true on the Jersey Central, but the Erie was not so well off. Local trains got in early in the day bout fifteen minutes late, but through trains were much later. To reduce the congestion several of the local trains were taken off in the afternoon.

The Erie people had their worst troubles in handling the home going commuters. The ice in the North River delayed the ferryboats, and the switches in the yard kept getting clogged. The suburban trains were sent out as well as they could be, but several thousand commuters had to wait in the station. This crowd of commuters was angry clear through and made the railroad people very tired. They wanted to know why the Erie wasn't able to get its tracks clear in two days and if the road was ever going to be run right. The railroad men said they were doing their level best.

General Superintendent Potter of the Long Island road said yesterday that all branches of the road had been cleared of snow, but ice made the rails so slippery that long haul trains were from twenty to thirty minutes late. Locals, he said, were practically on time.

Assistant General Superintendent Smith of the New York Central said: "This has been the coldest snap and the hardest to contend with I have ever met in this section. We seldom have to fight bitter cold weather and a snow storm at the same time. At many places, telegraph wires have broken from the contraction due to the cold. We have reports of freight trains hauled by two engines that are hardly more than crawling along. Men have been working in fearful weather and without sleep for many hours. Their nerves are showing the tension at which they have been held.

"I was up in the switch tower in the yards on Monday night, directing the movement of trains. In pulling out a coupling pin, one of the brakemen slipped and his head was crushed. Ordinarily, an accident of this kind would have no serious effect on the men who saw it. Last night, after the body had been carried away, many of them became so unnerved that they could do no more work until they had had a long sleep."

WORST OF THE COLD IS OVER.

North River Frozen Over—Arctic Temperatures in Outlying Boroughs.

Even officially, the temperature of the ice-encompassed town was colder yesterday by 2 degrees than in any January since 1875, when it dropped to 6 degrees below zero, the Government record for Manhattan Island. On two days in February, 1899, it was also 6 degrees below. The subterranean heat of the steam and electric plants in lofty office buildings and factories doubtless had something to do with keeping the mercury from going lower. In places on the sparsely settled outskirts of the city and along the shores of the ice-jammed Hudson, which is frozen over above 100th street, unofficial thermometers recorded from 6 to 10 degrees below. Some instruments in the arctic borough of Richmond, surrounded by ice massed on its shores, showed a temperature of 18 and 20 degrees below zero. On the shores of Newark Bay, navigable only with iceboats, it was 12 degrees below, and even so near as Elizabeth, N. J., the Government thermometer marked 16 degrees.

In all our frozen boroughs, including the remotest parts of the wilderness of Queens, the northwesterly wind had the force of a mere zephyr most of the day and night, and travellers afoot were able to bear the low temperature with equanimity, if not cheerfulness. It was a bracing, moistureless cold that inspired walkers to throw out their chests and breathe like professors of physical culture in pictures.

The temperatures of the morning fluctuated between 4 degrees below, registered at 5 o'clock, and 1 degree above, at 11 o'clock. At noon the mercury rose to three degrees above and steadily ascended until it had reached 10 degrees, at 8 o'clock in the evening. Forecaster Emery said he saw nothing on his chart last night to indicate any sudden change in weather conditions. The temperature will rise gradually, probably registering 10 or 12 degrees higher this morning than it did yesterday.

The disturbance discovered off the Carolina coast was driven seaward by the high pressure. It is not unlikely that we may get a touch of snow to-day or to-night due to the passage over the Lake region of a low pressure.

The broad chunks of thick green ice which floated up and down the bay and the North and East rivers yesterday had more or less fun with navigation. No steam craft felt quite proud enough to ram them incontinently. Sailing vessels kept close to "sloop harbor," 'round the lee of Governors Island and did not breast them at all unless led by a tug.

One schooner, the Charles K. Buckley, a three-master, eight days out of Charleston, with a big load of yellow pine, had something of an Artic experience. She reached the sloop anchorage on Saturday night. The heaving and hauling of the ice at her sides opened her seams. The crew did the best they knew how at the pumps, but they could not keep up with the water.

