DRIVEN FROM HOMES

JERSEY CITY HAS A $450,000 BLAZE.

Thirty Families Routed by Flames That Destroy Veneer Factory.

Jersey City's Sunday repose was rudely shattered yesterday afternoon by a spectacular fire in the yards of the New York Veneer Seating Company, at the Pacific avenue station of the Central Railroad of New Jersey, just beyond Communipaw.

The first alarm was sent in by Patrolmen Burdy and Flick, of the 4th Precinct station, and Fire Chief Conway of the Jersey City force made it a general alarm as soon as he arrived on the scene.

A general alarm in Jersey City means that every engine and truck in the city has to "roll," and even with the full force there it took from about 4 o'clock until after 6 o'clock to get the flames entirely under control.

It was hours later before the blaze burned out, and before the firemen could call it conquered the largest part of what the company officials said was $400,000 worth of veneered and finished furniture and lumber had been destroyed. In addition to that Superintendent Hanan of the Veneer Seating Company estimated that close to $50,000 worth of machinery had been damaged.

The company's yard is bounded on one side by the Newark division tracks of the Jersey Central Railroad and covers all the block from the tracks to Forest Place and from Pacific avenue to Halliday street, except for a fringe of two-family frame dwellings along the latter.

Thirty families living in these houses, which back up directly on the big lumber piles and warehouse sheds for finished goods belonging to the veneer company, were driven out of their homes within ten minutes after the discovery of the fire.

The tenants had time enough for their exit, but a strong wind blowing the fire toward the houses made their ignition sure, and Inspector Leonard, in charge of the police lines, ordered them all out.

Policemen and spectators joined in helping the luckless tenants to move their goods out into the mud of the street and from there into the houses of neighbors who were out of reach of the fire.

Three sick men, confined to their beds, were carried out and taken to the Jersey City Hospital, not that they had been injured in any way, but to save them from exposure.

Two or three lengths of rotten hose bursting in the midst of the fight helped the blaze to gain strength, though Chief Conway declared that the high wind, together with the highly inflammable material stored in the yards, was more to blame than the hose.

The first alarm was turned in when the fire had burned well into a pile near the centre of the yard, the high piles of lumber and storing sheds for finished goods around the edges having kept it from view at the start. The cause was not learned yesterday, but it was supposed that a carelessly thrown match on Saturday afternoon may have started it and that it smouldered along without any force until the stiff breeze of yesterday afternoon fanned it into strength.

Thousands of spectators lined the block around the fire, and a detachment of fifty policemen had its hands full keeping them in check beyond the fire lines.

The Newark division of the Central Railroad of New Jersey was put out of commission because of the lines of hose stretched across the tracks, and for three hours all Newark bound passengers were taken around by way of Elizabethport.

TRAMP STRIKES GOOD LUCK.

Rescues a Little Girl and Her Father Gives Him Half His Ranch.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Galveston, Feb. 27.—Frank Strome a week ago was a tramp, beating his way westward on a freight train of the Southern Pacific, with El Paso as his destination. To-day he owns a half interest in the Valvedere cattle range, said to be valued at nearly $1,000,000. It was owned entirely by Samuel W. Jennings.

A few days ago Jennings's seven-year-old daughter was crossing the railroad track with a train a few yards away, when Strome grabbed the girl and pulled her from the track. Strome left the scene, but several who witnessed the rescue reported the matter. Three days ago he was found by Jennings and taken to the ranch, and yesterday a deed was filed transferring a half interest in the property to the savior of the daughter of the ranch owner.

BOY FAR FROM HOME.

Police Seek Mother of Lad Left in Restaurant.

The police of the West 37th street station are looking for the couple which left a seven-year-old boy in a restaurant at No. 370 Tenth avenue, on Saturday night, and disappeared. The boy was taken to the station yesterday by the proprietor of the restaurant, Ernesto Corte. He told a plaintive story about being stolen from his right papa by his mother when she left home with another man, and being left in the restaurant after riding on a train and a boat several days.

Information reached the police last night from a Mrs. Knoll, who lives at No. 568 Tenth avenue, that the boy had been brought to her house about three weeks ago by a man and a woman. She said they had been visited by a woman who said her name was Mrs. Julia Wicks, and that she was a sister-in-law of the boy's mother. She started on Friday for Philadelphia. Before going she told Mrs. Knoll that her sister-in-law had a four-year-old boy in one of the city hospitals being treated for a broken arm.

