THE WEEK LONG BIKE WHIRL.

HOW CRAFTINESS OF CYCLISTS HAS TRANSFORMED THE GRIND.

Complex Possibilities of Team Races, Just Being Developed, Offered as Explanation of Their Fascination —Succession of Sprinting Rounds.

Thirty-six men of various nationalities, grouped into eighteen teams of two men each, have enlisted to whirl about in a circle on bicycles, racing continuously, day and night, each man relieving his mate, for one long week, and the strenuous, dizzy grind will begin at a few minutes after midnight to-night in Madison Square Garden. This will be the eleventh annual six day bicycle race, which, despite frequent attacks from many points of view, continues every year to fascinate the public.

Six day racing between two-men teams, which was the outgrowth of an attempt to kill the six day contests by legislation, has been more popular than the old form of grind in which each individual rode for himself. The team race is growing in favor, and with reason. The possibilities of this sort of a race are still in process of development, and the lovers of hard sport are just beginning to appreciate them. The record for distance in a six day team race was made in the first year one was run, 1899, when the "pluggers" of the old grind were enlisted and the old style of continuous "plugging" was followed. The next year sprinters engaged in the race, and the campaign plans began to change. The distance record has been less each succeeding year since then, and the race has been taking on an entirely new character, which is more nerve racking to the riders, but productive of better sport and greater excitement.

The prospect is that the total score in the race of this year will be less than in that of last December and that it will be more than ever a continuing succession of sprinting rallies with periods of slow riding between, and no man knowing when the onslaught is to begin afresh. Since it has been found that, with good training and barring accident, every team of two men, riding turn about, for twelve hours a day each, can remain until the end of a six-day race, the one great object of the competitors has become the gaining of a lap on their rivals, or, failing this, the causing of a team to lose a lap so as to leave fewer pairs tied for first place at the finish.

As the riders have gained experience in this sort of a race their craftiness, as well as their sprinting power, has been developing each year, and the more and more frequently recurring efforts to gain a lap have become battles glorious for any lover of sport to witness. More and more the riders have been learning the possibilities of strategy in the race and of covert combinations between teams. The latter the rules prohibit, but the fact of pre-arrangement is one hard to prove. The complications that enter into the problem of picking the winners have been increasing each year, as the men have been learning the tricks, until now it is one of the most uncertain of events, the big field adding to the complexity.

The men in the race will ride from a few minutes after midnight on Sunday until a corresponding number of minutes after 10 o'clock next Saturday night, making a total of 142 hours. The team mates may shift about and relieve each other as often as they choose, with the sole restriction that neither man may ride more than twelve hours a day. The track is the same bowl-like sort of a structure used every year recently, ten laps to the mile.

Six-day races began to be held in Madison Square Garden in 1891, and were then of the individual variety. In 1899 a law was passed in Albany prohibiting any man from riding in a race more than twelve hours out of the twenty-four. Then the team race was inaugurated. The records of the races since 1891 follow:

INDIVIDUALS.

Year.	Winner.	Second.	Third.	Score. (Miles.)
1891	William Martin	Ashinger	Lamb	1466
1892	C. W. Ashinger	Lamb	Martin	*1022
1893	Albert Shock	Waller	Martin	1600
1896	Teddy Hale	Rice	Reading	1908
1897	C. W. Miller	Rice	Schineer	2093
1898	C. W. Miller	Waller	Pierce	2007

*Seventy-two hours, twelve hours a day.

TEAMS.

Year.	Winners.	Second.	Score. (Miles.)
1899	Miller-Waller	McEachern-Maya	2738
1900	McFarland-Elkes	McEachern-Pierce	2628
1901	Walthour-McEachern	Maya-Wilson	2555

The record for a team race, made by Miller and Waller, in 1899, is 2,733 miles 4 laps. The records for each successive twenty-four hours, shown in comparison with the twenty-four hour scores in last year's race, are as follows:

Hours.	1899. M.	1899. L.	1902. M.	1902. L.
24	510	1	494	6
48	966	3	920	2
72	1,416	8	1,317	7
96	1,865	2	1,706	0
120	2,310	7	2,099	5
142	2,733	4	2,477	8

In the race of last year sixteen teams started and eight finished. The score at the finish was:

	M.	L.
Leander—Floyd Krebs	2,477	3
Newkirk—Jacobson	2,477	3
Maya—McFarland	2,477	2
J. Bedell—M. Bedell	2,477	2
Stinson—Moran	2,477	2
Galvin—Root	2,477	1
Keegan—Petersen	2,477	1
Barclay—Franz Krebs	2,476	9

The teams that were tied when the time expired last year sprinted it out for place in a one mile race, each pair or trio having the same score riding in a separate one mile race. Barclay and Krebs were the only pair not tied with another team, and so they rode one mile less than the others. The place positions were decided by a few inches or feet.

The correct list of teams entered for the race of this year and the designations which indicate where they hail from are:

Leander and Butler	Chicago-Boston team
Fisher and Bowler	Chicago team
Walthour and Munroe	The Dixie Flyers
John Bedell and Menus Bedell	Long Island team
Kramer and Fenn	Jersey Skeeters
Keegan and Turville	Philadelphia team
Moran and McLean	Scotch-Irish team
Jacobson and Newkirk	C. R. C. Ass'n team
Floyd Krebs and Petersen	Newark team
Franz Krebs and Barclay	C. R. C. of A. team
Root and Dorlon	New York team
Dove and Hedspeth	Colored team
Galvin and Bardgett	Buffalo team
McDonald and Beyerman	New England team
Gougoltz and Simar	Swiss-French team
Rettich and Beaugendre	German team
Sampson and Vanderstuyft	Belgian team
Breton and Contenet	French team

Only once has a foreigner won the race, and that was Teddy Hale, in 1896.