Two tugs, the Wetherell and the Villard, saw that the Buckley was in distress and made for her at daybreak yesterday. The Wetherell could not break through the ice, but the Villard managed to get to the Buckley's side. Capt. Grant found Capt. Rulon, with his mate and crew of six men eating breakfast on the top of the Buckley's deckhouse. The schooner's deck was awash and she seemed in a fair way to be waterlogged. There was four feet of water in the cabin and the ice had knocked in all the ports. The Villard took the mate and the crew to Brooklyn. The captain said that he would stay by the ship until she could be hauled through the ice to Erie basin, where her cargo could be saved.

Buttermilk Channel was practically closed by ice. The Thirty-ninth Street Ferry suspended navigation early in the morning. On the North River there was some delay of all ferryboats in getting into and out of ferry slips. In the East River there also was a considerable interference caused by ice floes out in the middle of the river.

The air, many degrees colder than the water, caused a constant condensation of the steam hanging above the surface of the water. This made a queer, spurting, low, surface fog which covered the whole bay almost all of the morning. Some Battery folk called it a "berber"; they were at once rebuked by a numerous gathering of deep sea experts, headed by the venerable Skipper Merriweather, who averred that berbers couldn't be except in the good old summer time.

MANY STREETS FREE OF SNOW.

100,000 Cubic Yards Removed, Dr. Woodbury Says.

Street Cleaning Commissioner John McGaw Woodbury and his army of street cleaners made considerable progress yesterday in getting the snow off the streets and avenues where traffic is heaviest. Commissioner Woodbury estimated at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon that 400,000 cubic yards had been carted away since he tackled the job. Then one of his experts figured it out that 400,000 cubic yards of snow would make a pile about twice the size of the Park Row building.

Major Woodbury made a report to Mayor McClellan yesterday showing what had been done in the snow removal problem. The report consisted of a map, which the Mayor carried over to the City Hall yesterday afternoon. The map was made up under the direction of the Street Cleaning Commissioner, and it showed just what streets had been cleared and what streets hadn't.

Broadway had been cleared up to Forty-seventh street. The Bowery, Park row, Fifth avenue to the Plaza, and, in fact, all the streets that are used the most had been cleared.

No attempt has been made actually to sweep the streets of the snow. This has been found impossible because a layer of snow and ice has formed wherever the traffic was heavy. The street cleaners will have to dig this away with picks or wait until it thaws.

The weather has been too much for many of the street cleaners. Eight retired yesterday and could not go back to work. A

To the novice in catalogue making the plates may seem a minor detail. Yet, the half-tones are the keystone of the entire structure. The GILL Engraving Company,

140 Fifth Avenue

number quit for a time, but when they had been thawed out they returned to work.

In a great many cases the men have been frost bitten, some severely. Commissioner Woodbury hasn't escaped. He has been out most of the time looking after things, and two fingers and his cheeks were nipped. The Commissioner made light of it, and said it was nothing to what some of his men had suffered.

Commissioner Woodbury brought joy to the street cleaners yesterday afternoon by sending out a wagon with hot coffee, sandwiches and hot beans. The wagon was an ordinary one of the delivery type and was equipped with two heaters.

The money which went for the coffee, beans and sandwiches did not come from the city treasury. Mr. Woodbury says that some kind friend provided it. He refused to tell the name of the friend on the ground that he might not like it, but said it was a great thing for the city.

The wagon with the coffee and other hot things was in charge of Supt. Shanton. It made a trip all over the city, especially in the downtown districts. When the wagon appeared the men greeted it with cheers. Then they quit work and gathered around the wagon. Steaming coffee was handed out and the men ate while they shovelled. The men in charge of the gangs said that the appearance of the coffee wagon put a lot of energy into the work.

"Supt. Shanton is the most popular man in New York this minute," said Major Woodbury. "When he appears the men stand up and cheer him.

"It's a great thing, too. The men are doing much better and faster work. It's money in the city's pocket, even if the city is not putting up the cost. It is to be expected that when the men have food and warm coffee inside of them they will put more heart into their work."

When the men heard that the money for the coffee and sandwiches was not coming from the city they guessed that Major Woodbury was the "kind friend." So did Mayor McClellan.

