"SALOME'S" DEATHBLOW

DIRECTORS INFLEXIBLE.

Will Share Loss with Conried Company—Not to Go Elsewhere.

"Salome" will not be sung again in New York this year. The directors of the Metropolitan Opera and Real Estate Company did not soften toward that maiden yesterday, and at their meeting at noon they voted unanimously to maintain their stand against the Strauss-Wilde drama. As a result of this united opposition, Mr. Conried in turn abandoned his scheme of giving the work in another theatre. As a matter of fact, his own directors, who are closely allied in many ways, uptown and down, with the directors of the other company, did not care to be identified with the production in another house, though they approve of the opera personally and were willing that Mr. Conried should give it on his own responsibility.

Consequently Mr. Conried found himself standing out alone against the wishes of J. P. Morgan, William K. Vanderbilt and the other stockholders of the Opera House. Mr. Conried chose the better part of valor, and there will be no more "Salome" in New York.

It was not decided last night whether the opera would be given on the road. The chances are that it will, however—perhaps ten times.

DIRECTORS WILL SHARE LOSS.

At the meeting the question of the financial loss was brought up. It was suggested that the matter be left in abeyance, but J. P. Morgan broke in emphatically:

"No, that will not do; we cannot afford to be as ungracious as that. Rather than leave the matter that way I should prefer to bear the entire loss myself."

A resolution for the appointment of a committee to confer with the Conried directors on the expense of withdrawal was then passed.

After the meeting the result was sent to Mr. Conried, who is still confined to his bed, and later in the day he issued this statement:

At the meeting which took place to-day between the directors of the Metropolitan Opera and Real Estate Company and the Conried Metropolitan Opera Company, it was decided that "Salome" should be at once withdrawn from the bills of the Metropolitan Opera House.

The directors of the Conried Metropolitan Opera Company, of which Mr. Conried is president, none the less agreed to allow further performances of "Salome" to be given outside of the Metropolitan Opera House, under the personal direction of Mr. Conried. They decided, however, that it would not be advisable for them to be directly or officially associated with any such performances in this city. They offered to aid Mr. Conried, indirectly, in the event of his deciding to produce "Salome" under his own auspices at the New Amsterdam Theatre or elsewhere, by consenting to the co-operation of the Metropolitan Opera House artists and orchestra in future performances and the use of the scenery, costumes and properties required. They also expressed their willingness that Mr. Conried should have all the profits which might be earned by the performances.

While appreciating these courtesies at their full worth, Mr. Conried is of opinion that it would be injudicious of him to continue the New York performances of "Salome" without the assurance of the unhesitating support of his fellow directors. Even had he determined otherwise, he would have refused to accept the profits which might have resulted. It would be distasteful to him, in any case, to interrupt the agreeable relations hitherto existing between the company of which he is president and the Metropolitan Opera and Real Estate Company, which has leased the Metropolitan Opera House to him for four more years, by running flatly counter to the wishes of his landlords.

"Salome" will therefore not be presented again in New York this season, and all money invested in tickets for the three advertised performances of that extraordinary work at the Metropolitan Opera House will be refunded at the box office.

At the noon meeting at Mr. Haven's office, No. 32 Nassau street, yesterday, everybody but August Belmont was present on time, and there were no sounds of excitement that reached the corridor. Presently Frank Dodd, secretary of the real estate company, came out and read a copy of the resolutions passed by his board of directors. His statement follows:

REFUSE TO MODIFY ACTION.

Representatives of the Conried Opera Company were asked to this meeting and were present. After full discussion the directors of the Metropolitan Opera and Real Estate Company passed the following resolution by a unanimous vote:

"Resolved, That, while the directors of the Metropolitan Opera and Real Estate Company regret the disappointment and loss which may be caused to the Conried Metropolitan Opera Company, they cannot in any way modify or withdraw their protest of January 25, and hereby object, in accordance with Section 3 of the lease, to the performance of the opera of 'Salome' in the Metropolitan Opera House.

"Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed by the president to confer with the Conried Metropolitan Opera Company as to what proportion, if any, of the expenses thus far incurred in the production of the opera 'Salome' should equitably be borne by this company, and to report their recommendations as soon as practicable to this board."

The meeting was attended by the following directors of the Metropolitan Opera and Real Estate Company:

G. G. Haven, Charles Lanier, George F. Baker, J. P. Morgan, D. O. Mills, George Bowdoin, A. D. Juilliard, William K. Vanderbilt, August Belmont and H. McK. Twombly.

Otto H. Kahn, Robert Goelet, James Speyer, H. R. Winthrop and R. H. Cottenet were those who represented the directorate of the Conried Opera Company.

LEASE SANCTIONS OBJECTION.

In Section 3 of the lease, which is referred to in the resolutions adopted, it is provided that the Conried Opera Company cannot, without first obtaining the consent of the directors of the Metropolitan Opera and Real Estate Company, use the opera house for anything but the giving of grand opera, concerts and balls, and the section provides that if objection to the character of any opera rendered at the Metropolitan is entered by the real estate company, that opera must be removed from the stage, under penalty of vitiation of the lease.

Otto H. Kahn, for the Conried directors, submitted to the other board, at the meeting, a written defence of "Salome," which H. R. Winthrop said had cost much midnight oil. This defence was listened to with every show of interest, and then the vote was passed unanimously to forbid the opera. The real estate directors had evidently come with their minds made up. The defence follows:

In reference to your letter of the 25th inst., protesting against further performances of "Salome" at the Metropolitan Opera House, we beg leave to briefly state our position:

CALLED A MONUMENTAL WORK.

