL TAX DECREASE

Figures Show Falling Off for Entire City of Nearly \$1,000,000.

President O'Donnell of the Tax Board made public yesterday the totals of the personal tax assessments as shown, after all the swearing-off was counted, at the closing of the tax books on March 31. The figures show a decrease for the entire city of \$3,941,828.

Manhattan—Tentative assessments, \$1,063,237,790 of which \$449,965,935 held; a decrease from last year of \$6,416,554.

Brooklyn—Tentative assessments, \$34,150,763, of which \$16,280,994 was sworn off and \$17,740,629 held; an increase over last year of \$2,010,554.

Queens—Tentative assessments, \$224,496,620, of which \$144,852,423 was sworn off and \$79,644,207 held; a decrease from last year of \$1,204,351.

Richmond—Tentative assessments, \$8,375,750, of which \$2,829,375 was sworn off and \$5,546,375 held; an increase over last year of \$250,025.

Westchester—Tentative assessments, \$15,962,808, of which \$6,018,904 was sworn off and \$9,943,904 held; an increase over last year of \$1,499,229.

ESCAPES AFTER DOUBLE SHOOTING.

Despite a vigorous search by the police of West Brighton, Staten Island, for Henry Beam, of Mariners' Harbor, who escaped after shooting Patrolman Mathias early yesterday morning while the latter was attempting to arrest him on a charge of larceny, no trace of the fugitive has been found. Beam last Friday shot and seriously wounded his mob-lawyer, Mrs. Hester Culline, of Columbia street, Mariners' Harbor.

Dr. Humphreys' Seventy-Seven breaks up Grip and COLDS.

THE KNABE REMOVAL SALE

Preparatory to Moving May 1st to KNABE BUILDING, 5th Ave. & 39th St.

PIANOS

For Summer Cottagers. For those who now rent, but who can now purchase from us on easy payments and small rates of interest. For all in fact who seek a high class instrument at a reduced cost.

Pianos slightly used, but not in any way injured. Knabes, Steinways, Webers, Chickering's, etc.

During This Sale We Cannot "Reserve" Pianos.

WM. KNABE & CO., 154 Fifth Ave., cor. 20th St.

After May 1st, The Knabe Building, cor. 5th Ave. & 39th St.

AUTHOR SUES HOTEL.

William H. Armstrong Wants \$50,000 for Alleged False Arrest.

The Cambridge Court Hotel Company, of No. 342 West 42d street, and Royal W. Maourdy, manager and president of the company, were made defendants yesterday in a suit for \$50,000 damages, the plaintiff alleging false imprisonment. The plaintiff is William H. Armstrong, an author and lecturer, well known on the Pacific coast.

According to the complaint, Mr. Armstrong went to the hotel on November 1 last with his family, intending to make it his permanent residence. He became temporarily embarrassed, but on November 24 received a check for \$400. Mr. Armstrong was indebted to the hotel. It is admitted, about \$300, and an arrangement was made whereby the hotel company took the check to cash, agreeing to keep \$250 for past and future board and to give Mr. Armstrong the remaining \$150.

The \$250 was to be given Mr. Armstrong before November 27, it is said, but it was delayed till early in December, when he was finally told that the hotel company would keep the entire check and also that he could not remove his baggage. Mr. Armstrong remained until December 15, when he left the hotel without his baggage. He is charged in the complaint that Manager Maourdy got a warrant for Mr. Armstrong's arrest, alleging that he had absconded and secretly removed his baggage. Mr. Armstrong was arrested at the West Side court and locked up on the complaint states, "with prisoners of a motley kind." He was held there until he was arraigned before Magistrate Whitman. The hotel people failed to appear, and he was released, but they did so. Later the case was thrown out of court.

RAIN MAN GETS READY.

Wet and Cooler Weather Predicted for To-day—Church Celebrations.

The weather forecast for today—Showers and cooler. The Easter Lily will drop to-day under heavy showers, that is, if the weather man has seen into the future right. The forecast, as he sees it, is showers and cooler weather. It will be a great day for the rabbit, artificial eggs and the churchness, but an annoying day for new hats and new dresses.

The parade of the "finest" millinery, imported and domestic, in Fifth avenue will hardly take place, at least not on so magnificent a scale as under proper weather conditions.

But if the Lily cannot shine in Fifth avenue, it will deck the altars of every church in the greater city. The Easter churching crowds will hardly allow a shower or two to keep them away. All the churches have special services and special musical programmes.

