MAYOR BARS AHEARN.

ESTIMATE BOARD FIGHT.

Won't Allow Ousted Man to Take Seat.

Mayor McClellan yesterday at the meeting of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment refused to allow the name of Borough President Ahearn to be called, and would not entertain a motion from Patrick F. McGowan for an appeal from his ruling. Mr. Ahearn produced his certificate of election, signed on Thursday by the Mayor, but this made no impression on the Mayor.

Corporation Counsel Pendleton advised the Mayor that the action of the Board of Aldermen in re-electing Ahearn did not really fill the vacancy caused by Governor Hughes when he removed Ahearn.

Mayor McClellan expects that Mr. Ahearn will mandamus the board, Mayor and Board of Estimate in his effort to compel his recognition.

Mr. Metz, pending decision, is not paying any money for Ahearn's department.

George A. McAneny, president of the City Club, went to Albany to see the Governor yesterday in connection with the Ahearn case. It was said at the City Club last night that a statement would be issued to-day. The Citizens Union and the City Club have arranged for a joint meeting on Monday to take action in the Ahearn case.

Mr. Ahearn followed the Mayor into the old Council chamber yesterday morning at the assembling of the Board of Estimate. As soon as the clerk began the rollcall the Mayor took exception to Mr. Ahearn, and what took place is shown by the following transcript from the minutes:

The Chairman—The chair believes that the election of John F. Ahearn by the Aldermen representing the Borough of Manhattan to fill the vacancy in the office of the President of the Borough of Manhattan was contrary to the intent of the law, and that therefore such vacancy still exists, and directs the clerk not to call the President of the Borough of Manhattan. The clerk will call the roll.

The President of the Board of Aldermen—I make the point of order that this board has no right to pass upon the qualifications of its membership, and so far as we know President John F. Ahearn has been elected, sworn in and is a member of this board.

The Chairman—The chair has no intention of submitting to the board the question of the qualifications of its membership. The chair overrules the point of order.

The President of the Board of Aldermen—I appeal from the decision of the chair.

The Chairman—The chair declines to entertain the appeal upon the ground that the ruling appealed from is upon a question of fact and not of order.

John F. Ahearn—I ask that you direct the clerk to call my name.

The Chairman—The chair has already ruled upon that question and declines to recognize the gentleman.

John F. Ahearn—I ask that a copy of my certificate of election be spread upon the minutes.

The Chairman—The chair declines to recognize the gentleman for any purpose. The certificate of election has been filed with the City Clerk, and such a motion, even if made by a member of this board, would not be in order.

The President of the Board of Aldermen—I move that the certificate of election be recognized and placed upon the minutes.

The Chairman—The chair does not think that such a motion is germane to the business of this board, and declines to entertain it. The clerk will call the roll.

The President of the Borough of Brooklyn—I move that the board adjourn until the question of the election of the President of the Borough of Manhattan is settled.

The Chairman—A motion to adjourn must be unqualified. The chair, therefore, suggests that the President of Brooklyn divide his motion. Until what time does he suggest that the board adjourn? Until after Christmas?

The President of the Borough of Brooklyn—Until the matter of Mr. Ahearn's election has been settled.

The Chairman—A motion to adjourn to a day certain must specify a date.

The President of the Borough of Brooklyn—I move that when the board adjourns it adjourn to meet in this place at 10:30 o'clock in the forenoon on Friday, January 3, 1908.

Corporation Counsel Pendleton, leaving the boardroom at the close of the Ahearn-McGowan-McClellan flurry, was asked if the Mayor's action was taken with his approval. He replied in effect that it was and said he thought the Mayor "had done right." He said he had not talked the matter over with the Governor.

Mr. Ahearn, after consulting with Martin W. Littleton, his counsel, made the following statement:

If there was any doubt in anybody's mind of the fact that the Mayor's warfare on me is entirely personal, his action in the board this morning should remove that doubt.