"The city is not paying for it," said the Mayor. "The Commissioner tells me that some kind friend is doing it. I think the Commissioner is the man."

63 FIRES YESTERDAY.

Snow Hampers the Firemen—Tenants Shiver in the Streets.

The Fire Department had twenty-one fires to tackle between midnight and 8 o'clock yesterday morning, and by midnight last night there had been sixty-three.

There was no loss of life and no serious accidents were reported, but the people who were awakened and driven into the streets scantily clothed suffered greatly.

Most of the fires were in tenement neighborhoods and the occupants were forced out. The snow in the streets hampered the firemen in their work.

The most serious fire occurred at 4:20 o'clock, in a five-story flat house at 501 West 125th street. Fifteen families, seventy persons in all, were rescued by the firemen and police. They were wrapped in what spare clothes and blankets the firemen had, and all were taken to the West 125th street station, where they got clothing and hot coffee.

The fire started on the top floor in the apartments of Eugene Blessing, who lived with his wife and eight-year-old boy Willie. Mrs. Blessing discovered the flames in a cupboard in the kitchen. She aroused the two other families on the floor and then sent her boy to the hallway downstairs, where he rang all the electric bells, arousing most of the others in the house. By this time the entire house was in an uproar, and a policeman on post turned in an alarm. The firemen on arrival devoted their attention to getting all hands out of the house.

The fire spread rapidly, and by the time it was extinguished the building was unfit for occupancy. The damage done was $8,000.

SMASHED CAR DOOR IN.

And Nobody Did Anything to a Longshoreman Getting In Out of the Cold.

Nobody wanted to ride on the elevated train platforms in the rush hour last night, but many people had to, and great was the jam to get inside out of the cold. A husky longshoreman who boarded a Harlem express at Franklin street managed to get on the platform of the last car, but found the door held shut by the crowd inside.

The car was of the old fashioned type with the hinge door. An attempt to push it open failed, so the longshoreman, stepping back, put his weight against it. Door and hinges gave way, and the man stepped into the car, carrying the door with him.

The passengers were angry when the cold blast blew in and the conductor was angrier still, but no one cared to tackle the husky longshoreman.

"Sure, it's the best fun I've had since I buried me furst wife," he remarked, and when the train reached 116th street he stepped out and went unmolested to the street.

2,000 FAMILIES IN NEED.

Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor Asks for $50,000.

Two thousand destitute families need coal, food, medicine and clothing, and $50,000 must be raised to meet this need. This is the appeal sent out by the Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor. Within the next two months the number of needy and deserving will rise to 3,000 families, 15,000 individuals in all. Some of these can buy their own coal, but not one can buy the other things necessary to ward off suffering and disease. The society says that the need is real and that the response should be prompt before exposure leads to enervation and disease. Contributions may be sent to Robert Shaw Minturn, 105 East Twenty-second street.

Returned Soldiers Feel the Cold.

MOUNT VERNON, N. Y., Jan. 5.—Some suffering is reported at the garrison at Fort Slocum, where several hundred soldiers just back from Cuba and the Philippines are stationed. The change in the climate has affected them, and many are reported ill

Sample Temperatures Up the State.

At Windham near Catskill, 42 below; at Albany, 23½; at Glens Falls, 36; at Owego, 36; in the Mohawk Valley, from 25 to 35; at Ogdensburg, 22; at Saranac Lake, 32; at Malone, 20.

HORSEWHIPPED FOR A HUG.

Nebraska Sunday School Teacher Punished for Insulting Former Pupil.

LINCOLN, Neb., Jan. 5.—Because he insisted upon a hug from Mrs. J. R. Ellison of Lincoln in payment for the use of the telephone in his store, C. W. Sanburn, a merchant of Friend, Neb., was horsewhipped in his place of business by the woman. Sanburn was held by the woman's husband, while she used the whip.

The insult was offered on Christmas Day, but the woman did not tell her husband till yesterday. Sanburn had his choice between a horsewhipping and a prosecution, and chose the whipping, remarking at the close that maybe he deserved it. The woman was until recently a member of the Sunday school class Sanburn taught.