Later in the day the boy at the station said that he came from Newark about three weeks ago. He said he lived in Paterson before going to Newark. He seemed to be an intelligent youngster and talked to the police in both German and English.

AGAINST CORRUPTION

Bill Would Extend Act to Primaries.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Albany, Feb. 27.—Important amendments to the corrupt practices laws will be introduced to-morrow night by Senator J. Mayhew Wainwright and Assemblyman Jesse Phillips. They will be embodied in three bills, prepared by the Association to Prevent Corrupt Practices at Elections. Senator Wainwright has handled most of the legislation on this line in other years.

The most important bill is one extending the provisions of the corrupt practices act to primaries. Under it candidates for nomination to office or candidates for party office at the primaries will have to file statements of their expenses, just as candidates for election do now. This provision was drafted because of conditions in some upstate counties, where nomination virtually means election and much money is spent to win the nomination.

This bill extends the definition of party committee to include organizations, combinations and committees that "aid or take part in the election or defeat of a candidate for nomination at a primary election or convention, including all proceedings prior to such primary election, or of a candidate for any office, whether public or not, to be voted for at a primary election, or to aid or defeat the nomination by petition of a candidate under the primary law." The bill also provides that candidates for nomination at a primary election or convention or for nomination by petition under the election law shall file statements of their expenses. The existing law is strengthened still further by requiring treasurers of political committees to file accounts of all receipts and disbursements, except that disbursements to political workers not exceeding $5 need not be specifically accounted for.

One of the other bills—an amendment to the penal law—is of great importance. It provides that the names of the election workers shall be published and that they shall wear distinctive badges. This was drawn because of the suspicion that in some counties money was being spent for the purchase of votes, although on official statements it appeared as having been paid to political workers. In other words, the association believed that there was a systematic purchase of "pole workers," whose only work was to cast their votes in accordance with the dictation of the men who hired them. The third bill extends the penalties for violation of the corrupt practices act to candidates for nomination at primary elections and conventions or by petition.

SHOT BY CHINAMAN'S WIFE.

American Woman Believed Husband's Life Was in Danger.

Mrs. Minnie Lising, the American wife of Harry P. Lising, a Chinaman, who keeps a restaurant at No. 1611 Broadway, Brooklyn, shot William S. Hatrad, of No. 54 Bushwick avenue, last night about 11 o'clock. The shooting was the result of a general fight in the restaurant, and Mrs. Lising said that she fired to prevent a crowd, of which she said Hatrad was a member, from killing her husband.

Her victim is in a serious condition in the Bushwick Hospital. He was struck by the last of seven shots fired by the woman. She is in the Ralph avenue station on a charge of felonious assault, and her husband is held as a material witness.

The disturbance occurred when a party of men finished an expensive dinner and started to leave the place without paying the check. Robert Williams, the waiter who served them, remonstrated, and when he became insistent they took the offensive. Finally Lising appeared, and they turned their attentions to him. Chasing him into the kitchen, they caught him and dragged him out. Then his wife fired three shots through the window to attract attention, and, reloading the revolver, fired four more shots.

AUTOMOBILE PARTY SAFE.

Mecca, Cal., Feb. 26.—Growing fears that the members of the Hanson transcontinental automobile party had lost their lives in a desert sandstorm were dissipated tonight, when the travellers arrived, weary, thirsty and hungry, but none the worse for their experience.

FOR DEPUTY HERE

Williams Would Abolish Corporation Tax Commissioners.

Albany, Feb. 27.—State Controller Clark Williams will recommend to the Legislature in his forthcoming annual report a rearrangement of the Controller's staff and a readjustment of their official duties. He will ask the Legislature to provide a deputy in the New York office, at a salary of $4,500 a year, and for the designation of an employe in the Controller's office to affix, under proper restrictions, official signatures.

Mr. Williams points out that in the New York office of his department "there is no authoritative executive representative of the Controller's office, and therefore a lack of organization is apparent.

"The volume of business tributary to this office," he says, "requires a complete and an efficient organization for the convenience of taxpayers and citizens generally having business with the office of the Controller.

