NOW ONE CENT In City of New York, Jersey City and Hoboken.

New-York Tribune.

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VOL. LXIX....No. 23,089. To-day, fair and warmer. To-morrow, cloudy; variable winds. NEW-YORK, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1910.—FOURTEEN PAGES. ★★ PRICE ONE CENT In City of New York, Jersey City and Hoboken. ELSEWHERE TWO CENTS.

NEW YORK BACKS PRESIDENT TAFT

HOUSE DELEGATION GIVES PLEDGE.

Caucus Votes to Support His Legislative Plans — No Action on Rules.

Washington, Feb. 1.—The New York delegation in the House, twenty-five strong, met in Representative Sereno E. Payne's room this afternoon and unanimously pledged President Taft its earnest support in the enactment of his legislative recommendations. After a discussion lasting two hours, the following resolution was adopted:

Whereas, It is the earnest desire of the Republican delegation of the State of New York in the House of Representatives to have prompt consideration of the legislation proposed and recommended by the President and presented to the people in the platform of the Republican party, adopted at the last national convention. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That we jointly endeavor to secure a caucus of the Republican Representatives for the purpose of adopting a legislative programme for this session, based by a majority vote of such caucus, upon the Republican national platform of 1908 and the recommendations of the President. And be it further

Resolved, That we favor the consideration of such proposed legislation by Republican caucuses to be called from time to time as rapidly as such legislation can be taken up.

The resolution was drafted by Representatives Parsons, Bennet and Vreeland, after a general discussion had made clear the sentiment of the delegation.

It was the sense of the meeting that each individual member of the delegation shall begin a crusade for the calling of a caucus as soon as possible, in order that the President's entire programme may be considered by the House.

Although the meeting served to establish the fact that there are numerous differences of opinion among members of the delegation on minor matters, it demonstrated beyond question that in the main the President's programme is entirely satisfactory.

The question of enlarging the Committee on Rules was discussed at some length, and many members of the delegation were found favorable to the suggestion, but even its most earnest advocates acknowledged that such changes would be inexpedient until the legislative programme was well under way and the party had some important achievements on which to base a successful political campaign in the coming elections.

Several members protested against any action that committed the delegation on the question of the rules.

"Is there any gentleman in this room who can say that the President is wedded to the rules?" asked Representative Hamilton Fish.

There was no affirmative response, though several Cannon supporters explained that the President had not committed himself on that question. Mr. Foelker expressed himself vigorously against any attempt to bind individual members on this point. Mr. Parsons, Mr. Driscoll and others spoke in a similar vein.

The question as to how much of the President's programme should be taken up at the first caucus was earnestly discussed. Some members believed that there should be a general caucus called for the purpose of pledging support to the entire legislative programme, without specific reference to particular measures. This was finally agreed to, although it is understood that the most important caucuses will be those called later when particular measures are to be discussed. It was pointed out that a great number of Republicans are opposed to ship subsidy, and that a special caucus should be called to consider that measure.

The exact number of caucuses and the dates for them was not determined, as it is first necessary to obtain the required number of signatures to a petition. It is probable, however, that as soon as the conservation bills are introduced preparations for the first caucus will be made, as the Ohio and New York delegations alone muster almost the required strength. The Pennsylvania delegation, by informal conferences, has agreed to the plan, and there is little doubt that other delegations hold the same opinion.

SUPPORT PRESIDENT.

Insurgents Pledge Loyalty to His Programme.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Feb. 1.—If protestations of support and loyalty may be taken at their face value, the main portion of the Taft legislative programme will meet little opposition in the House. President Taft has received assurances from both regulars and insurgents that his recommendations will receive immediate consideration and that the letter of the Republican national platform will be observed. How sincere these promises are can be determined only when the roll is called for the passage of the President's measures, but in the mean time the leaders are striving to outdo one another in enthusiasm.

Representatives Hayes, of California, and Gardner, of Massachusetts, called on the President to-day as envoys from the insurgents. They were selected at a meeting to convey to Mr. Taft strong assurances of their support and to inform him that not only do they desire to vote for his programme but that they hope to supplement his efforts in bringing it speedily before the House. That President Taft was pleased with this information is apparent from the following statement which he made public after the visit:

The President this afternoon received a visit from Messrs. Gardner and Hayes, who had been appointed to call upon him as a committee at a meeting of the so-called insurgents of the House, held last night. Messrs. Gardner and Hayes said that they called on behalf of their associates to assure the President of their good will toward him and their earnest desire to aid him in the passage of the postal savings bank bill, the conservation measures, the injunction bill and the interstate commerce bill recommended by him in conformity with

Continued on fifth page.

