New-York Tribune.

VOL. LXVII....No. 22,321. To-day, fair. To-morrow, rain; southeast winds. NEW-YORK, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1907.—TWELVE PAGES. Copyright, 1907, by The Tribune Association. PRICE THREE CENTS.

HAMILTON BANK MERRY

ITS RECEIVER REMOVED.

Depositors Serenade President Montgomery and Thank Court.

Depositors of the Hamilton Bank, which will reopen on January 2, showed their confidence in William R. Montgomery, the president, and their appreciation of the action of the Supreme Court in issuing an order for the discharge of the receiver yesterday by a remarkable demonstration in the streets of The Bronx last night.

Headed by a brass band of thirty pieces, the depositors' committee and a large number of depositors marched from Third avenue and 177th street to Mr. Montgomery's home, No. 1857 Anthony avenue. A squad of police commanded by Captain James McGlynn, of the Tremont station, cleared the way for the procession and formed lines around the house to keep back the nearly four thousand persons who gathered to hear the brass band serenade.

As the procession passed The Bronx Borough Bank, at Tremont and Park avenues, the bank which Mr. Montgomery says tried to keep the Hamilton Bank closed, the band played a funeral march. Mr. Montgomery and his wife greeted the serenaders on the stoop of their home, and he was handed a copy of the telegram which the depositors' committee sent to Justice Betts, of the Supreme Court, Kingston, N. Y., thanking him for his decision. The telegram was as follows:

Justice Betts, Supreme Court, Kingston, N. Y.
God bless you and yours for your act of justice in the matter of the Hamilton Bank to-day.
DEPOSITORS' COMMITTEE.

MONTGOMERY MAKES SPEECH.

There were speeches by Julius Haas, a real estate dealer of The Bronx and one of the largest depositors; ex-Police Captain James Price and Mrs. Agnes Murphy Mulligan, a lawyer. After a short concert by the band Mr. Montgomery was called upon and he said:

"I am grateful for this remarkable demonstration of confidence. This would not be possible but for the 85 per cent of the depositors of the Hamilton Bank who not only believed, and in my judgment still believe, in the solvency of the bank but in the probity of the officers and directors. I do not regard this as the time or the place for any personal defence. My vindication will come from other quarters. I court the closest investigation that the grand jury can make. From the time the Hamilton Bank closed until the present moment I have labored night and day for the reopening of the bank and the payment of every depositor in full.

"Such zeal as I have shown has necessarily brought upon me scurrilous attacks from the enemies of the Hamilton Bank who have reasons for keeping the institution closed. I do not owe the Hamilton Bank a dollar and have never owed it a dollar. The technical overdrafts so widely advertised were inadvertent on my part, and upon my attention being drawn to them were immediately made good.

"I never kept my business account in the Hamilton Bank. It was an account for the convenience of my family, and, as scores of business men before me who received the checks know full well, they were signed by no Montgomery. As for Mrs. Montgomery, if she chose to destroy her cancelled vouchers she had a right to do so. They were her own property. The bank had no control over her interest in them. Now that the court has granted permission for the bank to reopen I feel that my efforts have not been in vain."

Mr. Montgomery was cheered for nearly five minutes when he finished speaking.

PLAN FOR REOPENING.

The Hamilton Bank, in West 125th street, with its six branches having more than ten thousand depositors, closed on October 24, at the time of the financial flurry, and was placed in the hands of a receiver soon after. The removal of the receiver by the decision of Justice Betts, of the Supreme Court, sitting at Kingston, is a victory for the depositors, who have contended all along that the institution could be rehabilitated if a chance were given it.

The order of the court directs Frank White, the receiver, to turn over the bank's property and appoints Clarence E. Bloodgood, of Catskill, N. Y., referee for the purpose of passing on the receiver's accounts. Neither the Attorney General nor the State Superintendent of Banks opposed the application of ex-Judge Alton B. Parker, counsel for the bank. Justice Betts expressed the opinion that the bank was in proper condition to reopen.

The bank will be opened under the plan outlined by ex-Judge Parker in his argument before the court. This plan provides for the payment to depositors as follows: Ten per cent of deposits upon the reopening and three certificates of deposit, one for 15 per cent of deposits payable in ninety days, another for 15 per cent payable in six months and another for 60 per cent payable in one year.