At St. Patrick's Cathedral, Archbishop Farley will be the celebrant of the pontifical mass at 11 o'clock. The sermon will be preached by the Rev. William O'Brien, P. S. J. In St. Francis Xavier's Church, in West 16th street, there will be a solemn mass at 10:30 o'clock, the musical part of the service being under the direction of Gaston Dettler.

In Trinity Episcopal Church, the Rev. Dr. Morison will preach the sermon. Here, as usual at Easter, there will be an elaborate musical service. Bishop Greer will administer confirmation in St. Patrick's Church, Scammon and Henry streets. In all the Episcopal churches of the city there will be special services also. The Rev. Dr. Henry Marsh Warren, the hotel chaplain, will conduct services at the Prince George Hotel, in 28th street.

For the benefit of eight workers masses were celebrated at 2:30 o'clock this morning in St. Andrew's Church, in Duane street, and St. Francis of Assisi's Church, in West 31st street. St. Andrew's Church is where the midnight mass was instituted. Yesterday afternoon many of the Catholic prisoners in the Tombs went to confession to Father Connor, of St. Andrew's. A temporary confessional was erected for the occasion. The prisoners will receive communion at mass in the Tombs this morning. Among the long line of penitents were Bertha Claiche and Josephine Terranova, both charged with murder.

There will be many entertainments and sacred concerts throughout the city also. The Gaelic Society will hold its annual festival of "Gaelic Music" to-night. Justice Morgan J. O'Brien, of the Supreme Court, will preside. Robert L. Dunn, war correspondent, will deliver a lecture on "How Russia Lost" at the Grand Opera House this afternoon, using his own pictures and telescopic slides in illustration.

BUY LAND FOR SAILORS' HOME.

Society Will Follow Mills Hotel Plan in Building to Cost \$225,000.

The American Seaman's Friend Society, organized in 1828, of which the Rev. Dr. Charles A. Stoddard is president, has completed plans for the erection of a sailors' home and institute in this city. The society sold the old home at No. 150 Cherry street, to the city, to be used as an anchorage for the Manhattan bridge, and has obtained a plot of ground, 65x135 feet, at the northeast corner of West and Jane streets, opposite the Cunard Line dock. The new building is to be modelled after the Mills Hotel, with accommodations for 225 men. There will be a free shipping bureau, club rooms, a chapel, an auditorium and a bank, in which sailors will be encouraged to deposit their savings. The land will cost \$70,000, and the estimated savings. The land is \$225,000. Any one wishing to aid the work may send his contribution to Clarence C. Pinneo, assistant treasurer, No. 76 Wall street.

LAST WEEK OF CIRCUS.

The Big Show Will Move to Brooklyn Saturday Night.

This will be the last week of the Barnum & Bailey circus at Madison Square Garden, and next Saturday night, after the evening performance, the always interesting work of packing up previous to removing the show will take place. As soon as the audience has departed from the building an army of men will descend upon the rings, racetrack and seats and begin demolishing what, with great care and method, was erected for the fifty-third season of exhibitions in this city. Other men will cover the wild beast cages in the basement with canvas, and they will be hauled across the bridge to Brooklyn.

The show will exhibit in Brooklyn for a week, beginning April 23, at 5d street and Third avenue under canvas, of course, as in no city outside of New York are exhibitions given except under the tents. There are no buildings large enough. A comparison of the business done in Madison Square Garden for the last three and a half weeks with the same period last year would indicate that the circus still maintains its claim to be the most popular form of amusement in America. For the daily average attendance of visitors totalled 1370, against 1200 last year, or a grand total of 280,000 for the twenty-one days of exhibition. When James A. Bailey decided to abandon or curtail the street parade, it was considered a very dangerous experiment by the oldtime showmen of the country, but, as a matter of fact, a greater business was done without the parade than was ever done with it, thus proving the correctness of Mr. Bailey's judgment, and further, that nothing can imperil the strong hold the circus has upon the people, who, in enormous numbers, flock to the Madison Square Garden in three weeks, and who, for the limited capacity of the Garden, and the very heavy expense of having to board and lodge all the artists and employees and provide stabling outside for the horses, would make the New York season a highly profitable one. As it is, the expenses are so great there is seldom more than a small margin of profit, hence the season here is always a short one.

EXPLOSIONS NOT DUE TO GASOLINE.

Bureau of Combustibles So Reports—Advices Changes for Future Safety.

George E. Murray, chief inspector of the Bureau of Combustibles, made public yesterday, through Fire Commissioner O'Brien, the result of an investigation into the causes of the recent sewer explosions on the West Side. Edward Horne, deputy inspector, says that, in his opinion, the explosions did not result from gasoline escaping from garages and forming gasoline vapor, as was at first thought. He goes into every detail of the investigation and its findings.

