BAKER TO BROOKLYN

SENT BACK BY BINGHAM.

Grand Jury Criticised by Court for Attacking Commissioner.

Police Commissioner Bingham, after a conference with Mayor McClellan, yesterday announced that he would send First Deputy Commissioner Baker back to Brooklyn. Earlier in the day the Kings County Grand Jury handed up to Judge Dike a presentment attacking the Police Commissioner for removing the Brooklyn headquarters to Manhattan and declaring he had as a consequence an inefficient service in Brooklyn.

For this action the jury got itself roundly criticised by Judge Dike, who pointed out that the body had overstepped its jurisdiction.

Those who are in a position to know say the Mayor has no intention of removing Mr. Bingham. The Mayor feels that the general has made as good a commissioner as General Greene and a better one than Mr. McAdoo, and he does not know where to find a man who could fill the place as successfully.

For some time it had been known that Senator McCarren was on the warpath on account of the sending of "War Horse" Max Schmittberger over to Brooklyn as chief inspector of the borough, incidentally to keep McCarren's saloonkeeping constituents closed up on the Sabbath. Yesterday Commissioner Bingham had a long talk with Mayor McClellan in the City Hall, and after it was over he broke his rule of never speaking outside of Police Headquarters and burst forth in an interview.

"If you Brooklyn fellows would give me a show you'd see what could be done for your section," he shouted as he came out of the Mayor's office. "This continual pounding is a bit discouraging. I am arranging this so that there will be a complete, fine police service in Brooklyn, and if you don't like it get me out. Steamer rates are just as cheap to Europe now as they will be next year, and I'd just as soon go now as then."

Nobody stepped forward to bar General Bingham's way to the nearest steamboat dock, and he continued:

"Now, see here; you can't have a deputy take care of everything in Brooklyn. I can find work for Baker to do that will make him a greater help. I often need him in Manhattan, and he's got to come over sometimes to Manhattan, take off his coat and cuffs and get down to work on business we all have to pitch in on. Baker's a good man. He'll have an office in Brooklyn because there's always an office there, but he and all the other three deputies will have something to do with Brooklyn, not one of them only. That's not the way to handle Brooklyn. Pistol permits and other kinds have to come under one man's supervision, and you can't scatter jurisdiction in things like that. There's a lot of work that has to be divided up and taken up in the whole city, so things may be systematized."

"You're trying a crustification of the Police Department, then?" the Commissioner was asked.

"That's it. That's just what I'm after. No waste of men or work. Get everything properly arranged so the best service may be had. I'm doing that. Just wait awhile before you do your pounding and I'll show you what a service can be put in Brooklyn. They aren't doing the work they can do over there, but we'll get it done. Look at your traffic service at the Academy of Music for your opera. Better than it ever was. Yet I've been called a ——! ———! ——! by some people for the way I've fixed up this traffic. The way you have to get those traffic regulations carried out is to make the drivers follow the rules. If they go to the left and mix things up, yank 'em off the seats and take 'em to court. The magistrates say I'm taking trivial cases to court, and damn me for it. The devil! Don't I know they're trivial? Of course they are. But that's the way to get the rules carried out. I don't want those drivers severely punished. Let the judges give 'em a reprimand and that'll do. But you've got to yank 'em off to court to make 'em obey the rules. That's the only way I've been able to make 'em do it. Up in Harlem I did it, and what was the cry? 'Oppression!' 'Outrage!' 'Unjust!' But I got the traffic rules followed and it makes things better for every one."

While General Bingham was having the time of his life in the City Hall, the Brooklyn grand jury was on the job and doing a few things in the presentment line. Among the things that the presentment said were:

The jury finds that Police Headquarters has been stripped of its importance as the headquarters of the Police Department of Brooklyn.

The policy of retrenchment in this borough and the centralization in Manhattan is glaringly in evidence, namely, in the removal of the Boiler Inspection Bureau, the material reduction in the working force of the Bureau of Information, the absence of a deputy police commissioner, and the placing of the police force of this borough practically in charge of a borough inspector. All of which conclusively attests the statement of the deputy commissioner temporarily in charge that Brooklyn Police Headquarters were to be used as a distributing station, whatever that may mean in police rules and regulations.

In our opinion the Police Commissioner of greater New York intends to centralize police powers in Manhattan headquarters to the extent that the Borough of Brooklyn will be without an efficient police service. We seriously question the wisdom of his action along this line.

Commissioner Bingham characterized as untrue the charges of Rabbi J. L. Magnes, who declared that the Police Department was persecuting the Jews in this city, but admitted that he had asked for the resignation of Alexander Hart, private secretary for Commissioner Baker, on the grounds that the resignation of Mr. Hart would strengthen the department.

M'CARREN MAN FOR BENCH.

Charles J. Dodd Appointed to Succeed the Late Justice Dowling, of Municipal Court.