Strauss's "Salome" is recognized by the consensus of the most competent critics of modern music as a monumental work, probably the greatest which musical genius has produced in this generation. It has been performed in more than twenty European cities, including many of the foremost court theatres, in which a strict standard of censorship prevails. In Berlin the Emperor, who, as King of Prussia, is the official head of the Protestant Church in Prussia, at first refused his consent, but after further consideration withdrew his objection, and it is now being played at the Royal Opera House there to enthusiastic audiences.

It is a commonplace to state that the libretto of all operas is a subordinate feature, and that what people go to hear is not the text but the music. Not a few of the operas of the classical répertoire are based upon plots and contain language which would be decidedly objectionable if they were not overshadowed and idealized by the beauty of the music. In the same way the grandeur and compelling interest of Strauss's music are such as to entirely detract attention from the text, which, moreover, is sung here in a foreign language and which, even by Strauss himself, has been held to be so subordinate to the orchestral composition that, when told that the orchestra augmented to over one hundred men would drown the voices on the stage he said: "I don't care if it does; never mind the voices or the words; bring out the music of the orchestra, regardless of the singers."

The only religious personage in the work, John the Baptist, is depicted as a sublime and beautiful character and treated with dignity and reverence; the hideous deed of Salome is duly punished by swift death.

SHOULD BE JUDGED BY MUSIC.

However, we are not concerned in defending Oscar Wilde's text, though much that has been said against it is based upon wilful seeking for hidden motives, meanings and imaginations in no way apparent from the text—but we do claim that the opera should be judged as a musical, not as a dramatic, work. Many of those most violently criticising the opera have never witnessed its performance, and base their attitude upon sensationally exaggerated reports. It may be remembered that the appearance of Richard Wagner on the musical horizon not so many years ago was greeted with a storm of hostility and vilification. We take issue with the statement that Strauss's music is of the same character and tendency as Wilde's text; on the contrary, to quote only one instance, it is perfectly apparent that the Salome music, after the death of John the Baptist, clearly means to indicate the turning of her passion into a purified love and deep contrition.

After the enthusiastic reception accorded to the work in Europe, where its performance everywhere was considered a musical event of the first magnitude, we considered it our obvious duty to bring it before the New York public. We believe we may claim to have produced it in a thoroughly artistic and dignified manner. The bringing of the head of John the Baptist upon the stage followed all European precedent, but we had arranged, after the first performance and before the receipt of your letter, that in subsequent performances, except for one short moment, it should be entirely hidden from the view of the audience.

We do not desire to go into the question of our respective legal rights in this matter, and only beg leave to call attention to the following facts:

First—We refrained from producing the opera on subscription nights, as we particularly wanted to avoid imposing it on any unwilling listeners, and to present it only to those purposely going to hear it.

DELAY IN VOICING PROTEST.

Second—As long ago as last October you were advised of our intention to perform "Salome," but neither at that time nor during the many months of rehearsal at the opera house, nor after the final dress rehearsal, to which all the stockholders of the Metropolitan Real Estate Company were invited, and at which some of your directors were present, was any objection made. It was not until three days after the first performance and two days after the public announcement of the additional performances, and when a large sale of tickets had already taken place, that your protest reached us. We have received a vast number of letters expressing admiration for the work or a desire to hear it (among others from several clergymen and from some of the highest musical authorities in this country); and the quantity and quality of the applications for tickets for the announced performances tend to show that the large majority of the music loving public of New York are desirous to hear the work and would be grievously disappointed at its withdrawal.

HEAVY COST OF PRODUCTION.

We shall not speak of the heavy expenses and commitments which we have incurred in connection with the performance of this opera, nor of the very considerable loss and possible litigation in which its withdrawal would involve us. We believe we may justly claim that in our administration of the house which you have leased to us we have at all times shown ourselves conscious of the dignity and prestige of the Metropolitan Opera, and we may be permitted to state that we have in this spirit sacrificed a considerable source of revenue by declining all applications for balls and other entertainments and exhibitions such as used to be given in former times at the Metropolitan Opera House, confining ourselves strictly to its use for regular operatic performances and concerts. No financial or other consideration would have induced us to perform "Salome" in this house had we not felt that its merit as a superb work of art entitled it to be heard.

In conclusion, we beg to say that we recognize with profound appreciation the debt which the musical public of New York owes to your board for the splendid service which you have rendered to the cause of art by erecting the Metropolitan Opera House, by establishing for it an unparalleled prestige and position, by insisting from the beginning upon the highest standards of operatic performances, and by making financial sacrifices year after year to maintain the opera during the long period when grand opera in New York meant loss and disappointment.

KEEN DISAPPOINTMENT EXPRESSED.

Feeling toward your board as we do, we deeply regret its disapprobation, and it is a matter of the keenest disappointment to us—as it doubtless is to the great artists who have proved their admiration of and enthusiasm for the work by the superb interpretation of their respective parts—that what we had looked upon as a genuine artistic achievement should meet with your protest. Though sincerely convinced of the justness of our contention, we shall abide by whatever may be your final conclusion. But in loyalty and good faith to the composer, who gave us the preference over other applicants for the right to perform his work; to the splendid singers and musicians, who have studied and worked since months to produce a performance rarely equalled in the excellence of individual accomplishment and artistic ensemble, and, finally, to the thousands of people who have purchased tickets, we are bound to earnestly urge that you will reconsider your position, at least to the extent of acquiescing in the three performances which were advertised and for which tickets had already been sold in large numbers before your letter reached us.

So, as far as New York is concerned, the "Salome" incident is closed for the present. Even those persons who disapproved of the opera were free last night in their expression of the opinion that Mr. Conried had not been treated properly. Why, it was asked, did not some of the directors discover the perversity of the opera before matters went so far? That seems to be a point that isn't cleared up, and perhaps never will be.