TOOK THEIR USUAL ICY BATH.

Six Men Go in Swimming in Boston With the Thermometer at Zero.

BOSTON, Jan. 5.—Although the thermometer registered close to the zero point at noon to-day, the cold weather did not interfere with the daily bath in salt water of the six men who have been taking a dip regularly at the L street bath house, City Point.

Up to last Thursday the daily company numbered twelve. When the temperature dropped low several decided that they did not care to enter the water, but five or six have continued each day.

To-day the water was 28 degrees, slightly better than the congealed article that floated about the bay in large floes.

The regulars entered the slush with nothing on and tried to swim out to the solid ice. Some took twenty or thirty strokes, and one man reached forty strokes before he decided to leave the water. Then they hurried back to the warm office to get a quick and vigorous rubdown.

All agree that the worst shock is when the draught of air is first felt on leaving the bathhouse and that the after sensation well repays the exertion.

LANGTRY GREETS MRS. LANGTRY.

Texas Town Gives Her a Revolver, a Bear, a Team of Mules and a Tarantula.

EL PASO, Tex., Jan. 5.—When Lily Langtry yesterday reached Langtry, Tex., which was named in her honor, she got a reception unequalled in the West. Squire Roy Bean, better known as the "Law West of the Pecos," and now dead, named the town for Mrs. Langtry many years ago. On her westward journey she visited the village yesterday for the first time in its history.

News of her coming preceded her. When the Southern Pacific train arrived several cowboys were on hand to greet her with volleys from their sixshooters. After the pyrotechnics she was escorted to the saloon of the original Roy Bean, where his heirs presented her with his revolver. Other citizens gave her a pet bear and a team of mules, while a committee of children tendered her a tarantula confined in a filigree silver cage.

Mrs. Langtry accepted all the gifts but the mules and the bear, explaining that she could not take the large animals in the Pullman car.

MISSING $8,000,000 HEIRESS.

Report That the Much Sought For Ethel Rovell Is in Mobile, Ala.

MOBILE, Ala., Jan. 5.—Ethel Rovell of Birmingham, Ala., said to be a missing heiress to a fortune of $8,000,000, left to her by the death of an aunt in Denver, Col., is in the city and was seen here by newspaper men, but she declined to be interviewed. She has engaged the best known attorneys in the city to look after her interests in the West and they will not let her talk.

Ethel Rovell has been married twice and she is fully able to take care of herself. One of the husbands is living near Birmingham, Ala. J. M. Husky, an uncle of the girl, who has searched in several cities for her, is aware of the fact that his niece is in this city. A telegram was sent to him to-day by a well known man asking what reward would be paid for information as to the whereabouts of the missing woman, but no reply was received. Husky believes that the signature to the telegram is not the correct one and that it was an attempt to extort a reward.

TO MINE THEIR OWN COAL.

Large Boston Concerns Talk of Investing $10,000,000 in West Virginia.

BOSTON, Jan. 5.—On Tuesday next a party of Boston men, comprising representatives of the Boston Elevated Company, the American Woollen Company, the International Paper Company, the Boston Rubber Shoe Company, the Parker Wilder Mills, the Regal Shoe Company, the Sturtevant Blower Company, the American Sugar Refining Company, the American School Furniture Company and the Lawrence Mills will leave for West Virginia to inspect coal lands in the New River region with a view of purchasing in order to obtain their coal supply at cost.

These concerns consume annually nearly 2,000,000 tons of coal and because of the great increase in operating expenses last year, due to the increased cost of coal, they have hit upon the plan of owning their own mines to prevent a repetition of last year's expense and at the same time obtain their fuel at the lowest possible figure.

An option has been secured on about 20,000 acres of coal land partly developed and also upon pockets in Newport News and Boston where the coal can be handled promptly. Concerns other than those named also are likely to become interested in the enterprise, which is of such magnitude that the investment of fully $10,000,000 will be necessary to secure the mine, and wharves.

ADOPT JEROME'S EXCISE PLAN.

