# New-York Tribune.

VOL. LXX....No. 23,250. To-day, showers and thunderstorms. To-morrow, fair; west winds. NEW-YORK, WEDNESDAY, JULY 13, 1910.—FOURTEEN PAGES. ★★★ PRICE ONE CENT In City of New York, Jersey City and Hoboken. ELSEWHERE TWO CENTS.


## GOVERNOR HUGHES AT SAGAMORE HILL

### Motors Out for Long Expected Political Conference with Ex-President.

### WOODRUFF NEXT A GUEST

**Congressman Fowler, of New Jersey, and Jacob A. Riis Also To Be at Oyster Bay To-day.**

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Oyster Bay, Long Island, July 12.—Discussing direct nominations and the general political situation in this state, Governor Hughes and Theodore Roosevelt had their long expected political conference to-night, and seated on the porch of Mr. Roosevelt's home, Sagamore Hill, they talked until far in the night.

Considerable mystery was thrown around this conference, the general nature of which, however, was known. Mr. Roosevelt declined to discuss the details of his talk with the Governor with callers. Governor Hughes also declined to take the public into his confidence on these matters.

The Governor, with Major Frederick M. Crossett, his military secretary, reached Oyster Bay about 6:30 p. m. in the automobile of Chairman William R. Willcox, of the 1st District Public Service Commission. Mr. Willcox drove the Governor and Major Crossett to Sagamore Hill, but did not stay himself. He returned to his summer home to complete arrangements for his trip to Europe, which begins to-morrow.

Mr. Roosevelt returned from his day in New York in time to greet his guests, among whom was Judge Rose, of Baltimore. After dinner Mr. Roosevelt and the Governor began their conference, which politicians expect to result in a definite policy for the progressive wing of Republicanism in the coming state campaign.

**Roosevelt Seeking Information.**

Whether that policy will be one of warfare on the "old guard," or machine Republicans, to be carried into the state convention, or a carefully worked out scheme to harmonize party disputes, is of the greatest interest to politicians of both parties. It is regarded as certain from to-day's developments that Mr. Roosevelt will take no steps purely political until he has familiarized himself with both sides of the controversy, though he already has put himself on the Governor's side in advocating the direct nominations principle.

The Governor's visit to Sagamore Hill is sandwiched between two conferences of the ex-President and "old guard" Republicans. Following Speaker Wadsworth's talk with Mr. Roosevelt at the "Outlook" office to-day, State Chairman Woodruff will take luncheon at Sagamore Hill to-morrow after the Governor's departure. Thus Mr. Roosevelt will be able to have direct information from two of the bitterest opponents of Governor Hughes and direct nominations on the political position of the "old guard" now and its intentions regarding a reorganization of the state committee and a contest to control the Republican State Convention.

Lloyd C. Griscom, president of the New York County Committee, to whom Mr. Roosevelt sent his direct nominations telegram, predicts that all the Roosevelt-Hughes-Taft men in the state will fight in the state convention to control it for progressive policies and a progressive candidate for Governor.

**Sure to Eschew Details.**

The part taken by Mr. Roosevelt in that fight, if he takes any such part, politicians concede will have the utmost importance on the campaign. Some long headed politicians assert, though, that Mr. Roosevelt will be unlikely to take any active hand in the Governorship making. He is much more likely, they think, to use his political sagacity and experience and his prestige with the public in some advisory capacity, than in the details of what might approach political bossism.

This, some Republicans think, would not operate to prevent progressive, or so-called Roosevelt-Hughes-Taft Republican leaders like Griscom, of New York; Greiner, of Buffalo, and the Kracke-Calder anti-Woodruff combination in Kings County from making a fight for delegates enough to control the convention.

Mr. Roosevelt will have a well balanced table at luncheon to-morrow. There will be the reactionary in the person of State Chairman Woodruff; the insurgent, or radical, in the person of Representative Fowler, of New Jersey, who Speaker Cannon deposed as chairman of the Committee on Banking and Currency, and the plain people, in the person of Jacob A. Riis, Mr. Roosevelt's "model citizen."

Governor Hughes will leave Sagamore Hill early in the morning, returning to New York by motor car.

