

INTEREST TO WOMEN



LUNCHEON COUNTER FOR VACATION SCHOOL CHILDREN AT PUBLIC SCHOOL 172. Started by Woman's Health Protective Association.

SCHOOL LUNCHEONS

Health Protective Association Starts Counter for the Hungry.

She is very small, this little Italian girl, but she has two smaller children hanging to her. One is in her arms, and another clings to her skirts. She lays two pennies down before Mrs. Herbert Knowles, of the Woman's Health Protective Association, and she takes the ticket held out to her in return. It is in the basement of Public School 172, at 16th Street and Second Avenue, and the Woman's Health Protective Association is trying the plan it has wanted for so many months to try—of selling luncheons to underfed school children.

Armed with her ticket, the black-eyed mite, with her two babies, pushes through the crowd of thirty children around the improvised counter where Mrs. Margaret Dittmars is serving out milk and crackers. A penny ticket buys a big glass of rich milk. For it buys three cakes or crackers. The black-eyed mite, being quite a capitalist, gets both. But little of either does she have herself. To see that child, not over eight years old, feeding her babies the milk, turn and turn about, reserving only a few drops in the bottom of the glass for herself, and to see her giving them the milk cakes and taking the poorer herself, and then to see her taking them out of the school yard and rocking them to sleep in two baby swings like an old nurse—it is an enlightening sight.

There are plenty like her. Little fathers, too, whose heads barely top the counter, lug in babies as big as themselves and feed them milk with the utmost solicitude, if rather sloppily.

Whatever difference of opinion there may be among older citizens as to the need of feeding the underfed school children, it is clear that the children themselves are a unit in its favor. Since last Monday, when the counter was installed in Public School 172, about four hundred children have bought tickets each day. At 9 o'clock, when the vacation classes and the luncheon counter open simultaneously, they are waiting like a herd of thirty little calves. Mrs. Dittmars pours out milk with both hands, and the little kettle in which the chocolate is boiled chatters and gurgles, it is so hot-worked.

Sometimes mothers come for the milk. Among the crowd of children appears a sickly Italian woman with a sickly baby in her arms.

"You sell me penny's worth milk," she asks; and she serves her the milk gladly. "I drink a beer," she confides in the ears of that portion of the Health Protective which is on duty for the children themselves, and she asks for milk for my baby, but the hamline is weak, so I think a beer not good."

The Health Protective shakes its head, and tells her the dire things beer does to nursing mothers, and the Italian woman goes away, promising to come every day for the milk.

Small boys come with broken pitchers, asking for a penny's worth of milk to take to the mother at home. More children come for glasses of milk. They run out from the kindergarten games that are being played on the same floor and down from the vacation classes that are going on above stairs; they bring out the cherished pennies that are tied in unsuspected places in their ragged little garments, and drink the rich milk blissfully. Between 11 and 1 o'clock the demand dies down, and Mrs. Dittmars and the Health Protective send a hasty luncheon. At 1 o'clock the counter is repeated. One little boy, having caught a momentary depression and an imperfect sense of honor, and seeing a ticket

another little boy has laid down for a minute, and the ticket and gets a glass of milk, and has half of it down before the eye of the Health Protective detects him. He drops the glass and flees to the street, where stern morality ought to be satisfied, for some of the milk has gone the wrong way, and he has a terrible fit, choking.

"That is the first time," says the Health Protective, "that a child has tried to get milk dishonestly. Some of the children are tricky in other ways. Though we find it best to give the children exchange tickets to take home to their mothers, to show the mothers that they have had the milk, else the mothers might say with reason, 'How do we know that the children don't buy candy or pickles instead of milk?'"

The Woman's Health Protective Association has been investigating the problem of the underfed children for some time, and it would like to have tried the present plan before now, but there were difficulties about getting a permit from the Board of Education. At last, however, the board gave its consent. It was partly by the choice of Miss Evangelina Whitney, head of the Vacation School Department, that Public School 172 was selected for the first trial. There is plenty of poverty there, but less has been said about this section than about the lower East Side, and less has been done for it.

Two other luncheon counters will be opened immediately, one in some West Side school and one on the lower East Side. For one month just milk and crackers will be sold; later, when the cold weather comes, there will be hot soups and stews. That will involve another problem, for in the Jewish quarters, of course, all meat must be "kosher."

