UNCLE DAN WON'T TESTIFY.

HE QUESTIONS THE BRIDGE INVESTIGATORS' RIGHT TO MAKE HIM.

A Big Surprise at Yesterday's Session of the Assembly Cities Committee—The Long-sought Senator Turns Up Unexpectedly, but Absolutely Refuses to Tell What He Knows About Bridge Affairs.

The Assembly Cities Committee resumed its investigation yesterday of the management of the Brooklyn Bridge. For several weeks the committee had been on a still hunt for State Senator Daniel Bradley, who was expected to prove the star witness of the investigation. The Senator had taken the opportunity, on the floor of the Senate last winter, to deliver some potent remarks on the affairs of the bridge, and it was desired that he should repeat them on the witness stand before the committee. Senator Bradley, however, had different ideas about this; he didn't fancy appearing as a witness at the investigation, and when the subpœna servers of the committee went to look him up "Uncle Daniel" had disappeared. There were rumors that he was wintering somewhere in Connecticut, out of the jurisdiction of the Cities Committee, and that he refused to be enticed into the net. Then it was announced that there probably wouldn't be another meeting of the committee this year. The announcement was followed by the appearance of the star witness in Brooklyn, and there the subpœna servers found him. He was on hand at the investigation yesterday, and those present settled back expecting to get a couple of hours' enjoyment out of the Senator's testimony. There was a satisfied look on the faces of the committeemen, but the Brooklyn Senator was equal to the occasion; they could play a trick on him and get his person before the committee, but his voice was his own and he flatly refused to use it giving testimony.

This bold announcement, made by a member of the late Lexow investigating committee, threw the Assembly Cities Committee into a state bordering on panic. The Senator was besought as a citizen and an advocate of good government to help the committee in their work of reform. Still he refused. Then the committee threatened the obstinate Senator with the wrath of the Legislature of the Empire State. The Senator told them to go ahead.

"But all we want you to do is to repeat here before us what you said on the floor of the Senate," suggested one of the committee.

Senator Bradley said that as a Senator he had a right to refuse to discuss remarks made in legislative session before an investigating committee or any one else.

While the committee were recovering from the shock he dropped another bombshell among them by remarking that he didn't believe the committee would accomplish anything any way. Finally the committee put their heads together and decided that while they would drive a horse to water they couldn't make it drink, and the Senator was told that he was excused until this morning. Then the members of the committee, who had apparently lost much of their interest in the proceedings, went into executive session to consider ways and means of outflanking Mr. Bradley at to-day's session.

The meeting yesterday opened with the examination by the committee of President James Howell of the bridge trustees. Mr. Howell testified that the sentiment of the people of Brooklyn was in favor of giving the Brooklyn Heights Railroad an entrance to the plaza at the terminal of the bridge. The witness said that he had a big bundle of letters which he had received from prominent citizens favoring the plan.

Charles W. Zaring, counsel to the committee, wanted to know if the letters hadn't been all written in the same office and sent out to citizens for signature, and if, instead of being a bona fide expression of public opinion, they were not really manufactured sentiment. The witness's face flushed, and he glared at the smiling Mr. Zaring.

"That question is insulting," he replied.

"But I've asked it all the same," continued the lawyer.

"And I refuse to answer it. I don't think that is a question one gentleman would ask another."

Later Mr. Howell added that he thought the letters were genuine, and that he wasn't responsible for them in any way.

At this point the appearance of Senator Bradley in the doorway caused a ripple of excitement. There was a look on the newcomer's face which boded a storm. The star witness to-be nodded to some of his acquaintances and made straight for a chair in a corner of the room. Then he folded his hands and looked up at the ceiling. When the Rev. Dr. Lyman Abbott, who followed Mr. Howell in the witness chair, took the stand, the Senator listened to the questions and answers attentively.

Dr. Abbott told the committee that he was opposed to giving the Brooklyn trolley lines an entrance to the plaza, but favored admitting them to the storage yard of the bridge. "In my opinion," said he, "the congestion of traffic on Fulton street must be relieved, and I think the best way to accomplish that would be by a subway for the trolley lines under Fulton street as far as Flatbush avenue. At that point the traffic is less congested."

"What first directed your attention to this matter?" asked Mr. Zaring.

"The fact that I believed that the interests of the majority of the patrons of the bridge were to be sacrificed to the convenience of a limited number," replied the Doctor. "I am only interested in this question through regard for the public good."

Prof. George W. Plympton of the Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute and a member of the Board of Experts appointed in 1890 to consider the question of terminal facilities for the bridge, testified that Dr. Abbott's idea was feasible one. As Prof. Plympton left the witness stand Mr. Zaring glanced shyly at the committee, and called "Senator Bradley." There was a craning of necks as the supposed witness-to-be unfolded his hands and walked deliberately across the room to the witness stand. Some one began to applaud, and for nearly a minute Mr. Zaring was unable to frame his first question.