As much to be reckoned on as form in a contest such as this is temperament. A rider who is good natured, never loses his temper, is tractable with his trainers and does not worry, invariably comes to the finish fresher than the highly strung, nervous, quick tempered sort.

CRAIGHEAD SET FREE.

Spencer Withdraws His Complaint Against the Railroad Employee.

Edward B. Spencer, an agent of the Rock Island railroad, appeared in the Tombs police court yesterday and withdrew his complaint against Robert Craighead of 24 Locust avenue, Flushing, whom he had accused of having aided in inducing him to cash a worthless check for $500 drawn by H. S. Brotherton. Craighead was discharged. He and Brotherton were employed by the Rock Island railroad up to a week or two ago, when they figured in the wiretapping complaint to Jerome and were discharged.

Diamonds at Tom Dunn's Ball.

Ex-Sheriff Tom Dunn's Delaware Club will have its ball on Monday night at Terrace Garden. All them that has 'em will wear 'em that night. Charles F. Murphy will be there

IN SOCIETY.

Christmas preparations have a dulling effect on general social gayety, though there are some smart weddings and a few dances on before the holidays. After that the season will be unusually brisk. Elisha Dyer, Jr., Harry S. Lehr, Worthington Whitehouse and Alexander M. Hadden will have their hands full. The services of Mr. Dyer and Mr. Lehr will be required to lead the cotillon at Mrs. Astor's on Monday night, Jan. 4. There were no big affairs at any of the Vanderbilt establishments last winter, but this season it is expected that there will be festivities at all. The approaching marriage of Miss Florence Vanderbilt Twombly to William A. M. Burden and the fact that Miss Ruth Vanderbilt Twombly is on the débutante list, will be the occasion for some of these.

The first of the dinner dances of Mrs. Frederic J. de Peyster and Montgomery Strong for this season, will be given on Thursday night at Delmonico's. Those of last winter proved very enjoyable affairs, and the cards for the coming festivity are in demand. At these each of the fifty patronesses entertains her own eight guests at her table at the dinner which precedes the dance. Miss Drexel, Dr. Emmet's fiancée, and Miss Louise McAllister are the only maiden bachelors on the list. Montgomery Strong will lead one of the two cotillons, probably the second.

On Tuesday afternoon Miss Nora Godwin of 19 East Thirty-seventh street will give the first of three teas for her niece, Miss Nathalie de Castro, who was informally presented last summer at Bar Harbor.

The Thursday Evening Club will hold its first meeting of the season on Dec. 10 at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Pierre Mali, 8 Fifth avenue. Mrs. Mali was born and brought up in this spacious old-fashioned dwelling, where the club has been entertained at least twice within a few years. Mrs. Mali, who has marked dramatic talent, appeared in a French play given for the club's amusement some years ago when she was Miss Johnston.

Mr. and Mrs. Almeric Hugh Paget, née Whitney, will not come over this season as anticipated. They pass their time at their country place in Suffolk. Mr. Paget's sister-in-law, Mrs. Arthur Paget, is expected to arrive here within a fortnight to remain for the season.

Dr. and Mrs. William T. Bull are expected to arrive from Europe on Tuesday. Mrs. Bull has been away for several weeks.

The wedding of Harris Robbins Childs to Miss Eleanor Stuart Patterson is now scheduled to take place on Tuesday afternoon, Dec. 15, at the Church of the Heavenly Rest. The bride will be attended by Miss Sims, her cousin; Miss Childs, sister of the bridegroom; Miss Amy Hawkhurst Mills and Miss Greenough. Frances Wendell will act as flower girl and Mrs. Edward Liddon Patterson and Mrs. Richard Walden Hale, sister-in-law and sister of the bride, will serve as matrons of honor. The Rev. Dr. D. Parker Morgan, the rector of the church, will perform the ceremony at 4 o'clock.

Edward S. Knapp gave his bachelor dinner last night at Delmonico's, when his guests included those who will act as his attendants at his wedding to Miss Rosalie E. Moran on Thursday. Mr. Knapp is a son of Mrs. Edward S. Knapp of 19 West Thirty-seventh street.

Mr. and Mrs. George Bird of 202 Madison avenue will give a dinner next Friday night at Delmonico's for Miss Betty Metcalf, Mrs. Bird's daughter, and Robert D. Pruyn, who will be married on Tuesday week, Dec. 15. Among the guests on this occasion will be the Misses Frederica Webb, Florence Vanderbilt Twombly, Jessie Sloane, Therese Iselin, Catherine M. Dix, Wenonah Wetmore, and Minnie Metcalf of Erie, Pa., a cousin of the bride, who are to assist as bridesmaids, and the other bridal attendants.

There were many teas yesterday afternoon, all débutante affairs. Mrs. William Ives Washburn of 39 West Forty-seventh street, who was to have presented her daughter, Miss Grace Ives Washburn, recalled her cards on Friday, on account of the illness of John H. Washburn. Mrs. Morton Redmond of 16 West Sixteenth street introduced her cousin, Miss Ione Page, as her mother, Mrs. Howard Page, is in mourning. Mrs. Harmon B. Vanderhoef of 40 West Fifty-eighth street gave a tea yesterday for two daughters, the Misses Nathalie Vanderhoef and Louise Vanderhoef, and afterward there were a dinner and dance. Mrs. Philip Hiss of 123 West Fifty-fifth street gave a coming out tea for Miss Margaret de G. Hiss. Mrs. George S. Baxter of 333 West Eighty-sixth street brought out Miss Emelin Baxter. Mrs. Francis M. Scott of 42 Park avenue gave one of the big teas. Mrs. Ashmore of 449 Park avenue presented her daughter, Miss Ruth Ashmore.