MAJOR JULIAN MITCHELL DROPS DEAD

Stricken with Apoplexy on Platform at Meeting of Federated Women's Clubs.

Charleston, S. C., Jan. 30.—While delivering an address before the city Federation of Women's Clubs, in the St. John Hotel to-day, Major Julian Mitchell, chairman of the school board and a well known criminal lawyer of Charleston, dropped dead from apoplexy. Major Mitchell had just read a chapter from a book on Charleston and was beginning his discourse when he fell to the platform, causing consternation in the large audience of women present.

Major Mitchell was seventy-two years old, and was supposed to be in good health. During the war between the states he served the Confederacy on the staff of General R. S. Ripley. He was secretary of the legation at St. Petersburg under Samuel B. Pickens; was a member of the state constitutional convention in 1895, and had for many years been prominent in legal and educational work.

WHAT IS GOING ON TO-DAY.

Annual meeting of the Consumers' League, Hudson Theatre, No. 139 West 44th street, 8 p. m.

Japanese party, under the auspices of the Tremont Young Women's Christian Association, No. 752 Tremont avenue, 8 p. m.

Edward Howard Griggs on "Moral Leaders, from Erasmus to Tolstoy; Emerson," League for Political Education, No. 23 West 44th street, 8:30 p. m.

Reception and folk dance contest by three leagues of the Public School Athletic Association, Public School 104, No. 413 East 16th street, evening.

Dinner of the Minnesota Society of New York, Waldorf-Astoria, evening.

Meeting of the National Society of Musical Therapeutics, Hotel Normandie, evening.

Dinner of the Missouri Society of New York, Waldorf-Astoria, 6:45 p. m.

Lecture by Health Commissioner Darlington on "The Milk Work of the Department of Health," Academy of Medicine, 8:30 p. m.

Laying of cornerstone of the new Consolidated Stock and Petroleum Exchange, Broad and Beaver streets, 4 p. m.

Address by Bishop Potter on "The Parson's Relation to Social and Economic Questions and the Duty of the Layman to Urge Them Upon His Attention," St. Bartholomew's Lyceum Hall, No. 209 East 42d street, 8 p. m.

Lecture by Dr. Emanuel Baruch on "Carl Schurz and American Citizenship," People's Institute, No. 318 East 15th street, 8:30 p. m.

Fourth annual dinner of the Hide and Leather Association, Hotel Astor, 6:30 p. m.

Dinner of the Western Reserve University Alumni Association, Hotel Astor, evening.

Free lectures of the Board of Education, 8 p. m.—De Witt Clinton High School, Tenth avenue and 59th street, Dr. Frederick H. Sykes, "William Makepeace Thackeray" (illustrated); Public School 5, 141st street and Edgecombe avenue, Dr. Theron W. Kilmer, "Transportation of the Injured; Bandaging and Hints of Great Value in the Care of the Sick" (illustrated); Public School 44, Hubert and Collister streets, Dr. William H. Happe, "The Structure and Functions of the Healthy Human Body" (illustrated); Public School 46, 156th street and St. Nicholas avenue, Eugene Schoen, "French and English Cathedrals" (illustrated); Public School 51, No. 523 West 44th street, Dr. Samuel Gurney, "Life Among the Natives of East Africa" (illustrated); Public School 62, Hester, Essex and Suffolk streets, Thomas Whitney Surette, "Siegfried"; Public School 82, 70th street and First avenue, William M. Gilmore, "The Westward March of Empire" (illustrated); Public School 86, 96th street and Lexington avenue, Professor Henry E. Northrop, "Vesuvius and the Bay of Naples" (illustrated); Public School 119, 133d street and Eighth avenue, Dr. John R. Murlin, "What Constitutes a Well Balanced Diet" (illustrated); Public School 135, First avenue and 51st street, Dr. Henry R. Rose, "Abraham Lincoln and a United Country" (illustrated); Public School 159, No. 241 East 119th street, Mrs. Alice Tuttle Ashbrooke, "Romeo and Juliet"; Public School 166, 89th street, between Columbus and Amsterdam avenue, Dr. Daniel A. Huelbsch, "Art: Its Beginning and Range"; Public School 170, 111th street, between Fifth and Lenox avenues, John B. Creighton, "Our Own City" (illustrated); Hebrew Technical Institute, No. 36 Stuyvesant street, Professor Bradley Stoughton, "The Making of Iron" (illustrated); St. Luke's Hall, No. 483 Hudson street, near Grove, Elwood G. Tewksbury, "The New Far East" (illustrated); Morris High School, 166th street and Boston road, Professor Ernest R. von Nardroff, "The Three Forms of Matter in Relation to Heat" (illustrated).

THE WEATHER REPORT.

Official Record and Forecast.—Washington, Jan. 30.—A general rise in pressure over the Eastern portion of the country resulted in clearing weather Wednesday, except in the Southern states, where there were general rains, due to a moderate low pressure area in the extreme Southwest. There were also local snows and rains in the lower Arkansas, lower Missouri and upper Mississippi valleys and west of the Rocky Mountains, except in Nevada and interior California. Local snows also occurred in the upper lake region and the extreme Northwest.

It is considerably warmer in the Northwest and somewhat colder from New England southeastward through the Ohio Valley into Texas. There will be rain Thursday in the South and Southwest, probably continuing Friday; rain or snow in the lower Missouri Valley, and snow in the upper Mississippi Valley and local snow in the lake region. There will be rain or snow Friday in the Ohio Valley, and probably in the Middle Atlantic states. In the Northwest local snow will continue, and also rain and snow in the North Pacific districts. Temperature changes will not be marked.

