

SWINDLED WOMEN EXPOSE "TAPPERS"

Give Whitman Evidence of Police Alliance with Bold Swindlers.

SEVERAL VICTIMS OF CLAIRVOYANTS

Dougherty Statement Fails to Impress District Attorney After Cold Analysis.

A fund of new information on the operation of the alleged wiretapper-police graft ring was placed in District Attorney Whitman's hands yesterday by a number of women witnesses who have been victims of the easy money men, and have never been able to get satisfaction from the police in their efforts to have their deceivers prosecuted.

They belonged to the class of victims who lost small amounts ranging from a few hundred dollars up to a thousand, chiefly on "phony" stock ventures, which they were persuaded to go into through the advice of the clairvoyants operating in "caboots" with the confidence men.

According to the stories they told to Frederick Groehl, the Assistant District Attorney assigned by Mr. Whitman to investigate the graft charges, when they went to the police with their troubles, they were either advised to avoid publicity by keeping still, or else, through the police, settled with their defrauders for a small portion of their losses.

At that time, they said, they were convinced that the police had acted in good faith, but since the present exposures were made public they had become convinced that the police were acting in league with the confidence men.

Women Aid Case. Mr. Whitman said yesterday the importance of this new line of evidence was in the fact that the witnesses were in no way accomplices in the graft. Corroboration from persons who were not themselves involved in the alleged crimes, he said, was all that was needed to complete the case against the suspected men. A complete analysis of the evidence given yesterday had not been made, but it was thought it would supply the needed elements in the case.

Mr. Groehl was also busy yesterday investigating the activities of the wire tappers prior to the Rosenthal case. According to the story told by George McRae and "Al" Cohen, the former detective, who revealed the activities of the graft ring, the "business" was going on smoothly up to that time, and the protection paid for was delivered without fear.

When the Rosenthal exposures came, however, and attention was directed to the crookedness of the police, they became frightened and began making arrests to save their faces.

It was thus sudden activity on the part of the police that the gamblers objected to, as they were forced to continue paying their tribute without getting the promised protection. Convinced that the police were double crossing them, they decided to "squel."

Dougherty's List Analyzed. It was pointed out that the long list of arrests mentioned by Commissioner Dougherty in his statement of Thursday were all made subsequent to the Rosenthal exposures.

"If there were arrests of wire tappers prior to that time," said Mr. Whitman, "no tangible evidence of them has ever reached this office."

It was also pointed out that, although the Dougherty statement contained an imposing array of arrests, none of them to date has resulted in any convictions. It was said yesterday that the list made public was far from a complete history of wire tapping, as there were records in Headquarters of numerous other complaints in which no arrests were made.

An effort to get a full statement of these cases yesterday at Headquarters was unsuccessful.

It was learned yesterday that Mr. Groehl spent Thursday in Philadelphia working on the investigation. He said his trip was productive of important information, but refused to indicate just what it was. It was said that he saw "Micky" Shea there, and got from him information bearing on the clairvoyant end of the situation.

KEEPS UP PEIXOTTO FIGHT

Board of Education Will Seek Stay in Case.

The committee of organization and legislation of the Board of Education met in the offices of George J. Gillespie, chairman of the committee, yesterday and adopted a resolution authorizing the Corporation Counsel to apply to the courts for a stay of execution in the recent decision of Justice Seabury in reinstating Mrs. Bridget M. F. Peixotto, the "original teacher-mother," pending an appeal.

Mr. Gillespie said that no further steps would be taken in the matter of teacher-mothers until the case was settled.

On November 14 Justice Seabury granted the petition of Mrs. Peixotto for a writ of mandamus directing the Board of Education to reinstate her as a teacher in Public School 14, in the Bronx. She was removed from that post on October 8 for her continued absence for the purpose of bearing a child.

DECREE FOR MRS. THOMSEN

Wife of Wall Street Man's Son Gets Divorce and Child.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Middletown, Conn., Nov. 21.—In the Superior Court here today Mrs. Adele Thomsen, nee Adele Bleicher, was granted an absolute divorce from her husband, Henry A. Thomsen, son of Hugo A. Thomsen, a commission merchant at No. 59 Wall street, New York, on the ground of desertion.

Mrs. Thomsen stated that her husband left their Brooklyn (N. Y.) home in 1908, stating that he was going West for his health. Six months later she discovered him still in New York City. She sued him for non-support then, and Mr. Thomsen was placed under a bond to pay her \$8 a week for a year. He did so, but at the expiration of the time went to Westport, Conn., where her parents resided.

Besides the divorce, the wife was awarded the custody of her daughter Celine, seven years old. Alimony of \$50.00 was demanded, but no award was made.