This plan, however, will apply only to those depositors who signed an agreement to accept payment in that form. The agreement was signed by 80 per cent of the depositors. The institutions, it is said, that have lent their support to the Hamilton Bank, are the Carnegie Trust Company and the Fourth National Bank. An official of the bank said last night regarding the charges that have been made that President Montgomery removed certain vouchers two days after the suspension:

"The checks and vouchers referred to represented the personal accounts of Mr. Montgomery and his wife. They had a right to them. Mr. Montgomery has fought almost single handed to obtain the money for the depositors and for the reopening of the bank, and he has made many enemies, for there has been a great misunderstanding. But he is vindicated now and everybody is to get his money."

The grand jury investigation into the affairs of the bank will be resumed on Monday by Isidor J. Kresel, Assistant District Attorney. Meanwhile the preliminary investigation is being continued by Mr. Appleton, of the District Attorney's office. Vice-President Frederick D. Ives saw Mr. Appleton yesterday and asked about the overdrafts on the account of former President E. R. Thomas, as charged in the report of Frank White, the receiver, made to Attorney General Jackson. It was said that Mr. Ives knew that there had been an overdraft to Mr. Thomas as shown by the books early in August of $2,000, and later in the month one of $125, both of which were paid.

The inquiry will be directed to determine how these and other overdrafts came to be made, and it is understood that Mr. Ives said that he did not believe that Mr. Thomas personally knew that he was overdrawing his account.

CALDERHEAD CRITICALLY ILL.

Washington, Dec. 26.—Representative William A. Calderhead, of Kansas, is critically ill with double pneumonia at his apartment in this city. He was taken ill about three weeks ago with the grip. Pneumonia developed the day before Christmas.

NO NEW YEAR'S TABLE complete without Angostura Bitters for punches, jellies, water-ices. Dr. Siegert's the only genuine.—Advt.

PRISONER AS HE SINGS.

Hammerstein Has Albani Arrested While He Is on the Stage.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Boston, Dec. 26.—Oscar Hammerstein took decisive steps to-day to end the San Carlo Opera Company's raid on his force. Acting on complaints sworn to by his agent, Carlo Albani, the tenor, who made his debut here last night, was arrested twice to-day, and Hammerstein's lawyer says he will be arrested every time he sings.

The first arrest was made while Albani was at breakfast. The sheriff accompanied him to his lawyer's office, where he arranged for bail. The second came to-night while Albani was appearing in "Il Trovatore." He had just finished the prison song and stepped back to the wings when the sheriff tapped him on the shoulder and again arrested him.

The manager told the audience what the trouble was, and the crowd went wild. In the mean time the scene had been held up, but after twenty minutes' wait Hammerstein's lawyer agreed to allow Albani to finish the act if he were accompanied on the stage by the sheriff.

That agreement was carried out in every detail. The sheriff followed Albani from one end of the stage to the other. Surrounded by the singers in "Il Trovatore" costumes, he stayed close to his prisoner, unmindful of the jeers and hisses of the audience. At last the act was finished and Albani hurried to his dressing room, where a judge, hurriedly summoned, let him go free on bail.

Hammerstein accuses Albani of breaking his contract. Albani says he will get out an injunction to-morrow.

Mr. Hammerstein's representative, when asked about the arrest of Carlo Albani, said last night:

"Albani was brought here by Mr. Hammerstein when he opened the Manhattan Opera House. He signed a five-year contract to sing for Mr. Hammerstein exclusively. A few weeks ago he complained that the climate was too severe for him and begged Mr. Hammerstein to let him return to Italy. Mr. Hammerstein agreed, and even bought Albani a ticket. Instead of taking the steamer, he sold the ticket and went to Boston, and was engaged to sing with the San Carlos company."

PRESIDENT IN VIRGINIA.

Riding and Hunting Main Features During Stay at Pine Knot.

Charlottesville, Va., Dec. 26.—President Roosevelt and party reached Charlottesville at 2:16 p. m. There was a crowd at the station and the President leaned out of his car window and shook hands with a hundred or more. Surgeon General Rixey, who was one of the President's party, was greeted by his brother Eppa, of Miami, Fla.