Forecast for Special Localities.—For District of Columbia, Maryland and Delaware, fair to-day; Friday increasing cloudiness, followed by snow or rain; light northeast to east winds.

For New Jersey and Eastern Pennsylvania, fair to-day; Friday increasing cloudiness, followed by snow in north and snow or rain in south portion; light to fresh northeast to east winds.

For Eastern New York and New England, fair to-day; Friday increasing cloudiness, light to fresh northeast to east winds.

Local Official Record.—The following official record from the Weather Bureau shows the changes in the temperature for the last twenty-four hours, in comparison with the corresponding date of last year:

	1906.	1907.		1906.	1907.
3 a. m.	34	26	6 p. m.	44	32
6 a. m.	34	26	9 p. m.	42	26
9 a. m.	39	26	11 p. m.	42	26
12 m.	46	30	12 p. m.	42	—
4 p. m.	47	35			

Highest temperature yesterday, 35 degrees; lowest, 26; average, 30; average for corresponding date of last year, 41; average for corresponding date of last twenty-five years, 30.

Local forecast: Fair to-day; increasing cloudiness Friday; light to fresh northeast to east winds.

A COMMERCIAL DANGER

Steps Which May Avert It—Two Measures of Ample Relief in Sight.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: The enormous value to every business man in the United States of measures which will pour $100,000,000 of good money into the channels of trade this summer will be realized by recalling what happened in 1902 and what did not happen in 1906.

At the height of the business boom in 1902 money was in strong demand for legitimate trade, the crops and railroads and for a bull movement in stocks. Front steps of banks were worn smooth by the feet of merchants and other practical business men, all negotiating for loans. When cash went out from New York in the fall for harvest purposes lawful money reserves at the banks fell to a low ebb, and it is estimated that a contraction of credit took place at those institutions amounting in the whole country to several hundred million dollars. In some cities loans were called in a manner which froze the blood. This led to a deplorable reaction in trade, lasting until the fall of 1903, crippling thousands of men of moderate means and causing some inconvenience even to the rich.

In 1906, on the other hand, when the country was enjoying another business boom, when stocks were again at a high level and when every dollar of loanable cash at the banks was working overtime, lawful money reserves ran along the whole year on a singularly even keel, owing to the importation from abroad of more than $100,000,000 of gold, largely through the patriotic and helpful action of Secretary Shaw. The gold saved the United States from trouble. No violent contraction of loans was required at any time (except possibly just after the San Francisco earthquake) and while reactions of the usual sort took place in stocks several times, the sunny sky of business prosperity was never dimmed with clouds, and even yet there is no abatement in the good times.

There is abundant reason for believing that no setback in business would menace now were it not for the usual evil entailed by prosperity itself, which has been pointed out a thousand times. In spite of larger resources the banks are again taxed to meet the requirements of the business world.

The contraction of credit in the fall owing to harvest necessities has sometimes been so great as to be called by Charles N. Fowler, the foremost advocate in Congress of the Credit Currency bill, "a commercial tragedy." Not less than $100,000,000 must be sent to the grain and cotton states from New York and Chicago. If ever $200,000,000 is required the loaning power of the banks is reduced about a billion dollars. Money is in demand all over the world, and Europe has been guarding its gold supply with high rates of interest. The foreign trade of the United States promises to do little more than pay off debts abroad. Were there no relief in sight in the United States, therefore, it is conceivable that the outflow of cash from New York next fall might precipitate a perfectly unnecessary reaction in trade, along with its usual concomitant of a smash in the stock market, "a commercial tragedy" indeed.

It is therefore a matter of the greatest interest that two measures of relief are in sight, one quite definite, the other a possibility.

Something over $100,000,000 of government bonds fall due on July 1 next, and from preparations which the Treasury is making the belief is strongly entertained that the bonds will be paid off in cash. No one is yet authorized to state unqualifiedly what the Secretary's intentions are. His action may depend on circumstances. But it is certain that the Treasury is fully alive to the situation, and the unlocking of $100,000,000 or more of cash from the Treasury would apparently relieve the money market completely.

The other source of possible relief lies in the direction of the Credit Currency bill, for whose passage the New York Chamber of Commerce and the American Bankers' Association have joined hands. These are both conservative and patriotic bodies, and when they unite in favor of any particular movement their action is entitled to great respect and careful consideration. Given the fair promise of enactment of a proper law in time, the country will weather the next few months well enough, while the law itself will do the rest, even without the full payment in cash of the government bonds next July.

The Fowler bill is of such importance that it is a matter of more or less wonder that such a silence should reign with regard to it in some quarters. Public apathy is, of course, partly due to the fact that Congress cannot act on the subject at the present session. Further, some conservative financiers are in doubt as to the wisdom of the law. It is not necessary, however, for any one to take a position as to the propriety of this law; but a campaign of discussion, such as was had over the railroad rate regulation law, would be tremendously informing to the public mind and would finally lead to safe and sound action by the law-making power. A special session is now looked for with reference to tariff revision, and such a session might consider other topics as well.

The bankers have committed themselves to the suggestion that a credit currency law would save the borrowers of the United States $100,000,000 a year in interest. A fact like that might well be a sufficient inducement to business men to enter upon a discussion of the proposition. But there are other matters to consider. Following the argument of Jacob H. Schiff, an enlightened selfishness, to say nothing of patriotic impulse, might properly inspire banks and public alike to examine the merits of the Fowler bill. Two or three years of profitable activity are desirable from every point of view, whereas a halt to enterprise, a slowing down of trade and industry and an enforced liquidation would mean smaller profits, if not actual losses, to thousands of men. There was no long depression after 1902, but next time the conditions may not be so favorable. Several lean years as a result of such a calamity would cancel a large part, perhaps more than all, of the handsome gains of the fat years of 1905-'06.