Senator McCarren won a point yesterday when Mayor McClellan appointed Charles J. Dodd to succeed the late Justice Dowling, of the Municipal Count. Mr. Dodd acted as counsel for the Kings County Democratic leader in the latter's fight against William R. McGuire, insurgent leader in the 6th Assembly District. He took an active part in the primaries and has always been a McCarren sympathizer.

An attempt will be made oust the two clerks who served in Justice Dowling's court at a salary of $3,000. McCarren has two men he would like to have appointed.

Mr. Dodd was born in Brooklyn thirty-six years ago, and has always lived in that borough. He was graduated from the New York Law School in 1897. He was elected to the Assembly in 1904 and served one term.

LIQUOR TRAFFIC INQUIRY.

Cannon's Influence Feared by Delegate to Church Council.

Philadelphia, Dec. 7.—Dr. Reed, president of Dickinson College, offered a resolution at the Federal Council of the Christ in America here to-day, providing for the appointment of a committee to investigate the liquor traffic in all its phases and make a report to Congress. In discussing the measure, which was referred to the temperance committee, Nolan Best, of Chicago, said that the time for such an investigation was opportune, but it would be more opportune when "Cannon was not Speaker."

Bishop Wilson, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, presented the report of the committee on temperance, and also a set of resolutions recommending the appointment of a committee to call upon President-elect Taft and congratulate him upon the stand he has taken with reference to intoxicating liquors and also to urge him to use his influence for the suppression of the liquor traffic. Among other things the resolution of the committee recommends that Congress be urged to so frame its interstate enactments as to avoid the nullification of temperance legislation in the several states. A resolution which had for a feature a proposition that public schools be closed one afternoon in each week, that the children might attend religious services and receive instructions in their own churches, resulted in much opposition, and a resolution was finally adopted in which it was declared that it was the duty of the Church to provide religious instruction for their children, as well as the duty of parents to see that such instruction is given in the home.

"Over the Wire," a long distance Christmas time romance by John Kendrick Bangs, in next Sunday's Tribune.

IS CANADA CORRUPT?

Study in Current Politics—Charges Against the Government.

Toronto, Dec. 2.—The asking of such a question is almost an insult to one's country; yet in this case the answer of an honest and impartial observer cannot be an absolute negative. The time has been when Canadians looked down on the politics of their United States neighbors, regarded them with a sort of superior air and described American conditions as corrupt alike in municipal affairs, in caucuses, in legislatures and in elections. That day has gone by. There was a time here when political honor was keen; when a man's promise in political circles or his pledge upon the public platform was as good as his bond. There are many men still living who remember the thrill of disgust, the feeling of fear and the sense of personal disquiet which swept over the country in 1873 when the government of Sir John Macdonald was proved to have accepted money from would-be railway contractors for a party campaign fund; and they well recollect the storm of ballots under which the greatest leader Canada had then produced went down to defeat. Such an issue to-day would change very few votes.

In Quebec there has never been a more picturesque and powerful provincial figure than Honoré Mercier. Yet in 1892 the charge of having allowed a "toll gate" between government appointments or contracts and the Liberal campaign fund evoked a great popular majority against him despite the support of Wilfrid Laurier with his growing strength as a federal politician and despite Mercier's own passionate and eloquent appeals to French nationalism, racialism and religion. In Ontario twelve years later conditions of a most deplorable nature were alleged against a provincial government which had been in power for twenty-five years. A band of ballot manipulators was shown to exist within the party organization which had absolutely no scruples in the matter of winning a constituency. From stolen ballot boxes and "switched" or destroyed ballots down to the more common purchase of individual votes nothing was too low or contemptible to do service for the party cause. Retribution came, but it took two bitter campaigns and years of strenuous struggle to arouse public opinion. In the recent federal elections of the present year almost the entire platform of the Conservative party was made up of "graft" and corruption charges against the government at Ottawa.

Canada, it must be remembered, is peculiarly open to corrupting political influences. Its constituencies are many and small in population, though large in area. Local interests are all-powerful in many parts of the country, and increasingly so as the great living party principles of the past have died out and been replaced by political organizations whose distinctive differences are merely those of the ins and outs. The candidate or member for a Canadian constituency has usually very little time or personal means to devote to his constituents, and the "nursing" which he must give them or which he thinks is necessary comes in some form or other from the public purse. When great issues no longer exist the best provider of public works, public buildings, public wharves and pap of all kinds is the best member; and the best candidate in an election is obviously the government candidate. Free trade or protection is no longer at stake in Canada; the farmer and the manufacturer unlike the lion and the lamb, can lie down together in party peace; empire questions are not yet serious issues in the political struggle; relations with the United States have settled down from the old days of bitter fighting for or against reciprocity to a condition of popular satisfaction with the existing Canadian tariff. The party or the candidate, therefore, who promises the most immediate wellbeing of a constituency stands the best chance of success.