After a muddy drive of three hours over almost bottomless roads the President reached his cottage at Pine Knot shortly before 6 o'clock. The party occupied three traps, with the President, Mrs. Roosevelt and Miss Carow in the first; Kermit, Archie and Quentin in the second, and Dr. Rixey and Joseph Wilmer in the third.

After alighting from the train at North Garden, the President said to the crowd: "How do you do, gentlemen. I am very glad to be back here again."

'Cross country riding and wild turkey shooting will be the President's favorite pastimes at Pine Knot, where he will remain until next Tuesday.

CHICAGO'S FIGHT WON.

Judge Grosscup Clinches Rehabilitation of Traction System.

Chicago, Dec. 26.—A sale of the properties of the North Chicago Street Railroad Company, the West Chicago Street Railroad Company and the Chicago Union Traction Company under a decree of foreclosure was ordered to-day by Judge Peter S. Grosscup, sitting in the United States Circuit Court. The sale is to take place at noon on January 25, 1908, at the south main entrance of the county courthouse, under the direction of H. W. Bishop, who was appointed a special master commissioner by the court.

An order was also entered instructing the receivers of the property to execute to the Chicago Railways Company, the holding company organized to take over the franchise voted by the City Council some months ago, a lease of all the lines of street railway operated by it. The lease is to expire on February 2, 1927. It is taken for granted that the Chicago Railways Company will be the only bidder for the property at the sale.

The order of the court is, in effect, merely a form of a plan worked out for the rehabilitation of the Union Traction system by the Chicago Railways Company. The decree means, it is said, that at last the patrons of the traction lines on the north and west sides of the city are to receive the improvements in service made obligatory by the terms of the new franchise ordinance.

The sale was ordered under the consolidated foreclosure suits of the Central Trust Company and the Guaranty Trust Company of New York, and the Fidelity Trust Company of Philadelphia. Judge Grosscup, in affirming the decree, said:

"What the entry of these orders means is that two million people have at last come to an understanding with some twenty thousand people, constituting the creditors, bondholders and stockholders of the old Union traction system, whereby, as nearly as human judgment can reach such results, the two million people get what is due them as a community, the twenty-odd thousand get what is due them as a body, and each of the twenty thousand gets what is due him as an individual. It was the ordinance of February last that made such a settlement possible. The extension ordinance of last September saved it from disaster. The agreement to-day practically closes it."

Following the acceptance on February 1 of the ordinance by which the Chicago Railways Company will come into possession of the traction properties affected by the decree, the company will immediately begin the rehabilitation of the lines at a cost of $12,000,000. Within three years it must have rebuilt at least ninety miles of single track and have put in operation at least 1,200 new cars.

EXCHANGES GIFTS WITH PRESIDENT.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Worcester, Mass., Dec. 26.—President Roosevelt exchanged gifts with Jacob Kriesfeld, fourteen years old, of this city, it was learned to-day. Kriesfeld's Christmas gift from Washington arrived to-day. In a letter of thanks from the President for his present sent to him a few days ago was inclosed a crisp $10 bill. Kriesfeld sent the President an art calendar, his own handiwork, in colors, which represented an American eagle with the words, "Theodore Roosevelt," apparently issuing from its beak.

BRYAN BOOMS REPUBLICAN.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 26.—W. J. Bryan is boosting his former law partner, A. R. Talbot, for Vice-President on the Republican ticket. In an editorial in his paper to-morrow he will say, after suggesting Mr. Talbot's name:

Let it be known that Nebraska stands ready to furnish an associate for any Republican who may be nominated for President, and she has a Republican who would make a better race than some of the candidates who have been mentioned for the Presidency. The West is coming to the front. It is no longer the great American desert, whether you consider it from the standpoint of crops or politics.

EDUCATORS IN SESSION

ADDRESS BY MR. REID.

Teachers from All Parts of New York Gather at Syracuse.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Syracuse, Dec. 26.—Before thirteen hundred educators at Assembly Hall in the new High School Building to-night Whitelaw Reid, Ambassador from the United States to Great Britain, gave an address on "Points of Difference Between the Educational Systems of the Two Great English Speaking Countries."