"Senator Bradley," said he, "you have been called before this committee as a citizen of Brooklyn having some knowledge of the Brooklyn Bridge management, to testify as to what you know."

"I decline either to be sworn or to testify under the circumstances," said the star witness.

Mr. Zaring bit his lip, and a frown darkened the faces of the committeemen.

"It is also desired by this committee," continued the lawyer, "that, as a citizen who has made certain statements in public as to the management of the Brooklyn Bridge, you explain to the committee what you meant by those remarks."

"Any statements I may have made in the matter were made on the floor of the Senate, and I deny that this committee has any jurisdiction over me whatever," said the Senator firmly.

Mr. Zaring consulted with the five nonplussed members of the committee.

"Don't you know, Senator Bradley, that if you refuse to be sworn as a witness before this committee, you render yourself liable to contempt of the Legislature?" asked one of the committee.

"No, I don't," snapped the Senator. "I don't think the committee can accomplish anything in the direction contemplated, any way."

"When you decline to be sworn?" said Mr. Zaring.

"That's what I said, didn't I?"

"Do I understand that you refuse to testify?" broke in Mr. Pavey.

Senator Bradley glared at the questioner.

"How many times is it necessary for me to say that?" he replied. "What statements I made I made on the floor of the Senate, and I say again that this committee has no jurisdiction over me. Until Jan. 1 I am a Senator of the State of New York, and until then I shall claim the privileges of a Senator."

"I think the Senator's conduct should be carefully considered in executive session," said Assemblyman Halpin. "If the Senator will promise to be here to-morrow he can be excused for the present."

"And I want to say right here," said Senator Bradley, "that you needn't be afraid that I'm going to run away. That story that I have been dodging your subpœna servers is utterly false."

Having delivered this parting shot into the enemies' camp the star witness-to-be gathered up his hat and overcoat and stalked out of the room.

After the excitement caused by the Senator's refusal to be sworn had abated, President Rossiter of the Brooklyn Heights trolley railroad was asked about the purchase of the $100,000 tract of land at the bridge entrance from his company by the bridge trustees. Mr. Rossiter said that an assurance had been given his road that if it would make no objection to the sale of the land the trolley lines would be included in a comprehensive plan which would be formulated in building the bridge plaza. He then went into a long statement as to the advantages to be derived from the plans proposed for the plaza by the Brooklyn Heights Railroad Company. "I would say," he added, "that every one of the bridge trustees excepting Mayor Schieren and Mr. Henriques have expressed themselves in favor of the plans."

Col. Timothy C. Williams, ex-Gov. Flower's former secretary and secretary and treasurer of the Brooklyn Heights Railroad Company, was the last witness called. Mr. Zaring wanted to know if the Colonel hadn't called at the office of the bridge trustees some time in June, and if he had not then had a talk with Mr. Henriques. Col. Williams said he had called on Mr. Henriques, but that it had been at his own suggestion.

"What did you say to Mr. Henriques?"

"I told him that the matter of the bridge terminal facilities to be allowed the surface roads would doubtless come up soon, and asked him to give the subject his earnest consideration."

"Didn't you ask Mr. Henriques to call at Gov. Flower's office?"

"Either I or one of the clerks telephoned from Gov. Flower's office to that effect. I remember telling Mr. Henriques at our meeting what a good impression he had made on Gov. Flower when he appeared before him at a hearing in Albany. I remember hearing Gov. Flower say that——"

"Oh, we don't want any second-hand statement of ex-Gov. Flower's opinion," interrupted Lawyer Duffy.

"I want to say to the committee," said the witness, "that there has seemed to be a disposition to cast aspersions upon Gov. Flower or upon me, both at the examination of Mr. Henriques the other day and at mine to-day."

The committee here announced that to-day's session would be the last held by the committee, and that they would go into executive session.

WARING'S MARKET PLAYGROUND.

He Suggests a Million-dollar Investment of City Money on the East Side.

Col. George E. Waring, the Commissioner of Street Cleaning, announced one day last fall during the political campaign that at some date not then very remote he would recommend to Mayor Strong the establishment on the east side of two public squares, each for a unique purpose.

One of these was to be used for storing wagons, to relieve their owners from hiring stable room and the city from having them in the streets, and the other was to be used for a combination push cart market and playground for children.

The general plan for this last square has been thought out by Col. Waring, and in an illustrated article which appears in *Harper's Weekly* to-day, Col. Waring describes it. Push carts, he says, are no doubt a convenience to the people of the east side who live in the general neighborhood of the section bounded by the Bowery, East Broadway, Hester, and Ridge streets. In some of these streets these carts congregate in such numbers and remain so long in one place and together that they become a nuisance. If such carts are to be tolerated, Col. Waring says, they should be kept on the move. Furthermore, he adds, that from some months' observations of the children of these neighborhoods, it seems to him that they need more adequate playgrounds than the streets.

"I have, therefore," he says, "devised a scheme which has been suggested to the Mayor for establishing one or more of what might be called market playgrounds. A whole block would be taken by the city, cleared of all its buildings, brought to a proper grade, and asphalted in one sheet from curb to curb.