George G. McMurtry, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. George G. McMurtry of 812 Fifth avenue, will give his bachelor dinner next Saturday night at Delmonico's. His guests will include the Messrs. Edward Painter McMurtry, his brother; A. Seton Post, Jr., Lothrop Randolph, George W. Thompson, Rene La Montagne, Jr., Hamilton Fish, Benjamin and George E. Painter of Pittsburg, who are to attend him as best man and ushers. The wedding of Mr. McMurtry to Miss Mabel C. Post will take place on Wednesday week, Dec. 16, at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Seton Post, at Flushing, L. I.

Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Beckwith of 58 West Fifty-seventh street will give a tea on Thursday afternoon, when among the callers there will no doubt be many of the members of the Fencers' Club, of which Mr. Beckwith is the president.

Mrs. Clermont L. Best is giving a series of five Thursday "at homes," when she is assisted by her daughter, Miss Annie Best.

Mrs. Vanderbilt is visiting her sons, Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt and Reginald C. Vanderbilt, at Sands Point Farm. The Vanderbilt brothers and their wives will come to town just after the Christmas holidays and they have invited large house parties. Mrs. Frederic Neilson, with her son, Jules B. Neilson, and her brother, Frederic Gebhard, will also return after their protracted stay at Newport.

Herbert Coffin will lead at the first of the Neighborhood Cotillons to be given at Dodworth's, in East Forty-ninth street, on the night of Tuesday week, Dec. 15. Mrs. Frances M. Scott of 42 Park avenue will give a tea next Saturday afternoon for the members of this series of dances. She will be assisted in receiving by the other patronesses, Mrs. William T. Schley, Mrs. Oliver Livingston Jones, Mrs. William R. Barr, Mrs. Walter Cook, Mrs. Randolph Hurry and Mrs. Henry Bischoff.

The first of the Saturday evening dances to be given on the night of Dec. 12 at Delmonico's, is one of the big fashionable affairs on for this week. Mrs. Charles R. Huntington, who has had the management of this series for some years, will be assisted in receiving by others of the patronesses.

Miss Louise Ward McAllister has arranged a big card tournament to be held to-morrow afternoon in the annex of the Metropolitan Club. It is expected that all of the prominent card clubs of Newport, Morristown, Tuxedo, Southampton, Westchester county and Long Island resorts will have representatives.

It is expected that there will be many visitors to-day at the Portrait Show in the American Art Galleries. The hours fixed for to-day are 2 till 6 o'clock.

The managers of the Kip Bay Day Nursery will give a bridge tournament at Sherry's next Tuesday, Dec. 8. The tickets may be had of Mrs. James Edward Davis of 101 East Seventy-second street.

WHAT SOME OF THE EX'S WILL DO

FOUR DEPARTMENT HEADS WILL GO BACK TO LAW PRACTICE.

Commissioner Hawkes to Publish a Book on the Water Front—Dr. Lederle to Stick to Laboratory Work—Dr. Woodbury Hopes to Get Some Time to Sleep.

Who will be the heads of the various city departments after the 1st of January is much more interesting just now than what will become of the present commissioners. Yet some of Mayor Low's appointees are spending considerable precious time in deciding what to do after Jan. 1. At least four of them will resume their law practice, several are considering more than one line of work and one frankly says that he doesn't know what he is going to do.

The four commissioners who will resume their law practice are Robert W. De Forest of the Tenement House Department, William R. Willcox of the Park Department, McDougall Hawkes of the Dock Department and Robert Grier Monroe of the Department of Water Supply.

Commissioner De Forest will probably keep in closer touch with the department of which he is now chief after Mr. McClellan becomes Mayor than any other of the present commissioners. This is because he is president of the Charity Organization Society, whose dealings with the Tenement House Department are extensive. "I will welcome my successor as a friend," said Mr. De Forest, the other day, "and will help him in every way possible."

Commissioner Willcox says that the feature of the Park Department in which he became the most interested was the extension of small parks and playgrounds. "What I have chiefly tried to do in office," he said, "has been to bring the parks close to the people. The only way for the next administration to be successful is to follow a similar policy."

McDougall Hawkes has been writing a book on the New York waterfront, which he hopes to have published in the near future. It will deal with dock improvements, history of the waterfront, admiralty laws in their relation to the harbor, State grants and other subjects.

Mr. Hawkes hopes to have the last of the great improvements which his department has undertaken provided for before he leaves office. By the close of this week he expects to hear from the War Department in regard to extending the pier lines for the Chelsea improvements.

Dr. Lederle, who was a chemist in the Health Department before he became its president under Mayor Low, has had several business offers, but is not likely to accept any of them. He probably will spend his time in making sanitary and bacteriological investigations along lines in which he became interested while in office.

Dr. Lederle believes that the work of his department under the fusion administration has extended further than New York. Physicians in Philadelphia and other cities are becoming greatly interested in the new system of medical inspection of schools which Dr. Lederle started here. The last improvement brought about by Dr. Lederle's administration will be completed when the new dispensary, adjoining the building of the Health Department at Sixth avenue and Fifty-fifth street, is opened on Jan. 1.

Homer Folks of the Department of Public Charities is considering the possibility of returning to his old place in the State Charities Bureau. Commissioner Hynes of the Department of Correction says that he isn't going to think about what he will do after Jan. 1 until that date.

Major Woodbury, the street cleaner, when asked what his occupation would be next year said:

"I expect to eat three square meals a day and sleep of great deal, perhaps twelve hours a day to make up for the sleep I have lost in the past twenty-four hours with all that snow over in Brooklyn. Here, let me tell you how we are removing the snow this year, or show you these plans of our new stables; in fact I will tell you anything you want to know, but won't talk about myself."

When the reporter intimated that the only thing he was interested in at that particular moment was the Major's future career, Dr. Woodbury shook his head and said: "I don't know anything about myself."

Corporation Counsel Rives was the only department head who said that he didn't think it was anybody's business what he was going to do after Jan. 1. "I would much rather tell you what I am going to eat for dinner to-night," he thoughtfully added.