What does the Fowler bill propose? Briefly, it aims at an issue of "guaranteed credit notes" by the national banks to the extent of 40 per cent of the present bond secured circulation, taxable at 3 per cent per annum, and a second issue, equal to 12½ per cent of the capital, taxable at 5 per cent per annum. The second and smaller issue would be so clearly an emergency affair pure and simple that it would be quickly retired.

If full advantage were ever taken of such a law $320,000,000 of new national bank notes might be added to the free resources of the country in six months' time. For several reasons, however, it is doubtful if the government presses will ever be called on to print anything like so vast an issue of new notes.

In the first place, the country banks have already largely issued the full amount of circulation to which they are entitled, the profit thereon being about 1 per cent. They would be compelled to retire some small part of their bond secured circulation, and with 3 per cent tax issues and with the extra expense of rapid redemption, it is estimated that they would have to loan at about 5½ per cent in order to come out even on the new currency. They can do this in the West, perhaps, but in the East many of them would not find this a profitable transaction.

In the larger cities, where redemption is likely to be most rapid, the narrow margin of profit would certainly incline some banks to issue no new currency at all. Many of them do not take out circulation now because they do not care to bother with the redemption feature.

Nevertheless, many bankers are of the opinion that $100,000,000 or more might be issued before fall. With such a reinforcement the next harvest period will have no terrors.

The value of any such new currency as is now proposed must depend definitely on a thoroughly practical system of redemption. The authors of the Fowler bill have seen fit to turn that whole matter over bodily to the Controller, who is to designate certain cities for daily redemption and to establish rules therefor. Without frequent, even daily, redemption, the asset currency would lose its character as an emergency relief and serve as a permanent inflation of the paper money, something to which this country will never agree. Controller Ridgely's views are unknown at present, further than that he is in favor of early passage of the law.

Jacob H. Schiff is earnestly advocating the idea of a central reserve bank, to which shall be transferred the whole labor of issue and redemption of the new notes, as a means of making the new system work smoothly and effectively. His able speech in the West recently was devoted in part to this subject. Mr. Schiff has been successful in bringing this idea forward for consideration, and it is known that he has gained a friend here and there, both in and out of Congress, for the central reserve bank idea. Yet there is strong opposition to the proposition, and it must be said that while the trouble and expense involved in redemption by about six thousand independent banks will help frustrate the purposes of the bill, and while the honor of being chosen to represent their states on the governing board must appeal with great force to the minds of bankers everywhere, no marked sentiment has yet been developed in favor of the Schiff plan. There is extreme diversity of opinion in both the New York Chamber of Commerce and the American Bankers' Association on this subject.

However, the point is that these are all matters for discussion. And the suggestion is here made that, in view of the fact that all parties are united on the one point, that the country needs a more elastic currency and that action at an early date is most desirable, it may be the part of prudence, as well as patriotism, to give the Credit Currency bill a place in the discussion of topics of the present time.

HENRY HALL.

New York, Jan. 28, 1907.

OBJECTS TO DR. WILEY'S ACTION.

Liquor Dealers' Association Says His Stand on Whiskey Is Wrong.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: If a distilled spirit produced from grain by the ordinary fermenting and distilling process, and which has been refined so as to eliminate most of the fusel oil impurities, and to which harmless coloring and flavoring matters have been added, is not entitled to be called "whiskey," then there has never been any such thing as whiskey made in the world, because the term "whiskey" was originally applied to such an article and was exclusively so applied for several hundred years before the barrel charring process was devised as a means of refining the unrefined article and imparting color and flavor thereto.

When the barrel charring process first originated it was asserted by the distillers advocating it that it would result in the elimination of the fusel oil as thoroughly as it had previously been accomplished by the rectifier through mechanical processes. It is now known that the barrel charring process does not accomplish such a result.

Notwithstanding these well known facts, Dr. Wiley, of the bureau of chemistry, Department of Agriculture, is endeavoring to use the power conferred upon him under the Pure Food law so as to take away the name whiskey from the article to which it was originally exclusively applied and confer it exclusively upon a raw or unrefined product which has been subjected to the barrel charring process of imparting color and flavor.

The effort of Dr. Wiley in this direction is not in the interest of wholesomeness or the consuming public, and will benefit only certain distillers who are endeavoring to obtain a commercial advantage through the regulations to be established under the Pure Food law.

To assist in accomplishing such a purpose, certain trade papers have been subsidized, so that the independent dealers may be fought from within the ranks of the trade, the purpose being to disseminate false information to the press of the United States.

It is the purpose of this association to give to the press of the United States detailed information of this gigantic conspiracy to "rape a term" under the guise of enforcing the Pure Food law, and this circular is merely intended to put you on your guard against insidious efforts to create a false impression in your mind with respect to the actual issue.

Absolutely the only difference between the so-called blended whiskey which is being attacked and the so-called straight whiskey, upon which the term "whiskey" is to be conferred exclusively, is that the so-called "blend" contains less of fusel oil and less of tannic acid than the so-called straight whiskey, and is, therefore, admittedly the more wholesome and purer beverage.

DAVID STAUBER,
Secretary National Wholesale Liquor Dealers' Association.

Pittsburg, Jan. 28, 1907.

STANDS BY GOVERNOR.

Chanler's Remarks Feature of Dinner at Albany.

Albany, Jan. 30.—The annual convention of the Medical Society of the State of New York came to an end to-night, with a dinner at the Hotel Ten Eyck. Governor Hughes and Professor Schott, the German specialist, who recently attended ex-Governor Higgins, were the special guests. The Governor made an informal address.