The hall was filled with teachers, principals, school superintendents and educational workers from all over New York State, delegates and members of the following organizations holding a joint meeting: The Associated Academic Principals of New York, the Council of Grammar School Principals, the New York State Teachers' Association, the New York State Association of Teachers of English, the classical teachers, the commercial teachers, the history teachers, the nature study teachers and the normal and training school teachers.

On the platform, besides the officers of the various associations, was Andrew S. Draper, State Commissioner of Education, who will speak at a joint meeting of all associations to-morrow evening. The Rev. Dr. S. Parkes Cadman, of Brooklyn, who was to have spoken at to-night's meeting, telegraphed that he was unable to catch his train, but would be here in the morning and would speak before the Associated Academic Principals. His subject will be "The Spiritual Element in the Teaching Profession."

Ambassador Reid arrived at 2:13 o'clock and returned to New York at midnight. He was the guest of William Nottingham, State Regent.

(The address of Mr. Reid will be found on fifth page.)

COTTON MEN CURTAIL.

Reduction of 25 Per Cent Announced for New England.

Boston, Dec. 26.—The Arkwright Club, which represents the cotton mill interests of New England, at a meeting here to-day formally voted to curtail production 25 per cent between now and March 1 in order to relieve conditions in the cloth markets of New York, Chicago, Boston and other large centres. It was stated several days ago that a committee, previously appointed by the club to canvass the situation among the mills, had found sufficient sentiment to insure the success of the curtailment plan, and that a restriction of production was regarded as a certainty. The cotton mills of New England employ about 185,000 persons under normal conditions, and it is expected that at least 150,000 will be affected by the short time. The curtailment agreement became operative to-day, although numerous mills have been shut down since Tuesday night.

The agreement will affect a large majority of Fall River print cloth mills, the fine goods mills of New Bedford, the Amoskeag Corporation, of Manchester, employing 13,000 hands, and most of the other New Hampshire factories; the York Corporation, of Saco, Me.; the Pepperil mills, of Biddeford; the mills of Lewiston, Waterville, Brunswick and other Maine points; those in Lowell, employing 20,000 hands, Lawrence, Holyoke and Chicopee, Mass., and mills controlled by large Rhode Island interests.

The mills in Thorndyke, Bondsville, Palmer, Ware and Warren, Mass., and Greenville and New Ipswich, N. H., controlled by Bliss, Fabyan & Co., of New York and Boston, adopted a short time policy a month ago, as did the Monadnock mills, of Claremont, N. H. These and several other concerns will reach the end of their curtailment policy before the factories in the large centres.

More than 80 per cent of the spindles in New England are represented in the agreement. The majority of the mills will run four days during January and February, closing Thursday nights, thus including Saturday, a short workday, in the shutdown. Mills which have contracts calling for delivery during the winter are at liberty to reduce their production 25 per cent partly before March 1 and the remainder after that date. The method of reducing is left largely to the discretion of the managers.

According to some of the officers of textile unions, the operatives prefer to work four days a week rather than be continuously idle for a period of nearly three weeks.

The curtailment movement originated in New York commission houses, which feared a congestion of goods and falling prices in the spring if the mills continued to operate in full all winter.

MINER LOSES HALF HIS BRAINS.

Italian Returns to His Work Without Perceptible Loss of Mind or Memory.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Hartville, Wyo., Dec. 26.—Ernesto Jacobetti, an Italian miner, is at work in the iron mines here after having lost about one-half of his brains through a hole in his head made by a bullet from his cousin's revolver. He has suffered no perceptible loss of mind or memory. It is the most remarkable case known to Western surgeons.

Jacobetti was shot squarely between the eyes with a .32-calibre revolver. The bullet went straight through the head. The brains oozed from each opening. The shooting occurred three weeks ago.

GLIDDEN AFTER NEW RECORD.

Plans Balloon Trip from Dallas or Omaha to Boston.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Boston, Dec. 26.—Charles J. Glidden, the wealthy Boston automobilist, who has the greatest motoring mileage to his credit, is out now for the long distance balloon record. With Leo Stevens and H. Helm Clayton, the Blue Hill expert, he is planning to start on a balloon trip either from Dallas, Tex., or Omaha to Boston. The latter distance is 1,500 miles, which is 295 miles greater than Le Vaulx's record.