C. U.'s City Committee in Line With Citizens' Conference.

By a vote of 42 to 21 of the members of its city committee, the Citizens' Union last night indorsed District Attorney Jerome's plan for permitting saloons in New York city to keep open on Sundays between the hours of 1 o'clock in the afternoon and 11 o'clock at night.

The meeting lasted until nearly midnight. Mr. Jerome made a vigorous speech setting forth his ideas. Frank Moss spoke for local option by election districts.

Gen. Greene sent a letter outlining his local excise board scheme, but it found no support. Before voting the committee decided that a two-thirds vote was necessary to commit the union to the plan. The resolution carried by exactly a two-thirds vote. Its concluding paragraph read:

Resolved, That the Citizens' Union, while regarding the amendment to the liquor law proposed by Mr. Jerome as an insufficient solution of a complex and vexatious question, nevertheless approve the adoption of this amendment by the Legislature, believing it will perceptibly diminish the evils now existing and will mark a distinct if limited gain to social and political progress.

The recent citizens' excise conference committee indorsed the Jerome plan.

DEVERY SAYING NOTHING.

Sits on the Platform at His Monthly Meeting and Listens to His Thoughts.

After opening up the New Year with a feast and festivities that included wrestling matches and a couple of three-round bouts with the gloves, the William S. Devery Association, at its headquarters, 362 Eighth avenue, held its January meeting last night. The cold weather did not keep the boys away. There was a large turn-out. Dr. William J. Stewart presided and Big Bill himself was on the platform, but neither to formal invitations, nor cheers, nor vociferous calls would he respond with a speech.

"It's too early in the year to begin talkin'," he explained afterward. "I have nothing to say about the administration of Mr. McClellan. I prefer not to commit myself to any statement. I do not know the young man; never met him in my life."

The association by a rising vote indorsed a motion thanking Mr. Devery for the New Year's entertainment. A number of speeches were made to the effect that the Devery Association was still in the ring, meant to stay there, and would be heard from. All in a long list of applicants for membership were voted into the association.

To Cure a Cold in One Day.

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature is on each box. 25c.—*Ads.*

NO STEEL COMMON DIVIDEND.

NET QUARTERLY EARNINGS FALL OFF MORE THAN HALF.

Surplus About Twelve Millions, Against 34 for 1902—Preferred Dividend Declared as Usual—Passing of the Common Dividend Was Expected.

Payment of dividends upon the common stock of the United States Steel Corporation was discontinued yesterday by the corporation's directors. The usual quarterly dividend of 1¾ per cent. upon the preferred stock was declared. The action was generally expected by Wall Street, in view of the known large falling off in earnings.

Nineteen of the twenty-four directors attended the meeting. The absent directors were John D. Rockefeller, Marshall Field, Francis Peabody, Nathaniel Thayer and Senator John F. Dryden. The meeting, which began at 3 o'clock, lasted twenty minutes and the vote was unanimous.

The preferred dividend is payable on Feb. 15. The financial statement for 1903 of the corporation and its subsidiary companies showed net earnings for the final quarter of $14,845,042, against $31,985,760 for the corresponding quarter of 1902. The surplus, after fixed deducting charges of all kinds and dividends for the year, amounted to $11,962,645, against $34,253,657 for 1902. Following is the financial statement complete and comparisons with 1902:

NET EARNINGS.