The Mayor as chairman of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, on his own hook, as lawyer or "what not," refused to recognize me in the Board of Estimate and Apportionment as a member. He pretends to be a great parliamentarian, and yet when an appeal was taken by the president of the Board of Aldermen from his arbitrary, not to say foolish, ruling he declined to entertain an appeal, stating that a question of fact was involved, and declined to permit me to file my certificate of election, which was signed by him and under the seal of his office.

Whether the Mayor can nullify the provisions of the charter, overthrow the will of the Board of Aldermen, impeach his own certificate of election and also overrule the majority judgment of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment remains to be seen.

It amounts to this: The Mayor declares a vacancy in the office of the Borough President as chairman of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment and refuses to let that body be the judge of the election of its own members, although it is being conducted as a parliamentary body.

I suppose the Mayor is a little hot under the collar and has got to exhibit his heat in some fashion, but he ought not to get himself in such an absurd position.

I shall conduct the business of the office of the Borough President with my full authority until some of these gentlemen who are so interested in public service shall have it tested in the courts, or until the Mayor cools off and is enabled to see a straight line.

"It is simply a question of 'is he' or 'isn't he,' and I have passed the solution of that problem over to Corporation Counsel Pendleton," said Controller Metz, when asked yesterday whether or not he would officially recognize John F. Ahearn as Borough President. It is an important question to the Controller, as he is personally responsible for all the moneys he pays out in salaries or on contracts under the authorization of the Borough President.

"I am sure of my ground up to December 9, the day Mr. Ahearn was removed," added the Controller, "as I have advice up to that point. I will pay all salaries and bills authorized up to that time. I have asked Corporation Counsel Pendleton to advise me as to the status of Mr. Ahearn now, but have received no reply. If he declares that Mr. Ahearn is legally Borough President I shall pay the latter's salary and the salaries of those in his department. I have no personal feeling in the case. I shall not hold up Mr. Ahearn's salary simply to get an adjudication of his standing from the courts, as it has been suggested in Albany I might do."

M'ANENY SEES HUGHES.

Status of Ahearn's Election Discussed.

Albany, Dec. 20.—George McAneny, president of the City Club of New York, which preferred with Governor Hughes the charges resulting in the removal of John F. Ahearn from the office of president of Manhattan Borough, believes that the legality of Mr. Ahearn's election yesterday by the Board of Aldermen to succeed himself should be taken into the courts at once. Mr. McAneny had a conference with Governor Hughes at the Executive Mansion late this afternoon. After the conference Mr. McAneny said he came here "for the purpose of discussing the status of the election of Mr. Ahearn to succeed himself, after he had been removed by the Governor."

He refused to make any further comment regarding his talk with the Governor. "I believe," he continued, "that the legality of Mr. Ahearn's election yesterday will be decided by the courts within reasonable time. The action of Mayor McClellan to-day in refusing to recognize officially Mr. Ahearn as a member of the Board of Estimate will bring the matter into the courts. I believe that the Corporation Counsel will advise Controller Metz to refuse to pay any salary to Mr. Ahearn. That course also would result in the question being carried into the courts."

Mr. McAneny returned to New York this evening.

RUG SALE ATTRACTS MANY.

The sale of Persian and other Eastern rugs has steadily been attracting larger crowds each day at Silo's Fifth Avenue Art Galleries. The amount realized yesterday was the largest yet reached, $17,-182. The top price yesterday was $1,050, paid by Miss W. Rutherford for an old Tabriz carpet, about 16 by 12 feet. A royal Meshed Khorassan palace carpet cost J. A. Caldwell $375, the second highest price. The same amount was paid by Frank Cavan for a Kermanshah palace carpet, 18 by 13 feet.

AHEARN NOT THE END.

Public Probe for Haffen Next Month—Others May Follow.

The investigation by the Commissioners of Accounts into the office of Borough President Haffen of The Bronx will probably reach a head early in January by the beginning of a public investigation such as was given for Borough President Ahearn.

A man familiar with what has been revealed by the preliminary investigation was asked yesterday whether it had disclosed conditions similar to those in the Borough President's office in Manhattan. "No," he said, "but perhaps we might say they are parallel. Each had different methods, but the results were about the same. It makes an interesting comparison."