The Health Protective Association will carry the work on for a year, increasing its scope by degrees. At the end of the year, the Board of Education, being willing, the work will be turned over to that body. Money for the trial was furnished by a member of the association, but it is intended to make the thing self-supporting. At present the children's pennies nearly pay for the milk and crackers, but not quite, for some children don't have any pennies, and in such cases they get the tickets, and no one knows they don't pay.

"I believe," said a member of the Health Protective Association, "that a luncheon counter is needed in every school in this city. Why, even in beautiful, high school like that at West End Avenue and 83d street our investigations have discovered hungry children. Of course, they don't come from West End Avenue homes, but from the poorer homes further off."

Occasionally clothes are served out at Public School 172. The children need them. The clothes are sent by people interested in the work, and a member of the Health Protective Association who cannot stay in the city to help send, instead, money to buy shoes for the barefoot.

"I try to give the shoes out cautiously," said Mrs. Mary Trautmann, president of the Health Protective Association. "Yesterday I gave a pair to a girl who was wearing some wretched things on her feet. And the new shoes wouldn't go on because they were so dreadfully tight. I told her to take them home, and she said, 'I'll get some red wax to put in them.' I told her to wait till I get those."

"In a minute she was back with the red stockings, and they were holeless and the shoes went on nicely. I warned her that she must wear the shoes that her mother mustn't sell them—and today she has been here, hovering around me like a moth around a candle, that I might see that she was wearing those shoes."

P. S. C. ISSUES ORDER

59TH STREET TRANSFERS.

Receivers Must Show Cause Why They Should Not Be Resumed.

An order was issued yesterday by the Public Service Commission requiring the receivers of the Metropolitan Railway Company—Adrian H. Joline and Douglas Robinson—and the Central Park, North & East River Railroad Company, which operates the 59th street cross-town line and the Belt Line cars, to appear before the commission and show cause why a joint rate for the transportation of passengers over the lines of the two systems should not be established and transfers issued.

Commissioner Eustis was designated to hold a hearing on the return of the receivers on Tuesday, William R. Wilcox, chairman of the commission, introduced the resolution, and in moving its adoption said:

Since our last public meeting the line known as the Central Park, North & East River Railroad Company has undertaken to conduct its service independently owing to the fact that the lease which exists between it and the Metropolitan Street Railway has not been renewed, and as a result of the independent management the transfer arrangement existing between its present route and the north and south routes has been shut off.

For several years the Belt Line, so-called, has paid large dividends, by virtue of the rental received from the lessee and the same lessee has paid large dividends to some of the other lines that it had been operating and has been exchanging passengers with the Metropolitan Street Railway. This has been continuing for years on a one-fare basis, and the present situation, doubling and in some cases tripling the fare, has produced a great deal of trouble and discordance at some points, and it is a matter that ought to be taken up by the commission.

It is well understood that the commission will issue an order in a matter of this kind, and it is carefully going into the question of values, and some weeks ago we directed a valuation of these properties, which has been going on ever since. After consultation with you, gentlemen, we directed Mr. Arnold and his assistants to concentrate their work for the present on the line affected by this last change. I therefore had an order prepared calling on the receivers and the Belt Line to show cause why a joint rate should not be made between these two operating companies.

The text of the resolution, addressed to the receivers, follows:

Whether the said Adrian H. Joline and Douglas Robinson, as receivers aforesaid, and the said Central Park, North & East River Railroad Company should be required to establish on or before the expiration of five days after the order is issued in this proceeding, a proper connection between their respective lines of transportation, and maintain in operation for a period of not less than three months from and after said date, a through route for the transportation of passengers between the points and upon the lines specified in the attached schedules in each direction, and whether they should be required to establish and put in force a joint rate of fare for each such coupon ticket or other sufficient token delivered to such passenger, and apply said rate to the transportation of passengers over the routes and at the points therein specified in the said schedule in each direction.

A complaint has been received by the commission from Henry H. Horowitz, a report of the refusal of the conductor on a 59th street car to accept a transfer from the Madison Avenue line. Mr. Klein complains that under threat of ejection he paid a second fare.

The 59th street cross-town cars carried few passengers yesterday, but there was no disorder. As a result of the cutting off of the transfer privilege at 86th street, the 59th street and 54th street lines, whose transfers are still issued, were badly crowded during the morning and evening rush hours.