SHERMAN AIDS SCOTT.

Takes Hand in West Virginia Senatorship Contest.

Washington, Feb. 1.—Vice-President Sherman to-day injected his influence into the Senatorship contest in West Virginia, where the re-electeion of N. B. Scott is opposed by Representative Hubbard. The proceeding is so unusual that it will probably attract considerable attention in political circles. The Vice-President issued a statement in interview form, in which he says:

"West Virginia would indeed be short-sighted if she failed to avail herself of the opportunity to retain the services of a business man who at all times has looked after the interests of the state in every way possible to advance the great development that is now taking place. Such a Senator is Mr. Scott, and in my opinion it would be a misfortune not to continue in the Senate such an earnest Republican and so influential a legislator."

The Vice-President then paid a warm tribute to Mr. Scott's legislative career, and said the report that there is a campaign in progress to prevent his return seems almost incredible to him.

Representative Hubbard was surprised to-night when he learned that the Vice-President had come out in favor of Senator Scott's re-election.

"My candidacy for the United States Senate," he said, "is submitted to the people of West Virginia, and to no one else—certainly not to any of the allies who fought Roosevelt and Taft, nor to any two of them who may remain allied in their devotion to business in the Senate or elsewhere."

WANTS PLACE BACK.

Ex-Senator Wilcox Plans to Secure His Partner's Seat.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Auburn, N. Y., Feb. 1.—Ex-Senator Benjamin M. Wilcox, who was defeated for renomination after his efforts in opposition to the racetrack anti-gambling bill, and who compromised by having his business partner, Charles G. Hewitt, nominated in his place, intends again to run for the office of Senator.

He has recently returned from Seattle, where he had charge of the New York State exhibit at the exposition, a position secured for him by the late John Raines.

Mr. Wilcox admitted that he was planning to run, but would not make a formal statement at present.

His intention to run, it was said, followed a stormy conference with Senator Hewitt, who, it is said, refused to step down and who is seeking the support of the Hughes wing of the party. The dissolution of the Hewitt-Wilcox Coal Company is confidently predicted.

FOURTEEN DROWNED.

Schooner Frances Lost Off Cape Hatteras.

Norfolk, Va., Feb. 1.—The three-masted schooner Frances, Captain Coombs, from New York to Jacksonville, Fla., was wrecked on the Hatteras coast early this morning. Her crew of fourteen are supposed to have perished in the sea that tore the stranded vessel to pieces before lifesavers could arrive. The washing ashore of the stern of the schooner bearing her name furnished the only identification of the vessel.

The lost schooner was proceeding light from New York to load lumber at Jacksonville. She was driven ashore in a northwest gale, with the wind blowing fifty-two miles an hour. The weather was thick and there was no possible means of escape for those aboard.

The Frances, which was a vessel of 643 tons net register, was owned by Edwin S. Pendleton, of New York. She was employed in the lumber carrying trade between Florida and the northern ports. She was built in Belfast, Me., in 1887, and was in command of Captain Combs.

VARDAMAN MAKES CHARGES.

Says "Trust" Representatives Are Seeking His Defeat.

Jackson, Miss., Feb. 1.—After a perfunctory session the legislative caucus, which is endeavoring to select a successor to the late Senator McLaurin, adjourned to-night with the deadlock holding as tight as ever. The standing of the several candidates remains practically unchanged.

Ex-Governor Vardaman, in a statement to-day replying to an open letter published yesterday by Mr. Percy, reiterated that railroad attorneys and representatives of the "trust" are seeking his defeat. In conclusion Mr Vardaman refers to his criticism of President Roosevelt several years ago and declares that he has "no desire to explain or apologize." His criticism, which was severe, was brought about because of the Indianola postoffice affair, the appointment of a negro postmaster and certain assertions credited to the former President.

SUCCESSOR TO DE ARMOND.

C. C. Dickinson, a Democrat, Elected in Missouri.

Butler, Mo., Feb. 1.—C. C. Dickinson, of Clinton, Democrat, defeated Philip Griffith, of Greenfield, Republican, at a special election in the 6th District to-day to select a successor to the late Representative David A. De Armond. Official returns have not been given out, but it is estimated that Dickinson's majority will be about 2,500.