The offices of the other borough presidents are to be taken up in turn. It is believed that certain abuses that seem to have existed for years in certain departments probably are to be found in all the boroughs, to a greater or less degree. Before the end of next year the affairs of each office will have come under the scrutiny of the Commissioners of Accounts.

Borough President Coler of Brooklyn, following the refusal of the Mayor to recognize Borough President Ahearn as a member of the Board of Estimate yesterday, asked permission to offer a resolution requesting the Governor to appoint a commission to investigate all the city departments.

"What is the use?" said Controller Metz. "The charter revision commissions, old and new, have had that power delegated to them and I believe that the matter is one for their consideration. What is the use of attempting a duplication of work like that?"

"I object," said President McGowan. "This is distinctly a violation of home rule."

"Well," said Coler, "let the Controller's office and the Mayor's office be investigated, as well as the offices of the Borough Presidents."

"What is the use of duplicating?" asked Metz.

"Yes, but I should like to have this resolution get to the Governor, to let him know how we feel. I want to end something which seems very like persecution in some ways."

Metz held that he could not, on grounds stated, consent to the resolution's introduction. McGowan reiterated his home rule argument, and President Haffen of The Bronx took the same stand as President McGowan. After a desultory discussion the Coler resolution was dropped.

The board approved the award of the Street Cleaning Commissioners of the contracts for snow removal. The contracts were awarded by districts to the lowest bidders.

After the meeting of the board President Coler said: "Let's have a big investigation and have it square, not by men interested in any way, but an outside commission. If you don't find the Mayor's office and the Finance Department five times worse than Ahearn's, I'll make good on the statement."

The board adjourned to January 10.

ADMISSION BY HEDLEY.

Subway Service Not Up to Possibilities, He Says.

Frank Hedley, general manager for the Interborough Rapid Transit Company, did not keep his figures on the possibilities of subway operation down to the present maximum service yesterday at a hearing before Chairman Willcox of the Public Service Commission. For several minutes Chairman Willcox poked questions at him as to why the present service was not up to Mr. Hedley's "possibilities."

The railroad official was describing the complications and possible dangers which would result from the installation of block signals and safety devices on the local subway tracks, as the commission has proposed. He declared that it would handicap the officials so that operation of trains would be much slower. Then he swung somewhat off his subject, declaring that without safety devices the road was doing well, and that when the 96th street station improvements were completed the local trains could be run without crossing tracks at grade there, which would permit much more rapid operation of the trains.

"We could run, under those conditions, fifty-one trains an hour," said Mr. Hedley. "This would be an increase of about 30 per cent over the greatest possible number which we could operate under present conditions."

"About 30 per cent? Then, according to your figures, you ought to be able to run thirty-nine trains an hour now," remarked Mr. Willcox. "How many do you run?"

Mr. Hedley admitted that the greatest number ever operated was thirty-four trains an hour, and that this was maintained only for a forty-minute period.

"But your contract with the city calls for thirty-six trains an hour, does it not?" persisted Mr. Willcox. Mr. Hedley admitted that it did, but said that the company under present conditions had been unable to get to that rate of car operation and he didn't see how the officials could do much more than they were doing to afford maximum service.

Mr. Willcox asked several more questions along that line, and then permitted the hearing to drift back to block signals. While there will be many more hearings on that subject, it is fairly probable that the commission will ask the railroad to try these signals on the local tracks, in conjunction with some of the other improvements recommended by Bion J. Arnold recently.

PROBE ASYLUM WORK.

Witness Tells of Brutal Treatment of Patients in State Hospital.

The State Lunacy Commission, investigating conditions in the Manhattan State Asylum for the Insane, resumed its session at that institution, on Ward's Island, yesterday morning and spent seven hours examining Dr. John C. McCarthy as to the details of the story he wrote for an afternoon paper telling of brutality to the inmates.