The space within the building line would be covered, in alternate strips 11 feet wide, with sheds, supported by iron columns and covered with hammered glass. The intervening strips of 11 feet each would not be covered.

"A portion of these sheds, perhaps one-quarter of the length at each end, would be furnished with counters and other fixtures for butchers, fish men, and other merchants, who chose to display their wares in this manner. The rest of the shed would be simply a covered space available for push carts or for those who now sell their wares from the surface of the street. The uncovered space between the sheds could be used by these same sort of merchants. The whole block would be lighted brightly by large incandescent lights put along the edges of the sheds. A peculiar feature of the whole arrangement is that the counters and other fixtures would be so arranged with counterbalancing weights that when they were not in use they could be poked into the tops of the sheds and left there, thus leaving the floor spaces all clear."

From early in the morning until noon, it is Col. Waring's idea, to give up the use of the whole space to the push cart men and the others for trade.

At noon everything should be cleared out, the counters and other things poked up out of the way, and after the street sweepers had made it all clean and sweet, the whole square should be given over to the children for a playground.

The cost of a square fitted up in this way, Col. Waring estimates, might be nearly $1,000,000.

"This block," says Col. Waring, "so arranged and divided, would furnish 288 stands 7 feet long by 5½ feet wide, with counters, butchers' fixtures, fish benches, &c., which at 50 cents a day would produce an annual income of $52,560; 448 covered stands of the same size, without fixtures, at 25 cents per day each, would produce $44,530; 768 uncovered open spaces, outside sheds, 5½ by 7 feet, at 10 cents a day each, would produce $28,032. This would make a total rental of $125,122, which is over 12 per cent. of the total cost of $1,000,000."

It is to be assumed, however, he says, that a large amount of open space would remain unrented.

"This arrangement," Col. Waring concludes, "would give a very much better opportunity for the sale and purchase of goods than the present haphazard system of pushcart-owned push carts; it would bring the whole business within proper police control; it would make it easier to keep the children and their games out of the public thoroughfares; it would give them a royal playground day and night and in all weathers, and would, so far as I can judge, be in all respects advantageous."

A MOTHER'S BRAVE DEED.

Severely Burned While Saving Her Children from Being Burned to Death.

NYACK, Dec. 23.—Mrs. Josiah Felter, wife of the Supervisor of Haverstraw, is suffering to-day from severe burns received last evening while heroically saving her two children from being burned to death. The two little ones, aged respectively three and four years, went up in the attic of their home early in the evening, and while there started a fire which rapidly spread through some waste rags. Their mother, learning of the fire, rushed up stairs and found the upper floor all ablaze. She ran through the flames and smoke, and had her face, head, and arms severely burned. She reached her children, whose clothing was on fire, and, opening an upper window, carried them out on the piazza and put out the fire.

A large crowd had gathered on the street by that time, and one strong man stationed himself under the piazza while the heroic mother dropped her little children, one at a time, into his arms. A ladder was quickly put up, and Mrs. Felter came down. The firemen soon extinguished the fire and saved the building from destruction. Dr. House attended Mrs. Felter, and she is easier to-day. The whole town is talking about the mother's brave deed in saving her children from a cruel death.

WHITEHEAD MISSING.

If the Lexow Witness Does Not Appear on Monday His Bail Will Be Forfeited.

J. E. Newton Whitehead, who testified before the Lexow committee and was tried in the General Sessions in June for performing a criminal operation on Agnes Berthold, did not appear yesterday when his second trial was called in the General Sessions. The jury disagreed on his first trial, standing 10 to 2 for conviction. Whitehead was released on $5,000 bail. His case was called before Judge Cowing yesterday, and Assistant District Attorney Townsend asked that his bail be forfeited as the District Attorney had learned that he had left town. Lawyer Hugh O. Pentecost said that Whitehead had left town to secure an important witness in his case, and would return. The $5,000 was cash bail. Judge Cowing adjourned the case until Monday next, when the bail will be forfeited if Whitehead does not appear.

The Requisition for Joseph Roberts of Elmira Granted by Gov. Morton.

ALBANY, Dec. 23.—Gov. Morton to-day decided to honor the requisition of the Governor of Pennsylvania for the custody of Joseph Roberts of Elmira, against whom proceedings have been pending since October. When the warrant of the Pennsylvania authorities was first presented to Gov. Morton for endorsement, affidavits were presented showing that Roberts had made false representations as to his financial condition to merchants of Philadelphia, who, relying on the same, had sold him bills of goods. Afterward Roberts failed, and criminal proceedings were begun against him for false pretences. At the hearing before the Governor, Roberts's counsel put up a strong fight, and there being some question as to facts, Gov. Morton suggested that the papers be referred back to Gov. Hastings, to see if he did not desire to revoke his request for Roberts. The papers came back to-day with the decision of the Governor of Pennsylvania that he desired to stand by the requisition, hence Gov. Morton granted it.