Dickinson's majority exceeds that of De Armond by 1,890, the latter being re-elected in 1908 by a majority of 1,893, with four candidates in the field. De Armond's plurality over the Republican nominee was 2,169 in 1908. Only two candidates were in the field at to-day's election. The district is normally Democratic, the plurality running from 2,515 in 1902 to the 1908 figure.

To-day's election had a national significance, as the issues were drawn largely upon the tariff question. Governor Hadley and Secretary Nagel stumped the district for Griffith, while ex-Governors D. R. Francis and J. W. Folk, Senator W. J. Stone and Champ Clark were among the Democrats who took part in the campaign.

SOUTH DAKOTA STALWARTS ACT.

Huron, S. D., Feb. 1.—In the "stalwart" convention of the Republican party here this afternoon speeches were made by Representatives Martin and Burke, ex-Senator Kittredge and others, all pledging an active campaign against the insurgents. No ticket was named, but an executive committee consisting of one delegate from each county was appointed to manage the campaign prior to and following the June primaries. Resolutions were passed indorsing President Taft and his administration.

ACQUITTED OF RENO MURDER.

Reno, Nev., Feb. 1.—Mrs. Mae Talbot, a former opera singer, was acquitted to-day of the charge of murdering her husband, Albert E. Talbot. The jury was out forty-five minutes.

BIG FRAUD CHARGE

ARRESTS IN ALLEGED $400,000 SWINDLE.

Charles E. Ellis and E. R. Graves in Trouble Over Use of Mails.

Charles E. Ellis, president, and Erwin R. Graves, vice-president and treasurer, of the Kornit Manufacturing Company, which is in bankruptcy in New Jersey, and also partners in publishing concerns which print several magazines, were arrested late yesterday by Frank A. O'Brien, a postoffice inspector, on three federal indictments, charging them with using the mails to defraud investors in the stock of the Kornit corporation.

The prisoners were arraigned before United States Commissioner Shields and held in $10,000 for pleading to-day in the Criminal Branch of the United States Circuit Court.

Mrs. Ellis was fatally burned during the New Year's celebration at the Café Martin. Her dress caught fire from a cigar lighter and she died two days later. She was the owner of the Hotel Frederick, in West 56th street.

About five years ago Ellis organized the Kornit Manufacturing Company, with a capital stock of $500,000, to make imitation rubber from the hoofs and horns of cattle. He said, it is alleged, that he had a plant in operation at Belleville, a suburb of Newark, N. J. Through the medium of "The Magazine of Mysteries," "The Home Magazine" and "Metropolitan and Rural Homes" and prospectuses printed and circulated, it is alleged, by Ellis & Graves and the Ellis Publishing Company, of No. 649 West 43d street, investors in the stock of the Kornit company were easily obtained, and in that way the alleged mail swindlers are said to have obtained about $400,000.

In November, 1909, Ellis was served with a subpœna in Newark to answer a claim made in the New Jersey Court of Chancery by Nathan Bilder for $196,860. At the same time property belonging to Ellis in Manhattan was attached in connection with a suit for the same amount brought in the New York courts by Mr. Bilder, who was acting as trustee of stockholders in the Kornit Manufacturing Company.

According to the indictments, the sale of Kornit stock was promoted by means of the mails, and it is charged that Ellis & Graves falsely represented that they possessed the exclusive right to make and sell a patented substance called kornit, produced from the horns and hoofs of cattle, which they said was extremely valuable as a non-conductor, for electrical purposes.

The indictments further charge that Ellis and Graves represented that the Kornit Manufacturing Company had large orders on hand for the production and supply of the imitation rubber; that Ellis had invested thousands of dollars in the enterprise, and that all the money sent by purchasers of the stock had been invested in the business and in the erection of the factory at Belleville.

The imitation rubber failing to make its appearance, anxious investors in the Kornit stock finally started an investigation, and in the course of time a petition in involuntary bankruptcy was filed against the corporation.

The matter was then brought to the attention of the federal grand jury, and the indictments handed in yesterday accuse Ellis and Graves with having used the mails to swindle Premelia Maria Swader, of Nevo, Pike County, Ill.; W. A. Brown, of No. 888 Myrtle avenue, Brooklyn; M. E. Dorlan, of No. 2396 First avenue, New York; Thomas B. Davis, of No. 1230 Chicago avenue, Evanston, Ill.; Viola Mortimer, of No. 212 East 105th street; Orpha M. Hawkey, of Newfoundland, N. J., and thousands of other investors in Kornit stock.