"This organization should be under the direction of a deputy vested with proper authority to meet the requirements of these demands. If this suggestion meets with the approval of your honorable body, I recommend that the positions of corporation tax commissioner and assistant corporation tax commissioner, now attached to the New York office, carrying salaries of $3,000 and $1,500 respectively, be abolished."

Controller Williams is against the practice of removing employes when there is a change in administration and the filling of their places by appointees, "of whom many are inexperienced, and some unfit for the duties which they have been assigned to perform. The actual loss to the state by the retirement of those possessed of at least two years' experience would be difficult to estimate. Such a system, if applied in general business, would result in complete demoralization."

For the purpose of preventing such condition, Controller Williams says he is extending the principles of Civil Service to those positions in his department to which they seem properly applicable, and adds:

It is unfortunate, however, that in the development of the Civil Service system in this state no provision has as yet been made for those who have long since passed their maximum of efficiency and hold their positions because of faithful service in the past. Such a condition deters the appointive power from maintaining a maximum working capacity under appropriations for the purpose, and until proper remedy be found in a recognition by the state, by pension or otherwise, of its obligation to those who have given their lives to its service, the departments of state government will be increasingly hampered in affording effective administration.

NATIONAL SYLLABUS.

Recommended by National Pharmaceutical Committee.

Albany, Feb. 27.—The first edition of the national pharmaceutical syllabus, recommended by the national committee representing the boards and schools of pharmacy of the United States, for the first period, August 1, 1910, to July 31, 1915, has just been completed, according to an announcement made here to-day. It was adopted at the January meeting of the New York State Board, subject to amendment for the syllabus period, to be the guide of the board in testing the students from the schools of the state that matriculate in the fall of 1910 and graduate in 1912 and subsequent years. Says a statement of the board which drafted the syllabus:

The pharmaceutical syllabus is prepared to indicate the general scope and character of the instruction to be given by the teacher and the work to be done by the student. It is not designed to interfere with such flexibility in the courses of study and freedom in methods of instruction as ought to exist, but to indicate subjects of study to present outlines, experiments, definitions and topical analyses.

Its approval, while not possessing any obligatory power over any member of either body which does not approve of it, may be expected to determine for the first syllabus period the general policy of the boards in framing their examinations, and of the school in fitting their students to meet them.

Provision is made for its amendment and improvement, for the presentation of such amendments through proper channels and for the continuation of the work of the national committee.

One of the principal functions of a board of pharmacy is to determine the fitness of applicants for the responsibilities of supplying the public with drugs and medicines. The colleges were the first in the field; then the states began to decide as to the fitness of those permitted to furnish drugs and medicines. In 1899 there were laws affecting the practice of pharmacy in 47 states; in 1909, ten years later, in 52 states. In 1889 there were 18 states in which a diploma in pharmacy did not admit to practice, an examination being required in all cases; in 1909 there were 42. In 1889 the laws of 22 states required either a diploma or an examination, but in 1909 there were only seven states that permitted the alternative evidence. Where, then, shall we find the nexus to bind more closely the boards and colleges?

In the syllabus—a scheme of lessons that covers the ground which the boards believe should be included in a pharmacist's education and which the colleges can accept as the minimum preparation of their students for examination by boards.

A national syllabus has these advantages:

It gives all the boards a uniform outline of the ground to be covered by their examinations—the hardships of necessary migrations are minimized.

It gives examinees definite knowledge of the preparation expected by the boards—students may forecast accurate future requirements.

It gives the schools a minimum outline of the ground to be covered in the preparation of their students—schools may exact higher scholastic requirements and develop special fields.

It leads to such uniformity of boards' examinations that the indorsement of licenses earned on examination will become possible—the injustice to old practitioners is minimized.

CHARITIES REPORT

BOND ISSUE URGED.

State Board Would Extend and Complete Institutions.

Albany, Feb. 27.—The State Board of Charities in its forty-third annual report to the Legislature has presented many important topics for consideration. Besides the detailed statements concerning each of the state charitable institutions, attention is specially called to pressing needs. It says of the inspection of educational work in charitable institutions:

In former reports the State Board of Charities has urged the need of inquiry into the methods and results of educational work in the institutions under its supervision, which are charged with the care of more than thirty-three thousand dependent or delinquent children, many of whom are mentally below the normal and need special training to fit them for self-support. The state has assumed their guardianship and owes them a practical education.