Mr. Glidden is also to try next year for the Lahm trophy and the Boston Herald cup. A balloon of about 80,000 cubic feet capacity will be used. If one large enough cannot be hired a new one will be built.

TRIES SUICIDE BY CURIOUS METHOD.

Middletown (N. Y.) Man Believed to Have Poured Molten Lead into Ear.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Middletown, N. Y., Dec. 26.—James H. Conkling, a prominent business man, while mentally unbalanced Tuesday night is believed to have attempted suicide by the most curious method ever heard of. Conkling was found unconscious in his store Tuesday night. He disappeared a week ago, and, it is believed, returned to his store, melted a quantity of lead, laid his head on the counter and poured the lead into his ear.

Conklin was taken to Thrall Hospital, where the lead was drilled out. It was found that the ear drum was burned out and the cavity next to the brain filled with metal. It is feared the brain is burned.

INDIANA ON RECORD.

FAIRBANKS THE LEADER.

Named for President by Republicans—Beveridge Speaks.

Indianapolis, Dec. 26.—Resolutions were adopted unanimously to-day at the biennial "love feast" of Indiana Republicans urging the nomination of Vice-President Charles W. Fairbanks for the Presidency. The resolutions were introduced by Governor J. Frank Hanly, and were adopted with a round of cheers by the thousand or more active party workers of the state who were present. The resolutions were as follows:

We, the Republicans of the State of Indiana, in biennial love feast assembled, send greetings and felicitations to the Hon. Charles W. Fairbanks, Vice-President of the United States, and turn to him for leadership in the pending Presidential campaign. We have often trusted him and have many times given him high commission.

His clean life in public and in the home, his clearness of concept, his poise of character, his conservative courage and his great ability have long appealed to us.

His love of the people from whose loins he came, the faith he has ever manifested in American institutions and in Republican principles, his ripe experience in public affairs, the support he has given President Roosevelt in the Senate and in his present high office and the memory of the confidence and affection in which the late President McKinley held him, lead us to declare him great and broad and brave enough to deal with the new conditions now before the country.

We ask his leadership with full confidence in his wisdom and his patriotism, and promise him in return our highest effort and best endeavor to secure for him the commission of his party at the national convention to be assembled at Chicago next June.

United States Senator Albert J. Beveridge presided and made the principal address. He said, in part:

After we elect our President we will revise our tariff. Any man in any party who proposes a tariff revision on the eve of a national election is either too uninformed or too insincere to be trusted. Any tariff revision unsettles somewhat the intimate business of the country, but a tariff revision before a Presidential election would prolong that disturbance for ruinous months. Meanwhile a tariff commission should gather the facts and have them ready for Congress.

We must amend the railway rate law at points where it is defective. We must make modern the Sherman law which now shackles honest enterprise, because it does not fit present conditions. We must prevent overcapitalization and the swindling for which it furnishes opportunity and excuse. We must drive the Panama Canal to completion and improve the nation's waterways, that the people may have the transportation designed by nature.

And we must and will end the infamy and shame of child labor in this republic. Those who say that it is unconstitutional for the nation to stop this national evil deny the authority of the Supreme Court and the validity of a dozen similar laws already on the statute books. We Republicans regard the Constitution as Marshall regarded it—the chart of progress, not the shield of wrong.

Others present included Senator Hemenway, many of the Indiana Representatives in Congress, members of the Legislature, county and city officials and a number of candidates for places on the state ticket, with their friends. The gathering was large and enthusiastic.

ANTI-TAFT PROGRAMME.

Senator Dick Predicts Majority of Ohio Unpledged Delegates.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Akron, Ohio, Dec. 26.—Senator Charles Dick, ally of Senator Foraker in the Presidential fight, predicted an Ohio Republican convention to-day with unpledged delegates in the majority. At the same time he asserted the Republicans must name a safe candidate and write a sane platform.

"It is too early to predict a ticket," he said, "but the unpledged delegates will be in the majority and will realize the need for a safe candidate and a sane platform. If the Republican party is to hold its strength it must stand for the rights guaranteed by the Constitution. To the majority of business men and common people Republican principles have meant prosperity. When they fail to mean prosperity the party must suffer."

"LONG PAT" READS STARS.