The morning and afternoon sessions were devoted to the reading and discussion of technical papers.

A feature of the after dinner speaking was one utterance of the Democratic Lieutenant Governor, Lewis Stuyvesant Chanler, who said:

"The clock has been wound by the people and the time has been set by the Governor. It is not a question of politics, but of public opinion. As a citizen of the State of New York I say that not until the measures proposed by Governor Hughes have been placed upon our statute books can we feel that the will of the people has been obeyed."

SETH LOW PRAISES WORK.

Ex-Mayor Pleased with His Visit to Tuskegee.

Robert C. Ogden, president of the board of trustees of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, made public yesterday a letter from ex-Mayor Seth Low to him concerning his recent visit to Tuskegee. Mr. Low said that he was even more favorably impressed than he expected to be. The letter follows:

I avail myself of my first opportunity to submit to you in writing a brief report of my recent visit to the institute at Tuskegee. I arrived there late on Sunday evening, December 2, and remained there until 4 o'clock in the afternoon of Wednesday, December 5. You will perceive, therefore, that my visit was long enough to enable me to see the work of the institute somewhat thoroughly. I wish to thank Mr. Washington and all his colleagues for the pains they took to make my visit both instructive and interesting.

Speaking in general terms, I am glad to say that I was even more favorably impressed than I expected to be. The entire institution is pervaded by an air of industry and of self-respect that is very striking. Here the young Negro can see on a commanding scale what his race is capable of doing, and here he is evidently inspired by the substile influence of his surroundings to work hard and to do his best. I found all the buildings, even those which are sometimes neglected, clean, fresh and in good order. The good air, the brightness and the neatness of the schoolrooms in particular pleased me very much.

I did not give much attention to the teaching, as my object was rather to obtain a general view of the institution, and in particular to acquaint myself with its manner of keeping its accounts. I did, however, observe the method used to correlate the work of the industrial departments with the academic in the matter of literary composition. Every other week a student in the shop writes a composition on the work which he is about to do. This composition is criticised from the technical point of view by the instructor in the shop and from the literary point of view by the English department. The work seemed to be conscientiously done at all points, and the method seemed to me exceedingly good.

I did not, of course, go into any examination of the treasurer's books, as that is a matter for the auditor; but I did examine very carefully the whole system of accounting. The late Mr. Baldwin organized this side of the work at Tuskegee on a railroad basis. That is to say, the institute, instead of having a treasurer who keeps the books and whose work is audited once a year from the outside, has, besides a treasurer, a permanent auditor's bureau, the office of which is to keep all the accounts.

This bureau was placed by Mr. Baldwin under the charge of Daniel C. Smith, who is entitled, I think to very great credit for the work which has been done under his direction. Mr. Smith has trained capable young Negro men to do all the clerical work, and he himself, being an expert accountant, visits Tuskegee only two or three times a year. I found that the institute has a ledger account with every student, even though he should be there only two weeks; that it has a ledger account with every industrial department and with every important department of the farm. These accounts are kept with such minuteness as to show for the last few years the cost of every department and the condition of every student's account. There was no question of financial detail which I could ask relating to the last year, the last month, the last week or the last day, which could not be answered in a moment from the records of the auditor's office. In a word, the system seemed to me ideal, and it is carried out with a thoroughness that reflects the greatest credit on all concerned.

The principal receives daily reports from the farm, showing the condition of the herd and the quantity of milk produced, and the like. In addition, there is a committee, consisting of a number of the principal officers and teachers of the school, called a finance committee, which meets once a week or as often as necessary. When material is wanted for any of the shops, or in fact for any part of the institute, a requisition is made by the person immediately responsible. This is first checked by the head of the division, and in that form comes before the finance committee. The requisition, as received by the committee on finance, states in detail what is wanted and the cost, or the estimated cost, as the case may be. Nothing whatever is bought in any department of the institute until it has been formally passed upon and approved by the committee on finance. A certain discretion to deal with emergencies is exercised by the principal; but this is the rule.

In addition, there is a committee on the reduction of expenses, which hereafter is to prepare the annual budget to be submitted to the trustees.

The immediate object of my visit was to confer with Mr. Washington and Mr. Hare on the revision of the bylaws. I am happy to report the unanimous decison of the committee, which is made up of these gentlemen and myself, to submit to the next meeting of the trustees a revison of the bylaws based upon a somewhat radical reconstruction of the relation of the trustees to the work of the institute. The new bylaws will provide for a finance committee to have the oversight of the work now done by the investment committee, and also of the current finances of the institute, which at present lit outside of the control of any committee.

The proposed bylaws will also provide for an education committee, which will pass upon the annual budget before its submission to the trustees' committee on finance and to the trustees. They will also provide for a committee on buildings and grounds, who will have charge of the buildings and grounds of the institute and of all future construction work. When I use the expression "have charge of" I use it in the legislative sense. The executive officers of the school will of course be charged, as heretofore, with the duty of carrying out the plans agreed upon.

As the board can only meet occasionally, the executive committee will be retained with all the powers of the trustees between meetings, so far as such powers can be devolved upon a committee under the charter. I take great pleasure in saying in the light of my visit that I think the work of Tuskegee Institute deserves the confidence and heartiest support not only of the trustees but of the public. I am quite confident that there are very few institutions of an educational or philanthropic character whose accounts are in better condition than those of Tuskegee or whose method of accounting is superior to that of Tuskegee.

MUSIC.

YESTERDAY'S OPERAS.