After the finding of the indictments Ellis was arrested at the Hotel Frederick, and Graves was taken into custody in the printing office at No. 649 West 43d street. They furnished bail.

Postoffice Inspector O'Brien says that before reaping a fortune through the Kornit scheme Ellis and Graves were identified with the Hopkins Publishing Company and the Robinson Publishing Company, both of which concerns were put out of business through the issuance of fraud orders against them by the Postoffice Department.

HALF MILLION TO THE POOR.

Wealthy Mexican's Gift to Sufferers from Flood.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Hermosillo, Mexico, Feb. 1.—Pedro Catarenas, who is said to be the wealthiest man in Mexico, has just distributed more than $500,000 to the poor, most of it to the flood sufferers. Catarenas fell heir to great mining interests on the death of his father. It is said he gives away in charity annually more than $1,000,000, and all of this is distributed in individual donations after an investigation of every case by confidential agents in his service.

A REMARKABLE SNOWSTORM.

Drops Like a Blanket in Mid Channel, Though Coasts Are Clear.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Baltimore, Feb. 1.—All Baltimore bound vessels were from six to eight hours late in arriving to-day because of a remarkable snow storm that centered over the Chesapeake Bay at the mouth of the Patuxent River. The weather was clear on both the eastern and western shores of the bay.

The captains of vessels report that the snow was the heaviest they have ever seen, and that the storm came as suddenly as a summer thunder shower. So thick were the flakes that they formed white curtains about the ships and made navigation worse than in the densest fog. Pilots and lookout men could not see beyond the bow of their vessels.

BJORNSON GROWS WEAKER.

Paris, Feb. 1.—Björnstjerne Björnson, the Norwegian poet and novelist, who came here several months ago for special medical treatment, is again in a critical condition. His vitality has been remarkable, and there is hope that he may survive the present bad turn.

Genuine pebble eyeglasses, the cool kind that never mist. Spencer's, 31 Maiden lane. —Advt.

MORGAN REFUSES.

London Pastor Declines Call to New York Church.

London, Feb. 1.—The Rev. G. Campbell Morgan, pastor of the Westminster Congregational Chapel, Buckingham Gate, London, has declined to accept a call to the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, New York. He considers the work at Westminster too important for him to withdraw from it.

The Rev. John Henry Jowett, pastor of Carr's Lane Congregational Church, of Birmingham recently declined a call to the pastorate of the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, New York. This action on the part of the Rev. Mr. Jowett was expected, and a committee of three, all of whom were in London at the time, was named to extend the call to the Rev. Mr. Morgan. Mr. Morgan in 1908 delivered a series of lectures in New York under the auspices of the New York Bible Teachers' Training School.

Since the Rev. G. Campbell Morgan has declined the call to the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, there are rumors that the committee will choose either the Rev. John A. Hutton, Congregationalist, of London, or the Rev. J. Stuart Holden, also of London, and in case both of them refuse the call will be given to a minister near this city.

The Rev. John A Hutton was at Northfield, Mass, last summer, and made a strong impression. The Rev. J. Stuart Holden has been attending the Northfield Conference for several summers.

BURIED GOLD FOUND.

Mysterious Rifling of Brick Cache in Jersey Hillside.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Atlantic City, Feb. 1.—Somers Point, about ten miles from this city, is wild with excitement to-day over the discovery of a bricked cave, supposed to have contained silver and gold plate.

The more romantic are disposed to the belief that the treasure was buried by Captain Kidd, while others think it is silver and gold plate and valuables stored by residents of Somers Point in Revolutionary days.

The cave was discovered open this morning near the home of County Judge E. A. Higbee, and there were fresh wagon tracks and the imprint of a long box or chest in the soft sands. The wagon tracks were followed to the main road that leads to Pleasantville, where they were lost.

Mayor John M. Campbell started an investigation to-day, and believes that he will be able to learn the identity of the persons who are believed to have carted away the treasure trove.

Somers Point was a big seaport in the days of the Revolution, and at times British ships sailed in there. It is known that many of the colonists living there buried their valuable plate.

CAR FLOOR OPERATING TABLE.

Ambulance Surgeon Amputates Leg on Brooklyn Bridge.

Patrick McGraney, a lineman employed by the Brooklyn Rapid Transit Company, died yesterday at St. Gregory's Hospital from injuries he received on the Brooklyn Bridge, following a collision between a car and a repair wagon owned by the company.