I'll promise you sunshine, I'll promise you rain;
I'll promise you fabulous prices for grain;
I'll promise you music by day and by night;
I'll promise you beauty and sweetness and light.
Come, pledge me a vote 'ere I part from the place,
And I'll fling you a promise with prodigal grace.
You'll find I won't falter whate'er be the boon—
A rosebud in winter, a snowstorm in June;
The health of a peasant, the pomp of a king—
In short, I will promise you any old thing.

In touch with these elements of easy corruption is a popular impression, not uncommon elsewhere on the continent, that it is rather smart to do up a government; that getting a personal commission as an intermediary in government transactions is not dishonest, though a similar act in business matters might still be considered dishonorable; that public land and official purchases and public contracts make a fair field for the political worker in which to reap the fruits of party service. All over Canada this spirit is rampant. The discussion in the recent elections proved it; the preceding investigation of departments in Ottawa clearly indicated it; the debates in Parliament during the last year or two piled up the facts; the current investigations at Quebec and St. John still further illustrate the situation. Wherever a man can make one, five, ten or thirty thousand dollars on a sale of some kind to the government, or by commissions on transactions with the government, or as a go-between in matters of public patronage, he seems to think nothing of the moral side of the matter. If a portion or the whole of such moneys should go into the campaign fund of his party he rather feels that he has done a righteous thing, and the fact that they really come out of the public purse seems to disturb neither his friends nor his party colleagues nor his party press. That the opposite party offers criticism or denunciation carries no weight; it is put down as biassec and partisan opinion and, therefore, as worthless.

During the recent elections the opposition leader stated that $10,000,000 a year was lost in the federal departments through overpayment for supplies or administrative carelessness. It was admitted that a political intermediary at St. John had received a commission of $35,000 on one small contract and that this additional sum had been charged to the government. The practice is popularly regarded as a very common one. Elaborate and specific lists of local appeals to the selfish needs of constituencies indicate that in forty-eight out of eighty-six Ontario seats the people were publicly bribed with promises of what would be done for them locally if the government candidates were elected. It has been shown that in nine Ontario seats there were threats of the withholding of government works if the party candidates were not elected. The men in the last Parliament who made charges of "wine, women and graft" against certain members of the government—though not as white as snow themselves—have all been defeated.

What does this condition of affairs mean? Is Canada really corrupt? It seems to the writer that nothing of this sort is ever as bad as it looks; that the government of the country contains a good average of honest and honorable men, with a leader against whom no one dares to raise a voice in this connection; that Canadian communities as a whole are still divided into two parties whose members can neither be purchased nor persuaded into changing their views and who are influenced only by some great issue carrying conviction to the most partisan mind, such as the unrestricted reciprocity question in 1891 of the Manitoba separate school policy in 1896. It seems, however, clear that a floating population in every constituency which cares little about politics or parties and has no distinctive principles upon which to act is becoming more and more corrupt; that this element in constituencies having only a narrow majority for either party is strong enough to decide the local result; that politicians, drifting with the tide, or seeking the lines of least resistance, are corruptly catering to its needs, and that in the absence of great issues this class is increasing in numbers and influence and developing a form of localism which easily merges into collective corruption.

It would also appear that the public conscience is becoming deadened as to the real nature and danger of this particular evil; that copious drafts of party chloroform on both sides are creating indifference and disbelief instead of keen inquiry and instant suspicion. In politics as in business profit is becoming more important than honor. If this development goes on the national and imperial future of Canada—to say nothing of its continental relations—will be affected. At present, however, it is merely a growing evil, not a dominant force, and if some great issue can be injected into the body politic of the near future the situation will right itself. J. C. H.

$20,000 FOR CUTTING STATE TIMBER.

Utica, N. Y., Dec. 7.—Before Supreme Court Justice De Angelis, in Herkimer, to-day, the suits against W. E. Syphert, Albert Harris, George Vincent and James Gallagher for cutting timber on state lands was settled by the payment of $10,000 in each of the two cases. These cases have been tried once, with a disagreement. The defendants made affidavit that they had spent $58,750, but had never got the lumber off the ground. The state sued for $160,000 penalty.

CHANGE IN CANAL PLANS

Reconsideration of Sea Level Ditch Asked by H. G. Granger.

"A Sea Level Canal at Panama—A Study of Its Desirability and Feasibility," is the title of a paper to be read by Henry G. Granger, of Cartagena, Colombia, before the American Institute of Mining Engineers at New Haven. Advance reports of the address have been sent out by Mr. Granger to members of the institute. Mr. Granger in his introduction says that "nothing in this paper is to be understood as even suggesting a moment's suspension of the splendid work now going forward on the Isthmus of Panama, except so far as it is related to the proposed locks. All other work already done, and all material purchased or ordered, would be available for the plan herein proposed." He then adds:

The situation and the problem concerned may be summarized as follows: The scheme of a lock canal through the Isthmus of Panama was adopted, as is well known, on two principal grounds—namely, the greater expense of a sea level canal and the longer time required for its construction. Of these the latter is believed to have been the more influential. But further developments have diminished the weight of both, so that a reconsideration of the question is warranted. It is the purpose of this paper to advocate such a reconsideration—emphasizing the importance of certain objections to the lock canal not mentioned or not duly appreciated in the report of those members of the International Board of Consulting Engineers who favored this form. . . .