W. C. SCHERMERHORN ESTATE.

Personalty Largely in Stocks, Some Much Cheaper Now.

The official appraisal of the estate of William C. Schermerhorn, who died Jan. 1 last, aged 82 years, shows that he owned personal property worth $1,664,297, net. The value of his real estate is not disclosed. The gross value of the personalty was appraised at $1,706,770, including the following items, as appraised at the time of his death:

Description of Securities.	Value.
2,456 shares Con. Gas Co., at 216½, now 178	$531,724
11 bonds N. Y. Central	112,750
1,000 shares N. Y. Central at 151, now 118¾	151,000
450 shares N. Y. & Harlem River R. R. Co.	91,125
489 shares D. & H. Canal Co., at 172½, now 159¼	84,352
20 shares Chemical National Bank	86,000
250 shares Bank of New York	83,750
63 shares N. Y. Life Ins. & Trust Co.	74,025
200 shares Rensselaer & Saratoga R. R. Co.	42,000
202 shares Bank of the Manhattan Co.	34,450
200 shares Am. Telephone & Telegraph Co. at 164	82,800
200 shares Utica, Chenango & Sus. Valley R. R. Co.	31,775
103 shares National Bank of Commerce	32,138
428 shares Mechanics' National Bank	30,667
Cash on deposit	70,337
Furniture and effects	15,000

Mr. Schermerhorn had lived for years with his family at their residence 49 West Twenty-third street, and the constant encroachments of business houses upon the locality could not induce him to move. He had country homes at Newport and Lenox. He left his city and country homes to his wife, with an income of $50,000 a year. To his nephew, F. A. Schermerhorn, and his niece, Mrs. Ellen Auchmuty, was left $100,000 each. The residuary estate, valued at $1,595,000, was left in trust for his three daughters, Fannie Bridgham, Sarah Schermerhorn and Anna C. Kane.

MISER WHO LEFT $950,000.

Herschel's Nephew and His Old Friend's Lawyer Are Administrators.

Surrogate Thomas has appointed Adolph Herschel and Lorenzo Semple to act as administrators of the estate of Maximilian Herschel, the miser who died in St. Luke's Hospital last July. Adolph Herschel is a nephew. Mr. Semple is connected with Coudert Bros., which firm has taken charge of the interests of Mrs. William George of 95 Hamilton place in the estate.

Max Herschel saved his small earnings as a pedler of tobacco, and by dint of extraordinary parsimony managed to accumulate enough money to enable him to invest in stocks. That his investments were successful may be gathered from a memorandum found in his room to the effect that cash and securities aggregating $950,000 would be found in his safe deposit box in the Mercantile Trust Company. Notwithstanding his riches, Herschel always lived in the poorest way on the East Side.

He had long been a friend of Mrs. George, who had crossed from Europe on the same steamer as he forty years ago. When his visits to her home ceased, in June last, she went to see him, and found him so ill that she determined to send him to St. Luke's Hospital. Before he died there he made a statement expressing his wish that all his property should go to her, and he gave her the key of his safe deposit box. The box will be opened shortly by the administrators, who are required to furnish a bond in $250,000. It is not believed that Herschel owned anything beyond the contents of this box.

N. Y. PENNSYLVANIANS TO DINE.

Governors of Six States to Be at the Society's Dinner.

The Pennsylvania Society in New York is arranging to make its fifth annual dinner, which is to be held at the Waldorf-Astoria next Saturday evening, of unusual interest. Although so recent in its organization, the Pennsylvania Society is now the largest of the State societies in the metropolis, having a membership of more than six hundred. More than five hundred seats have already been taken for Saturday night's feast, which will be distinguished by the presence of at least five Governors, and two more will be represented if they do not personally attend.

Americans with keen historical memories will recall that in her Colonial vicissitudes Pennsylvania was pretty well mixed up with that surrounding territory which is now comprised in six of her neighboring States. Besides having once been a part of the State of New York, Pennsylvania in the early days had to defend her northern part from Connecticut's claim to its ownership, and her southern part from the claims of Maryland. Delaware, which was once a part of the Duke of York's dominions, and as such was ceded to Penn, was long governed by appointees of Pennsylvania's proprietors before she broke away as a separate entity. Virginia claimed the southwestern part of Pennsylvania, administered law in Pittsburg as late as 1776, and it was not until 1786 that the boundaries between these States were fixed. William Penn's connection with Jersey in an arbitration dispute, leading later to his purchase of East Jersey, brought about his foundation of Pennsylvania, so New Jersey is regarded by the Pennsylvanians as intimately bound up with their State.

The society on these grounds has invited the Governors of the seven States—Pennsylvania and her six sisters—to be its guests at this year's banquet and make brief addresses to the steel and railroad kings and other successful Pennsylvanians who labor in this city of their mature love. Gov. Pennypacker of Pennsylvania, Gov. Murphy of New Jersey, Gov. Smith of Maryland, Gov. Hunn of Delaware and Gov. Chamberlain of Connecticut have accepted the invitation. Gov. Montague of Virginia is unable to be present, but will be represented by Congressman Beverley Tucker. Gov. Odell is as yet not certain whether he can attend. The chairman of this year's dinner committee is Thomas E. Kirby.

LINE-UP OF THE ALDERMEN.

Republicans Threaten Holdups if They Can't Name Their Own Committeemen.

President Fornes of the Board of Aldermen is at work remodelling the committees of the board for next year. He has had several conferences with Little Tim Sullivan and John T. McCall. It is understood that on the committees of nine members there will be only three Republicans and only two on the committees of seven members. In the new board there will be only twenty-two Republican Aldermen.