The precautions for preventing the escape of gasoline at the various garages, according to the report, are exceptionally good. It says that possibly sometimes a small quantity of gasoline passes into the drainage system, but it is only by accident, and "it is doubtful that the small amount from each garage that reaches the sewer is responsible for the sewer explosions." Another point made is that several explosions have occurred in districts where there are no garages.

According to the report, the more plausible reason for the explosions is that sewers constantly generate sulphuretted hydrogen gas, which is highly inflammable, and, under certain conditions, might be explosive. Several suggestions are made, including the installation of ordinary cesspool traps, that the sewers in the vicinity of the garages be provided with return venting pipes, that the sewers be flushed with a gas dispelling preparation, and that the authorities remove gasoline from use as a motor power in vehicles by levying a tax on alcohol, which could be used in its stead and is harmless.

WILL BUILD B. & O. TERMINAL.

Roydhouse, Arey & Co. Get Big Contract for Philadelphia Improvements.

The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad yesterday awarded the contract for the erection of a machine shop, transfer shed, roundhouse, water tanks and various other work in connection with the extensive east side terminal improvements at Philadelphia to Roydhouse, Arey & Co., of Philadelphia. The work to be done will involve an expenditure of between \$500,000 and \$700,000, including the enlarging of the terminal yards and the laying of a large amount of new track to provide accommodations for cars and locomotives. Every convenience will be provided to facilitate the handling of business and the walks and driveways will be paved or have gravel beds. The new buildings and yard improvements will occupy property bounded by Moore, Jackson and 35th sts. and the Schuylkill River.

HONORED FOR SAVING SEVEN LIVES.

An interesting ceremony took place yesterday afternoon when C. A. S. Percival, acting British Consul, presented to Fred Lokke, third officer of the British steamship Coulson, which is engaged in the China trade, the Royal Humane Society's bronze medal for saving seven people from drowning on the last voyage of the Coulson in the East.

RILEY GRANNAN SURRENDERS HIMSELF.

Riley Grannan, the racetrack man, who lives at No. 136 West 46th street, appeared before Magistrate Barlow in the West Side court, yesterday, with his counsel, Daniel O'Reilly, and said he understood that there was a warrant out for his arrest on a charge of non-support. Grannan said the day he went to New Orleans his wife got a warrant, and that he returned to this city yesterday. Grannan also said that he was willing to pay his wife \$2 a week, but the magistrate adjourned the case to have Mrs. Grannan present.

JUMPS FROM WASHINGTON BRIDGE.

Nicodemus Lillis, an Italian, of No. 37 East 114th street, either jumped or was thrown over the parapet of the Washington Bridge across the Harlem River yesterday, and fell a distance of 110 feet. He died later in Fordham Hospital from his injuries.



La Grecque Belt Corset For Stout Figures.

An unduly large abdomen is usually caused by an incorrect poise of the body.

The Grecque Belt Corset permanently cures a too prominent abdomen by supporting the spine in such erect, graceful poise that the shoulders are held back, the bust made firm and abdomen and hips reduced to shapely proportions.

To the society woman who wishes her gowns to hang with unwrinkled fit—to every woman who wants her personality to show in dress—La Grecque Corset is the indispensable foundation.

A few minutes with our expert corsetiers will suffice to make improvements in your figure that will amaze you. Come and see for yourself.

VAN ORDEN CORSET CO.

1204 Chestnut St., Philadelphia. 26 W. 23d St., New York.

Lincoln Trust Company Madison Square

Interest on balances of both active and dormant accounts at rates justified by the condition of the money market.

Down-Town Branch Broadway & Lispenard Street Open Upon Completion of Alteration

The Deaf Hear with the Acousticon

Demonstration Rooms, 114 West 32d St. Telephone 3729 Madison

FESTIVAL OF IRISH MUSIC TO-NIGHT.

The twenty-eighth annual Feis Ceoil agus Seanchas (festival of Irish music) will be held this evening in Carnegie Hall, beginning at 8 o'clock. Justice Morgan J. O'Brien, of the Supreme Court, will preside and deliver an address on "The Gaelic Movement." John Cheshire, the harper, will be heard in several solos, and will also conduct a band of harpers in a pot-pourri of old Irish melodies which he has arranged for the occasion. Victor Herbert has made an arrangement for four voices of the old melody known as the "Maids' Sigh," a melody which made a decided impression on Edmund Spenser during his unhappy sojourn at Killoolman Castle, County Cork.