The commission, made up of Dr. Albert Warren Ferris, S. T. Viele and William L. Parkhurst, gathered in the recess of Ward 35, for "mildly disturbed patients," although the patients had been taken elsewhere in the big building for the occasion. Counsel for Dr. McCarthy asked to be allowed to examine him, but permission was refused, and the examination was conducted by Samuel Koenig, counsel for the commission and for the hospital. Mr. Koenig took up Dr McCarthy's story.

Dr. McCarthy's story was monotonous. The account of one "hanging" was like that of another. The same held true of the beatings. It was also discovered that Dr. McCarthy had observed three sorts of "hangings"—to choke a patient by his coat collar, by his shirt collar, or by means of a towel. Dr. McCarthy said that he had participated in "hanging" one patient and said he had seen the same operation, together with ordinary beating and kicking, practised by four attendants. Two patients, he said, had stitches taken in wounds received under this treatment, and bore scars as a result.

During the morning session a crowd of attendants, including the men charged by Dr. McCarthy, took seats in the recess and watched the witness. After application by Isaac Marks, counsel for Dr. McCarthy, and some objection by Mr. Koenig, Chairman Ferris ordered them to be sent out of earshot. Later they were found sitting up the ward, but close enough to hear all that was said. When Chairman Ferris was informed of this he demanded that Assistant Superintendent Rowe send them away to their duties. There was some stir created when the ward supervisor was seen taking notes of the testimony, but this was permitted to continue.

By 4 o'clock in the afternoon the last page of Dr. McCarthy's diary had been finished and he had given his impressions as to just how many blows and "hangings" the patient in hand had received. Also, he explained that patients were given "dope," as it was called, a medicine that quieted them or put them to sleep when they became "disturbed."

Mr. Koenig then inquired into Dr. McCarthy's history. Dr. McCarthy said he was graduated from the Harvard Medical School in 1881, practised medicine in Malden, Mass., for fourteen years, and came to New York in 1905. The hearing was then adjourned until 10 o'clock this morning, and Dr. McCarthy was asked to be present.

HOLD BUILDING CODE.

Criticism of New Rules Causes Aldermen to Delay Action.

The proposed new building code, after being criticised yesterday before the building committee of the Board of Aldermen by persons interested in reinforced concrete and by those who opposed restrictions regarding the height of new buildings, was sent back to the Building Code Commission for more hearings.

As already stated in The Tribune, it is planned to let the report go over to next year. The revision commission then will be cut down from thirty to fifteen, with Alderman Kenneally, of Charles F. Murphy's district, as its chairman.

Alderman Grifenhagen is chairman of the committee and presided at the hearing. William Butler, representing Eidlitz & Hulze and counsel for the Building Trades Employers' Association, protested that his clients had not had sufficient time to study the code as proposed, and he declared that nearly all of those present felt the same way. Mr. Butler said:

"Out of one hundred sections in the proposed code thirteen are objectionable. For instance, the proposed Section 42 is one of them. It is practically the same as an ordinance passed by the Board of Aldermen in 1905 and vetoed by the Mayor. This section is covered by the labor law, save where it is wholly impracticable and unnecessary."

Roswell D. Tompkins, of the Board of Business Agents of the Building Trades, declared that the mechanics whose lives were imperilled in the construction of buildings demanded the inclusion of this section. Lewis Harding, master carpenter, chairman of the Building Trades Employers' Association, said that employers were with the employes in their desire for safety, but he held that the section in question meant that a stepladder would have to be fastened top and bottom before it could be used.

Voicing similar sentiments, Mr. Wait, of Wait & Foster, said he spoke particularly for those who have concrete and cement construction interests, and pointed out that concrete buildings of any considerable size were forbidden by the code, and the effect would be to drive factory buildings from New York to New Jersey. Others heard were Paul Starrett, of the George A. Fuller Construction Company; J. H. Jones, of the North Side Board of Trade; R. F. Tucker, second vice-president of the Building Trades Employers' Association; Representative Conover, of the Mason Builders' Association, and John F. O'Rourke, head of the O'Rourke Engineering and Construction Company.