An inspector, having, with other qualifications, experience as an educator, and whose duties shall be not only critical but constructive, is necessary to assure to these wards of the state the educational advantages to which they are entitled. For these reasons the board respectfully asks the Legislature to appropriate $2,500 to pay the salary and expenses of such an inspector.

The following appears relative to bond issues for the extension and completion of state charitable and reformatory institutions:

The public institutions are established to safeguard the commonwealth in the years to come and will house many yet unborn. A bond issue, with the provision of a sinking fund, would distribute the cost of construction so that the taxpayers could be called upon to pay in any one year, in addition to the money required for annual maintenance, only a small proportion of the total cost of construction. In this way each year could meet its own financial responsibilities better than under the present plan, and also provide more liberally for recognized needs and thus the development would be more speedy and economical. If the cost of construction were thus distributed there is no doubt the new institutions which should be established would be more likely to receive attention, and a comprehensive programme be outlined for the future development of the state charitable and correctional institutions.

As the population of the state increases more institutions will be needed, and the present is an auspicious time to inaugurate the plan of providing for the construction of all state charitable and correctional institutions by long term bond issues. This method of raising funds for public purposes falls within the limitations of Section 4 of Article VII of the state constitution.

The report has this to say on the campaign against tuberculosis:

The city of New York has made large appropriations for new buildings which are to be used for tubercular patients, and in addition has provided for the completion of the Sea View Sanatorium, on Staten Island. This institution will accommodate one thousand patients, and the estimated cost of the equipment and buildings is $3,000,000. In addition to this great new hospital, the city of New York has enlarged the Tuberculosis Infirmary of the Metropolitan Hospital, on Blackwell's Island, and has provided for other pavilions, which, when completed, will have cost $1,050,000 and have wards for approximately seven hundred patients. Add to these the number of beds now maintained by the city in other hospitals, and twenty-five hundred patients in all stages of the disease can be cared for when these buildings are opened.

The results of the general interest taken in the efforts to prevent the further extension of tuberculosis will be an immediate decrease of the death rate from this disease, by improved sanitary standards of living in the home and in the condition of the shops, with the consequent increased efficiency and longer period of wage earning ability.

This board recommends that the buildings of the state charitable and reformatory institutions used for dormitory purposes be made fireproof for the better protection of the inmates.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

The report includes the following summary of recommendations for legislation:

First—That appropriations to state institutions be subdivided in the appropriation bill, so that specific sums shall be appropriated for salaries, wages and labor, apart from the sums appropriated for food supply and clothing and other changes. This should insure for the most important needs of the inmates sufficient appropriations which will not be subject to encroachment for salary payments.

Second—That the State Custodial Asylum for Feeble-Minded Women at Newark and the Rome State Custodial Asylum at Rome be enlarged at this time so as to enable them to receive the adult idiotic and feeble minded now improperly retained in almshouses, contrary to the provisions of the Poor law and the Penal Code, or provided for in private institutions at heavy expense to the counties, cities and towns of the state. In the opinion of the board the ideal system for the classification of the feeble-minded now in three institutions at Syracuse, Newark and Rome is to care for all teachable feeble-minded girls in the Syracuse State Institution for Feeble-Minded Children; to maintain the idiotic and feeble-minded women and girls who have passed the teachable age, except such as are epileptic, in the Newark State Custodial Asylum for Feeble-Minded Women, and to provide for all the non-epileptic feeble-minded men and boys at the Rome State Custodial Asylum. Those afflicted with epilepsy should be maintained at Craig Colony. The education of feeble-minded boys, discontinued under this plan at the Syracuse State Institution for Feeble-Minded Children, should be provided for in a school department at the Rome State Custodial Asylum.

Third—That appropriations be made whereby Letchworth Village may be opened for the reception of feeble-minded patients from the First, Second and Ninth Judicial districts at an early date. This will relieve the custodial asylums at Rome and Newark of the care of additional inmates belonging to the districts named, and thus enable them to receive more patients from the western, northern and central sections than is possible at present.

Fourth—That appropriations be made for buildings and other necessary equipments for the New York State Training School for Boys, in order that the institution may be opened for the reception of inmates and the House of Refuge on Randall's Island be closed as soon as possible.