Fresh interest was given to the repetition of "Siegfried" at the Metropolitan Opera House last night by the participation of Mr. Burgstaller. It was the tenor's first appearance this year in opera and may have seemed to some minds an indication of an awakening on the part of the management to the wishes of the lovers of Wagner's dramas. Some such sentiment might have been felt without reflection on Mr. Burrian, whose impersonation of the youthful hero of the Nibelung tragedy on the two occasions when it has figured in the list has presented him in much the most favorable light in which he has appeared here. But the knowledge that an old favorite in the Wagnerian roles was unemployed brought with it the seeming, at least, as if "The Ring of the Nibelung" was going to be neglected. But whatever Mr. Burgstaller's appearance may have been thought to indicate on the part of the management, it failed to arouse any particular ardor on the part of the public.

The audience scarcely outnumbered the subscription, though it was most cordially appreciative of the fine spirit of the entire performance, particularly of the picturesque impetuosity of Mr. Burgstaller, his convincing embodiment in pose, gesture, action and song of youthful physical vigor and unconventional thought and emotion. Of the other representatives of the play's people enough has been said—of the fresh, womanly charm of Mme. Fleischen-Edel's Brünnhilde, the breadth and dignity which the voices and manners of Mme. Kirkby-Lunn and Mr. Van Rooy give to the music of the first scene of the third act, and the amazingly ingenious character acting of Mr. Reiss as Mime.

"Carmen" was the opera at the Manhattan. It has had more than twice as many representations as "Siegfried," but has not exhausted its attractiveness

SAINT-SAENS'S HELENE AT MANHATTAN.

In about three weeks or a little more a possibility which was discussed here during the recent visit of the eminent French composer, M. Camille Saint-Saëns, is to be realized. Mr. Hammerstein yesterday completed arrangements with the music publishing house of Schirmer for the production as soon as possible of Saint-Saëns's opera "Hélène," and orders for the materials were cabled to Paris yesterday. The presence in Mr. Hammerstein's company of Mme. Melba and M. Dalmores, who were concerned in the production of the opera in London, in June, 1904, together with the opportune visit of the composer, are doubtless the immediate causes for this unexpected extension of the local opera list. Mme. Melba, moreover, was the original representative of the heroine when the opera had its first representation at Monte Carlo, in February, 1904. "Hélène" is a one-act opera, which deals with the story of the love of Helen of Troy and Paris, and one of its features is a picture of Troy in flames. Mme. Donalda will be the Venus, and Mr. Hammerstein promises an elaborate setting.

MR. SCRIABINE'S RECITAL.

The Russian composer, Mr. Alexander Scriabine, continued the exploitation of his compositions at a planoforte recital in Mendelssohn Hall last night. As on an earlier occasion in the same place his list was made up chiefly of short pieces better fitted for enjoyment in the salon than a public concert room, but he gave a central position to a piece, by courtesy called a sonata in G sharp minor, though it consisted of only two movements and gave little heed to old formal considerations. Like the small pieces, moreover, it made short-breathed phrases take the place of melodies, and aided by its composer's playing sounded jerky and spasmodic. But more successfully than before Mr. Scriabine disclosed command of beautiful tonal effects.

MRS. CARTER PAYNE WITHOUT PLAY.

Author of "Cleo" Gets Permanent Injunction Against Its Production.

Justice Leventritt, of the Supreme Court, has granted the permanent injunction asked for by Edwin Milton Royle restraining Charles B. Dillingham and Mrs. Leslie Carter Payne from producing "Cleo," which was to have been the actress's starring medium.

It was said in court when argument was heard that over $50,000 had been spent in the production of the play, and that it was to have begun at Buffalo next Monday. The justice says he considered it expedient to render an early decision so that the parties might, if possible, compound their differences.

According to the contract there were to be no changes in the play without the consent of Royle, and the author contended that Mrs. Carter Payne had not carried out this part of the contract.

OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN IS SERVED.

Must Show Cause Why Victoria Theatre License Should Not Be Revoked.

After trying for a month to serve a court notice on Oscar Hammerstein, a process server for Corporation Counsel Ellison last night served the notices on the manager at his Victoria Theatre.

Mr. Ellison moved against the license of the Victoria Theatre some weeks ago at the request of Police Commissioner Bingham, when the Commissioner found that when he had managers of Sunday performances arrested they were fined only $10 or discharged in court. The Sabbatarian League people had also been active in trying to have something done, and their agents and some policemen secured evidence of an alleged Sunday night vaudeville performance at the Victoria. Thereupon Assistant Corporation Counsel Frank B. Pierce secured an order from Justice Amend, of the Supreme Court, for Mr. Hammerstein to show cause why the license should not be revoked. The argument will be heard on February 5.

HAMMERSTEIN WILL GIVE "HELENE."

Grants Request of Saint-Saens—Mme. Melba to Sing Helene.

Oscar Hammerstein will put Saint-Saëns's one-act opera "Hélène" into immediate rehearsal, and it will be produced at the Manhattan Opera House within a short time. This will be the first hearing of the opera here. Mme. Melba will sing Hélène, a part which was especially written for her, and which she created when the opera was first produced at Monte Carlo, in February, 1903. Dalmores will sing Paris, in which he appeared when the opera was repeated in London during the summer of the same year. When the opera was given originally, at Monte Carlo, the part of Paris was sung by Alvarez. Mme. Donalda will be the Venus and Mme. di Cisneros will sing Pallas. Mr. Hammerstein says this is the strongest cast yet heard in the opera. The opera runs for only an hour and a quarter and demands only four singers.