MISS EMMY DESTINN AND HER LIONS.



CHARMS LION WITH SONG

Opera Star Fears Colds More than the King of Beasts.

Operatic prima donnas are generally understood to be afraid of nothing—except colds and certain impresarios. They may, indeed, be afraid of Hircyanian tigers, but one, at least—Miss Emmy Destinn, of the Metropolitan Opera Company—has proved that she is not afraid of lions. The photograph shows her in the lion's cage in Berlin, where she recently sang for the "moving pictures" in the photo-drama, "Lorenbraut."

Miss Destinn, of course, is very fond of music, and it is evident from his position that her latest pet, his majesty the lion, is fond of it, too.

Miss Destinn appears, indeed, to be a sort of female Orpheus, who charms the beasts with her voice instead of with a lute. The famous soprano said after stepping from the cage that she found her huge friend as docile as an Angora kitten and that she was seriously considering buying him as a protection against the dangers of New York streets. She said that it would be very comfortable to feel that the lion was awaiting her on the front seat of her automobile whenever she sang at the Metropolitan. She thought he might impress the traffic policemen, so that she could get back to her hotel without any of the usual delays.

At any rate, her experience of singing in a lion's cage convinced her that the king of beasts was a much more appreciative listener than were some audiences she had appeared before. Leo's expression of complete felicity surely confirms her in this opinion!

OLGA NETHERSOLE WINS

Actress Gets Verdict for \$32,217 in Theatrical Suit.

Olga Nethersole obtained a verdict for \$32,217 in the Supreme Court yesterday in her suit against the Shubert Theatrical Company and Lieber & Co. for breach of contract.

Miss Nethersole said that she had a two years' contract as a star with the two firms. The defendants, she said, closed her term of employment at the end of the first year. There was still due her about \$6,000 salary from the first year, and she sued for \$25,000, the terms of her contract calling for a twenty-five-week season at \$1,000 a week. Lee Shubert contended that a verbal agreement made after the written contract superseded the latter. This provided for an engagement of one season.

Counsel for the defendants made a motion to set aside the verdict. Justice Bendleton asked for briefs, and he will hear further argument on the motion.

"C. B. S." POSTCARD, STOVER CASE JOKE

Park Employee Thought It from Missing Man Till a Small Boy Snickered.

When one of the prettiest stenographers in the Park Department offices received a picture postcard yesterday signed "C. B. S." there was great excitement. The letters "S O S" never contained more thrill for a mariner than did "C. B. S." signed to the postcard have for the Park Department employees. And the reason thereof was that "C. B. S." are the initials of Charles R. Stover, the missing Park Commissioner.

Additional writing on the missive contained the information that "C. B. S." was having a good time and sent his best regards. The recipient called several of her sisters into consultation. The executive session was not attended by any one but women. Some nervous giggling was heard now and then.

But there seemed to be undue familiarity with the contents of the postcard by the office boys. They also found it hard to restrain their curiosity and scurried about enjoying the effect of the supposed communication from the Park Commissioner.

Just about the time the signature began to appear "phony" one of the lads cackled so hoisterously that the whole joke was given away. There were some fiery glances, and a warning that if the culprit was caught he would have his ears boxed. Then the postcard was torn up, and so the thirty-sixth day since Mr. Stover suddenly dropped out of sight failed to produce any word from him.

Nothing was heard from him at the University Settlement. It developed yesterday that the Commissioner had taken a few of his effects that his room showed no indication that he had even gone away.

It was just three years ago that a clerk in the Park Department went away suddenly and has never been heard from since. The disappearance of the clerk was recalled yesterday by employees of the department.

TAXI FARE LAW FAIR, SAYS COURT

Appellate Division Upholds Right of Aldermen to Fix Rate Schedule.

STREETS OPEN TO ALL IS DECISION

If Companies Object Let Them Quit, Justices Say—No Private Stands.

The Appellate Division confirmed yesterday by a divided vote the decision of Justice Seabury, in the Supreme Court, upholding the right of the aldermen to enact the ordinance reducing taxicab rates and imposing other conditions on taxicab companies. The higher court decided that the companies and hotels that sought to enjoin the city's enforcing the new ordinance were not entitled to the restraining order pending trial of the action in the Supreme Court.

At the same time the Appellate Division reserved decision on the motion of the Yellow Taxicab Company to dismiss the injunction obtained by the Corporation Counsel to prevent the immediate trial of the suit. The constitutionality of the ordinance was not passed on by the Appellate Division; that will be determined in the Supreme Court.