The Republicans will be content if the naming of the Republican minority on the committees is left to a caucus of their body. With President Cromwell of Richmond they will have twenty-three votes, while the Democrats, with Presidents Littleton, Cassidy, Ahearn and Haffen and Mr. Fornes, will have fifty-six votes. It requires sixty votes to pass an appropriation, and the Republicans threaten that unless their request is acceded to they will vote solidly against measures for the expenditure of money and so hold them up for six weeks. The object of the demand by the Republicans is to oust from all committees the men belonging to their party who have on various occasions sided with Tammany.

It is settled that John T. McCall shall remain at the head of the Finance Committee and also be appointed vice-chairman. Little Tim Sullivan will take McCall's place as leader on the floor.

P. J. Scully, the present City Clerk, will be reelected. His six year term expires at the end of this year.

FREE, AS BROOD STOCK.

Collector Overruled About Mr. Calbraith's Stallions.

The Board of United States General Appraisers has reversed the decision of Collector Stranahan in regard to seven blooded stallions imported for breeding purposes by A. Calbraith. The importer sought free entry for the animals as animals imported specially for breeding. Duty was assessed at 25 per cent. ad valorem as on "horses or mules valued at over $150." The collector stated that duty was thus assessed because it had not been satisfactorily shown that the animals were not for sale. The affidavit of the importer read that the animals were "imported for breeding purposes only and my own use." The affidavit of the shipper, sworn to before the United States Consul, was to the same effect, and a certificate signed by the secretary of the "Suffolk Horse Society," under its seal, properly testified to the pedigree of the stallions, stating that they were blooded animals. The opinion was written for the board by Appraiser Israel F. Fischer.

MILITIA DINNER TO ODELL.

All Officers of the National Guard to Be Invited to Be Present.

Arrangements are being made by officers of the National Guard to give a dinner to Gov. Odell, early next month, in Manhattan, to which all officers of the National Guard will be invited to be present.

The State rifle team, which won the national trophy at Sea Girt, will be guests of the officers, and the national trophy will be formally presented to the Governor by Major-Gen. Roe. Adjutant-General Nelson Henry has the dinner arrangements in charge.

Major-Gen. Roe and staff will give a dinner to the State rifle team at Delmonico's on Tuesday evening, Dec. 22.

ART DEALERS SUE DELMONICO.

The De Terssacs Say He Owes Them $4,274—He Denies It.

Delphine Michel, dowager Countess de Terssac, and Mme. Marguerite de Terssac, who compose the firm of E. Le Roy & Co., art dealers in Paris, have brought a suit in the Supreme Court to recover $4,274 from L. Crist Delmonico of 166 Fifth avenue. They say it is a balance due on paintings which Mr. Delmonico purchased.

Mr. Delmonico admits that he has purchased a large number of paintings abroad of late years, amounting in value to over $125,000, but says that he has fully paid for all his purchases, and that there is nothing due the plaintiffs. He also sets up that the plaintiffs have a similar suit pending against him in France.

The Seagoers.

Passengers by the Cunarder Campania, in from Liverpool and Queenstown:

Count Morse de Agreda, Frederick Arnold, Herbert W. Bowen, United States Minister to Venezuela; Lionel Craden, British Minister Resident in Cuba; George S. Eastwick, C. C. Minzesheimer, John W. Ryan, Arthur T. Shand, Isaac Stern, Daniel B. Towner, Fitz Hugh Whitehouse.

The American liner St. Louis, from Southampton and Cherbourg, brought in:

John W. Baird, W. P. Clyde, William C. Dickerman, Mrs. James Elverson, Col. James Elverson, Jr., Morgan E. Fife, Major E. W. Halford, U. S. A.; Hanbury Tracy, J. B. S. Henderson, J. R. Horslay, J. S. Patterson, W. P. Richardson, Francis J. Turner, A. L. Barber and James Watson.

Killed by Friend's Gun in the Woods.

Andrew Barber, a well-known resident of Bayonne, who lived with his family at 1007 Avenue D, died yesterday in a hospital in Pennsylvania of wounds accidentally received while hunting with several friends. A gun carried by Alexander Sayles got caught in some brush and the weapon was discharged, the shot entering Barber's body

COP LOCKED UP—EXTORTION.

ACCUSED OF TAKING $6 FOR RECOVERING A WATCH.

Kotteman Was Arrested in a Saloon After He'd Taken Marked Bills From a Man Whose Watch Was Stolen and Recovered—His Record Said Not to Be Good.

Policeman Frederick R. Kotteman of the Fifth street station was arrested yesterday by Policeman Rappold, who is detailed to the District Attorney's office. Kotteman was accused of extortion, and was locked up in the station where, a few minutes before, he had been on reserve duty.

Kotteman's case, according to those at the District Attorney's office, is a good example of the petty graft that is going on in the Police Department. The policeman was arrested after Charles Nowak of 144 Howard street, Newark, had paid him $5 in marked bills to recover a watch that had been stolen from him.

John Stadler of 216 Second street stole the watch on Nov. 11, and pawned it. He was arrested by Policeman Kotteman, and on Thursday last entered a plea of guilty in the General Sessions and was sent to jail for a year. After the court proceedings, according to Nowak, he went with his brother and the policeman to a saloon and had a drink.

Kotteman, it is alleged, turned to the complainant's brother and remarked:

"You tell Charlie not to forget me for my trouble in this case."

"How about the watch and chain?" asked its owner.

"Oh, that's all right. I'll get it for $15," Kotteman is said to have answered.

The Nowaks protested that they had only a little more than $1, but, after considerable haggling, they say, the policeman agreed to take $1 down, get the watch and meet them yesterday in a saloon at Fourth street and First avenue, where he was to receive more money.

Nowak went to the District Attorney's office with his story, and County Detectives Hammond and Reardon and Policeman Rappold went with him yesterday noon to the saloon. The policeman and detectives remained outside while Nowak went into the back room, found Kotteman and paid over $5.

When they came out Kotteman was grabbed by the detectives and hustled over to the police station. He was in uniform at the time, and when he was searched two marked $2 bills and one marked $1 bill were found in his pocket.