Is the Canal Zone to be forevermore free from severe earthquakes? We hope so; but some of us, much as we would like to, do not believe it. It is an axiom in hydraulic engineering that if live water starts through an earth dam, and is not instantly checked, the entire reservoir will cut its way out. I am not fully convinced that an earthquake would injure the monster dams it is proposed to raise to confine the Bohio Lake. But if the masonry of the locks should be jarred two inches out of plumb, and the pent up hundreds of millions of tons of water should rush to either ocean! Can the locks be built so as to resume their function in a couple of days, or would a mass of crumbled masonry and twisted steel result, requiring a year or two to repair?

A failure of the locks of Panama shortly after the opening of the canal would mean that years of time and vast sums of money had been wasted. But if it occurred twenty or even ten years later, when millions of people depended for their livelihood on the commerce through the canal, it would entail also world-wide loss and disaster. There might be no likelihood of an immediate Panama lock-failure, but the danger would be real and ever present. . . .

It is commonly reported that the French plans and estimates assumed the existence at a certain depth of rock sufficiently solid to bear the weight of locks and dams, and that this assumption was based upon the evidence of drill holes too few in number to warrant entire confidence in the belief thus reached. At all events, the American engineers in charge of the work have made numerous additional borings, and successive reports from them have indicated unmistakably the continuance of more or less doubt as to this important element. The latest of these reports expresses a much greater degree of certainty than had previously been justified; and engineers would generally accept it as warranting the continued prosecution of the present plan, if no other plan were available. For some risks must be taken in every such work; and all that can be expected of the most skilful and prudent engineer is that he shall reduce such risks to a minimum by every practicable means of preliminary investigation. But when the question is one of choice between two plans it is fair to point out that with regard to one of the two risks still remain from which the other is free. And in this spirit I would suggest that the ascertained and certified existence of "soft rock," capable of bearing the constructions here contemplated, does not wholly exclude the possibility of unforeseen disasters—especially such as are due to unknown subterranean water courses. . . .

It is not unreasonable, therefore, to point out that in the case of the proposed Panama locks and dams the risk of an insecure foundation cannot be completely removed, either before construction or afterward. On the present plan the excavation will be done years before the locks and dams can be completed. But for a sea-level canal, practically all excavation, this proposition has an entirely different meaning. From that standpoint the surprising improvement in excavation already achieved under American engineers, and any possible further improvement, become at once new factors, entitling the old problem to a fresh consideration. . . .

The official report in favor of a lock canal declared that it was reasonable to hope for an average excavation for the entire work of 1,250,000 cubic yards a month, which would require 15.5 years for the completion of a sea-level canal, and estimated, for safety, "not less than twenty years" as the time required for that purpose. The present monthly excavation is nearly three times the amount thus "hoped for"; and although a considerable part of it is auxiliary work, so that it cannot be claimed that the actual execution of this part of the lock-canal design is advancing at nearly three times the expected rate, I think the figures show what is already practicable in the removal of material, and may therefore be adopted as a basis for estimating the progress of a sea-level canal, for which all such excavations would be directly a part of the work itself. . . .

Since later experience has already shown that the construction of a sea-level canal would not cost so much or take so long as was estimated when that plan was rejected, anything which reasonably promises a further removal of those objections deserves a hearing now.

PANAMA BONDS SOLD.

Issue Considered a Success—Awards to Local Bankers.

Washington, Dec. 7.—Secretary Cortelyou announced to-day that the Panama Canal bonds had been sold at an average of 102.4368. The lowest bid accepted was 102.2778. There were 159 bids, amounting to $30,000,000, accepted. Six hundred and seventy-two bids, amounting to $72,808,800, were rejected. The total number of regular bids, therefore, was 831, subscribing for $102,808,800.

Mr. Cortelyou said that the issue was eminently successful from every point of view. The fact that the bonds will be widely distributed to all sections of the country is especially pleasing to the Secretary. The only bid for the whole issue of $30,000,000 or any part of it was from the National City Bank of New York, which will receive an allotment of $10,242,760. The next largest bid was from Fisk & Robinson, of New York, for $15,000,000, of which they will receive $10,000,000.