### CALL ON MR. ROOSEVELT

**Prince or Politician, All Leave the Sanctum Smiling.**

Regulars, insurgents and others, who said they preferred to be called simply Republicans, as well as college presidents, professors and an Indian potentate, were among those who called on Mr. Roosevelt yesterday at the "Outlook" offices, in Fourth avenue, after he had motored in from Oyster Bay for a day at his desk.

Each and every one came out of the contributing editor's sanctum with a smile on his face, and some offered their backs in evidence to prove they had received the hearty Roosevelt slap of indorsement.

The former President's many-sidedness was never more in evidence. From earnest and long-continued chats with men like Gifford Pinchot and Congressman Fowler, of New Jersey, who openly admit their insurgency, he turned to greet in apparently the same hearty manner others, such as James Wadsworth, jr., Speaker of the Assembly, who, besides being classed as a regular of the regulars, was the man influential in defeating Mr. Roosevelt's recommendation as to the Cobb direct primary

Continued on second page.

## FIRE KILLS 25 HORSES.

**Two Men Badly Burned in $50,000 Blaze in Brooklyn.**

Fire in a three story brick stable occupied by F. W. Salt & Sons, at No. 594 Pacific street, Brooklyn, early this morning resulted in the destruction of twenty-five horses and the burning of two men about the face and hands.

One of the men burned was George Newman, the stable watchman, and the other was John Kane, of No. 268 Wyckoff street. The men received their injuries while helping the firemen to rescue the horses, about forty of which were saved.

The fire was discovered about 2 o'clock on the ground floor of the building, spreading rapidly throughout the structure and to an extension which ran back about one hundred feet, the end of which was near the structure of the McDermott Dairy Company. Four alarms were sent in and the damages were estimated at about $50,000.

## CAR NEARLY OFF BRIDGE

**Jumps the Track Over Passaic River and Causes Panic.**

There was a panic among the passengers on a crowded trolley car yesterday afternoon when the car jumped the tracks on the bridge over the Passaic River between Newark and Jersey City. The car was travelling at a good rate of speed, and the passengers received the fright of their lives as they saw it heading for the side of the bridge, with the motorman unable to stop it.

The car crashed through the iron guard between the tracks and the footpath across the bridge, but brought up with a jerk when it struck the heavy iron railing. This railing is all that saved the car and every one aboard from going into the river at one of its deepest points. All of the passengers were badly shaken up and frightened.

## DEAD BABE IN HIS ARMS

**Husband Carries It Home on Train Without Telling Mother.**

Philadelphia, July 12.—Concealing from his sick wife that their infant had died while they were waiting for a train from Egg Harbor, N. J., to this city, Louis Deininger made the journey with the little body in his arms. Not until they had arrived at their home here, after a two hours' ride, did the grief stricken father inform his wife of the child's death. The news caused her to faint, and the husband himself was almost prostrated at the ordeal he had endured.

The couple had taken the baby, which was six months old, to Egg Harbor ten days ago, in an effort to cure it of whooping cough. As its condition did not improve they decided to bring it back to this city for treatment.

## TRIAL DELAYED BY BABY

**Talesmen Affected by Presence of Child Born in Tombs.**

With her three-weeks-old baby in her arms, Mrs. Rebecca Rubin, of No. 1937 First avenue, sat yesterday beside her husband, Charles Rubin, in General Sessions, where both are on trial, charged with arson. Several hours were required to select a jury for their trial, many of the talesmen acknowledging that the pathetic picture of the mother and child would probably affect their judgment in rendering a verdict.

The Rubins were arrested nearly two months ago and have since been in the Tombs prison, the baby having been born last month. The case was hurried to trial by order of Judge Foster.

The indictment against the couple charges that on March 21, when they were living at No. 82 Jefferson street, they set fire to the premises. The furniture in the apartment in which they lived was covered by a few hundred dollars' insurance, none of which has been collected.

## SPANKS STOP A STAMPEDE

**Patrolman Quells Rush of 44 Boys Caught on Central Tracks.**

Forty-four boys, marching down Broadway under the eyes of a police escort, on their way to the West 100th street station after they had been arrested for trespassing on the New York Central tracks, made a concerted break for freedom at 96th street yesterday afternoon. For a few minutes there was a lively time, but the stampede ended after one of the patrolmen, who is the father of a family of boys, used his bare hands most effectively on the leader of the crowd.