Capt. McDermott immediately suspended Kotteman, took his shield and locked him up. The policeman declared that he was innocent and that his arrest was a put up job. As there was no bench warrant issued in the case he will be arraigned in the Yorkville police court this morning.

Kotteman was appointed to the police force on Oct. 24, 1896, and has spent most of his time in the Eldridge street precinct. It is said that his record has been none too good. He is married and has a child. Capt. McDermott says that Nowak's watch is in the custody of the property clerk at police headquarters and that Kotteman had an order for its return to him.

FATAL FIRE FOLLOWS WAKE.

Two Men Died in Effort to Rescue Body of Woman From Flames.

Two men were burned to death and two others were slightly injured at a fire that followed a wake at 87 First street, Brooklyn, at 5 o'clock yesterday morning. The men who lost their lives were Michael Stafford, 78 years old, who owned and lived in the First street house, and Charles Burley, 23 years old, of 241 State street. The injured are: John Gilligan, 22 years old, who lived in the house, head and hands burned; Arthur Wrenn, 27 years old, of 40 First street, head and arms burned.

Mrs. Mary Gilligan, housekeeper for Michael Stafford, died in the Long Island College Hospital on Thursday. On Friday night a wake was held in the Gilligan apartments on the first floor. Another wake was being held at the same time in 91 First place over the body of Arthur Dougherty, 9 years old, who died in the Long Island College Hospital on Wednesday of hydrophobia. The Gilligan and Dougherty families were friends, and the relatives and neighbors went from one house to the other during the night.

About 3 o'clock yesterday morning only a few friends were left in the Gilligan home, and they were soon asleep in chairs. In the front room was the coffin containing Mrs. Gilligan's body. It is believed that one of the candles burning beside the coffin fell over and set fire to the draperies. One of the mourners was suddenly awakened by the smoke and found the room in flames. He awakened the others, and all ran out of the room. Mr. Stafford and Charles Burley volunteered to rescue the body and reentered the burning building. They must have succeeded in reaching the coffin and were evidently carrying it out, for when the flames were extinguished the firemen found the bodies of Stafford and Burley beside the coffin near the door leading into the hall. Mrs. Gilligan's body was badly charred.

Dominick Dougherty, father of Arthur Dougherty, left his home to give what aid he could. He remembered that Michael Logan, his wife and four children lived on the second floor of the burning house. When he learned that they had not been seen, he and Peter Gilligan and a neighbor forced their way upstairs, kicked in the door and awakened the Logans. Quilts were wrapped around the children, and all got to the street in safety.

Ambulance Surgeon Rossiter, of the Long Island Hospital, was summoned to attend to John Gilligan and Arthur Wrenn. The bodies of Mrs. Gilligan and the men were taken to an undertaker's. Stafford, who was married, but did not live with his wife, was a veteran of the civil war. His wife, who lives with relatives in Bath Beach, will take charge of the funeral.

The damage to the furniture and building is estimated at $1,500. Acting Fire Marshal Beers will investigate the fire to-morrow. Arrangements for three funerals will be made to-day.

TO FOSTER SCHOOL ATHLETICS.

Superintendent Maxwell Gives His Approval to the New League.

W. H. Maxwell, City Superintendent of Schools, gave out yesterday a statement of his views in regard to the new Public School Athletic League. He said in part:

Now the substitution of controlled athletics for uncontrolled, erratic contests is different only in degree from substituting pure, clean, valuable exercises and sport for the undesirable amusements to which a city subjects a child. The city child has naturally little that encourages the healthy young animal growth. Lecturing a boy about cigarette smoking may be effective, but I doubt if it will work half so quickly as the argument in practice that he who smokes cannot run so well, jump so high or play ball so effectively as his more temperate comrades. The dishonesty and brawling in play seen so constantly in the street wherever children gather may be corrected by ethical argument, but a much quicker teacher is that practice which gives the boy a taste of the other thing—an athletic contest won fairly and squarely by sheer, clean prowess of body and mind. The league is to encourage these things. Its object is not merely to hold a meet in Madison Square Garden and then to lose interest. This meet is but the beginning. The league aims to secure playing places for the children and to foster by every possible means controlled athletics among young people.

In this connection I believe that the league can be of great service by encouraging a system under which all children—boys and girls, too, if possible—play or take personal part in athletic sports. This is the opposite of the method, now encouraged too generally by our colleges, of having one or two specialists in each line of sport trained and prepared for record breaking while the mass of students take no part in the games beyond that of the applauding looker-on. A better way would be, I think, to give full and careful training to the majority and allow the specialists to pick themselves out by their actual performances in competition. The League, I trust, will act on this principle and rather at the development of many normal children than at the fostering, by hothouse methods, of a few athletic exotics.

ST. LOUIS FAIR STATUARY.

Sculptor Bitter Invites Artists to His Big Studio at Union Hill.

About four hundred painters, sculptors and architects went to Union Hill yesterday afternoon and inspected the statuary, or at least so much of the statuary, finished and unfinished, for the St. Louis exposition as has not been sent to the fair grounds already. The invitation to inspect the studios where the statuary is being executed was extended by the National Sculpture Society through the courtesy of Karl Bitter, who has charge of all the sculpture for the fair.

At present about two-thirds of the statuary for the exposition has been completed and thirty-two carloads of it have been shipped to the fair grounds. Mr. Bitter said yesterday that all the statuary would be finished by April 1, next year. Yesterday a car loaded with statuary was standing outside of the principal studio, where the statuary was on exhibition, ready to be sent to St. Louis.

Mr. Bitter's studio is on the Hudson County Boulevard, at Snyder's Point, Union Hill. It is a large, barn-like structure, because some of the figures are of heroic size. Most of the work is being done in this studio, although there are other smaller studios nearby. Those who were invited to the exhibition were met at the Hoboken ferry by carriages and taken to the studio. Mr. Bitter met the visitors and explained how the work was being done, the meaning of the different groups and figures and, incidentally how the statuary was boxed and made ready for shipment.