Fifth—That the provisions of Section 45 of the state charities law, which require the state charitable institutions to make monthly estimates for supplies, be amended, and the institutions be authorized to estimate for supplies for periods of three months.

Sixth—That the power of the board of managers of Craig Colony of Epileptics and of the State Custodial Asylum at Newark for the feeble-minded to make rules governing the retention and discharge of inmates be made clear and explicit, and that the state charities law be amended so as to give such boards of managers the right to restrain the inmates from absconding, and also, subject to confirmation by the nearest court of competent jurisdiction, the right to refuse requests for the discharge of inmates to the custody of relatives, friends or other persons, should such refusal be in the interest of the public or for the protection of the inmates.

Seventh—That a state labor colony be established, to which tramps and vagrants may be committed for the purpose of restraint, enforced labor and reformation.

Eighth—That a state correctional school be established in a suitable location for the reception, instruction and training of male misdemeanants over sixteen years old and under twenty-one.

Ninth—That county boards of supervisors be required to provide ample protection against the danger of fire in the almshouses under their control whenever the need of such protection is officially reported to them by this board.

Tenth—That the boards of managers of charitable and reformatory institutions under private control, but in receipt of state appropriations, be required to visit, inspect and hold their meetings at the institutions under their charge at least once each month.

Eleventh—That provision be made for the employment by this board of a competent dietitian to visit and inspect the institutions, public and private, subject to its supervision.

DINNER FOR F. HOPKINSON SMITH.

The Aldine Association, Fifth avenue and 23d street, will give a dinner in honor of F. Hopkinson Smith to-morrow night at its clubrooms. The toastmaster will be Hamilton W. Mabie. The list of speakers includes Thomas Nelson Page, John Kendrick Bangs, William M. Chase and Alfred P. Boller.

CHARLES A. PROSSER RESIGNS.

Charles A. Prosser, superintendent of the schools of the Children's Aid Society, has resigned that post in consequence of his appointment as Deputy Commissioner of Education for Massachusetts. His successor is Matthew P. Adams, for the last school year superintendent of the trade schools of the society. Mr. Adams is a Harvard man, of the class of '01.

SPEAKER'S STAND

(Continued from first page.)

whose advice he followed largely last year in his legislative policies. Some politicians are unkind enough to say that the state chairman and Mr. Barnes, the Governor's most bitter opponents, are merely using the young Speaker to fight their battles in the Legislature and that he innocently permits it.

Many persons here are wondering whether they and perhaps one or two others of the "Old Guard" are pursuing a desperate "rule-or-ruin" policy. Speaker Wadsworth inveighs against "political expediency," but Mr. Barnes, and especially Mr. Woodruff, never have been averse to using opportunities. So their scruples would not necessarily prevent them from adopting the Governor's views, and the President's, and those of numerous other influential Republicans, just because they happened to be popular. Only, those views happen to be diametrically opposed to their own long-cherished, deep-rooted notions of political conduct, and if followed out almost certainly would destroy the system under which they live and move and have their political being. In other words, Barnes and Woodruff, for varying reasons, are political reactionaries and have taken the Speaker into their camp until he is even more militant than they are.

CONNERS INSIDE TIGER.

Meantime the Democrats have patched up their differences, with Conners inside the Tiger, and the Democratic League beguiled by the smile of that wily old cat. The threatened disclosures of Democratic dirt have been averted. They will use every effort to capture the state this autumn, and are in better condition to do it than they have been in many a year, aside from Republican troubles. Opposition to Governor Hughes on the part of machine Republicans has offended many members of that party. Disclosures of the Allds case have angered the entire state, and unless adequate reparation is made, in the judgment of many keen politicians, the voters will strike back at the party under which such things occurred, without considering that a vote against Republicans must be a vote for Democrats and the bosses behind them. Votes for Democrats next year will in a very material sense be votes against President Taft. Opposition, therefore, to the Governor's legislative programme, and even more opposition to the proposed general legislative investigation, in view of the President's opinions on that subject, becomes virtually opposition to his political interests at a critical time. And everybody here is asking whether Messrs. Barnes and Woodruff, using the Speaker to head their fight, have determined to fight the President as well as the Governor on the course to which both those eminent Republicans agreed as best for the party and this state.

MR. CONGER PLEASED.