May Arrest Mrs. Carter for Contempt.

Mrs. Leslie Carter, who is playing at the Herald Square Theatre, failed to appear yesterday in the City Court to submit to examination in supplementary proceedings, when the execution in livery stable keeper Henry Puvoget's judgment against her for $1,407.90 for carriage hire was returned unsatisfied. Some time ago Mrs. Carter testified that she earned $50 a week, which was barely enough to support her. Counsel for the plaintiff learned that Mrs. Carter was now in receipt of a much larger salary, and secured another order for her examination. She may be arrested for contempt of court.

Bill Vosburg Expects to Escape.

Old Bill Vosburg will be arraigned before Recorder Goff in the General Sessions to-day for sentence under his plea of guilty to the charge of swindling Anton Cimfel of Nebraska out of $500 by the green goods game. Vosburg's friends will ask the Recorder to suspend sentence so that they can send him to a sanitarium. The District Attorney will probably consent.

TWO SHACKLED HOBOES.

POUNDING STONE IN RAHWAY AND HEAVILY IRONED.

They're Doing Time on the Streets as an Awful Warning to Other Tramps—Some Incidents of the Chain-and-Ball Cure.

Hoboes who are "padding the hoof" in the region of Rahway will find in Main street there an object lesson that will inspire them with ambition to "shake dust" and "fly the coop" to regions more hospitable to their kind. Two of the tribe of tramps are at present hard at work in the interests of good roads in Rahway. They are held to their task not so much by a sense of duty as by two chains and balls fastened to their ankles. Having been tried and convicted of vagrancy, they are working out a term of twenty days filling in Main street with stone.

To the residents of Rahway they are subjects of great interest. There is always a little group standing on the curb watching them work. Until yesterday there was but one of the shackled hoboes, Alfred Lee, who, despite Mayor Daly's warning to all trampdom, wandered into Rahway and demanded alms with such insistence as to land him finally in the police station. It is a beautiful sight to see the airy and graceful way in which he handles the twenty-five-pound plunket of lead to which he is attached. Lee is a typical hobo, happy-go-lucky, good-natured, quick-witted, and full of fun. He seems rather to enjoy the attention which he attracts, and spends half his time entertaining the crowd with his remarks. Altogether different is his companion, William Hanna, who wouldn't leave Rahway when he was urged to and can't leave now for reasons connected with the chain. He is surly and dumb, and his companion had a lot of fun with him yesterday.

"This here mug," explained Lee to the crowd, "he ain't no real hobo, are you, bo'? You might think he was Dutch to look at him, but he ain't. He's Irish; ain't you, Irish? Sure, look at the way he handles them rocks. Same as a friend of mine used to; he learnt it in Sing Sing."

"Poor man!" said a woman on the curb; "why do they put that awful iron ball on him?"

"W'y, lady, that there's a little testimony-like from the c'munity," explained Lee. "If it wasn't for them givin' him somethin' nice for his Chris'mas he might get sore and want to go away. Some folks likes di'mon's an' gol' chains, but as fer him, give him somethin' solid or give him deat'. Ain't that right, bo'? Before they give him that he was restless like, but now—

"'He never cares to wander from his own fireside,
He never cares to ramble or to ream.'"

"That ain't a bad-looking ornament you've got on your own shin," suggested a young man in the crowd.

"No-o; it ain't so bad," remarked Lee, looking at it critically. "A little more fancy work onto it wouldn't hurt it none, but I ain't kickin'; not wit' a friend in de way. Yes, sir, I tell yer, I know a honest man when they sees one. They seen I was honest the minute they set their peeps onto me, an' they says, 'We'll give him a relic of the late war,' they says, 'fixed onto a chain, an' then he'll stay by us,' they says. 'He ain't the man,' they says, 'to go an' fly the coop with the city's vallyble property,' they says. 'We can trust him as far as we can see him,' they says, 'not to commit grand larceny with that there cannon ball,' they says. 'As you see how it is, my friends. My scene of honor has held me rooted to the spot, as they say in the papers.'

At this moment Hanna, moving away, dragged his weight slowly and painfully after him. A little murmur of pity came from the women in the crowd, but the other chain worker became wrathful.

"You stiff," said he angrily. "Don't you know nothin'? Disgracin' the perfession by trailin' aroun' like that. What kind of a hobo are you? Here, when you want to move aroun' do this," and in illustration he picked up his own cannon ball, placed it firmly upon his shoulder, and in three steps was beside his companion.

"Mind your own business," growled the other. "I'll break your head in if you fool with me."

"Easy, brother," responded the hobo imperturbably. "Lemme show you a trick."

Simply shifting the ball from his shoulder he lowered it almost to the ground, and with a sudden movement dropped it upon the other's foot. With a howl of rage Hanna sprang for him, but the chain checked harshly and he fell to the ground, while Lee with consummate skill jerked his heavy appendage back into his hand and was off, laughing, at a safe distance.