A. E. Ellinger, a civil engineer, appeared in opposition, and with him were F. B. Morris, of the Brooklyn Builders' Association, and F. Remington, president of the Foundation Company of New York. Supporting the code as proposed was an architect, Mr. Brainard, representing the American Institute of Architects.

Charles H. Bauscher, of the Bronx Labor Council, favoring the code, said he spoke for 75,000 mechanics employed in building operations. George W. Babb, president of the New York Board of Fire Underwriters, said the Chamber of Commerce favored it. William F. McConnell, assistant secretary of the New York Board of Trade and Transportation, declared that his organization had called the proposed code a step in the right direction.

Alderman Kenneally said he had received hundreds of letters from members of various municipal and civic organizations, as well as from some of the commercial organizations, but he was inclined to "take more stock in one letter from a practical builder than in one hundred letters from men who have no practical knowledge on the subject."

FOR BROOKLYN'S BENEFIT.

P. S. C. Gives Orders for Better, Safer and Cleaner Cars.

Two final orders for improvements in service and equipment directed to Brooklyn transportation companies were issued yesterday by the Public Service Commission. The first directs the Brooklyn Rapid Transit Company to operate during the non-rush hours trains of not less than four cars each on its Jamaica avenue service. The second, directed to the Coney Island & Brooklyn company, provides for a general renewal and repairing of defective equipment. This order specifies that worn out gears must be replaced, flat wheels replaced, brakes repaired and other sections of the running mechanism replaced or repaired. All the cars must be cleaned and varnished within a month, and thereafter kept clean. Some of the cars have carpeted seat cushions and backs. The carpet must be removed from these, and rattan cushions and backs substituted, in the interest of cleanliness.

An order of considerable importance, directed to the Interborough Rapid Transit Company, asked that company to show why it should not be compelled to keep axes, saws and other tools in its cars for use in case of wrecks. Cars on steam railroads carry such a "wrecking equipment," and a recent accident in the subway, where passengers were penned in a car and had to take a coupling pin and smash their way out demonstrated the advisability, in the minds of some of the commissioners, of the Interborough's cars carrying such tools.

In preparation for the report, which must be submitted to the Legislature early in January, the commission is rushing to completion the hearings on all the preliminary orders now outstanding. Seven hearings were held before various commissioners yesterday, and the commission's available space was so taxed that Chairman Willcox had to hold one of the hearings in his private office.

A communication was received yesterday from the Interborough, asking permission to omit the City Hall local service in the subway between midnight and 7 a. m. as soon as the Battery tunnel to Brooklyn is in operation. The railroad officials say that between these hours there is practically no travel to the City Hall station, and it would be more convenient to run the local trains around the Battery loop. The commission decided to grant the request.

REORGANIZE CITY'S FINANCE SYSTEM.

Investigators, at Metz's Request, Help Him to Prevent Irregularities.

The Bureau of Municipal Research is investigating the Finance Department at the request of Controller Metz, to assist him in reorganizing the present system of expenditure and collection, which fails to prevent irregularities.

It seems that in the department for collecting rents receipts were not given in certain cases in 1905. Certain persons say they paid money that does not appear on the books, but they have nothing to show that their claims are valid.

"The reports submitted to me by the investigators have to do with methods and not with men," said the Controller. Marvyn Scudder, the chairman of a commission appointed by the Controller some time ago to suggest a new system of accounting, has been asked to look more thoroughly into the alleged irregularities in the books and methods of the bureau of city revenue.

A special investigation is also being made of the books of the bureau of markets, but the Controller says he does not wish to intimate that any irregularities in that department have been discovered.

In a statement last night the Controller explains the various steps he has taken to reorganize his department, and adds:

I am thus well on the road to locating responsibility for performance of each function of this office, and to securing such records that not only the Controller can secure information without weeks of investigation, but that citizens asking intelligent questions may be readily answered. It is my hope, before the end of my administration, to provide for the city of New York a business office, organized and equipped in a thoroughly modern fashion, in the place of the present Department of Finance, which, with all due respect to my predecessors, has always been disorganized.