Shortly after 6 o'clock Detective Holstein, of the New York Central, notified the West 100th street station that there was a horde of boisterous boys on the tracks in the freight yards along the North River. Detectives Ferguson, Skelly and five uniformed patrolmen were sent along with Holstein. Between 88th and 100th streets the police gathered in the forty-four.

Two abreast the boys were formed in line and started for the station. At the 96th street station of the subway the leader of the boys held up his hand as a signal. In a moment the patrolmen were scrambling for the crowd of squirming youngsters.

One policeman, instead of joining the chase, caught the ringleader by the scruff of the neck and administered half a dozen open handed spanks where they would do the most good. The boy bawled that he would be good. The flight ended right there. Without exception the boys gave in, and in a few minutes were in line and marching humbly enough to the police station. The crowd will be arraigned in the children's court to-day.

## SIBLEY RAISES HIS EXPENSES

**Adds Sum of $1,800 to Campaign List—Overlooked Before.**

Franklin, Penn., July 12.—Joseph C. Sibley, the sucessful nominee for Congress in the 28th District at the primaries of June 4, filed a supplemental report of his expenses to-day with an affidavit stating that through a mistake of his secretary incidental to an attempt to comply with the law within the specified time, the sum of $1,819 60 was not accounted for. With the original statement this brings the total expenditures to $42,518 43.

"Hikit," the stylish eyeglass. Bisight or Toric Pebbles. Spencer's, 31 Maiden Lane.—Adv.

## COTTON BROKER HIRES BOAT; IS SEEN NO MORE

### George H. Reitman Missing Since Monday from Home and Business.

### EXPERT IN AQUATIC SPORTS

**Son Searches Shallows Near Throg's Neck, While Wife and Friends Vainly Scour City.**

George H. Reitman, a cotton broker, with offices at No. 35 Broadway, has been strangely missing since Monday. He left his home, at No. 712 East 178th street, ostensibly to go to his office, but went to Throg's Neck, Westchester, rowed out on Long Island Sound and disappeared.

Messages were telephoned through the financial district all day yesterday by friends and acquaintances, who were trying to get some clew to his whereabouts. Last night a preliminary search of the inlets near Throg's Neck was made by Richard Reitman, the missing man's son, while Mrs. Reitman and her daughter searched hospitals and institutions and called on people who they hoped might have seen him.

An employe of Lebauer's boathouse, at Throg's Neck, called at the Reitman house yesterday afternoon to find out what had become of the man who had hired a boat from him on Monday morning, giving $1 deposit for the safe return of the boat and giving the name of Reitman. He said Reitman had hired the boat at 8:30 Monday morning, but that neither man nor boat had been heard from since. This was the first intimation to the family that Mr. Reitman had not gone to his place of business when he left home Monday morning.

The family had received an early inquiry from the office that day, but took it for granted that Mr. Reitman had arrived there later, as there were no other telephone calls. When he failed to come home in the evening the wife and children became alarmed.

Mrs. Reitman telephoned her husband's office yesterday morning, and was shocked when she heard he had not been there Monday and had not even telephoned.

This morning young Reitman will make a thorough search of every inlet in the neighborhood of Throg's Neck in a launch.

**Expert Swimmer and Oarsman.**

Mrs. Reitman, however, does not believe this search will result in finding her husband's body. She said last night that he is an expert swimmer and oarsman, having won several medals in Sweden, when he was a much younger man for his skill with the oars.

None of the family could understand the disappearance of the boat which Reitman had engaged, nor could they understand his action in going to Throgg's Neck and hiring a boat without saying anything about his intentions to the family.

Miss Sophie Reitman said last night that it was possible that when her father found how hot it was Monday, he suddenly made up his mind to spend the day on the water. The heat had troubled him very much, and he may have turned to the first scheme that came to his mind for escaping another gruelling trip in the subway, and a hard day in the city.