HAUBOLD PROMISES WIFE THEIR SON.

Dr. Herman A. Haubold, of No. 64 Madison avenue, who was severely criticised in court the other day for denying a writ of habeas corpus directing him to have his five-year-old boy in court, promised Justice Clinch, in the Supreme Court yesterday, that he would see that the boy was in his mother's care to-day. Dr. Haubold and his wife have been separated for some time, and one of the provisions of the agreement between them was that Mrs. Haubold should have possession of their son.

B. Altman & Co.

STORE REMAINS OPEN DAILY UNTIL SIX P. M.

DRESSMAKING DEPARTMENT. Third Floor.

B. Altman & Co. are showing for Spring and Summer, a number of Paris Gowns by well-known designers, and are prepared to execute in their workrooms, direct reproductions of these garments in the newest cloth and silk fabrics.

Also a selection of Imported Dresses of Hand-embroidered Linen, including both Princess Gowns, and Coat and Skirt effects.

Various designs made up on the premises are, in addition, offered, including Dinner Toilettes, Carriage, Street and Calling Costumes, Plain and Fancy Tailor Suits.

TRIMMED HATS. Third Floor.

A selection of Trimmed Hats for Summer dress has been especially prepared, and will be placed on sale at the following very attractive prices,

On Monday, April 16th:

Trimmed Hats, including Leghorns in demi-dress effects \$18.50 Imported Sailor Hats of Hand-embroidered Linen 12.50

TEA GOWNS and HOUSE ROBES.

(Second Floor.)

A selected assortment of Paris Tea Gowns, House Robes and Bridge Jackets, comprising choice imported models, made of fancy chiffon and gauze, clair de lune, embroidered batiste, linen and crepe; Entire Lace Effects, and a large selection of Matinee Jackets and Skirts of silk fabrics, plain and embroidered mulls. The designing of exclusive models is given particular attention, and orders for Trousseaux or special garments will be executed in workrooms connected with the department.

DEPARTMENT FOR MADE-UP GOWNS

(Second Floor.)

On TUESDAY, April 17th, a sale will be held in this department, embracing the following Made-up Suits for Women.

- Eton Suits of Shadow Checked Veiling, in black and colors \$45.00
Eton Suits of Chiffon Taffeta Silk, black and colors 32.00
Tailor Suits of Mixed Tweeds, Blue or Black Serge, with tight-fitting short coat \$28.00
Separate Skirts of Blue and Black Veiling 16.50

B. Altman & Co. WILL OFFER FOR SALE ON MONDAY and TUESDAY, April 16th and 17th.

500 CAUCASIAN RUGS, COMPRISING SMALL AND MEDIUM SIZES IN DAGHESTAN RUGS, AT THE FOLLOWING SPECIAL PRICES:

\$8.75 \$10.50 and \$12.50

REGULAR PRICES \$12.00 to \$16.50

RUGS AND DRAPERIES RECEIVED FOR STORAGE AND SAFE-KEEPING DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS.

INTERIOR FURNISHINGS

FOR CITY OR COUNTRY HOMES.

A varied selection of Furnishings, adapted for use in City Homes during the Spring and Early Fall, or suitable for Cottages and Country Houses, are offered at very moderate prices, including Lace and Muslin Curtains, Window and Door Hangings, Bed Coverlets and Boudoir Fittings; Cretonnes and Light-weight Plain and Printed Fabrics; Plain, Fancy and Cretonne Screens; Woven Hammocks and Canopies; also a variety of useful articles, including Porch Cushions, Scarfs, Fancy Boxes and Baskets, and Lingerie Lounging Pillows.

FURNITURE SLIP COVERS AND WINDOW SHADES MADE TO ORDER.

On Monday, April 16th, selections of Ruffled Muslin and Net Curtains and Materials for Summer Upholstery.

Furniture Slip Covers and Draperies will be offered at the following reduced prices:

- 500 pairs of Ruffled Net Curtains, usually sold for \$2.50 to \$3.25 per pair at \$1.45 and \$1.75 per pair
1,500 pairs of Ruffled Muslin Curtains at 75c. per pair
2,500 yards of Embroidered Muslin, usually sold for 22c. to 35c. per yard at 14c. and 18c. per yard
5,000 yards of Imported Cretonnes, usually sold for 30c. to 50c. per yard at 18c. and 22c. per yard

(Department on Third Floor.)

Nineteenth Street and Sixth Avenue, New York.