CROMWELL MUST PAY FOR HIS ADVICE.

Borough President Cromwell of Richmond must pay $1,750 for advice he gave a client when acting as his lawyer seven years ago. The client, Wilson A. Cleveland, pleaded guilty, at Cromwell's bidding, to indictments charging him with stealing, on which, he contended, he could not have been held otherwise, and got a year's imprisonment. On Thursday he began suit in the Supreme Court, Brooklyn, to collect $50,000 damages. Yesterday the jury gave Cleveland a verdict of $1,750.

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CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS.

Marked Tendency This Year Toward Useful Presents.

With Christmas fast approaching, there are still a considerable number of persons who, for various reasons, have neglected to make their purchases. The public is, therefore, always avid for suggestions in this particular, especially this year, when the recent stringency has caused in most cases a curtailment of the usual allowance for such a purpose.

The shops teem with merchandise of all sorts, from those things of daily and practical use to articles of luxury. The great aim this year is to combine these two conditions: To give something that will be both useful and ornamental. The appeal to the eye must, however, be satisfied, if possible; it must also give pleasure, for that is within the spirit of Christmas.

A look around in odd corners is likely to disclose quaint things, albeit practical. A shop downtown displays some beautiful brass and copper handwork in candelabra, kettles and other special articles.

But glass is always acceptable, a delightful possibility. Lamps, punchbowls, jewel boxes, ice cream trays and cocktail sets are useful and pleasing in cut glass or in the new rock crystal effect, which gives the impression of rock crystal, from which the earlier glasses were laboriously ground.

There is a new alcohol lamp, and also a practical handiron, which uses a perfected denatured alcohol. The mechanical toys for children are in keeping with the advance of the applied sciences.

DAINTY AND EXQUISITE PERFUMERY.

A grateful gift at any time is a bottle of delicate perfumery or a pretty box containing a selection of different scents. It is neat, compact and, particularly for the fair sex, always acceptable. It is the necessary adjunct of dainty woman, who, if clever and refined, uses them discreetly to give that elusive, subtle scent which pleases in contrast to an over-indulgence, which is apt to be offensive. Individuality in perfumes is sought and cultivated. Some women give a suggestion merely of the use of some particular bottled essence of flowers.

More than half a century ago Lundborg began to make perfumes in America. His love of chemistry and botany, coupled with a marked enthusiasm concerning flowers, led him into fields of investigation then unexplored concerning the chemistry of perfumes, the result being a number of dainty, exquisite scents which have perpetuated his name as a household word.

Mr. Ladd showed the writer some interesting ideas in perfumery, very suitable for Christmas, at their headquarters at No. 24 Barclay street. One of the favorites is "Tlanu Violet," very delicate, and recalls freshly cut violets. The appeal to the eye in this, as in their other perfumes, corresponds to that of the sense of smell when the bottle is opened. Among the new offerings are "Nilotus" and "Society," both worthy of the Lundborg name. "Vio Violet" is another suggestion purloined tastefully from the "modest flower," which is made up in pretty sachets, as are some of the other scents, notably the heliotrope sachet, six of them in each neat box.

HANDSOME GUNS FOR MEN.

Another suggestion, pleasing to mature man and the growing generation, is a handsome shotgun, or other similar article of sport, such as repeating rifles, automatic pistols or carbines, fishing rods or skates. The Daly "Diamond" guns are good examples of what a sportsman requires, for they are carefully made and are as near perfection as the most skilled workman can produce. The title

suggests the quality. Schoverling, Daly & Gales, the makers, at No. 302 Broadway, have issued an interesting book on this subject, a facsimile of the cover illustration being reproduced on this page. It will be sent on request. A visit to their place gives many suggestions for everything pertaining to sports.

HINTS TO CHRISTMAS SHOPPERS.

THE SNYDER SPORTING GOODS COMPANY, No. 100 Nassau street, is offering for the holiday trade all sorts of sporting goods, including guns, ammunition, kodaks, games, skates and phonographs.