The two most striking figures were equestrian statues of heroic size. Each of the statues is 22 feet high. One represents St. Louis and the other is a statue of De Soto. The statue of St. Louis is by Charles Niehaus and it is to be at the entrance of the fair grounds. The one of De Soto is by C. E. Potter.

A group represents the signing of the Louisiana Purchase. This group is the work of Mr. Bitter. It represents Monroe, later President, but then Envoy Extraordinary to France and Livingston, the United States Minister to France sitting at a table. Marbois, the French Minister of Finance, who signed the papers when the purchase was completed, is in the act of signing a paper and Monroe and Livingston are watching him. This group is to be a part of the monument commemorating the purchase of Louisiana by the United States.

Another large sized group represents sea lions fighting. This is by F. G. R. Roth. Then there are decorative pieces by I. Konti and a portrait statue of Reneault, the French explorer, by Sterling Calder, of Philadelphia.

MINISTER BOWEN RETURNS.

The Hague Tribunal to Give Its Decision on Venezuela Case on Feb. 1.

Herbert W. Bowen, United States Minister to Venezuela, returned yesterday morning on the steamship Campania from The Hague Tribunal, where he appeared as the representative of the United States and Venezuela.

"In all twelve countries were represented before The Hague Tribunal," said Mr. Bowen. "The question submitted to the tribunal was whether Great Britain, Germany and Italy are entitled by reason of the war which they instituted against Venezuela to have their claims against that country paid before other creditors are paid. The decision on that question, which will be forthcoming on Feb. 1, when the Tribunal meets to announce its decision, will be of great importance, inasmuch as it will establish a precedent that will indicate what methods creditor nations should pursue in the future in collecting claims."

Mr. Bowen said that in the course of the sessions the court heard every "possible and impossible" argument in favor of war and warlike methods for collecting national debts, and they also heard every enlightened and humane reason why creditors adopting peaceable methods should not be held to have forfeited their right to equality of treatment to bellicose creditors.

"If we were a little further advanced in civilization," said Mr. Bowen, "arbitrators would no doubt have been asked by all to decide that preferential treatment be given to the nations that refrained from resorting to war and endeavored to collect their claims by diplomacy.

"But arbitration is comparatively a new institution, and until the Venezuelan case arose the nations did not regard The Hague Tribunal with great favor.

"It was even thought that some of the strongest nations were opposed to recognizing the Tribunal at all. However that may be, the most ardent supporters of arbitration are now quite unanimous in asserting that this Venezuelan case, in which no fewer than twelve nations are interested, has given The Hague Tribunal the recognition and respect it needed as the supreme international court of justice and peace.

"The credit for securing for it this general recognition and respect is due to President Roosevelt. He advised at the beginning of the contention that it should be taken to The Hague. Nearly all our Presidents have done something for our people of great and permanent value, but to President Roosevelt belongs the unique distinction of performing two services for the lasting benefit of mankind. He removed all obstacles to the construction of the Panama Canal and secured the general recognition and respect for The Hague Tribunal."

Mr. Bowen would not attempt to forecast the decision.

PATRONAGE FOR BROOKLYN.

McCarren Wants to Name the New Bridge Commissioner.

Senator Patrick H. McCarren will, it is generally understood, be allowed to distribute most of the patronage for Brooklyn under the McClellan administration. It is also understood that Brooklyn is to receive most generous treatment because of the fine showing made there for the ticket in spite of the revolt of Hugh McLaughlin.

Senator McCarren will make a strong bid for the Bridge Commissionership for Brooklyn, and if he succeeds may suggest the name of James H. Tully, who was Deputy Fire Commissioner in Brooklyn during the Van Wyck administration. It is suggested that Luke D. Stapleton, by reason of his high standing as a lawyer and his conceded executive ability, would make an efficient head for the Bridge Department. Isaac M. Kapper is strongly backed for Assistant Corporation Counsel, especially by ex-Senator Coffey.

Among others who are expected to get places are: ex-Register Henry F. Haggerty, William Brennan, William A. Doyle, William R. McGuire, ex-Sewer Commissioner James Kane, Dennis Winters, Conrad Hasenflug, James B. Bouck and Arthur C. Salmon.

Vogel for Congress?

Friends of Martin H. Vogel believe that he is now the first choice for Representative in Congress from the district which Col. McClellan will leave to become Mayor. Mr. Vogel is a young lawyer downtown to whom Mr. Croker once promised a Congress nomination.

Business Troubles.

Judge Fitzgerald of the Supreme Court has appointed Daniel Birdsall receiver of the rents of a ten story apartment hotel, 157 and 159 West 124th street, in a suit brought by Frederick Ayer against the Ten Associates and others to foreclose a second mortgage on the property for $55,000, made by the Ten Associates on Nov. 17, 1902. There is a prior mortgage of $150,000, and the total incumbrances are $214,000. The Ten Associates is a corporation organized by Boston men to build the hotel. It was incorporated on June 12, 1901, with a capital stock of $175,000, which was increased to $350,000. Winslow B. Clark is now the owner of the property.

A petition in bankruptcy has been filed against A. Lewyn & Co., a corporation, manufacturers of women's waists, at 65 Bleecker street.

THE REAL ESTATE MARKET.

HARLEM CONTINUES TO BE THE MAIN SEAT OF ACTIVITY.

Building Stimulated in Brooklyn and Queens by the New East River Bridge —The Bronx Influenced to a Less Extent by the Rapid Transit Road.