The bona fide character of the bids is shown by the fact that of the 831 received all but three were accompanied by certified checks or cash for 2 per cent of the face value of the bonds applied for. The following are the successful bidders for $1,000,000 and over, together with the price offered: Fisk & Robinson, New York City, five bids, $2,000,000 each, at prices ranging from 102.283 to 102.783; Chase National Bank, New York, three bids, $1,000,000 each, at prices ranging from 102.3005 to 102.5005; the National City Bank of New York, $10,242,760, at 102.2778. The highest bid was by J. F. Houseman, of Bradshaw, Neb., for $100 at 105.

Among other successful bidders were the following: Mackay & Co., New York, eight lots of $300,000 each, at from 102.48 to 102.76; two bids of $200,000 each, at 102.46 and 102.42, respectively, and two bids of $100,000 each, at 102.38 and 102.32, respectively; Lewisohn Brothers, New York, $200,000 at 102.551 and $200,000 at 102.397; National Park Bank, New York, three bids of $200,000 each, ranging from 102.30 to 102.40.

Local bankers said that they were not surprised at the large over-subscription of the Panama bonds, and expressed the opinion that the Government had obtained a satisfactory price for the issue. It has been known ever since the flotation was announced that national banks throughout the country would be bidders for the bonds and the success of the issue was regarded as assured.

The last preceding sale of Panama 2s was in the height of the panic, in November, 1907. Fifty million dollars was offered, but only $25,000,000 was allotted, for which the government obtained an average price of 102⅛. In July, 1906, when the first offering of Panama was made, the Treasury received an average price of 104.03 for the $30,000,000 issue.

The new Panamas were dealt in on the curb market at 103½, and on the Stock Exchange they registered an advance of from ½ to ¾ of 1 per cent over the bid prices. At the same time there was an advance of from ¼ to ½ point in the quoted price of the old 2s.

Frank A. Vanderlip, vice-president of the National City Bank, said that the $10,242,760 bonds, awarded at 102.2778, were on bids of J. P. Morgan & Co., the First National Bank and the National City Bank, and not of the latter institution only.

CITY NEWS IN BRIEF.

Solomon Stein, of No. 208 East 114th street, who was arrested on Sunday night on a charge of burglary, was held yesterday in $1,000 bail for examination in the Harlem court. The police say Stein confessed to several recent burglaries in Harlem.

Coroner's Physician Schultz decided yesterday to postpone the autopsy on the body of the man found in the hallway of No. 240 East 21st street on Sunday. Dr. Schultz is awaiting the identification of the body.

Thomas Elliott, a clerk, of No. 2774 Eighth avenue, was held yesterday in $1,000 bail for examination on a charge of assaulting Gong Sting, a Chinese laundryman, of No. 2762 Eighth avenue, on Sunday.

MAYBRICK SUIT WON

LAWYER MUST ACCOUNT.

Deeds to 2,500,000 Acres Set Aside —To Appeal Case.

Richmond, Va., Dec. 7.—The case of Mrs. Florence Maybrick and her mother, Baroness von Roque, of New York, involving title to land said to be worth about $2,500,000, was decided in their favor in the Chancery Court here to-day.

Under the decree deeds conveying 2,500,000 acres of land in Virginia, West Virginia and Kentucky to D. W. Armstrong, of New York, former counsel for Mrs. Maybrick and her mother, are set aside, and Armstrong is ordered to give an accounting of all lands and money handled by him while attorney for them. They inherited the land from the first husband of the baroness, and employed Armstrong to obtain a deed to the land shortly after the death of Mrs. Maybrick's husband, for which she served a term in British prisons, her imprisonment furnishing a famous international episode.

Mr. Armstrong, they charged, sold one tract of land to a company in Kentucky for $85,000, after which he is said to have represented that the whole property of 2,500,000 acres was worth only $10,000, and to have bought it himself at that price, after receiving $85,000 for a single tract, which was only one-thirtieth of the whole property.

The suit has been pending ten years. Samuel V. Hayden, attorney for Mrs. Maybrick and the baroness, claimed that the deed was invalid because Mrs. Maybrick was in such a frame of mind as to make her irresponsible when the deed was executed.

The case has attracted the attention of two continents, testimony having been taken in France, England, Virginia, the District of Columbia, West Virginia, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts and New York. It is expected that an appeal will be taken and that the Supreme Court of the United States will finally pass upon the title to the fortune.

New Orleans, Dec. 7.—Mrs. Florence Maybrick, who is in New Orleans, was told this afternoon of the decision of the Richmond (Va.) Chancery Court in her favor. She expressed her gratification, but said she presumed the case would be appealed, and it might be a little too early to "indulge in expressions of delight."

EKSTROMER A SUICIDE.

Swedish Vice-Consul at St. Louis Clashed with President.

St. Louis, Dec. 7.—Charles A. A. Ekstromer, Swedish Vice-Consul in St. Louis, committed suicide by drinking prussic acid at his home, No. 1244 Goodfellow avenue, to-day. Mr. Ekstromer came into public notice some time ago through a controversy with federal officials, which resulted in the revocation of his exequatur by President Roosevelt. Later he was reinstated in the good graces of the administration and resumed his official duties here.