E. J. WILLIS COMPANY, at No. 8 Park Place, advertise a special holiday sale of bicycles. The machines are of a standard make, and include motorcycles, as well as the ordinary machines.

BROWNS', at No. 125 Lenox avenue, calls attention to the sale of imported gowns which is in progress at that store. It includes waists, petticoats, tea and lingerie gowns and belts.

THE EMPIRE MIRROR AND ART WORKS, at No. 68 Sixth avenue, will frame photographs or paintings. They also sell mirrors and make frames to order.

THE S. MARKS CHAIR COMPANY, at No. 50 East 59th street, calls attention to the suitability of Marks adjustable chairs as Christmas gifts. They are adjustable to any position desired.

PARK ROW CYCLE COMPANY, at No. 23 Park Row, will have for the holiday week a special sale of two thousand 'cycles, ranging from a low priced second hand bicycle to a high class motorcycle.

EDWIN S. GORHAM, at No. 251 Fourth avenue, is selling all sorts of books, including Cambridge and Oxford editions of the Bible and gift books of the season.

G. H. HOLDEN, at No. 1240 Sixth avenue, will hold a canary sale the last part of this week and the first of next. He also sells talking birds and bullfinches piping two songs.

W. F. ROCHE, at No. 119 Warren street, will deliver a barrel of grapes to any one within a radius of twenty-five miles of New York who will inclose a money order for $3 to him.

THE PROGRESSIVE STORE, at No. 59 Nassau street, is selling, among other things, skates, skating shoes, sweaters, punching bags, diabolo sets and cameras.

PH. WEINBERG'S SON & CO., at No. 34 West 34th street, announce that on account of their retirement from business they will sell their entire stock of furs at reduced prices.

KLACKNER'S, at No. 7 West 28th street, offers as a suggestion for a suitable Christmas present a framed picture from his well assorted stock.

M. A. BOWE, at No. 1294 Broadway, florist, is making many offerings for the holiday trade.

L. H. BIGLOW & CO., at No. 62 Broad street, are selling Biglow's quotation calendar, which has a helpful literary gem for every day of the year.

BENSON & HEDGES, at No. 74 Broadway, advertise Havana cigars, cigar and cigarette humidors, English briar pipes, tobacco pouches and other smoker's articles.

CARPENTERS TO RESIST CUT.

Locals Instructed Not to Accept Reductions Proposed by Masters' Association.

The Greater New York District Council of the Brotherhood of Carpenters, on behalf of its various locals, which have an aggregate membership of 19,000, decided yesterday to resist the proposed cut by the Master Carpenters' Association in the wages of carpenters. All the locals have been instructed not to accept the reduction.

On the other hand, the members of the Master Carpenters' Association say that the proposed reduction is imperative on account of the slackness of business, about one-half of the mechanics in the building trades being now idle, while there are poor prospects for improvement in the conditions. The carpenters' trade is the only one under the arbitration plan in which up to the present a reduction in wages has been proposed, notwithstanding the large number of men idle.

The final session of the conference committees of the Master Carpenters' Association and the carpenters over the proposed reduction will take place within the next four days, and a clash is expected.

The trade arbitration board of the Mason Builders' Association and the bricklayers' unions have started negotiations over the wages to be paid to fifteen thousand bricklayers' laborers when their present agreement expires, on December 31.

RESERVES TIRED OF THE NEWARK.

The members of the Naval Reserve Association of New York met last night at Keene's Chop House, No. 70 West 36th street. The question of asking Congress to take the unprotected cruiser Newark off their hands, as it was too big for them to handle, came up for discussion. They will ask for a smaller ship, like the converted yacht Scorpion.

NO MILK TRUST, SAYS BORDEN HEAD.

Chicago, Dec. 20.—The grand jury probably completed its investigation of the so-called milk trust to-day. Several additional witnesses were questioned, the principal one being W. J. Rogers, of New York, president of the Borden Condensed Milk Company. Mr. Rogers appeared voluntarily to explain to the grand jurors the conditions which caused the advance in the price of milk from seven to eight cents a quart. He denied that there is a milk trust, and said that there has never been a milk trust, the increase in price being due to "business conditions."