"Here, you," cried the overseer, whose attention had been attracted by Hanna's howl of rage and pain, "sto pthat larking. You're here to work."

"All right, boss," responded Lee quite undisturbed. "He just wanted to swap cannon balls with me, and I was tryin' to prove it wasn't a sign swap because mine's heavier'n his."

"You handle that ball and chain," suggested one of the spectators, "as if you'd worn one before."

"Is that so?" replied the hobo. "Well, when I was in politics I use' to tie my self to my chair to keep from takin' all the chances I had to go out an' get a drink, an' I got used to lugin' weight aroun' the room. By the by, I'd like to buy the beer, if any bo' would stake me to the price. Thank you, lady," as a dime fell near him. "I always was partial with the fair sex."

"What are you going to do after you get away from here?" asked an elderly man. "Perhaps I could give you some work."

"Work!" said Lee in tones of hurt surprise. "Work! what d' you call this here? If this is your notion of light an' entertainin' amusement I'll swap off this here ornament of mine for yer yeller ticker an' chain, an' you can have my job as long as you want it. What I want is a chance to rest an' recooperate from my arjus labors. No, sir; no work fer me after I'm out o' this. I'm goin' into retirement in somebody's barn where there's lots of hay."

"You ought to go on the lecture platform," said some one in the crowd.

"Folks has told me that before; but if it takes a deal of eloquence to prevail upon the gentle and refined farmer's wife to let loose the mince pie and keep the bulldog chained up instid of lettin' loose the bulldog an' keepin' the mince pie chained up, I don't reckon I could cut many coopons out of what I'd made lecturin'. No, gents and ladies, I'm a good hobo, an' it's a shame to spoil a good hobo and make a poor workin'man. Now, his fidgets here that's bluffin' to be at work alongside of me. I'd not be s'prised to see him shovellin' coal some day, but as for me, as the noble G. Washin'ton said, 'Gimme liberty or gimme deat.' And now, ladies and gents, it bein' near Chris'mas time, I can only remin' you that although I ain't got no fireplace, my stockin' is on tap right here from now on."

It is said that Lee has collected quite a little sum in small coin thrown to him while he is at work. Hanna, his companion, pounds stone and says nothing.

Fifteen Years for Red McKenna.

Charles, alias Red, McKenna, who was convicted of knocking down Owen A. Keegan, a saloon keeper, and robbing him of his gold watch and chain, was sentenced yesterday by Judge Cowing to fifteen years in State prison. McKenna has been arrested thirty times by the police of this city, and has served five terms in jail for misdemeanors and three terms for assault.

A New Catholic Congregation in Williamsburgh.

Bishop McDonnell of Brooklyn has organized a new congregation of the Lithuanian Catholics of Williamsburgh, and mass was celebrated for the first time on Sunday in the old Methodist church buildings on Grand street, near Driggs avenue. The congregation is called St. Mary's of the Angel of Heaven, and the Rev. Father Wunderlich is the temporary pastor.

THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT GRANT

"Pura Blood" an Unprecedented Success.

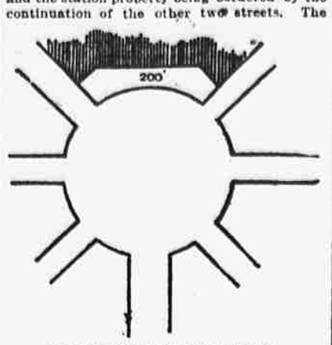
People who cannot go to Hot Springs, Ark., and be cured of Blood Diseases by the treatment there given, fully appreciate the fact that the United States Government, under grant, have permitted the famous Curative Waters of Hot Springs, Ark., to be used in the preparation of "Pura Blood," and thus placed within their reach.

Eighty per cent. of the Diseases with which the human family suffer to-day are produced by poisons in the Blood and the consequent derangement of the life-giving and sustaining fluid. It requires no effort of the imagination, then, to understand why Blood Diseases are so prevalent. Neither does it require argument to tell you that the World-Renowned Healing Waters of Hot Springs, Ark., which, under grant from the United States Government, are permitted to be used in the preparation of "Pura Blood," have been curing all these conditions for the last century. A few bottles of "Pura Blood" will reinvigorate the entire system, and cleanse the Blood of all impurities. As a Tonic for Young and Old, for Weak and Feeble, it has never had an equal. "Pura Blood" is for sale by Druggists. Price, One Dollar. Billups & Co. of No. 26 Cortlandt Street, New York, are Sole Agents. Descriptive Book, containing Physicians' Endorsements and full information, sent to any address Free.

IDEAL RAILROAD TERMINAL.

Architectural League's Next Prize Competition for Young Architects.