The missing man is forty-three years of age, weighs 171 pounds and is 5 feet 8 inches tall, is of dark complexion, has black hair and beard, streaked with gray, and most of his upper teeth are false. His eyes are brown.

When he left his home on Monday morning he wore a Panama hat, a brown coat and trousers, a white negligee shirt, black tie and tan shoes. On the second fiuger of his left hand he wore a gold ring with a stone.

The police have sent out a general alarm.

## HELD UP BRIDGE TRAFFIC

**Two Accidents Made Brooklyn Folk Late for Dinner.**

Traffic on the Brooklyn Bridge and on all transportation lines crossing it was blocked for more than half an hour early last evening. A truck on a Sea Beach train, which was being removed for repairs, broke down just as it reached Sands street. Several minutes later a "shoe" on a six-car Lexington avenue train caught in a switch on the Manhattan side of the bridge.

The first two cars of the train passed the switch, but as the third car came up the "shoe" caught, and the train came to a sudden stop. Many of the passengers were thrown to the floor, but no one was injured.

## PATROLMAN AS A PRIEST

**Exercises That Prerogative in Case of Necessity.**

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Hartford, Conn., July 12.—While Mrs. Giuseppe Tellegrino, of No. 225 Market street, sat in the doorway of her home late this afternoon, her infant son in her arms, eagerly waiting for the arrival of a priest to bless the child, who was dying with convulsions, a Catholic policeman exercised the prerogative of a Catholic layman by assuming the function of a priest and administered the sacrament.

The mother refused to send the baby to the hospital until this rite had been performed. After the policeman had performed the rite of baptism on the little one the mother allowed the child to be taken to the hospital, where it died shortly afterward.

## GRANT OF $2,500,000 FOR FAIR

**Premier's Promise to the Winnipeg Exhibition in 1914.**

Winnipeg, July 12.—Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the Premier, at a luncheon given by this city to-day promised a grant of $2,500,000 by the government to the world's fair to be held here in 1914. Railways and the local governments have promised an equal sum.

## NOT A WORD NOR OUT OF BED IN 31 YEARS

### Long Voluntary Silence Makes Effort to Speak to Devoted Sister Vain.

### STRANGE MAN'S LIFE ENDS

**Physicians, Baffled by Eternal Silence and Blank Smile, Never Able to Determine Sanity.**

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Somerville, N. J., July 12.—Silas Hoffman, the strange man of Bedminster, who kept his bed while apparently in perfect health and refused to speak for thirty-one years, is dead.

He passed away last night without breaking the silence which he had preserved for so long a time, but just before he died he made an effort to speak to his devoted sister, Mrs. Margaret Lane, who cared for him in his lonely habitation throughout his eccentric career. It was too late, however; the years of silence had deprived him of the power of articulation.

His funeral will be held on Thursday from the house where he died. He was sixty-seven years old. Whether he was insane was never determined, although he had been examined by a score of physicians, with a view to ascertaining his mental condition. His eternal silence and his blank smile baffled all alienists, and physicians often said he could not be declared insane, as his condition was apparently normal.

Hoffman was one of five sons of a prosperous farmer of Bedminster Township. The four others are living and are prominent in the agricultural and business life of Somerset County.

Hoffman spent his early life, like his brothers, on his father's farm. At the age of thirty he possessed a farm and was the owner of a spanking team of gray horses, of which he was very proud. He was fond of society, and was known all around as a gay young man.

Misfortune overtook him. He lost his farm and his pet team of horses had to be sacrificed. Inconsolable, he went to bed and turned his face to the wall, and for a long time refused either to speak or eat. Food was left on a table near his bed, and when he was nearly starved he arose one night from his bed and ate and took a stroll out of doors.

He continued to arise each night thereafter and eat and take a walk, until one night he slipped on the ice and broke his arm. After that accident he never arose from his bed or passed out of the door.

In all these years he was cared for like an infant by his widowed sister, Mrs. Margareta Lane, out of her scanty income and $3 a week which she received for his maintenance from Bedminster Township.