Brooklyn's Political Astrologer Casts Horoscope for Hughes.

Senator "Bat" McCarren settled for good yesterday the efforts of those who are trying to have Governor Hughes nominated for the Presidency.

"Who is Hughes?" demanded the long one, when asked his opinion of the Hughes League of Brooklyn, now in process of formation. "Hughes is a dead accident," he continued, answering his own question. "Some time ago he was the man who conducted the insurance investigation. Everybody knows how he was nominated and how he was elected. He ought to have been defeated by 100,000. It was the dissension in the Democratic party that elected him. Democrats left the Buffalo convention dissatisfied at the action there, and any Republican candidate would have been elected after that."

"Then you don't think that Hughes will get the support of the New York delegates?"

"I know enough about politics to know that he can't get the delegates from Kings County," replied the Senator. "His turn down by the New York County Committee gave him an awful black eye. Out West they look at that as an indication that the Governor hasn't the support of his own county. He can never get over that. A Western man will be nominated, unless there's a stampede for Roosevelt. I don't know whether the Westerner will be Taft or not."

"Do you really think that Roosevelt will be the nominee after all?"

"No such luck for the Democratic party," returned the politician.

"Which party will win, anyway?"

"The Democratic."

"How is that?"

"The financial depression is going to cause that."

"Don't you think that the panic is over yet?"

"Not on your life—the worst is yet to come!"

DIAGNOSED HIS OWN CASE FATAL.

Chicago Scientist Dies from Tetanus as He Himself Predicted.

Chicago, Dec. 26.—Dr. Joseph F. Pieson, a chemical expert and department superintendent of a Chicago packing firm, died to-night from lockjaw, resulting from a fracture of the nose a week ago. Dr. Piesen fell down a stairway in the laboratory of the packing plant. The skin over the nose was broken and the wound became infested with tetanus germs.

On Christmas eve the physician was suddenly stricken. He diagnosed his own case and with the aid of a pencil and paper directed his family to send him to a hospital. He then sent for a lawyer and made his will. During his illness he constantly joined with the hospital physician in their consultations and gave it as his opinion several days ago that he could not recover. He was considered an expert in tetanus.

YANKTON LEADS FLEET.

Sails To-day for Rio—Governor of Trinidad Entertains Officers.

Port of Spain, Dec. 26.—The captains of the American battleships and their staffs were entertained at luncheon to-day by Sir Henry Moore Jackson, the Governor of Trinidad, and later were the guests of the Governor at the horse races. The weather was ideal and the race course was thronged with officers and men of the fleet, together with a holiday crowd from the city.

The American horses carried off the honors, being the winners in nearly all the races, and the visitors applauded these victories in an appropriate manner.

Owing to the fact that the ships will have finished coaling by to-morrow noon, thousands of the bluejackets will be given shore leave. Most of them undoubtedly will find their way to the race track, where the contests have been more than ordinarily exciting.

The tender Yankton, of the auxiliary division, having taken on supplies to-day, will leave here for Rio de Janeiro to-morrow in advance of the fleet. The collier Marcellus, which arrived here on December 18 from League Island Navy Yard, will start on her return trip to-morrow.

Washington, Dec. 26.—Admiral Sebree's special service squadron, made up of the armored cruisers Tennessee and Washington, have arrived at Pichilinque, off the southern coast of the peninsula of Lower California. Their next stop is expected to be at Magdalena Bay.

TORPEDO BOAT DRILL.

Mobilization of Large Fleet Planned for Newport.

Newport, R. I., Dec. 26.—The mobilization of the largest fleet of torpedo boats, torpedo boat destroyers and submarine torpedo boats in the history of the American navy will take place in Narragansett Bay in the spring and summer of 1908, according to information gained here to-day.

The fleet will be in command of Commander Charles G. Marsh, who will have under his direction about fifty torpedo boats and torpedo boat destroyers, and the first and second flotillas of submarines. The little vessels will go through an elaborate series of drills, both day and night, and it is expected that much valuable data will be obtained.

PRIEST FELLS BURGLARS.