Ekstromer was short in his accounts as manager of the St. Louis office of the West Disinfectant Company, according to a statement made to-day by Emil Taussig, president of the company.

The statement by Emil Taussig was made to a correspondent of "The St. Louis Republic," who saw him at his home in New York, regarding the suicide of the St. Louis representative of the firm.

"We are satisfied that there is a shortage," said Mr. Taussig, "but I do not care to say how large it is. Expert accountants have been going over the books in our St. Louis office."

Members of the Ekstromer family denied to-night that Mr. Ekstromer had been in any financial difficulty.

Ekstromer got into his difficulty with the State Department in Washington through championing the cause of E. G. Lewis, of the Lewis Publishing Company, of St. Louis, which had come into conflict with the Postoffice Department when George B. Cortelyou was Postmaster General. Ekstromer went to Washington to see President Roosevelt early in April, 1907, to make a personal plea to him, but was informed by the President's private secretary, Mr. Loeb, that the President would not see him on that matter, and he was advised to put in writing whatever he might desire to lay before Mr. Roosevelt.

The letter which cost him his exequatur resulted. In it Ekstromer wrote to the President that he was a Swede of noble birth and had given up his patent of nobility to come to America because he believed this to be a country of personal freedom. In Sweden, he went on to say, even a peasant might see the King. Therefore, he wrote, he considered the President's action in refusing to see him as un-American and unjust. The letter made Ekstromer diplomatically persona non grata, and the State Department revoked his exequatur.

Mr. Ekstromer again visited Washington, and after a conference with A. Ekengren, Swedish Chargé d'Affaires, wrote an apology to President Roosevelt. This was left with Acting Secretary Bacon at the State Department, together with other documents bearing on the case. Meanwhile Herman von Lagercrantz became Minister of Sweden to the United States, and he was informed that the exequatur would be reissued to Ekstromer if the Swedish government would so request. Mr. Lagercrantz transmitted the case to Stockholm, with the ultimate result that Ekstromer was restored to office.

MODERN HOUSE SOLD.

Dwelling in 53d Street, Near Fifth Avenue.

Henry D. Winans & May have sold No. 16 West 53d street, a four story high-stoop brownstone dwelling house, 272.6 feet west of Fifth avenue. It is on a lot 27.6x100.4 feet. This house has a large dining room and bedroom extension, with special light advantages to the east and south. The buyer will occupy it. Mrs. Clara M. Morse and Mrs. Sarah M. Ludlam were the sellers.

WANTS NOISE IN GARDEN STOPPED.

David B. Gilbert, one of the governors of the Manhattan Club, at 26th street and Madison avenue, telephoned to Police Headquarters yesterday afternoon, asking that Commissioner Bingham stop the tumultuous and perpetual noise in Madison Square Garden, where the six-day bicycle race is in progress.

He said it had been going on all night, and that persons at the club had been disturbed by it. Some who had tried to sleep had been unable to do so, he said, and he wanted the noise stopped, or at least the shouting and cheering. Commissioner Bingham referred the complaint to Inspector McClusky.

FATHER PARDOW ON SPIRITISM.

"I am convinced," said the Rev. William O'Brien Pardow in his lecture before the Daughters of the Faith at the Catholic Club, No. 120 Central Park South, yesterday afternoon, "that there is truth in spiritualism, or, as I prefer to call it, spiritism. Putting aside the 50 per cent of fraud, there is no doubt that there have been answers from the spirit world. The Catholic doctrine allows that."

Father Pardow read from the Bible the account of Saul's visit to the woman at Endor, "the famous Witch of Endor, whom we should call a medium now," he observed. After reading the passage which describes how Samuel appeared to Saul, he said: "There is a clear case of vision. That settles all about the possibility of the thing.

"But what is the Church's attitude toward modern spiritism? The person who consults a medium nowadays does so generally because he wants to know what is going to happen to him next week, or for amusement. But God doesn't send down companies of his angels to give people refined vaudeville. God sent Samuel to Saul to give him counsel.

"People go to mediums hoping to speak with a dead mother, wife or husband. The Church teaches, and science agrees, that there is no proof of any instance of communication with any particular person. The Church says that such communication is communication with demons. Now and then the father of lies tells the truth; if he didn't tell the truth occasionally he'd be banished from good society. It's that way with spiritism.

"Now and then spiritism may lead a person from materialism to religion, but the mistake is when people make spiritism a religion."

Father Pardow devoted a few paragraphs of his lecture to people who hold that Christmas means simply the birth of the spirit of good will in men.

"If it means anything it means the birth of the Child at Bethlehem," he said. "I feel no birth of any spirit in my breast at Christmas time. Such talk is pure rot."

OF INTEREST TO WOMEN

"ANTIS" HOLD MEETING

While Opposed to Suffrage Society Believes in Woman's Progress.