## TRIPLETS AND A PROBLEM

**Blacksmith, Out of Work, Returns Home to Greet Increase.**

After a futile search for work, Wolf Petrokansky, a blacksmith, living at No. 97 Clinton street, found on returning home last night that he had three more mouths to feed. Shortly after he had left the house yesterday morning his wife gave birth to triplets, two boys and a girl. Dr. Harris, of No. 66 Pitt street, who attended the mother, said last night that Mrs. Petrokansky and the children were doing well.

Petrokansky came to this country from Russia about six years ago. In his native town he was considered one of the best blacksmiths. At first he had little trouble in obtaining employment, but in the last few years there seemed to be no great demand for his expert ability. Besides the triplets, the couple have four children, the eldest being ten years old.

## BOY AND MAN DROWNED

**"Forty-Foot Hole," Claims One and Surf at Elberon the Other.**

"Forty-Foot Hole," in Fresh Creek, Jamaica Bay, numbered one more among its victims yesterday, when a boy trying to rescue a companion was seized with cramps and sank. Another death by drowning was reported at South Elberon, when Frederick Manning, an automobile demonstrator for a New York firm, was drowned in the surf there.

The boy who went to his death in "Forty-Foot Hole" was Robert Vletin, of No. 140 Amboy street, Brownsville. He was swimming with a number of other boys yesterday afternoon, when a small boy in the pool was attacked with cramps. His cries attracted the attention of Vletin, who grasped the scared boy about the body. Just as Vletin was nearing the shore he was seen to throw up his hands and sink. It was an hour later before his body was recovered. The rescued boy disappeared.

Manning had been swimming in the surf at Elberon with several men and had been in the water for three hours when he was seized with cramps. Before the lifesavers could reach him he sank three times. When he was finally brought to shore he could not be revived.

## BARS CUPID IN WILMINGTON

**Mayor Will Wed No One Pending Settlement of Legality.**

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Wilmington, Del., July 12.—Two hundred couples, mostly non-residents of Delaware, who have been married by Mayor Spruance of Wilmington since he took office, a year ago, are probably not legally wedded. The unrest occasioned by the refusal of N. H. Harris & Co., New York, bankers, yesterday to accept $200,000 of Wilmington bonds because their attorneys declared this city has no legal government was accentuated to-day when the Mayor announced that he would perform no more marriages. Governor Pennewill intimated to-day that he would call a special session of the Legislature to adjust the tangle.

## SCARLET FEVER EPIDEMIC.

An epidemic of scarlet fever has made it necessary to close the Pelham summer home which has been conducted by prominent women of Pelham Manor in aid of the poor children of New York. The Pelham health board last night directed Dr. Washburn, the health officer, to quarantine the place for six weeks, or for such length of time as he thought best. There are only a few children in the home at present, but arrangements had been made to entertain many during the summer.

## GERMANY TAKES NO NICARAGUAN ACTION

### Strong Denial of Intention to Interfere in America's Policy.

### RUMORS AFFECT STOCKS

**Foreign Office Angered by Misleading Reports—Correspondents May Be Expelled from Berlin.**

Berlin, July 12.—Germany has taken no stand in opposition to the United States in the affairs of Central and South America. Germany has issued no statement that could be construed into antagonism to the American government in what that government has done, is doing or may do in Nicaragua. This declaration was made at the German Foreign Office this evening.

Special dispatches received here from Washington and other American cities reported, published under a Berlin date, that the German Foreign Office had issued a statement to-day that "Germany refuses to recognize any right on the part of the United States to supervise her diplomatic relations with other countries, Central and South American countries in general, and Nicaragua in particular."

When this report was placed before the Foreign Office it met an emphatic denial. No such statement, an official said angrily, had been issued by that department or by any other department of the government. He added that no declaration of such a nature could be made, because there was absolutely no necessity for it, and that therefore anything published in such a sense was pure invention.

German government officials are greatly wrought up by the attempts made to have this country appear as an antagonist of the United States, when, on the contrary, it has been the desire of the government to develop both commercial and diplomatic relations with America.

The present situation has resulted from the publication of a letter from Emperor William to Dr. Madriz, President of the de facto government of Nicaragua. In several quarters, apparently, the significance of this letter has been misjudged, and it became necessary today, in order that a wrong construction might not be placed upon it, to issue a statement through the Foreign Office explaining that the letter was merely a formal acknowledgment of a notice received from Madriz of his election to the Presidency.