Father Wotan, of Lawrence, Mass., Uses Crucifix.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Lawrence, Mass., Dec. 26.—A crucifix in the hands of a priest proved the undoing of two burglars early this morning. The thieves broke into the parish residence and awakened Father Wotan. He got out of bed and the first thing his hands touched was a large crucifix at the head of the bed. With that in his hands he tiptoed into the dining room, where the burglars were at work. As he entered the room one of the men drew a revolver and demanded his money. With one blow on the head with the silver crucifix Father Wotan felled the man and knocked the other down before he could get out of the room. Then he called the police.

RADIUM TO PHILIPPINES.

One-Thousandth of a Gram, for Experiments, Costs $3,000.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Dec. 26.—The bureau of insular affairs has just paid the largest price for the smallest shipment ever sent to the Philippines. It has bought for $3,000 one-thousandth of a gram of radium, which is equal to .01543 of a grain, troy weight. The purchase, which has been made in New York, is for the bureau of science of the Philippines, which purposes to use the radium in a series of experiments it is about to conduct.

The insular bureau is in something of a quandary as to how it shall ship this precious mineral speck, but it is assumed that the New York concern from which it is bought will manage to pack it in a sufficient number of wrappers to give it at least tangible bulk.

When the requisition reached the bureau the acting chief calmly called for quotations on radium by the pound or ounce, but the New York purveyors evidently feared that the price on radium in such quantities would cause mental and physical collapse in the bureau, and accordingly disregarded the specifications and quoted a price of $3,000 for the quantity above noted.

Major McIntyre, it is stated on trustworthy authority, put on his strongest spectacles and then sent for a magnifying glass merely to read the quotation, after which he sent it by wire to Manila, but with little expectation that the offer would be accepted. Greatly to his surprise, however, he received a reply a few hours later saying, in effect, that the bureau of science would like $3,000 worth, but would regard the price as too high if any extra charge was made for boxing or shipping. Accordingly the radium goes forward this week.

REVOLUTION ATTEMPTED.

Trouble in Ecuador Stopped by Arrest of Ex-Minister.

Washington, Dec. 26.—A cable message received at the State Department to-day from its representative in Quito, the Ecuadorian capital, is to the effect that an attempt at revolution there was quelled by the arrest of General Toral, formerly Ecuadorian minister to Great Britain, and twenty of his adherents, who were charged with attempting to overthrow the government.

The initial step was to be the seizure of the barracks at the capital through the conversion to the revolutionary movement of the soldiers of the garrison.

MABEL TALLIFERRO IN ACCIDENT.

Injured While in Cab Which Is Struck by Trolley Car.

Mrs. Fred Thompson, who is Mabel Talliaferro on the stage, and who lives at the Hotel Algonquin, No. 59 West 44th street, was injured in a collision last evening. A cab in which she and her husband were riding was struck by a southbound Columbus avenue car at 44th street and Broadway. She refused medical aid, the police report says. The car was No. 3,114, and John McCutcheon, of No. 831 Eighth avenue, was the motorman.

At the Liberty Theatre, where Mrs. Thompson appears in "Polly of the Circus," it was said she was badly cut in the accident.

AFTER ALL, USHER'S THE SCOTCH that made the highball famous.—Advt.

NAVAL LAW AT ISSUE.

CONGRESS TO TAKE HAND.

Controversy Between Line and Staff Officers To Be Debated.

Washington, Dec. 26.—Secretary Metcalf declined again to-day to enter into any discussion of the issues which prompted Rear Admiral Brownson's resignation as chief of the navigation bureau. He declared he knew nothing about the statement of Surgeon General Rixey that the internal administration of the bureau of medicine and surgery had been interfered with by the bureau of navigation.

There were no developments to-day in the controversy, owing to the absence from Washington of the President. Admiral Brownson relinquished his office as chief of the bureau of navigation yesterday, and the duties of that office were discharged to-day by Commander Cameron McRae Winslow, the assistant chief of the bureau. Commander Winslow was not designated or appointed chief of the bureau, but signed all of his mail as "acting" chief.

It is probable that the whole controversy will be thrashed out in Congress. This is deprecated by conservative officers in both line and staff, as likely to prove prejudicial to the navy's interest as a whole, for they believe that in order to obtain from Congress the four great battleships, the cruisers, scouts and submarines which form a part of the year's naval estimates, in addition to obtaining legislation that will better the lot of naval officers personally, the navy must present a united front, which cannot be done if just at the beginning of a session line and staff are to engage in strife.