The New York State Association Opposed to Woman Suffrage held its annual meeting in its new offices in the Engineering Societies Building, No. 29 West 39th street, yesterday afternoon. The president, Mrs. Francis M. Scott, presided, and was re-elected to that office, with Mrs. Arthur M. Dodge, Mrs. Elihu Root and Mrs. Richard Watson Gilder as vice-presidents. Mrs. Francis Bangs and Mrs. George Phillips were re-elected treasurer and secretary, and Miss Alice Hill Chittenden, Mrs. John A. Church, Mrs. Barclay Hazard, Mrs. Otto Kiliani and Mrs. William Force Scott were chosen to the executive committee.

Among the events of the year as reported by the secretary, Mrs. Phillips, have been the opening of the office, the starting of the "Anti-Suffragist," a quarterly paper, by the Albany auxiliary, and the holding of special meetings in Buffalo, Albany, Brooklyn and the Colony Club. But the chief endeaver has been, and will continue to be, legislative work.

In summing up the position of the association in regard to the vote, Mrs. Phillips said:

"The seekers after the suffrage cannot separate from the right they desire to acquire the duties inseparable from it—jury duty, office holding and attendance at primaries and conventions, where policies are determined and candidates are chosen. These matters are confirmed but not arranged at the polls, and these affairs, where participated in by women, must surely be disruptive of everything pertaining to home life."

With the idea of showing that women who do not want to vote are not necessarily opposed to woman's progress, the association has prepared some biographical paragraphs about its leaders. Mrs. Scott, the president, is interested in the Bellevue Training School for Nurses. Mrs. Kiliani, a daughter of Bayard Taylor, is one of the founders of the Home for German Governesses. Mrs. Alfred Meyer, better known as Mrs. Annie Nathan Meyer, was one of the founders of Barnard College, and has been one of the trustees of the college ever since. Mrs. Charles H. Denison is an ex-president of the General Federation of Women's Clubs. Mrs. Dodge is president of the Federation of Day Nurseries. Mrs. Rossiter Johnson is a member of the People's University Extension Society, of which Dr. Johnson is president. Mrs. Cornelius R. Agnew is one of the only three women who have ever been on the Board of Education of New York City. Mrs. Francis P. Kinnicutt was the assistant of the late Colonel Waring in his street cleaning campaign, and Mrs. Schuyler Van Rensselaer was the first president of the Public Education Association.

EGG PRICES SOAR.

Sell for 46 Cents at Wholesale—Fault of Hens, Say Dealers.

Eggs are high, and going higher. Forty-six cents a dozen is the wholesale price to-day, and it may jump to more than 50 cents in a few days, as it jumped from 42 cents since last week. Retail prices depend on the neighborhood. Every grocer gets as large a profit as he can, and some districts will stand for more than others. But it may be taken for granted that "strictly fresh" eggs offered for less than 48 cents a dozen said goodby to the parent nest some time ago.

Never before were eggs so high at this time of the year, and dealers declare that it is the fault of the hen. "There's no corner in fresh eggs," said one. "You can't corner fresh eggs, for by the time you got them cornered they wouldn't be fresh. The hens aren't doing their duty, that's all."

Yet it isn't the fault of the hen really—it is the fault of the skies, which refused rain. People may not think that the lowly hen suffers from an absence of water and grass, but the fact is that a drouth causes a shortage of eggs, just as it does a shortage of milk. And at the present moment all Western hens are further discouraged by the cold wave out there.

The only way to make eggs low is to stop eating them. If the demand continues, they will surely go up.

ITS FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY.

The fortieth anniversary of the Brooklyn Woman's Club comes this year. The club was organized in 1868, by the direct efforts of Mrs. Anna C. Field. As the senior club of Brooklyn and one of the two pioneer women's clubs of the country, it has decided to commemorate the forty years of its existence by giving a reception on the afternoon of New Year's Day, in the banquet hall of the new Academy of Music of Brooklyn. Each member will be privileged to invite guests, and the club will have a large list of guests, which will include many literary and other well known people from the various boroughs.

The committee of arrangements consists of Mrs. Frederick H. Wing, chairman; Mrs. Walter Burritt Moore, Mrs. John S. McKay, Mrs. Camden C. Dike, Mrs. Franklin W. Hooper, Mrs. Charles S. Shepard, Mrs. A. Augustus Healy, Mrs. Alfred F. Wise, Mrs. I. Sherwood Coffin, Mrs. Frederic W. Hinrichs, Mrs. George A. Allin and Mrs. Charles C. Knowlton.

HANDICRAFTS SALE.

Miss Mary L. Aldrich will hold a sale of handmade laces and handwoven rugs and textiles at her apartment, No. 131 East 66th street, on Wednesday and Thursday, from 2 until 7. These articles, which include neckwear of unique design, cardcases, opera bags and baby caps in Irish crochet and filet, tea cloths, lingerie pillows, washable rugs and table covers and hangings of large weave and charming colorings, are made by the Handicraft School of Greenwich House, which was started about three years ago, through the influence of Miss Cornelia Harriman, now Mrs. Robert L. Gerry.