The effect of the decision yesterday is that independent owners may stand at hotels and solicit business, even against the wishes of the management, and that no private stands may be maintained. It is expected that some of the companies now contesting the validity of the ordinance will take advantage of this condition by seeking business at the hotels at the lower rates, as they declare they are losing money under the new law and might as well enjoy half a loaf. The Yellow Taxicab Company and some of the others will continue to do a call business from the garage and charge the old rate. Two companies have quit the field altogether.

CHARMS LION WITH SONG SPIRITS CAN CURE, SAYS DR. HYSLOP

Operative prima donnas are generally understood to be afraid of nothing—except colds and certain impresarios. They may, indeed, be afraid of Hircyanian tigers, but one, at least—Miss Emmy Destinn, of the Metropolitan Opera Company—has proved that she is not afraid of lions. The photograph shows her in the lion's cage in Berlin, where she recently sang for the "moving pictures" in the photo-drama, "Lorenbraut."

Dr. James H. Hyslop, writing on "Spiritual Healing" in the November issue of the Journal of the American Society for Psychical Research, takes the broad ground that the use of the word "suggestion" as a therapeutic agent is merely a confession of ignorance, and that moral perversions, as well as mental cures, are at times associated with the intervention of spirits. This invention, he says, is sometimes malicious and sometimes benevolent, but science, he says, is unwilling to materialistic conceptions, is unwilling to recognize the nature of the forces at work. This unwillingness, he says, science has translated into a term which, while intended as an explanation of psychic phenomena, has only opened the mystery surrounding it and given scientists an opportunity to evade the labors of thorough and impartial investigation.

The word "suggestion," in short, he says, has been twisted from a mere description of "a situation in certain cures which defied understanding in the ordinary way" into a cause of the cures themselves. It has increased ignorance by magnifying the appearance of knowledge.

"Now we know," writes Dr. Hyslop, "that the state of mind in the living will often affect the various physiological functions seriously for good or ill. Great excitement will affect the nature of acids or alkalis in the stomach. There are the various unconscious reactions of the mind or soul upon various harmful conditions of the body. It quickly creates an antitoxin against some poison admitted to the system, if it have the normal and healthy conditions favorable to it.

"Now suppose that a living soul has become unable to produce the antitoxins by his own initiative. Suppose that disease has destroyed the power of adjustment to create the necessary acids or alkalis or other agents necessary to counteract poisons. Now if a discarnate soul should be able to get into the body or near enough to it to supply that activity it might restore the individual to his normal condition. It is only a question of exercising the chemical functions which the living soul does in his normal state. It is always represented by communicators that they occupy the living organism of the entranced medium, and we have seen that they may restore organic functions to the proper equilibrium and normal activity."

Dr. Hyslop goes on to assert that the action of discarnate spirits on the body is no harder to believe than the assumption of medical men that the organic functions of the organism are affected by mental activity. He cites various instances of the supposed interventions of spirits: in one of these saying he cured his daughter of St. Vitus's dance by holding "her hand and forehead each evening, using mental suggestions only and a prayer for the help of a special personality."

PHYSICIAN HAD OPIUM

Admitted He Smoked, but Denied Making It.

Dr. Herman Seldner, a specialist in women's diseases, who occupies two second-story apartments at No. 152 East 22d street, was arraigned yesterday before United States Commissioner Shields on the charge of manufacturing opium without a federal license.

The physician was accompanied to court by his sister, Jennie Seldner, who is a lawyer. He admitted that he had smoked opium, but denied manufacturing it. He waived examination and was held for the federal grand jury.

Dr. Seldner was arrested at the instance of Howard D. Esterbrook, special Treasury agent in charge of the opium crusade in this city, and the complaint was made by Elmer J. Lewis, a customs inspector.

In the doctor's rooms Inspector Lewis seized about forty opium pipes and many cans of opium.

Importers Indicted for Fraud.

The federal grand jury yesterday returned an indictment charging Frederick Ludwig and George Mather, connected with the importing firm of Frederick Ludwig & Co., of No. 110 Fifth avenue, with defrauding the government out of duties amounting to \$428,144 through the undervaluation of laces, veilings and trimmings imported from France between October 2, 1909, and March 15, 1910. Five irregular entries are described in the various counts of the indictment.

COLONEL SMITH VERY ILL

Park Secretary's Friends Are Alarmed at His Condition.

STREETS OPEN TO ALL IS DECISION

If Companies Object Let Them Quit, Justices Say—No Private Stands.

Colonel Clinton Hart Smith, secretary of the Park Board, is seriously ill, it was learned yesterday. Confirmation that his illness was the cause of apprehension was had at his home in Cathedral Parkway, where it was said he was now confined to his bed. He has been absent from his office some time, and fellow employees in the Park Department have been aware of his weak condition.