Saint-Saëns wrote the libretto as well as composed the score. The opera will be sung in French. Mr. Hammerstein's decision to produce "Hélène" is the outcome of the visit which was paid by Saint-Saëns to the impresario when the Manhattan Opera House was still a waste of plaster and wood. During their conversation Mr. Hammerstein agreed, at the composer's request, to produce "Hélène" this year, if possible. M. Saint-Saëns was most anxious to have the opera heard here and was delighted with Mr. Hammerstein's half promise. At the request of M. Saint-Saëns, Hermann Klein has translated and adapted an English version of the manuscript of "Hélène," which is to be used as a prompt book and in the copies of the libretto.

GEORGE W. OCHS MARRIED.

Philadelphia, Jan. 30.—George W. Ochs, publisher and general manager of "The Public Ledger," and Miss Bertie M. Gans were married to-night by the Rev. Dr. Joseph Krauskopf. Mrs. William Bamburger, of New York, was matron of honor, and Adolph S. Ochs, publisher of "The New York Times," and a brother of the bridegroom, was best man.

Following the wedding a dinner and a reception were given in the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel. Mr. and Mrs. Ochs will sail to-morrow for Europe to pass their honeymoon in the Riviera and Southern Italy.

Among the gifts was a loving cup presented by former City Councillors and city officials of Chattanooga, Tenn., of which city Mr. Ochs was twice Mayor.

JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER, ACTOR, DEAD.

Chicago, Jan. 30.—John D. Rockefeller, of New York, an actor, was killed on the stage of a theatre here to-day by a Gatling gun, which fell on his skull. Rockefeller was helping remove the gun from a temporary platform on the stage.

Died.

Death notices appearing in THE TRIBUNE will be republished in The Tri-Weekly Tribune without extra charge.

Bender, Marcus F.	Smith, Sarah A.
Burt, Elizabeth.	Stymus, William P.
Clark, Jane S.	Turck, Solomon.
Govers, Robert.	Wandle, Jasper.
Nevius, Mary Allen.	Weeks, Silas B.
Nolan, Richard.	Whitney, Mary S.
Ransom, Paul C.	Wingate, Margaret.

In Memoriam.

Main, John.

BENDER—Suddenly, on January 27, Marcus F. Bender, survived by a wife, son and daughter. Funeral services at his late residence, No. 123 West 90th st., on Thursday at 8 p. m. Syracuse papers please copy.

BURT—At Warwick, N. Y., January 27, Elizabeth, daughter of Benjamin Burt, in her eighty-third year. Funeral services at her late home on Tuesday, at 1:30 o'clock. Interment at Warwick Cemetery.

CLARK—At Yonkers, N. Y., on Tuesday, January 29, 1907, Jane S. Clark, widow of John Clark, in the 69th year of her age. Funeral services at her late residence, No. 166 Hawthorne ave., Yonkers, N. Y., on Thursday, January 31, at 1:30 p. m. Interment private.

GOVERS—On Tuesday, January 29, 1907, at his late residence, No. 16 Columbus Park, New Rochelle, N. Y., Robert Govers, in the 69th year of his age. Funeral from the Church of the Blessed Sacrament, on Thursday, January 31, at 10 a. m.

NEVIUS—Suddenly, on Tuesday January 29, at Flemington, N. J., Mary Allen, wife of the late Peter I. Nevius. Funeral at Flemington Presbyterian Church, Thursday, 1 p. m.

NOLAN—At Bedford, N. Y., January 30, Richard Nolan. Funeral Thursday, January 31, at 2 p. m.

RANSOM—At Cocoanut Grove, Florida, on Wednesday, January 30, 1907, Paul Carlton Ransom, formerly of Buffalo, N. Y., in the 44th year of his age.

SMITH—Sarah A., widow of the late Horace E. Smith, at her residence, Chestnut st., Roselle, N. J., January 30. Notice of funeral hereafter.

STYMUS—Suddenly, on Monday, January 28, William Pierre Stymus, in his seventy-seventh year. Services to be held Thursday at St. Peter's Church, Port Chester, N. Y., on the arrival of train leaving New York 12:07, arriving at Port Chester 1:04. Interment at convenience of family. Kindly omit flowers.

TURCK—Suddenly, on Wednesday, January 30, Solomon Turck, in his 79th year. Funeral service will be held at his late residence, No. 22 East 61st st., on Friday evening, 8 o'clock. Interment private.

WANDLE—At Paterson, N. J., Wednesday, January 30, 1907, Jasper Wandle, in his 82d year, for over forty years a successful locomotive engineer on the Erie, New Jersey Central and Lehigh Valley railroads. Funeral services Friday, February 1, at 4 p. m., at the residence of his sister, Mrs. Peter Doremus, No. 79 Auburn st., Paterson. Train via Erie Railroad leaves 23d st., 2:55; Chambers st., 3 p. m. Interment at Easton, Penn.

WEEKS—On Third Day, First Month, 29th, 1907, at his residence, No. 1359 55th street, Brooklyn, Silas B. Weeks, in the sixty-first year of his age. Funeral at Friends' Meeting House, No. 110 Schermerhorn st., Brooklyn, on Sixth Day (Friday), Second Month, 1st, 1907, at 12 noon. Interment at Westbury, L. I.

WHITNEY—At her residence, No. 11 Madison Square North, on Tuesday, January 29, Mary Stuart, widow of William Whitney and daughter of the late James McVickar. Funeral services at Grace Church, on Saturday morning, February 2, at 10 o'clock. Kindly omit flowers.

WINGATE—At St. Luke's Hospital, on January 30, 1907, Margaret Wingate, daughter of the late Lieutenant H. Tingey Wingate, U. S. N., and Frances M. Skinner, of Charleston, Mass. Funeral at St. Luke's Chapel, St. Luke's Hospital, on Saturday, February 2, at 11 o'clock a. m. Interment at Mount Auburn.

In Memoriam.

MAIN—In memory of John Main. Died January 31, 1906.

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