Dr. Weinberg, an ambulance surgeon who responded to a call, found heroic measures necessary. He used the floor of the car which caused McGraney's injuries as an operating table at the scene of the accident, and amputated the right leg of the patient. McGraney was unconscious when the operation was started. He revived before it was completed, and, looking at the surgeon, said:

"Go ahead, doctor. Do the best you can."

B. R. T. AGITATORS KEEP AWAY.

Leaders Threatening General Strike Fail to Attend Scheduled Meeting.

Brooklyn Rapid Transit Company officials believe that Louis Lucano, president of the new local Brotherhood of Railway Engineers, and Robert Raschdorf, its secretary, bit off more than they could chew when they threatened the company with a general strike unless the thirty-five guards of the West End line, discharged on Monday, were not at once reinstated.

The new organization has only seventy-eight members, including the discharged men, and the Brooklyn Rapid Transit Company has thirteen thousand employes, and those not in the new organization are asking by what authority Lucano and Raschdorf talked so easily of a general strike.

The Brotherhood was to have held a meeting yesterday afternoon at No. 807 Gates avenue, but the officers failed to appear, nor did they, as they had promised, meet representatives of the discharged men who called at the Vesta avenue station to get the pay of the former.

CARNEGIE'S LATEST GIFT.

Presents $50,000 to Cornell for Chemical Research.

Ithaca, N. Y., Feb. 1.—A gift of $50,000 to Cornell University from Andrew Carnegie was reported at the president's office to-day. The announcement came to former President Andrew D. White. The donation is to be used for the enlargement of the laboratory for chemical research if one hundred additional students can be enrolled.

Mr. Carnegie gave to Cornell during a typhoid fever epidemic in 1903 $140,000 for a filtration plant and the relief of students.

SPORTING INSTINCT RESPONDED.

Squire Awoke to Gaze Into Glittering Eyes of Rug Muff.

Richmond, Va., Feb. 1.—J. A. Spears, a fox-hunting squire of Southern Virginia, startled passengers on a train coming into Richmond to-day by emitting a wild halloo as he awoke from a nap.

Friends ran to the man, who had leaped to his feet and was staring like a sleepwalker at a handsome gray rug muff carried by a young woman passenger. The glittering eyes of a fox head had met his gaze as Mr. Spears awoke.

N. E. MACK HEADS MAGAZINE.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Wilmington, Del., Feb. 1.—Norman E. Mack, of Buffalo, chairman of the National Democratic Committee, is at the head of "The National Monthly Company," which was chartered at Dover to-day with a capital of $550,000. The purpose is to publish a new monthly magazine. The names of the other incorporators were not given out.

Dewey's Unfermented Grape Juice. The finest we have pressed in years. H. T. Dewey & Sons Co., 138 Fulton st., N. Y. —Advt.

NEW AUDIT BUREAU

TO PAY CITY BILLS MORE QUICKLY.

Controller Makes Drastic Changes as Result of Tribune's Exposures.

Controller Prendergast yesterday made a sweeping reorganization of his office for the purpose of securing better control of the receipts and expenditures of the city. He has created a new Bureau of Audit, under H. M. Wolfe, with two deputy auditors, one for receipts and the other for disbursements. This reorganization is the first step of Mr. Prendergast in carrying out his pre-election pledges, made as a result of The Tribune's exposures of the financial mismanagement of the city. At Durland's Academy, on October 29, Mr. Prendergast said:

The New-York Tribune has shown that the cessation of a large number of contracts in the year 1907, on the plea that there were not sufficient funds to prosecute them, would not have been necessary at all had proper care been exercised in husbanding the different funds so that such funds as should have been available for permanent improvements would be on hand.

According to information which has been acquired, it has been shown that at the end of the third quarter of the year 1907 there was standing to the credit of the combined accounts from which the costs of permanent improvement works are payable, the sum of $33,319,492, but that $24,340,172 of this amount had been used to redeem old revenue bonds, furnish money that had been borrowed in previous years to pay the cost of the city government, and the remainder, $8,979,320, was on hand at the time mentioned.

It is not a difficult proposition to estimate the hardship occasioned by such a situation, not only to labor, but to those who furnish the supplies and equipment, from the stoppage of such contract work, and it seems anomalous that there should be any occasion for the great city of New York finding itself in a position where it is necessary to plead for delay or leniency in respect to fulfilling its contractual obligations.