The explanation was accompanied by the statement that Germany had no intention of intervening in any way in Nicaraguan affairs and that the reported offer by Madriz of a coaling station to a European power, if it would intervene in Nicaragua, was not made to Germany.

Of late, so flagrant has been the abuse of privileges accorded by the Foreign Office to certain correspondents, the advisability of expelling them has twice been considered by that department, and one has already been barred on account of sensational dispatches, which he has forwarded to the United States, bearing no shred of truth.

The Foreign Office's statement regarding the Kaiser's letter follows:

"Madriz gave notice of his election on undertaking the Presidency to the Emperor, in his usual written form. The customary formal reply was prepared by the Foreign Office. It was not an autograph letter, but was simply signed by the Emperor. The address 'Great and Good Friend' was in accordance with official courtesy.

"Any intervention by Germany in Nicaraguan affairs neither followed nor is intended. Germany neither sought nor designs to seek, a coaling station.

"Rumors of Germany's intentions toward the Galapagos Islands are equally without foundation, as are all suggestions that the German government has in any wise modified the cultivation or friendly relations toward the United States."

The Emperor's letter was dated April 26, and said:

"I am informed by your letter of December 27 last year that your excellency was elected President of the Republic by the merited confidence of your fellow citizens, and that your excellency entered on your most honorable duties on the 21st of that month."

An expression of the usual diplomatic good wishes and desire for the cultivation of good relations between the two countries followed.

The dispatch published in the United States to which reference is made in the above telegram from Berlin reads as follows:

"Berlin, July 12.—The German Foreign Office, apparently at the personal direction of Kaiser Wilhelm, defied the government of the United States to-day in an official statement that came as a slap in the face in regard to the American policy in Nicaragua.

"The statement, as follows, comes close upon the heels of the Kaiser's recognition of Señor Madriz as President of Nicaragua:

"'Germany refuses to recognize any right on the part of the United States to supervise her diplomatic relations with other countries—Central and South American countries in general and Nicaragua in particular.

"'Germany's recognition of President Madriz is a matter that concerns herself and Nicaragua, but which concerns no third person or power.'

"Inquiries at the German Foreign Office failed to bring forth any further explanation of the official statement. Questions as to whether or not Germany intended to dispute the contention of the United States, according to the Monroe Doctrine, that America possesses certain supervisory powers in regard to the Central American republic were not answered."

Decided weakness developed in the stock market around 2 o'clock on selling which was soon found to be for foreign account. It was not until 2:30 o'clock that an explanation appeared in the form of the surprising statement purporting to have been issued by the German Foreign Office, which came out on the news tickers, and in which the German government was represented as practically throwing down the gauntlet to the United States. The authenticity of the

Continued on second page.

## SAW SUICIDE IN FILMS

**Stirred by Moving Pictures Girl Swallows Acid.**

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Philadelphia, July 12.—Annie Novebeck wept real tears yesterday when she saw a moving picture heroine, deserted by her lover, kill herself with a revolver. As she settled back in her seat for the next picture she thanked the saints that Gregor Chistor, her "steady young man," would never desert her that way.

When Annie came out of the moving picture place in 8th street she almost bumped into a young man and girl who were passing. She glanced at them, and there was her Gregor with another girl. Annie gasped, started to speak, forced a smile and walked on.

A few minutes later Annie took a draft from a bottle of carbolic acid. At the Hahnemann Hospital to-day it was said that she would recover, although her face would be scarred for life.

## CRIME FILMS BARRED

**Two Cities Take Up Moving Picture Reforms.**

Pittsburg, July 12.—Moving pictures depicting train robberies, safe cracking and other crimes must not be shown hereafter in Pittsburg. John M. Morin, Director of Public Safety, notified all managers of moving picture shows today that these films will not be permitted under penalty of revocation of license.

The recent hold-up of streetcars the director attributes to the influence of these pictures, and in the hold-up of a few days ago, in which a police lieutenant was shot, the young bandits confessed that they were inspired to hold up the streetcar by pictures of a train robbery they had seen a few hours previous to their attempt.