The Exhibition Committee of the Architectural League of New York has just sent out the invitation to young architects all over the country to enter the annual competition for two medals that the league gives every year for the best "ideals" of a subject selected by it. The subject this year is the principal entrance of a terminal railroad station. The station is supposed to be at the junction of three main streets of a city of first importance in a "round point," the principal entrance facing one of the streets and the station property being bordered by the continuation of the other two streets. The



GROUND SCHEME OF THE STATION.

line of the building is set well back from the street, giving ample space for driveways arranged so as to accentuate the entrance, and for steps, &c., for travellers arriving on foot. The main floor vestibule must be at about grade level. The length of front over all, as shown on the diagram printed, is 200 feet. The cost is left to the discretion of the designer. Only the entrance with the driveways, ramps, &c., with indication of the main vestibule is to be shown on the plan and elevation. The drawings must be in two sheets, 26 by 39, one sheet containing a section and elevation at one-eighth scale and plan at one-sixteenth, the other at three-quarter scale detail, with cast and rendered shadows.

The drawings must be delivered under a nom de plume before Feb. 6, at the league rooms in West Fifty-seventh street. All of the drawings are to be exhibited at the exhibition of the league, and those that win the prizes are to become the property of the league. The conditions of the contest are, first, that each competitor shall be a resident of the United States and under the age of twenty-five, and, second, that the drawings shall be in conformity with the programme above and entirely by the hands of the competitor. The awards are to be made by a committee on Feb. 13.

Mr. Thomas Hastings, the Chairman of the Exhibition Committee, said yesterday: "The drawings of course are ideals. No practical use is ever made of them, but we believe that the competitions are productive of a great deal of good. There are always a great many competitors. The prizes are gold and silver medals. The league in selecting the subjects always tries to get things of live interest. Perhaps the best one was a terminal station for the North River Bridge suggested the subject this year."

It is suggested that the Brooklyn Bridge officials might profit by attending this exhibition.

LUNATIC SWIMS THE EAST RIVER.

Young Mr. Wright of Little Rock Escapes from His Nurse.

Duryea W. Wright, the son of a wealthy resident of Little Rock, Ark., came to New York seven weeks ago to be treated for a mild form of mental aberration. The young man had been studying so hard that his mind became unbalanced, and when he came here he was placed under the care of Dr. Landon Carter Gray, insanity specialist. Wright made his home in the family hotel at 524 Fifth avenue, and he soon became a great favorite with the other boarders. He never gave the slightest trouble, and the people of the hotel say that he was not only a rational conversationalist, but a very interesting talker.

Yesterday morning the young man appeared to be unusually restless, and at the suggestion of his nurse, E. W. Curtiss, they went out for a walk. Wright behaved well enough until the corner of Seventy-second street and Third avenue was reached. Here he declared that he would walk no further with Curtiss, and he started at a rapid pace east through Seventy-second street. As he is six feet tall and a trained athlete, Curtiss, who is a rather small man, did not attempt to restrain him. The nurse followed him to Avenue A, and then ran one block north and asked Policeman Edward Donohue of the East Sixty-seventh street station to put his charge under arrest.

"He is crazy," he explained, "and I am afraid he is going to drown himself."

Donohue ran to Seventy-second street, and when Wright saw him he made for the river with great speed. The policeman called to him to stop, but the crazy man paid no attention to him.

At the end of Seventy-second street there is a wall across the thoroughfare, which is five feet high. From the top of it to the shore of the river below is fully twenty feet. Wright leaped to the top of the wall, and, after a moment's pause, he jumped over, alighting on the shore, apparently unhurt. Donohue looked over the wall and saw Wright sitting on a rock taking off his shoes. When Donohue jumped over the wall Wright sprang to his feet and, throwing off his coat, plunged into the river and swam with powerful strokes toward the Blackwell's Island shore. He still wore the shoe on his left foot. Donohue plunged in after him, but the tide was on the flood, and the crazy man was soon out of his reach. The policeman came back to the shore and blew his whistle for help.

Meanwhile the shore of the river was lined by an excited crowd, which watched with eager interest the rapid swimming of the crazy man. Although the water was icy cold, and he was handicapped by the weight of his clothes, Wright swam with great ease, and he was soon 500 feet from the New York shore. When Donohue blew his whistle twelve men, who were aboard an ice barge lying at the foot of Seventy-eighth street, got out a small skiff and rowed toward the swimmer, whom the tide had carried to a point nearly opposite them. They gained on him rapidly. When he looked back and saw that they were pursuing him, he redoubled his efforts. The boat continued to gain on him, and the oarsmen overtook the swimmer when he was about 150 feet from the Blackwell's Island shore. So small was the boat that they were afraid to take Wright on board. Wright grasped the bow, and they pushed him toward the Blackwell's Island dock opposite Eighty-second street. When he reached the landing he released his hold on the boat and made his way quickly up the shaky steps. The chase in the water had attracted the attention of the keepers and attendants on the Island, and as soon as Wright appeared on the dock he was seized by two guards. Although he had swam nearly half a mile, the young man was by no means exhausted, but he did not offer any resistance. He was taken to the Metropolitan Hospital and put to bed. Later he was brought a prisoner to Bellevue Hospital.

AHLWARDT WILL WORK SECRETLY.