In announcing his changes Controller Prendergast said he had found the department operating under a system of so-called bureaus and divisions widely different from what he conceived to be the intent of those who planned the work of the department. Authority, he found, had come into the hands of persons of whom the charter took no cognizance whatever. He has taken steps to do away with the multiplicity of bureaus and centre responsibility.

"SYSTEM," SAYS CONTROLLER.

In speaking of the length of time it has taken to pay bills, which has been from sixty days upward, the Controller practically charged that a system had operated under an unwritten agreement whereby the city's credit had been weakened and certain persons in the department had been able to do political and business favors by looking after the expedition of claims of the favored ones. He expects to cut down the time for passing claims and paying bills to a total of ten days—five in the department in which the bills are received and five in the Department of Finance. Regarding this system he said:

Many devices have been most effectively used to destroy the city's trading credit and force its business into the hands of political contractors and intermediaries. Chief of these is the withholding of payments. A person who has been able to effect the right personal relations has been paid promptly. Others are required to wait months, even years, for their pay. To the end that no one may be held responsible for this result an elaborate system has grown up which requires each of the two hundred thousand claims passed each year to be separately and specially treated.

No one in the service knows or is expected to know the exact status or location of a claim, except one who takes a special interest in it. Thus, every clerk, every inspector, every bookkeeper, examiner and auditor may become a special agent of the claimant, and the work of the department is constantly interrupted by swarms of claimants on personally conducted tours, tracing their claims.

It is to correct these and similar practices and to give to each person dealing with the city equal and fair treatment that I have undertaken to reorganize the department and change its methods. What I expect to accomplish is to reduce the average time in the Department of Finance to about five days, and in doing this to have every claim take its turn—that is, every claim should come within the average, except those concerning which there is some doubt as to their validity. Such bills will immediately be brought to the consideration of the Controller or to some one designated who may be held officially responsible for action and for the protection of the interests of the city as well as the rights of the claimant.

Mr. Wolfe, as head of the Bureau of Audit, has been put in charge of all the bookkeeping of the department, superseding Frank W. Smith, who has been chief bookkeeper since Joseph Haag retired to become secretary of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment.

FREQUENT TRIAL BALANCES.

Mr. Smith has been made chief ledger clerk, with one assistant, and his salary reduced from $6,000 to $5,000 a year. The Controller desires to have trial balances struck at frequent intervals, and it will be the duty of Mr. Smith to get out such a balance.

Richard M. Chapman, as deputy auditor, has been placed in charge of the division of disbursements, with fifty-four assistants. Duncan McInnes, deputy auditor, is in control of the division of receipts, with twenty-one assistants.

In connection with this centralization of authority the Controller said:

When I came into the office I found a system of devolution had been installed by which the auditor of accounts had been stripped of practically all authority given him in the charter, and that the authority had been distributed among certain bureaus to which no authority was given in the charter. That system, or devolution, I do not hesitate to say, was responsible for many of the abuses in the department, and I will go even further and say that the system was permitted to continue by the persons who were responsible for bringing it about for the purpose of maintaining the abuses.

Within the division of disbursement two branches are to be maintained, one of which shall audit, revise and settle all accounts in which the city is concerned as a debtor, and an accounting branch, which shall keep an account of each

Continued on third page.

THIRTY MINERS DIE.

Sixty More May Be Buried in Kentucky Workings.

Drakesboro, Ky., Feb. 1.—Sixteen bodies have been recovered, eight of which have been identified; ten miners have been rescued alive and from twenty-five to sixty men are supposed to be still entombed in the Browder mine, near this city, as the result of an explosion of gas to-day. It is believed the dead will number thirty.

Rescuers are working desperately to save the miners who may yet be alive and to recover the bodies of those killed. Of the ten men taken out alive, five were badly injured.

There is no fire in the mine, and both the fan and airshaft remain intact.

Because of the accumulation of gases in the entry where the explosion occurred, 170 feet beneath the ground and 700 feet back from the mine shaft, it was impossible to begin active rescue work until six hours after the accident.

It is believed that the explosion was caused by a track repairer going into an abandoned room with an uncovered lamp, as the room is shattered almost to atoms and the body of the repairer is nowhere to be seen.

The Browder mine, together with three others in this region, was recently purchased by a syndicate of Tennessee and West Virginia capitalists.

SWAMPED IN MONEY.

Cleveland Treasurer Cannot Deposit It in Banks.