Lancaster, Penn., July 12.—Mayor McClain to-day prohibited the exhibition of all moving pictures that tend to have a demoralizing influence, such as those depicting pocket picking, burglary, safe cracking, highway robbery and murderous assault. He says the class of pictures he has placed under the ban are worse than the prizefight pictures.

## AVIATOR TAKES HIS LIFE

**Despondent, Lieutenant Pfitzner Jumps from Skiff and Drowns.**

Marblehead, Mass., July 12.—Lieutenant Alexander L. Pfitzner, of Budapest, Hungary, an aviator, who had designed and operated aeroplanes, committed suicide by jumping from a skiff in Marblehead harbor to-day. He had been mentally depressed for some weeks.

In his flights with the Burgess-Curtiss aeroplanes at Plum Island, in Newburyport, recently Lieutenant Pfitzner had met with a number of mishaps, and after each of these accidents he became more and more discouraged and morose. His friends say that he had expressed the intention on several occasions of committing suicide. Last Saturday, when he narrowly escaped drowning in a creek after a fall with his machine, he exclaimed while he was being pulled out of the water, "I wish I had broken my neck, boys."

To-day he went out from Marblehead in a skiff, and later the boat was found floating in the harbor. It contained the man's coat and hat, an automatic revolver and a note giving the address of the owner of the boat. The barrel of the revolver was somewhat clouded, as if it had been fired recently.

Lieutenant Pfitzner was about thirty-five years of age. He was graduated from the universities of Charlottenburg and Budapest, taking engineering courses, after which he served in the artillery. He was a member of an old Hungarian family. He came to this country about eight years ago and had been associated with the Herring-Curtiss Aeroplane Company, at Hammondsport. He aided in designing the motor which Glenn H. Curtiss used in winning the James Gordon Bennett cup at Rheims last year. A year ago he came to Marblehead to become superintendent of the aeroplane plant here, and had made about forty flights at Plum Island.

## BAD EGG FOR BREAKFAST

**Leads Alexander R. Peacock to Buy a $60,000 Farm.**

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Pittsburg, July 12.—Because he got an egg for breakfast a few weeks ago that had evidently seen cold storage days, Alexander R. Peacock, multi-millionaire and former protégé of Andrew Carnegie, has started to build a chicken house 200 feet long and 30 feet wide on a $60,000 farm he has purchased in Plum Township for the purpose. His agents are collecting fine fowls with which to stock the farm.

The chicken house will have steam heat, electric lights, tile flooring and electric incubators. All feed for the birds will be raised on the farm.

After the bad egg had slipped by the Peacock chef Mr. Peacock became indignant. While he relieved his feelings he got an idea, and, hurrying to his office, called up a real estate dealer.

"I want a farm," he said; "a farm that is big enough to raise a lot of chickens. It appears the only way one can get a fresh egg in Pittsburg is to have his own chicken farm."

Two days later the real estate man had the farm. It is expected that within three weeks eggs will be regularly shipped to the Peacock home.

## HONEYMOON IN AN AEROPLANE

**Builder of Machine for Two Says He Expects to Make Trip in Air.**

Frederick Schneider, an aeroplane builder, living at No. 1020 East 178th street, The Bronx, and Eva Matilda Leonhauser, a music teacher, of the same address, after obtaining a marriage license at the Bronx bureau yesterday announced that they would be married on July 20. Incidentally, it developed that Schneider is doing all he possibly can to finish an aeroplane which will hold two persons, in which he says he expects to spend part of his honeymoon.

The couple met about a year ago when Schneider made an ascension at Morris Park. His machine fell and he was severely injured. Miss Leonhauser was the first to reach his side and attended him while he was being taken home. She nursed him throughout his illness, and when he recovered his health, two months ago, they decided to get married.

## SWINGS ON TINY LEDGE TO SAVE LIFE AT FIRE

### Grasping Flimsy Shutter, Which Breaks as Help Comes, Fireman Does "His Duty."

### RESCUES BEDRIDDEN MAN

**Goes Back to Quarters from That Blaze and Rushes to Another to Carry Two Children to Safety.**

James McGrath, of Hook and Ladder Company 54, of Williamsburg, performed an act of heroic bravery last night which added a new page to the already splendid record of the New York Fire Department. Creeping along a three-inch ledge, he made his way to where an old man, weighing 180 pounds, was moaning in agony on a window sill, with smoke and flame all around, and with only a slight window shutter as a support he picked the old man from the perilous position and swung outward, holding a footing on the ledge until a ladder could reach him, just as the shutter was giving way.