Through the published statement of Surgeon General Rixey the merits of his side of the case have been clearly set forth. Line officers believe that in common fairness they should also have a hearing, but they are in an embarrassing position in that respect. Admiral Brownson preceded his resignation by a clear and logical presentation of the reasons why he objected to the assignment of a physician to command a naval ship, even though that vessel were exclusively devoted to hospital uses. That statement was submitted to the President, but applications at the White House for a copy are met with refusal.

ADMIRAL BROWNSON'S ATTITUDE.

It may be stated, in the absence of the text of Admiral Brownson's letter, that his objection to the execution of the President's order to place a surgeon in command of the hospital ship Relief was twofold. In the first place, like every line officer, he believed that the subordination of any line officer, no matter how low in grade, to a staff officer on shipboard was bad policy and subversive of naval discipline.

A stronger objection in his mind, though, was that the proposed action was clearly illegal, inasmuch as it is forbidden by law or naval regulation to assign a staff officer to command a ship. It is only fair to the staff side to state that this is debatable ground and that it would not be difficult to construe the naval laws and regulations in either way. So it is not to be doubted that when the subject comes before Congress for consideration the lawyers in that body will find material to support either contention.

Now that the legality of the President's proposed action in the matter of assigning Surgeon Stokes to command the Relief has been called into question, if is proper to state that the reliance of the line officers is upon a provision in Section 7 of the naval personnel act of March 3, 1899. That section, among other things, was designed to clear up doubt that existed as to the right of a staff officer to assume the title of a line officer of a corresponding grade in the matter of pay and emoluments and length of service.

Up to that date staff officers had enjoyed what was called "relative rank," with which they were not satisfied, so in Section 7 the word "relative" was struck out, so that all sections of the revised statutes which, in defining the rank of officers or places in the navy, contained the words "the relative rank of" were amended so as to read "the rank of." To this provision the following important qualification was attached:

"But officers whose rank is so defined shall not be entitled, in virtue of their rank, to command in the line or in other than staff corps."

LAW OPEN TO CONTROVERSY.

Line officers understand this to mean that no surgeon or engineer (if these shall ever be again commissioned engineers), or paymaster or constructor shall be placed in a post on board ship where he may command the movements and actions of any person not of his own staff corps.

The staff officers, for their part, hold that this act does not in any sense abridge any privilege or rank formerly enjoyed by a staff officer, and a careful perusal of the act appears to justify the statement that this provision is open to controversy and that there is reasonable ground for a difference of opinion as to the meaning of the law.

The public mind doubtless is more or less confused as to the difference between the line and the staff. In brief it may be said a line officer is one whose sole duty is to fight the ship, while the staff officer is one who either provides the means for the line officer to do so or acts under his direction in carrying out his general orders.

Thus, the engineer, when of the staff, looks closely after the machinery and starts and stops it when called upon to do so by the line officer. He has nothing to say as to where the ship shall go, or at what speed, or when it shall move. Likewise the surgeons aboard ship look after the health of the crew in time of peace and heal their wounds in time of war, but they have nothing to do with the movements of the ship to which they are attached. The same rule applies to the paymaster and to the constructor who builds the ship navigated by the line officer.

It developed to-day that a year ago, when the Relief was put into commission, the decision was reached to assign a naval surgeon to command the vessel if it were manned with a merchant crew and master, but if the ship was manned with a naval crew a naval officer of the line would be assigned to the command. A naval surgeon in command would have absolute charge, just as a physician would exercise supervision of a hospital on land, without, however, interfering with the work of navigating the vessel.

Surgeon Stokes will be assigned to the command of the Relief if the crew and master are chosen from the merchant marine, which, while not finally decided, is understood will be the case.

BROKE PLEDGE; KILLED HIMSELF.

Johnstown, Penn., Dec. 26.—Frank Amos, of Hastings, Penn., near here, made despondent because he had broken a temperance pledge, shot and killed himself on Sunday night. His wife and children, coming home from Clearfield County for the Christmas celebration, found the body late yesterday.

HAAN'S RESTAURANT, PARK ROW BLDG. Long famous for its cuisine and service. Music.—Advt.