All His Meetings to Be in Secret Until His Anti-Semitic Crusade Gains Strength.

Herman Ahlwardt, the Jew baiter, spoke to an audience of about twenty people in a hall at 183 Knickerbocker avenue, Williamsburgh, on Sunday night.

He said that future meetings would be secret, and that no information would be furnished to newspapers. This was necessary, he said, so that a movement against the Jews could be inaugurated without interference from the Jewish element.

Westchester and Its Pauper Children.

WHITE PLAINS, Dec. 23.—At to-day's meeting of the Board of Supervisors a resolution was introduced by Supervisor See providing that the Superintendent of the Poor be empowered to remove and place in families the children now supported by the county in different institutions. It was argued that this would save to the county about $75,000 a year. The resolution was lost by a vote of 14 to 12.

"Denzil Carstairs" Discharged.

Aubrey C. C. Newton, or Denzil Carstairs, who was arrested on the complaint of Sir Henry Irving, who said he tried to swindle him out of $60, was discharged in Jefferson Market Court yesterday morning. Newton obtained his liberty because Sir Henry could not appear against him, as he was obliged to go to Philadelphia to keep a business engagement.

Fireman Burke Dies of His Injuries.

Fireman John Burke, who was severely scalded on Saturday morning in the explosion in the engine room in Henry Offermann's dry goods store in Fulton street, Brooklyn, died yesterday from his injuries. Engineer Faulkner, who was also badly injured, will recover.

DISTINCT & DIFFERENT.

OUR OVERCOATS made 2 to 4 inches shorter than last year, with strapped or lapped seams on Meltons and Kerseys, swell seams on rough goods.

The linings are silk throughout—plain—wool—or worsted body-linings with silk tops.

Our Overcoats are distinctive and entirely different from the usual ready-made class, but we are driving them out with the lash of low prices.

Christmas Neckwear: Puffs, Imperials and 4-in-hands: *Fifty Cents.*

HACKETT, CARHART AND COMPANY.

Two Stores: Broadway and Canal Street. Broadway below Chambers Street. Open this evening.

COST OF TUNNEL RAPID TRANSIT.

Impeaching Engineer Parsons's Estimate of Fifty Millions.

Lawyer Zabriskie continued yesterday to cross-examine Engineer Parsons before the Supreme Court's Rapid Transit Commissioners, and announced that he should attack Mr. Parsons's estimate of the cost of the proposed roads under his plans. This came out upon an objection raised by counsel to the Rapid Transit Railway Commissioners to inquiry for the details of the plans for the underground road.

"I am asking: 'How do you propose to do it?'" said Mr. Zabriskie, "to enable you to give concrete form to this abstract theory. We believe that instead of the $50,000,000 which Mr. Parsons has said the road will cost, it will cost at least $100,000,000. When these details are presented we expect to prove that this road cannot be built for $50,000,000."

The questions were allowed. One of the interesting things Mr. Parsons described was the track he has in mind. It would be laid in a concrete bed and consist first of steel channel bar sleepers or ties. Upon these would be carried angle bar longitudinal rails or girders, and again upon these and bolted fast blocks of creosoted wood laid side by side across the line of the tracks and touching each other. On these would be spiked in the usual way the rails of about eighty-five pounds weight to the yard, and outside these a bulb angle bar guard rail of steel about eight inches tall. His estimates of cost for track Mr. Parsons said, would include this or any other style known, although this would be the most costly kind in an ordinary track. He also told how he would keep the loop tunnel under Battery Park dry where it passes far beneath the level of tidewater. He would, he said, turn an inverted arch of concrete at the bottom of the tunnel, but would make this only a half its full thickness at first. Between this and the second thickness which he would add he would put a layer of roofing felt and asphalt, and these he would carry in the same way also clear up within the side walls to the roof.

Regarding the buildings on the road from Battery Park to Park place, he said it could be done without danger to any of the buildings or even to the spire of Trinity Church, and that few, if any, of even the biggest of these buildings would need even to be underpinned. At every place the tunnel would be inside of the curb lines, and where stations were proposed, at Bowling Green, Cortlandt street, and Barclay street, the excavations would in no case go within ten feet of the building lines. He then told how he would dispose of water and other pipes which are now in the street, but he admitted that he had not settled upon the problem of how to dispose of the New York Steam Company's big steam pipes which cross Broadway at several places. The foundations of Trinity Church, he said, he had been able to get the depth of, but no one said they were less than eleven feet down and that was deep enough to render underpinning unnecessary unless the soil was very bad. He will submit his figures to-day.

A POSTMAN ROBBED.

He Went Home With Two Negresses He Met in the Street.

Early yesterday morning, George Klein, a letter carrier attached to station E, who lives at 203 Seventh avenue, started from the branch Post Office at 322 Seventh avenue, where he is employed. At Seventh avenue and Twenty-eighth street he met two colored women. Klein was in no hurry, and when the women spoke to him, he stopped. After he had talked to them for a few minutes on the street corner, one of the women suggested that he accompany them home. Klein was willing, and he went with both women to their home at 441 West Twenty-ninth street, where one of the women asked Klein if he wasn't going to buy something to drink.