Miss Aldrich is the chairman of the committee of management. Some other members of the committee are Mrs. C. C. Stillman, Mrs. J. Leslie Shear, Mrs. J. H. Robinson, Miss Eva McAdoo, C. E. Pellen and J. William Fosdick.

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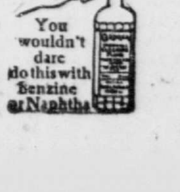

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WALL COVERINGS

Before Selecting Them Study the Rooms and Furnishings.

"It is taste, not price, that counts in selecting wall paper," said a woman who has charge of the wall paper department of one of the best known firms of interior decorators in New York. "Papers have a way of looking interesting in the well lighted store, but of going to pieces in the house. It is the house effects that count. Before selecting papers one should study the house, noting the rooms in which the sun is bright. A paper can add to or take from the cheerfulness of the whole room. It can increase or reduce its apparent size. It can exercise a wonderful influence on bric-à-brac, pictures and furniture by making them appear either appropriate or out of place.

"Stripes running up and down increase the apparent height of a room, while those running across tend to reduce the height. Striped patterns should be avoided near the staircase. Instead use all-over patterns on a small scale, and so escape awkward angles and patches. Do not hang a blue paper in a northern exposure, as it will make the room look cold. Dark papers always reduce and light papers increase the apparent size of a room. All dark reds and some dark greens, browns and purples seem to eat up the light. Yellow is absorbed, blue greatly darkened by gaslight.

"Because of their excellent qualities as backgrounds and their inherent sense of repose, one-tone patterns printed in several shades of the same color form the safest all-round papers to hang anywhere under all conditions. A green pattern printed on a white ground, with the addition of many tones of green, is about the most desirable combination for general purposes. I have furnished variations of this style, green on white, for hanging in the homes of some of our wealthiest and most particular customers. They feel that such papers are invested with the rare quality of space as well as repose. As a rule, large patterns look best on large rooms and small patterns on small rooms.

"For a large room, where the wall is cut up with architectural features in such a way as to leave little wall space anywhere, about the only thing left for the decorator is to hang a pattern paper, either lively or quiet in color and active in drawing. For such a room I usually recommend patterns with circular or curving designs. For a miscellaneous collection of furniture, pictures, photographs, drawings, souvenirs and knick-knacks the best selection is a mottled green paper. Such a paper makes the safest background in the average house.

WOVEN FABRICS POPULAR.

"Burlap canvas is a wall covering that strikes a distinctive note. The cost is 10 cents a square yard, which makes it more expensive than some good wall paper and less than many others. It is probably the best medium for the personal expression of the one who is planning the room. While it costs more to handle, the wall requiring some treatment, when well hung it will stand almost any wear and tear. I have often had it washed off with a weak solution of acid with excellent results. Its rough, open weave will take paint of any kind, opaque or transparent. It will hold any of the numerous patent fillers, so that the surface can be readily changed and adjusted to any degree of finish, rough or smooth. There is really no end to the styles of decoration it can be made to receive.

"Besides burlap there is an almost endless collection of woven fabrics, mixtures of jute, hemp, cotton and some other mixtures very valuable, in that they form a background of peculiar charm, rich and mellow. In most of these mixtures the chemical action of the dyes gives an added interest. Strands of jute will take the color just a little more readily than those of linen or cotton, and so give a curious mottled effect that is singularly pleasing and in no way set or regular. Cretonnes, dimities, tapestries and a long line of woven stuffs for walls are to be had in every imaginable shade and design. Many persons of means contend that it is more healthful and cleanly to cover all walls with these closely woven materials, hung in such a manner that they can be readily removed and cleaned. Be that as it may, for general effectiveness the wall papers of to-day are far ahead of the tapestries.

"Just at present there is great demand for wide borders, crown effects and frieze patterns. They are as a rule very costly and not easy to manage, in spite of their beauty. They seem to eat up the wall space, and frequently tend to make a room look topheavy. No room under sixteen feet high can stand both a frieze and a wainscot, yet I often have to fight to keep people from buying such papers. They claim that they are fashionable and that their furniture is just the right kind.

"The advice of salesmen is not always of value. How can it be when they have never seen the house, the furniture and the pictures to be combined with the wall covering they are called on to select? Where a person can't depend on her own taste, and wishes to get advice from the people in the stores, she should draw a rough plan of the house, the amount of sunlight in each room, the reflected light and its color. The size and shape of the rooms and the style and color of the furniture—all of these points should be taken into consideration."

The hero and heroine of "The Ring and the Man" meet at a Christmas Eve party. See the third instalment in next Sunday's Tribune.

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