Says Allds Witnesses Are Corroborating His Story.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Auburn, N. Y., Feb. 27.—"What do you think of the first week of the Allds defence?" Senator Benn Conger was asked to-day.

"I am highly pleased, because they are corroborating all the evidence my side produced," he replied with a laugh. He continued:

"Every witness they brought up corroborated my story. Take, for example, the testimony of Daniel F. Lane, of the Lane Bridge Company, at Painted Post. In 1903 I wrote to him and said in substance that the gang at Albany had to have $6,000 paid, and that, while it was a case of hold-up and blackmail, we had better pay up than have our business ruined. Well, Lane ran a small concern, and I told him his share would be only $300. I did not tell him whom to send it to, but that he could contribute if he wanted to. I have copies of the letters. He was such a good witness for our side that Mr. Osborne did not even cross-examine him, 'but said 'thank you' instead. He and other witnesses simply corroborated evidence that I had given the day before."

"Has Senator Allds subpœnaed many of your friends at Groton?"

"Only a few, such as Walter Gate, cashier of the First National Bank, and Eugene A. Landon, who was manager of the bridge company three years ago, but Allds has notified them not to come unless they are sent for. He had men here searching high and low, but he could find nothing to impeach my case, so they have given it up."

TO FIGHT DISEASES.

Porter Organizes Force of Medical Experts.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Albany, Feb. 27.—Announcement was made to-day by the State Health Department that Commissioner Porter had organized throughout the state a force of medical experts to carry on active warfare against contagious and infectious diseases. These physicians will hold a conference with Health Department officials here on March 8 and 9.

It is the purpose of this movement to aid the local health authorities in checking the spread of epidemics of contagious diseases. The men chosen by Dr. Porter are mostly well known physicians, who are taking up this work largely from a sense of duty. The state will be divided into districts, over which these experts will have jurisdiction. As an organized force in co-operation with the State Health Department they will work with the local authorities in time of need. But their chief work will be preventive and educational. At the conference ways and means will be discussed to carry out in the best fashion this general programme. These experts are expected particularly to look after the enforcement of the public health laws in connection with their educational campaign and to make prompt diagnosis of suspicious diseases and in that way make certain quick and effective action in checking epidemics.

A bulletin issued by the Health Department declares that last year more than 60 per cent of the deaths were caused by preventable diseases. Typhoid fever killed 1,309, the direct result of impure water supplies. Scarlet fever caused 1,204 deaths. On the other hand, diphtheria, formerly regarded as almost incurable, caused only 2,306 deaths, where before 1898 it killed 5,500 annually. The difference is due to the modern antitoxin treatment. Measles, once thought almost negligible, killed 1,270 people last year, and the Health Department thinks it a very serious disease—one to the dangers of which the people need their attention called.

In explaining the purpose of this new campaign against disease the Health Department says:

"A case of smallpox arouses the public at once, while measles and scarlet fever are considered as necessary evils; yet smallpox caused only four deaths in 1909 in the whole state, while the other two sacrificed 2,473 lives."

STATE BAR STRICT

VIEW OF EXAMINERS.

More than Half the Applicants Failed Last Month.

With the publication of results of the last state bar examinations, held January 25, in which 52 per cent of the applicants were rejected for failure to attain a percentage of 66 correct answers to questions, the Board of State Bar Examiners voiced the opinion that the law colleges, while getting good results in teaching substantive law, are not giving their students thorough training in the rules and methods of pleading, practice and trial evidence.

Frank Sullivan Smith, the New York City member of the board, explained yesterday that the growing percentage of failures was due to a large extent to poor preparation in pleading, practice and trial evidence, and that a large majority of applicants had no difficulty with the examiners' questions on substantive law.

In the examination of which the results have just been made public there were 351 applicants in greater New York who took the examination at Grand Central Palace, and on the same day forty-six applicants were examined in Rochester and thirteen in Albany.

Each of these prospective lawyers had to answer fifty questions, twelve of which were based on rules of pleading, practice and trial evidence and thirty-eight on substantive law.

REQUIREMENTS JACKED UP.

As recently revised by the Court of Appeals, the present requirements have been raised to a higher standard than ever before in New York State, so that before gaining admission to an examination the applicant must present to the examining board evidence of "sixty Regents' counts," which, broadly speaking, is equivalent to a high school graduation certificate. Those successful in passing the examination on their legal knowledge must then submit to an examination by the committee on character appointed by the Appellate Division in each department of the state.