He pulled out a pocketbook containing $55 and said he was willing. At the sight of the money the woman objected to him spending any of it. A short time later, when searching for his pocketbook, he could not find it. He accused his companions of stealing it, but they denied it.

The woman and Klein were talking loudly and making a good deal of noise about the money, when two negroes rushed in from an inner room. Klein told them that he had been robbed, and one of the men ordered him out of the house. Klein was willing to do the matter. While Klein was insisting on the return of his money, one of the negroes blew out the light in the room, leaving it in darkness.

Klein was grabbed by the throat in the dark room, and, while he was struggling to free himself, his gold watch and chain, valued at $98, were stolen from him. Then a door suddenly opened and both the negroes ran out of the room. The letter carrier followed, calling for assistance.

Roundsman Brown of the West Thirty-seventh street station heard Klein's cries, and seeing the fleeing negroes gave chase. After a run of four blocks, he and Policeman Rudder captured both the negroes. At the station house they said they were William Giles of 41 West Twenty-ninth street and Harry Williams of 402 West 124th street.

When they were arraigned in Jefferson Market Court they were held for further examination, to give the police an opportunity to catch the colored women.

CRONIN SENTENCED TO PRISON.

Father Fitzgerald Also Under Indictment for Burning a Parochial Schoolhouse.

ROCHESTER, Dec. 23.—Judge Sutherland this morning sentenced John Cronin, who was convicted on Friday last of arson in the third degree, to seven years in Auburn State Prison. Cronin was a servant in the employ of the Rev. Father John M. Fitzgerald, pastor of the Holy Cross Church at Charlotte. He set fire to the parochial school house attached to the church. Father Fitzgerald is under indictment for the same crime. There is another indictment against the priest for arson in burning down one of his own houses in 1893. Sarah Cronin, a maid servant in the employ of the priest, is also under indictment for arson in the first degree. Fitzgerald will be tried next month.

Part IV., General Sessions, All Right.

A question has been raised of the constitutionality of the act creating Part IV. of the General Sessions. The act amended section 1,004 of the Consolidation Act without changing section 52 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, which also refers to the Court of General Sessions. The Code of Criminal Procedure, so far as it went originally, superseded the Consolidation act, and in this particular their provisions now conflict. Section 52 of the Code is still unamended, and provides for only three parts of the General Sessions. The Judges of the General Sessions and the District Attorney, however, say that the intent of the law makers governs the case, and that Part IV. will be inaugurated on Jan. 1.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS CHEAP.

Before moving will dispose of stock of Cameras and Photo materials for half former prices.

THE SCOVILL & ADAMS CO. of N. Y., 423 Broome st., N. Y.

WANT CONLIN ARRESTED.

BUCKET SHOP MEN'S COUNSEL TO APPLY FOR A WARRANT.

They Declare His Keeping Policemen at Valentine & Co.'s Offices to Be Oppression—Bucket Shop Employees Freed.

The twenty-three employees of H. Valentine & Co., the alleged bucket shop keepers whose three places in this city were raided by the police on Dec. 14, were discharged in Jefferson Market Court yesterday afternoon at the end of a long and tedious examination. The prosecution was represented by Assistant District Attorney Hennessy, who tried to show that the employees knew how the business was conducted, and knew it to be fraudulent and were therefore amenable to the law. Lawyers Hummell and Steinhardt appeared for the bucket shop men.

Roundsman Made of Chief of Police Conlin's staff was the first witness. He told how he had visited one of the offices of the firm at 43 West Twenty-ninth street. He paid $5 for 500 shares of stock, which the police say never existed. Shortly after his buying the stock on 1 per cent. margin, it went down several points, and he lost his money. He received nothing in return, except a small piece of paper containing a memorandum of his purchase.

Anthony E. Burke of 516 East 110th street was the next witness. He was at one time in the employ of H. Valentine & Co., but left his place several months ago. He is the man who furnished the police with the necessary evidence to make the raids. When he was asked where he was at present employed, he said he was a private detective at Police Headquarters.

He contradicted himself several times and gave no important testimony except that he had once visited the Jersey City office of the firm with Martin Croker, an employee, who had carried over from this city a number of doctored stock quotations, which were immediately sent back to the offices in this city over a ticker.

Chief of Police Murphy of Jersey City told how the bucket shop office at 2 Exchange place, Jersey City, had been raided and four men arrested, two of whom have since been held for trial. A number of pads containing quotations taken in the raid were offered as evidence.

Superintendent Foley of the Jersey City police telegraph system told how he had got connection on the wire with the Boston office of the firm. They wanted to know what was delaying the quotations, and Foley told them that the Jersey City office had been pulled. He telegraphed that he was the only man who escaped arrest.

"We're glad that there is one man in the office with nerve. You stand pat and