George W. Lynch, the general manager of the Belt Line road, said that he was getting all the power and equipment he needed from the receivers of the Metropolitan system. He said he expected the company to make money as an independent line, and believed there would be no further trouble as the result of the abolition of transfers.

DEATH AVENUE IN COURT.

Will Take Ten Years to Settle It, Says Mr. Sterling.

The mandamus proceedings to compel the Public Service Commission to show cause why it should not institute condemnation proceedings at once under the State law against the New York Central & Hudson River Railroad Company for the removal of the surface tracks in Eleventh Avenue came up yesterday before Justice Pound, in the Supreme Court, who promptly sent the case back to Justice Goff, who had signed the original order.

Justice Pound refused to hear the argument on ground that he had personal control of the case, and that he was not a party to the suit, and it is doubtful if any one knows just who the parties involved are, and the matter is not fully settled.

Mr. Sterling declared the case would eventually go to the Court of Appeals anyhow, and that it would take ten years to settle it.

A. S. Lyman, for the New York Central, declared that the railroad had used its leasehold for more than fifty years, and during that period it had brought corresponding changes to the country at large. He declared that no public interest would be served by quick action on the matter, and that if the property was to be condemned it should be condemned in an orderly manner.

Justice Goff refused to hear Mr. O'Neill, for the plaintiff, saying that the reasons involved in the opposing lawyers were not pertinent in his mind to justify the adjournment they asked.

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showed the cause of death was either old age or tuberculosis. "We have suffered other losses in the larger lake," said the commissioner, "and the man who has charge of protecting the swans, ducks and geese has killed many water rats recently. Whether all the losses are due to water rats I do not know, but at any rate, the birds can be better protected in the small lake."

CHAUFFEUR TAKEN FOR ASSAULT. Supposed To Be Assailant of Two Girls in Automobile Near Yonkers Recently.

The Yonkers police late last night arrested Patrick Reagan, a chauffeur for Henry W. Boettger, a silk manufacturer at No. 125 Prince Street, living at Riverdale, on a charge of assault made by Miss Mary McDonald, of No. 82 West 100th street, Manhattan. As told in The Tribune of July 31, Miss McDonald and Miss Birdie Gaines, a nurse in Roosevelt Hospital, went on an automobile ride in two Westchester County the night before with two young men whose names were unknown. When on a lonely stretch of road, near Cary station, the girls screamed and jumped out of the machine, and one of the men struck Miss McDonald a blow which shattered her eye glasses.

A citizen happened to be near by, and he rushed to the girls' assistance. He was able to get the number of the automobile, and then helped the young woman to a train at Cary station. The Yonkers police were informed, and it was found that the automobile belonged to Mr. Boettger. Last night Chief Wolff and Detective Higgins went to Riverdale with Miss McDonald. They met Reagan, and he was identified by the girl as her assailant. The other man has not been found. Reagan was held for examination on August 15.

REFUSE TO PAY RENT OR GET OUT. There was a great gathering in the 2d District Municipal Court, at No. 204 Madison street, yesterday, when a large percentage of the five hundred families served with dispossession notices by the city to vacate their tenement houses, which are in the way of the approach to the new Manhattan Bridge, appeared to defend themselves. Justice Dineen looked over the assemblage and postponed the cases until Tuesday. It is likely the hearing of the cases will occupy several days.

The tenants who have been served live for the most part in Forsyth, Bayard, Christie and Canal streets, east of the Bowery. Their contention is that, as the city obtained the property by condemnation proceedings, they should not be obliged to pay rent for the short time before the houses will be razed.