It is understood that hereafter the Appellate Division in this department will require each applicant to give affirmative proof to the committee on character of good moral character and general fitness, and, further, it will require that each applicant must be personally known to at least one of the members of the committee.

The examinations are held quarterly, the next date for local law students falling on April 19. Approximately 1,200 students, men and women, are examined each year in greater New York. In the examination in January, 1909, 32 per cent were rejected, in April 32 per cent, in June 34 per cent, in October 76 per cent and in January, 1910, 52 per cent.

October's high percentage of failures, Mr. Smith explained yesterday, was generally repeated year by year, and is due, the examiners believe, to the fact that the law student graduating in June is engaged in other business or goes on a vacation from then until near the time of the October examination, when he proceeds to "cram," or do in a few days the work of a more or less considerable period in a law college.

At the other seasons of the year, on the other hand, the applicants as a rule are studying the subject steadily up to the day of examination. An applicant who passes on substantive law but fails on the pleading, practice and trial evidence group of questions is given a "pass card" on substantive law and at the next examination has only to pass on the other group of questions to be admitted.

Five and six time failures, the examiners say, are common, and a majority of the applicants do not pass and gain admission to the bar on their first trial.

One man has taken the examination of the state board twenty-two times, and is still trying. Forty-five of the applicants who took the last examination in January had failed at ten previous examinations.

In the last set of questions there was one asking the student to state his remedy for a minority stock holder of a corporation from which the majority stock holder had wrongfully abstracted $100,000.

"I would move for the appointment of a guardian," was the answer on a score of papers, whose writers took the word "minority" as meaning a stockholder who had not attained his majority.

In this state there is no oral examination, and this has been productive of some trouble in the courts, which will be done away with by the recent revision of the requirements by the Court of Appeals.

Occasionally in the past applicants of foreign birth and education who have gained a painstaking knowledge of English as it is written have been unable to cope with the peculiarities of pronunciation, and their efforts along that line have embarrassed judges and convulsed courtrooms; but the recent revision of requirements orders applicants of foreign birth or education to pass an examination in two years' English before they shall be allowed to take the legal examination of the state board.

TROUBLES OF THE SELF-TAUGHT.

Well meaning and industrious young men with leanings toward the legal profession sometimes appear before the board without having attended a single session of a law school of any kind, and without having any knowledge whatever of the requirements. One such, at the examination a few weeks ago, rose in disgust after a brief perusal of the question paper, and, making his way to the examiner presiding, protested that the questions had no bearing on the statutes of the state.

"Ask me about the statutes," he demanded, and inquiry developed the fact that he had laboriously pored over the laws of the State of New York in public libraries without even a passing glance at the constitution or anything else.

"One of these days, young man," he was told, "the Legislature will get together and repeal all you know."

Another young man, whose family name has been prominent at Princeton University for generations, both in the roll of high scholarship and in the athletic calendar of the New Jersey institution, failed miserably at the examination last October, but passed the first examination this year with a percentage among the highest five.

The three examiners for the state are William P. Goodell, of Syracuse; ex-Judge Franklin M. Daneher, of Albany, and Frank Sullivan Smith, of New York City. They prepare all the questions and read all the papers personally and deputize none of the work of the board. Each examiner reads close to ten thousand answers at each quarterly examination, and if an applicant's paper is rejected by one examiner it must be reread by another before the rejection is made final.

HOTEL MAN'S ODD DEATH.

Former Proprietor of the Duquesne, in Pittsburg, Expires in Hospital.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Pittsburg, Feb. 27.—John W. Schlosser, formerly proprietor of the Hotel Duquesne, the Hotel Schlosser, etc., and one of the best known hotel men in the country fifteen years ago, is dead here, aged sixty-five years.

There is some mystery surrounding his death, and, although his relatives and friends deny all stories of poisoning, the authorities of West Penn Hospital, to which Schlosser was taken yesterday a few hours before his death, have removed the stomach for examination.

Mr. Schlosser made the Hotel Duquesne famous all over the country. He was the close friend of United States Senator Quay, who always stopped in his hotel, and tips from Quay made Schlosser a millionaire on several occasions, but he lost his money quickly and died as poor as when he began life as a waiter.