Cleveland, Feb. 1.—The county treasury is stuffed with greenbacks, coin and checks, even counters being occupied. County Treasurer Myers would be violating the law if he placed the cash in a bank. In the mean time the surplus on his hands as a result of the December tax collection is protected only by an old safe, ordinary oak doors and a watchman.

According to law only a portion of the money can be deposited in banks, and this quota is filled. The money cannot be deposited in a bank, as no provision is made for receiving interest on funds in excess of the amount named in the contracts with banks and no money can be deposited that does not draw interest.

NO SUGAR SENTENCE.

Illness of Oliver Spitzer Delays Arraignment.

Oliver Spitzer, former dock superintendent for the Havemeyer & Elder refinery of the American Sugar Refining Company, convicted of conspiracy to defraud the government through the underweighing of imported sugar, was not arraigned for sentence yesterday. A physician who had attended him was before Judge Martin, in the Criminal Branch of the United States Circuit Court, and as he said that the convicted man was not well enough after the operation performed several weeks ago to appear, sentence was postponed until Saturday.

Charles R. Heike, secretary of the American company, and four former employes will be in court to-day to plead. They have all through counsel filed bill claiming immunity—Heike because he testified before the grand jury that found the indictment under the Sherman act against directors of the company, and the others because they were witnesses before the federal grand jury in Brooklyn which first investigated the sugar short weighing frauds.

It was said yesterday that, although the four men would fail in their plea, as others had before them, some of the convicted men having made the same plea in vain, there was a chance that Heike would be released.

JURY WOULD NOT EAT STEAK.

Meat Boycott Delays a Murder Trial in Pittsburg.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Pittsburg, Feb. 1.—The jury having the case of John Quigley, on trial for wife murder, delayed the opening of court for a short time this morning through their loyalty to the beef boycott, which they had all signed before being drawn on the jury.

At the Duquesne Hotel this morning steak was served them for breakfast, but all refused to touch the meat. Much time was lost finding the court officer who had ordered the steak breakfast. A compromise on bacon and eggs was finally effected, and after bolting the food the jury was led to the courtroom, where the judge was waiting impatiently.

$15,000 A MINUTE FOR Y. M. C. A.

Pittsburg and Buffalo Associations in a Fund Raising Contest.

Pittsburg, Feb. 1.—Fifteen thousand dollars a minute was the record made at the start of a fund raising campaign by the Y. M. C. A. here to-night. The campaign was started at a dinner of five hundred workers who are out to raise $500,000 for four branch buildings.

On the first call for funds, subscriptions ranging from $1,000 to $25,000 were hurled at the chairman and $75,000 was raised in five minutes. The Pittsburg campaign is a race with a similar one in Buffalo.

TEMPORARY TILLMAN ACTION.

Senator Gets Children Pending Decision—May Repeal Law.

Columbia, S. C., Feb. 1.—No decision in the suit for the possession of her children brought by Mrs. B. R. Tillman, jr., has yet been rendered. The Supreme Court virtually gave to Senator and Mrs. B. R. Tillman the custory of the children to-day until the final decision of the case. Senator and Mrs. Tillman this afternoon took the two little girls, Douschka Pickens Tillman and Sarah Stark Tillman, to Trenton, S. C., with them.

A bill is now before the state Senate to repeal the law under which the children were transferred to Senator and Mrs. Tillman.

HER TWENTY-SIXTH CHILD.

Niagara Falls, N. Y., Feb. 1.—Mrs. Philip W. Webster, forty-two years old, to-day gave birth to her twenty-sixth child. She married at the age of sixteen. Five pairs of twins and one set of triplets were included in the number, but none of them lived.

C. P. TO SPEND $30,000,000.

Winnipeg, Man., Feb. 1.—It was announced here to-day by Mr. Bury, general manager of the Canadian Pacific Railway, that the company will spend $30,000,000 in Western Canada this year in extensions into new settlements, bridges, shops and double tracking the main line.

RECEIVER FOR BIG BOND FIRM

MOVE AGAINST FISK & ROBINSON.

Estimated Unsecured Liabilities a Million—Cost of Living One Cause.

An involuntary petition in bankruptcy was filed in the United States District Court late yesterday afternoon against the well known bond firm of Fisk & Robinson, with offices at Cedar and William streets, and Judge Hand appointed Bronson Winthrop receiver, under a bond of $50,000. The petition was filed by three creditors, Joseph Stanley W. Brown, the firm's manager; John H. Thompson and Henry Clark, whose claims aggregated $1,929. The act of bankruptcy alleged was the written statement of the firm acknowledging its inability to pay its debts and its willingness to be adjudged bankrupt.