Of the few large brokerage transactions reported last week the sale of the S. L. Vandeveer farm in Flatlands, Brooklyn, was undoubtedly the one most typical of the direction which the growth of the city is expected to take in the immediate future. During the past five years the bulk of the capital invested in new housing has gone into large elevator flats on the West Side, in Harlem and on Washington Heights, into costly private buildings and into apartment hotels and big tenements, replacing smaller houses in the midtown and downtown parts of Manhattan. Owing to want of adequate transportation, the tremendous increase of population during those years has to an unusual extent had to be provided with housing in taller buildings near the centre of trade and industry. The opening of the new East River Bridge and the subway will undoubtedly mark the beginning of a new era, during which population will tend to disperse into the outlying boroughs and the northerly part of Manhattan.

The Vanderveer farm was sold through E. J. and S. Grant to a syndicate represented by Gilbert Elliott. It consists of eighty acres and will be resold in building lots next spring, after having been improved by the opening of streets and the introduction of city improvements. It is one of the few big undeveloped tracts remaining in the new wards of Brooklyn. The building up of these wards has proceeded with extraordinary rapidity since the trolley and elevated railways of Brooklyn were admitted to Manhattan over the Brooklyn Bridge. The building activity in South Brooklyn has increased during the current year, in spite of the dangerously overcrowded conditions of the old bridge. The increase, however, has been largely in anticipation of the relief expected from the new gateway to Manhattan.

The new East River bridge will divert that great volume of travel from Brooklyn which has the shopping district and the wholesale dry goods and manufacturing sections for its objective points. This volume of travel is undoubtedly equal to, if it does not exceed, that which turns from the Manhattan City Hall toward the financial district. The new East River bridge will not only furnish relief from the crush on the Brooklyn Bridge, but it will give direct transportation to great areas of territory now off the main lines of through travel. Its importance to the growth of Brooklyn and Queens would be regarded as perhaps equal to that of the Brooklyn Bridge, were it not that it will soon be supplemented by other bridges and tunnels.

The district north of the Harlem River is, indeed, giving signs of a revival of realty activity in anticipation of enlarged transportation facilities. The prospective opening of the subway has not, however, stimulated building there to the same extent that the East River bridge has encouraged housing construction in Brooklyn and Queens. The partition sale of lots in The Bronx by the Tiffany estate last week was somewhat of a disappointment. These lots, though near the line of the Rapid Transit road, brought lower prices than was generally expected. It may be urged that this sale did not bring out a full expression of the existing demand for building sites within the territory contiguous to the Rapid Transit road, because of the conditions of the sale. The Tiffany lots were offered subject to unpaid taxes, the amount of which could only be approximated by intending bidders.

Even apart from any conclusion that may be drawn from this sale, however, it is evident that the development of The Bronx is not proceeding as rapidly as housing conditions and the near completion of the subway seem to warrant.

Perhaps one of the main reasons is that the excessive cost of condemnation proceedings for street openings under the system of condemnation now in force affects The Bronx more widely than other parts of the city. Assessments for street openings and other local improvements are particularly numerous there, and tend to depress the value of property. The wastefulness of the present system of condemnation proceedings that was brought out before the legal practice investigating committee last week was astonishing, and it is to be hoped that a speedy relief will be effected.

Trading in Manhattan was along the lines which it has recently followed. It lacked variety, but the activity in the uptown flat and tenement sections continued to show an increase over last year's. Outside these sections two important building operations were announced—an apartment house at West End avenue and 101st street and a hotel at No. 4 to 8 East Twenty-eighth street. The latter represents a class of undertakings which do not figure prominently in current construction projects. It is, however, the third of its kind recently planned in Twenty-seventh and Twenty-eighth streets between Fifth and Madison avenues. The fact that it is to be a hotel, instead of an apartment hotel, is suggestive of the difficulty which is being experienced in finding tenants for the great number of apartment hotels recently completed. Some of these buildings, originally intended for permanent residents, have in the last half year been changed into hotels for transient patrons.

Private Sales.

New York real estate operators have been attracted to Brooklyn since the burning of the Academy of Music, to see if that site, consisting of 250 feet on Montague street by 100 feet in depth, could be purchased for improvement. Fred M. Smith of Nos. 38 to 44 Court street has appraised the site for one group of operators and upon the strength of his appraisal, $700,000 has been offered for the property. It is known that 100 of the 200 feet will be taken by a local caterer, as the site of an establishment, which will include a banquet hall seating 600.

S. Osgood Pell & Co. have sold for Mrs. George H. Holte her country residence at Great Neck, L. I., to Gilbert M. Plympton of Redmond, Kerr & Co. The estate, consisting of about sixteen acres, fronts on Little Neck Bay and Bay View avenue. The house is one of the handsomest on Long Island. The property is said to have brought about $125,000.

Post & Reese, in addition to the recent sales to Senator Dryden and S. S. Wheeler, have sold at Bernardsville, N. J., for Charles G. Westlecraft to Percy R. Pyne about two acres of land and buildings, for Jacob Cole to Joseph Larocque, Jr., about four acres of land and buildings; for George H. Gaston to Julius A. Stursberg, about twenty-one acres of unimproved land, for Robert L. Stevens and Caroline B. Alexander to Thomas Hunt about thirty acres of unimproved land and for Walter P. Bliss to William Alexander about twenty acres of unimproved land.

Collins & Collins have sold for Mrs. Elizabeth J. Simonson No. 119 East Seventieth street, a four story brownstone dwelling, on lot 15.3x100.5. It is between Park and Lenox avenues, in what is regarded as the choicest block on Lenox Hill.

Richard V. Harnett & Co. have sold for Dr. C. F. Meyers to Robert Scott No. 258 West Thirty-sixth street, a three story and basement brick dwelling, on lot 18.4x98.9.

George J. Reessing has sold to Thomas F. Taylor No. 247 West Seventy-fourth street, a three story and basement dwelling, on lot 20x102.2. Mr. Taylor has resold the property to Charles V. Hoffman.

E. Victor Loew has sold to a client of