Then a little later McGrath saved two children, five and three years old, at another fire, and took them to safety on the roof of a building. He tried to make more rescues, but the smoke knocked him out.

"We are not supposed to say anything about the work of the department," was his only comment when asked how he felt while waiting for help to come from below.

"But," he added, "all I could hear was that poor old man's groans, and it was up to me to save him or go down myself. It was part of my duty and all in a day's work."

**Wife Forced to Seek Safety.**

The fire started through the explosion of an oil stove in the home of Sebastian Kuntz, on the top floor of a four story tenement house at No. 148 Grand street, Williamsburg. Kuntz, who is sixty-two years old, is an invalid and was confined to his bed. His wife was getting supper when the explosion occurred, and she tried to save her husband. The flames spread quickly, however, and caught in her clothes, and she had to run out to save her own life.

Running out into the hall the frightened woman called out "Fire, fire!" at the top of her voice, and the cry was repeated, with the result that a panic ensued, and every one tried to reach the street at once. Someone had enough presence of mind to pull the nearest fire alarm box, and Hook and Ladder Company 54 came rushing to the scene, with Engine Company 121 a close second.

McGrath was the first to rush into the burning building. He met Mrs. Kuntz, who told him that her poor old husband, unable to move, was still in his bed, and McGrath started for the flat. The thick black smoke which issued from that portion of the house beat him back at first, however, and he was forced to go down on his hands and knees. Finding that he could not penetrate to the flat, he made his way into the one next door.

The next thing the crowd in the street, by that time two thousand strong, saw was McGrath crawling out of the window nearest the Kuntz flat and making his way along the three-inch stone ledge. Through the smoke which issued from the windows the crowd saw the form of old man Kuntz, who, in an agony of fear, had found strength to crawl to the window, where he lay moaning. McGrath could hear his moans, but those below saw only the danger to which the fireman was exposing himself, and no hope that he could help the old man, even should he reach him. Inch by inch the fireman edged along, until he grasped a shutter of the window.

**Balanced by the Shutter.**

"Go back, go back!" shouted the firemen, and the citizens below, but McGrath did not hear, or, if he did, paid no heed. He steadied himself on the shutter for a second, then swung himself inward, threw an arm around the old man and swung out again, with the weight of 180 pounds on one arm. Three of the slats of the shutter gave way and clattered down to the street, nearly seventy feet below. Every second the crowd expected to see McGrath and his burden come down the same way, but the framework of the shutter held for the time being.

Firemen had reached the roof, and tried to send some help down to their comrade, but they could no nothing from that point. Citizens joined the firemen below in sending up extension ladders. Just as the first reached McGrath the shutter gave way. But it had served its purpose, and rescuer and rescued were brought down to the street where the thousands who had gathered cheered themselvs hoarse as McGrath stepped down and resumed his work of fighting the fire.

"He's none of the cigarette smoking Civil Service firemen we's been reading about," exclaimed some one in the crowd, and the cry was taken up. Battalion Chief Hauck stopped a moment to shake McGrath's hand, which showed that McGrath's feat was no ordinary one, but the young fireman did not seem to think he had done anything more than his duty and went about his work. The firemen worked for about an hour and a half on the building, but finally managed to control the blaze. Dr. McAllister, who had been called from the Williamsburg Hospital when Kuntz was brought down, gave his services to a fireman who was hit in the eye by an axe which slipped from the hands of another fireman. He was removed to the hospital, while Kuntz was taken to the home of friends near by.

**Not Much Time to Rest.**

Hook and Ladder Company 54 had barely reached the firehouse having left the engine company at the blaze when the tenants were all out, when an alarm came in from South 2d street and Kent avenue, just opposite the Havemeyers & Elder refinery. When the men reached the spot they found that the blaze had started in the basement of Nos. 303 and 305 Kent avenue, one of