Receiver Winthrop took possession of the firm's offices immediately, and appointed as his counsel Philbin, Beekman, Menken & Griscom, by whom the following statement was issued later in the evening on behalf of the receiver, in which an estimate of the liabilities is given and the alleged failure is ascribed to the firm's connection with the financing of the Buffalo & Susquehanna Railway Company, one of a number of properties with the development of which they have been prominently identified within the last few years:

It has been impossible as yet to ascertain the exact amount of secured and unsecured obligations of the firm, but it is estimated that the secured obligations will amount to about $5,000,000 and the unsecured debts to over $1,000,000.

The cause of the failure is attributed by the members of the firm to the shrinkage in market value of the 4½ per cent bonds of the Buffalo & Susquehanna Railway Company and the preferred stock of the Buffalo & Susquehanna Railroad Company, of which the firm was carrying a large amount.

CALL FOR NEW COLLATERAL.

These securities were all in loans, and as the market value diminished the lenders holding these securities as collateral have from time to time required additional collateral. There are other securities owned by the firm which have not as yet a general market, and could not be realized on in time to meet the demands for additional margin on the secured loans and the demands of unsecured creditors. It is hoped that the creditors of the firm whose claims are secured by the Buffalo & Susquehanna Railroad bonds and Buffalo & Susquehanna Railroad stock will withhold sale of the same until a plan can be devised to conserve the value of these securities. If the Buffalo & Susquehanna securities are thrown on the market both the creditors who hold them as security and the estate will be greatly damaged.

No estimate of the assets was made by the receiver, but he gave out the following statement, which he found had been taken from the books of the firm by Patterson, Teale & Dennis, the accountants, as of January 28, which shows an excess of assets over liabilities on that date:

ASSETS.

Cash	$61,915 58
Loans receivable	2,122,358 72
Securities	4,428,444 00
Accounts receivable	225,250 67
Furniture and fixtures	10,000 00
Total	$6,847,968 96

LIABILITIES.

Loans payable	$5,276,570 06
Deposits	1,212,249 12
Accounts payable	246,965 19
Balance excess of assets	112,044 59
Total	$6,847,968 96

As soon as this statement of January 28 is brought down to date, the receiver says, a detailed statement of the firm's financial condition can be made. A year ago, it is understood, the firm said that it was worth $1,250,000 over and above all liabilities.

The receivership, it is understood, will cause little loss to any New York banks, and is not believed to be likely to involve any other houses. One prominent banker ascribed it mainly to the firm's identification with "slow moving properties," and another to its being too largely interested in "properties in the construction stage." The office manager, Mr. Brown, who was one of the petitioning creditors, thought it due in part to the general depression in the bond market, and believed the high cost of living to be an important contributing cause of that depression.

BLAMES COST OF LIVING.

"People in these days," he said, "when the cost of living is so high, are not satisfied with 4½ per cent bonds, but want short-term notes, which yield a higher rate of return, although the investment must soon be renewed. Then, too, the West is flooded with irrigation bonds. Millions of dollars' worth of them are being sold, and salesmen in buggies are traversing the whole Western country placing them. These bonds are 6 per cents, as a rule, and the salesmen make a direct appeal to the farmers, urging them to invest in securities based upon something they know about. 'You know the land,' they say, 'and you know the value of irrigation to the land. If you go to your bank for money it will charge you 6 per cent, but when you buy these bonds you get 6 per cent.'"

As to the immediate cause of the receivership, Mr. Brown said: "It had been hoped that the Buffalo & Susquehanna would be sold to one of the large railroad systems, but the negotiations fell through. It would have made a splendid link for the Reading."

The firm of Fisk & Robinson, which was organized on March 23, 1899, and has branches in Boston, Worcester, Mass., and Chicago, is composed of Harvey Edward Fisk and George H. Robinson, the latter being the Stock Exchange member. Mr. Fisk is a brother of Pliny, Wilbur C. and Charles J. Fisk, of Harvey Fisk & Sons, and was a number of years ago himself a partner in that house, in which Mr. Robinson was employed. Mr. Fisk is a trustee of the North River Savings Bank.

The firm has always been very popular in the financial district, and the announcement of the petition, although not unexpected in quarters where a close

Knickerbocker Limited To Run Sundays. Now leaves Grand Central Station for Boston 1 P. M. every day in the year. N. Y., N. H. & H. R. R.—Advt.