COURT ORDERS NEW ELECTION IN UNION.

The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court granted yesterday the petition of the New York Electrical Workers' Union and Maurice R. Jarvis against William J. Sullivan and others, ordering a new election of officers and directors of the union and reversing an order of the Special Term of the Supreme Court. The petitioners set forth that in the last election a certain faction held a meeting, excluding some of the members and elected officers. Unfairness was alleged.

GET DIAMOND THIEF.

Jersey City Police Arrest Expressman's Helper, Who Confesses.

By the arrest of William White, seventeen years old, of No. 57 Greene street, a helper on a United States Express wagon, the Jersey City police have at last cleared up the mystery surrounding the disappearance of a package of jewelry valued at $32,-000 from one of the wagons of the company last week. White broke down completely and made a full confession, informing the police what he had done with the plunder.

According to the Jersey City police White was employed as helper to a driver, Charles Koroff, and both of them were on the wagon carrying the jewelry, which was being shipped to Washington by Alfred H. Smith & Co., of No. 475 Fifth avenue, Manhattan. The express wagon was driven to the Communipaw railroad station, where the package was placed on the platform of the company's receiving station at that point. Both Koroff and White had learned of the value of the package before leaving Manhattan. When Koroff went into the building, White, who had been left to look out for the various packages, picked up the one containing the jewelry and put it into his pocket. After spending some time helping with the unloading he returned with his wagon to New York.

The police of both Jersey City and New York were immediately told of the loss, and detectives were put to work, but for the first few days there were but few developments. The case was at a standstill when Detective McCormack, of New York, arrested Richard Gordon, a negro, of No. 329 West 39th street, a porter employed by the company. Gordon was taken before Magistrate Corrigan in the Tombs court, and although he protested his innocence, and there was no evidence against him he was held in $2,500 bail for examination. He was discharged yesterday.

The first clew that the police got to the robbery was when Louis Pupel, fourteen years old, of No. 403 East 72d street, walked into the Jersey City Police Headquarters and showed a $3,000 necklace which he said he had bought for 25 cents from a former employe of the American Tobacco Company's cigar factory in Jersey City. The address of this boy was ascertained, and it was found that he was White, the helper. The detectives arrested both him and Koroff, to whom White said he had given a diamond collarette, worth $2,080, which was found on Koroff. The remainder of the jewelry was found on an icebox at White's home. Both seemed to take their arrest as a joke.

BREEN DENOUNCES EXCISE ARRESTS.

Magistrate Says Saloon's Back Room Should Be Undisturbed.

When Magistrate Breen, in the Jefferson Market court, discharged yesterday James B. Cosgrove and James Spinelli, who were arrested early Sunday morning in a Seventh avenue saloon for excise violation, he severely rebuked the policemen.

The detectives, disguised as longshoremen, had entered the saloon before the closing hour and remained there until nearly 1 o'clock, when they placed the two men under arrest.

"The object of the Sunday regulation," said Magistrate Breen, "is to obtain a peaceable and quiet Sunday. There is no justification for police officers to enter by trick into back rooms of saloons on Sundays. When the barroom is fully exposed to view and no business being carried on therein, and there is no disturbance or unseemly conduct anywhere to be observed, it seems to me that the real object of the law is accomplished."

ONE KILLED; TWO HURT IN TUNNEL.

Patrick Barry, of No. 500 Madison street, was killed instantly and two other men were seriously injured yesterday morning, while working in the New York and Brooklyn tunnel, about three thousand feet south of the Bowling Green subway station, when a heavy air pump which they were unloading from a flatcar fell upon them. The pump weighed about twenty-four hundred pounds, and was being hoisted off the car, when the hawser broke. An ambulance was summoned from the Hudson Street Hospital, and the injured were taken there. Adolph Varralmann, an assistant engineer, who was in charge of the work, was arrested by the police on the technical charge of homicide.

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