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News of the Markets

From the superabundance of fruit and vegetables in Washington Market this week one would think that Nature herself was putting in a plea for vegetarianism. The only vegetable at all scarce is spinach, at 30 cents the half peck. The hot weather does not deal kindly with it, as it becomes all shriveled up. Cantaloupes are now 15 cents each. The Montreal cantaloupes, however, being 25 apiece. Red cabbage is from 30 to 15 cents a head, while the white cabbage is 10 cents a large head, or four small ones for a quarter. Eggplants are 10 and 15 cents each. Five cents is the price of squash; the yellow variety is 15 cents. Lettuce is 10 cents a head. Artichokes are 10 and 15 cents each are not good. Mushrooms are \$1.00 a pound. Oyster plant is 15 cents a bunch. Beets are 5 cents a bunch of four; radishes, two bunches for 5 cents. Watercress is 5 cents a bunch. Yellow turnips are 20 cents a half peck; parsnips, 20 cents a peck; cucumbers, 5 cents each, or three for 10 cents. String beans sold at the rate of 30 cents a quart, lima beans at 25 cents, butter beans at 20 cents and peas at 15 cents. Tomatoes are 15 cents a pound, or basket; lima are 1 cent each; new potatoes, 10 cents a quart; new sweet potatoes, 15 cents a quart. Sweet corn sells for 25 cents a dozen ears. Okra is 15 to 25 cents a dozen; taraxagon, 20 cents a bunch; chervil, the same. Peppers are 5 cents each, or three for 10 cents, and onions 15 cents a quart. A three-stalked bunch of celery is 15 cents. Carrots are 35 cents a bunch of twelve. Cranberries are 30 cents a quart.

grapes are 25 to 30 cents a basket. California seedless grapes 75 cents a basket. Delaware grapes 40 cents a basket, and sweet out grapes also 40 cents a basket. Bartlett pears are 25 cents a basket; special quality of California Bartletts sell at 50 cents a basket. Delaware, fresh stone peaches are 75 cents a basket; the ordinary Delawares are 75 cents a large basket. Gross plums are 75 cents a basket. California plums 50 cents a small basket, and sweet white cut plums 40 cents a basket. Sweet California oranges sell eight for a quarter. Green-gages are 35 cents a basket, crab apples 25 cents a basket, red currants 40 cents a basket, and watermelons 60 cents a head.

Spring chickens are 50 cents a pound; fowls, 14 cents a pound; turkeys, 20 cents a pound; Long Island ducks (the best), 15 cents a pound; roasting chickens, 15 cents a pound; stewing chickens, 12 cents a pound, and squabs, 25 to 35 a dozen. The best turkey continues at 27 cents a pound; eggs are again a cent higher, being 27 cents a dozen. Cheese is 15 to 25 cents a pound. Prime lamb is 15 to 18 1/2 cents a pound. Backs of lamb are 25 cents a pound; chucks of lamb, 10 cents a pound; shoulders of lamb, 10 cents a pound, and legs of lamb, 10 to 12 cents a pound. Hind saddles of lamb are 18 cents a pound. Cured calves are 15 cents a pound; legs of veal, 15 cents; shoulders of veal, 12 to 15 cents, and breasts of veal, 12 cents a pound. Hind saddles of veal are 16 cents a pound. Boneless bacon sells for 15 and 18 cents a pound; smoked ham, for 15 cents a pound, and fresh ham, for 15 cents a pound, and fresh loin of pork, 15 cents a pound. Fortenhouse and sirloin steaks are 20 to 25 cents a pound; prime rib roasts, 20 cents a pound; round steak, 15 to 20 cents a pound.

The kingfish, as betta a republic, has practically disappeared; porgies, too, at 12 cents a pound, are nearly played out. Flounders are up a little, being 20 cents a pound; codfish and tommy mackerel are also 20 cents a pound. Haddock is 8 cents a pound; halibut, 12 cents a pound; sea bass, 15 cents a pound; herring, 12 cents; Kennebec salmon, 40 cents, and California salmon, 25 cents a pound. Mackerel sells for 25 cents each. Lobsters remain at 15 cents a pound, while soft shell crabs fetch 15, and hard shell crabs 35 cents a dozen. Eels are 15 and 18 cents a pound; whitefish, 20 cents; yellow pike, 15 cents; yellow perch, 15 cents, and salmon trout, 15 cents a pound. There have been no prawns in the market since last Monday.

FREDERICK H. PRINCE IMPROVING. Wrentham, Mass., Aug. 7.—Frederick H. Prince, the Boston stock broker who was injured yesterday by being thrown from a trolley-bus, was reported to-day to be improving rapidly. He showed signs of being regained from his injuries.

OIL DID NOT POISON SWANS. Henry Smith, Park Commissioner for Manhattan and Richmond, denied speculation yesterday a report that the swans, ducks and geese had been poisoned by the large lake at 72d street in Central Park to the smaller lake, just north of 58th street, because the fowl were dusted by the overflow of oil used to lay the pavement on the driveway. He said, however, that several of the swans and geese had died, but that autopsies