ROUSE DOMINICANS

Continued from first page.

local Dominican junta object to the charge of $63,000 by Velasquez for his services here in connection with the conversion of the Dominican debt. They say that he was not entitled to such compensation, because he was already under salary when he came here on that mission, and also received his expenses.

VELASQUEZ DEFIANT.

Velasquez, moreover, paid $250,000 for professional assistance in connection with the conversion of the debt. The Dominican Senate demanded an accounting from Velasquez, but he refused to give it.

It is said also of Velasquez that he usurped the functions of the Minister of Public Works. Juan Bautista Alfonseca, now consul general of Santo Domingo in this city, formerly occupied the Public Works portfolio, but resigned because of Velasquez's interference, and it is said that the two men almost engaged in a duel.

It is charged that under the direction of Velasquez the government has abandoned public works on which about $300,000 had been spent, and that more than $90,000 has been paid out in the construction of a three-mile railroad which is still unfinished.

There are from six hundred to a thousand political prisoners in the country, it is said.

While the conservative elements are opposed to a resort to arms, it is not unlikely that if Caceres refuses to remove Velasquez, as has been demanded, and grant other demands the various elements opposed to his government will unite and take up arms. There is no lack of money to undertake such a movement, and it is said that no intervention would be expected from the United States.

General Velasquez has not evinced openly any desire to be at the head of the Dominican government again, but it is said for him that he would accept the Presidency if it should become necessary. It is more likely, however, if there should be trouble, that the supporters of former Presidents Woz y Gil and Jiménez would unite in their support of Dr. Henriquez, who, although in accord with General Vasquez in the present movement, is not a member of his party.

FOR DEATH PENALTY.

Rhode Island Clergymen Favor Hanging Bill.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Providence, Feb. 27.—When the act re-establishing hanging in this state as the penalty for murder comes up for a public hearing on Thursday, before the House Judiciary Committee, it will be supported by several of the prominent clergymen of this state.

Because of three atrocious murders within the last few months, public sentiment in favor of again making murderers in this state pay the penalty with their lives has reached such a pitch that it is believed the capital punishment measure will be passed.

WOULD ABOLISH TAX.

Strong Opposition to Levies on Personal Property.

Real estate owners in the city of New York are almost unanimously in favor of the abolition of the personal property tax, although such action on the part of the state would mean higher tax rates on real estate, according to the statistics gathered by the New York Tax Reform Association. Ten days ago the association sent out six thousand letters to representative citizens and taxpayers to ascertain the general sentiment on the question of the personal property tax.

The recipients of the letters were asked to state the amount of their real estate tax in 1909 in the city of New York and in the state outside the city; their personal property tax; whether they were assessed in this city or elsewhere; whether they favored the abolition of the present personal property tax, and whether they favored the entire exemption of personal property from taxation. Replies to these questions have been received from 215 persons, who stated the amount of taxes they paid, which represents real estate valuations of more than $24,000,000. The opinion expressed was overwhelmingly in favor of abolishing the existing system of personal property taxes.

DRANK UP BANK ROLL.

Truckman's $180 Kept the Whole Waterfront in Liquor.

Frank Sarlo, eighteen years old, who drives a truck for Morris Weill, No. 5 Wooster street, went around to his employer's house, No. 1 Van Nest Place, about a week ago to get a package containing $180 in cash and $67 in checks. On the way back Sarlo lost the money, so he said. While the detectives were working on the case the checks were mailed back to Weill. Detective John Giba picked up some information on the waterfront about the cash, and last night arrested Harry Brooks, who is a painter when he has a job.

"Yes, I found the roll," said Brooks. "It's a story of rolls and rolls, for I had just come out of a bar. I was down and out, and I asked the barkeep to give me something to eat. I was sticking my teeth into a roll he gave me, when I saw the yellowbacks, and I flung away the roll. I am sorry I did it now. I believe it gave me bad luck."

Brooks said he had banked the money with a barkeeper, and when he wanted to treat the waterfront all he had to say was, "Just charge it to my account." "Oh, what a glorious bat we had!" he concluded, with a reminiscent gleam in his eye. Held on a charge of grand larceny, he gave his address as No. 512 Hudson street.

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