Colonel Smith has been connected with the Park Department for a period of thirty-five years. For the last four years he has been secretary of the board. In the last days of the McClellan administration he was removed as assistant secretary, but Mayor Gaynor on assuming office immediately reappointed him. He was then made secretary.

At the time of the Spanish-American War he was a lieutenant colonel in the 71st Regiment. On May 1, 1899, Governor Roosevelt directed him to appear before a board of examiners to be examined as to his capacity and fitness for general service in the national guard. On May 10 the board recommended his dismissal. The Governor approved. In November, 1900, the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court decided Colonel Smith had been wrongfully dismissed, and he was reinstated as an officer of the 71st Regiment. The proceedings were an outgrowth of allegations regarding his conduct at the battle of San Juan.

In 1912 an attack on Colonel Smith was made in the Assembly, when he asked for reimbursement for expenditures in his trial. Colonel Smith dared his critics to make the same statements off the floor of the Assembly.

WATERLOO OF PARK WAGS

Eight Who Found Joy in Scaring Children Are Sent to Cells.

Eight young men who have been holding high carnival in Bronx Park for several months, frightening children and nurses, pursuing lovers couples and performing other antics at the expense of visitors to the Zoological Garden, played the game once too often yesterday afternoon. All were rounded up and escorted to cells in the Bronx Park station.

The eight wags were at their favorite pastime when Detectives Mullen and Drolleskey and Special Patrolmen Van Den Schoten appeared and made a sally on the jokers. There was no resistance, and the eight were huddled in a patrol wagon to the station house, where they made the evening hideous with ballads and stale jokes.

\$11,000,000 Mortgage for R.R.

A mortgage for \$11,000,000 was filed yesterday in the office of the County Clerk of Queens County, Jamaica. It was executed May 30, 1912, by the New York Connecting Railway Company to the Guaranty and Trust Company, of Manhattan, and a tax of \$55,000 has been paid. It covers the railway company's property in Kings, Queens and New York counties.

U. S. AT ALDERMEN'S BAR

Official Tells Board Mail Trucks May Speed Legally.

The United States appeared before the Board of Aldermen yesterday for the first time to defend its rights to a federal function. A public hearing was held before a special committee of the board to consider amending an ordinance that exempts the mail trucks from the speed regulations.

Second Assistant Postmaster General Joseph Stewart, in charge of the transportation of mails, declared that the complaints against the mail trucks were unwarranted. Furthermore, he said that the city streets were post roads and that the trucks must travel on schedules to meet railway trains. The mail trucks are regulated, he said, so that they cannot develop a speed of more than fifteen miles an hour.

Chairman Ralph Folks of the committee said that the volume of mail has increased 17 per cent since last Christmas. He was inclined to the belief that the mail drivers were forced to exceed the speed limit by the penalties imposed upon the contractors if the schedules were not fulfilled. Chief Magistrate McAdoe said that in 95 per cent of the cases brought before the magistrats a speed of from twenty to twenty-two miles an hour is charged by the police against the mail drivers.

"No man or woman leaves his or her home in the morning without apprehension that he or she may encounter an accident on the streets," said the chief magistrate.

Fourteen persons have been killed in New York by automobiles since the first of June, according to Dr. D. C. Potter, director of the Board of Ambulance Service, and only the night before last a three-year-old child was killed by a mail truck. John Rubinstein, the driver of the mail truck, was arraigned before Coroner Holtzhauser yesterday and was paroled in the custody of county.

SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPAPE

Extra Matinee Thanksgiving Day.

NEARLY MARRIED

Extra Mat. Thanksgiving Day.

THE MARRIAGE MARKET

Extra Mat. Thanksgiving Day.

Advertisement for EARL & WILSON, MAKERS OF TROY'S BEST PRODUCT. Features a logo with 'E & W' and 'THE NEW COLLAR'.

Advertisement for AMUSEMENTS, listing various theaters and shows such as EMPIRE, LYCEUM, GLOBE, FULTON, KICKERBOCKER, DONALD BRIAN, HARRIS, HENRIETTA CROSMAN, GAETI, and NEARLY MARRIED.

Advertisement for SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPAPE, featuring a cartoon illustration of a man with a large head and a woman.

Advertisement for FAREWELL FORBES-ROBERTSON, listing showtimes and locations.

Advertisement for METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE, listing various operas and showtimes.

Advertisement for BELASCO, WARFIELD AUCTIONEER, and ELMDORF 5 NEW, listing various items for sale and showtimes.

Advertisement for BROOKLYN ACADEMY OF MUSIC PHILHARMONIC, listing various musical performances and showtimes.