	1903.		1902.
January	$7,425,775		$8,901,016
February	7,730,361		7,678,583
March	9,912,571		10,135,858
April	10,905,394		12,520,766
May	12,744,324		13,120,930
June	12,962,780		12,220,361
July	12,384,647		12,041,914
August	10,918,174		12,977,729
September	9,120,134		11,930,846
October	7,675,141		12,652,707
November	4,069,901		10,686,906
December (est.)	3,100,000		8,646,147
Total net earnings, less ordinary repairs, renewals and maintenance, interest on bonds and fixed charges of the subsidiary companies		$108,979,012	$133,308,763
Less: Appropriated for the following purposes, viz.: Sinking funds on bonds of subsidiary companies	$1,590,352		$624,064
Depreciation and extinguishment funds (regular provisions for the year)	4,485,120		4,834,710
Extraordinary replacement funds (regular provisions for the year)	9,194,715		9,315,615
Special fund for depreciation, improvements and construct'n.	10,000,000		10,000,000
Balance of net earnings for the year		$83,708,825	$108,534,374
Deduct: Interest on U. S. Steel Corporation bonds for year	$19,086,945		15,187,850
Sinking funds on U.S. Steel Corp'n bonds for year	3,797,500		3,040,000
		22,884,445	$18,227,850
Balance		$60,824,380	$90,306,524
Less: Charged off for depreciation in inventory valuations and for adjustment of sundry accounts (estimated)	5,750,000		
Balance available for dividends		$55,074,380	$90,306,524
Dividends for year on stocks of U. S. Steel Corp'n, viz.:			
Preferred, 7%	$20,404,173		35,720,177
Common, 2½%	12,707,562	43,111,735	20,332,690
Undivided profits or surplus for the year		$11,962,645	$34,253,657

W. J. FILBERT, Comptroller.

UNFILLED ORDERS ON HAND.

Dec. 31, 1903 ..... 3,215,123 tons.
Dec. 31, 1902 ..... 5,347,253 tons.

The corporation's fiscal year corresponds with the calendar year, and complete annual report, comprising general balance sheet, financial statements, statistics, &c., will be submitted at the annual meeting in April, 1904, or earlier.

The unfilled orders on hand amounted on Sept. 30, 1903, to 3,728,742 tons.

ARCHITECTURAL LEAGUE DINNER

F. Hopkinson Smith Tells of the Fall of the Campanile.

The January meeting and dinner of the Architectural League was held in the league rooms, at 215 West Fifty-seventh street, last night. There was a loan exhibition of art metal work, and after dinner some informal talks were given. Arnold W. Brunner, president of the league, was toastmaster.

F. Hopkinson Smith told of a recent trip to Venice and the crash of the fall of the Campanile. He said that the first 98 feet of the tower, which was 364 feet high, was made of rotten brick, which was presumably only sun dried, and that the Venetians were never satisfied to let it alone but were always changing the walls at the base and putting holes in them.

He said that one day a girl was sketching the tower. She looked down at her pad, and when she looked up again she could see nothing but a cloud of dust, which covered the bronze horses and San Marco. The ninety-eight feet of poor brick had simply collapsed beneath the weight above. The speaker added that he was examining the ruins, and found in the interior of the wall in the "backing" the white marble arm of a girl. He said that he was going back next year to bribe some Venetian to hew out the arm and give it to him.

QUESTIONS THE POSTMASTER.

P. O. Commission Has Van Cott as Its Last Witness.

Postmaster Van Cott spent two hours yesterday answering direct and leading questions put to him by the commission of post office inspectors now investigating the administration of the New York Post Office.

For nine weeks past that commission, composed of eight inspectors and headed by Major Frank E. Little, has been examining documents, leases and accounts and drawing up a report touching the affairs of the New York Post Office. The examination ends with the questioning of Mr. Van Cott.

At 2 o'clock Major Little came over from the Astor House and invited Mr. Van Cott to come across. Mr. Van Cott had had no previous notice that he was to be examined, except such information as he got from the newspapers.

The eight inspectors sat about the table, and Major Little, as chief inquisitor, did the questioning. All carefully noted Mr Van Cott's replies. After two hours of answering questions Mr. Van Cott was allowed to go.

When seen at his home last night he was very tired and declined to state the nature of the questions asked him, on the ground that he had promised secrecy.

SHE POSTPONED HER WEDDING.

Three Justices in Turn Had Been Summoned to "The Owl."

Justices of the Peace Joseph Brannar, John Stein and Charles Schneuriger received telephone messages at different hours Monday night to go to "The Owl," a saloon at Humboldt street and Bergenline avenue, Union Hill, to marry the proprietress, Miss Minnie Hoffmann, to James Bradley. When each reached the place Miss Hoffmann, who was behind the bar, assured him that she was in earnest about getting married.

She said she was willing to promise to love and cherish Bradley, but she drew the line on the word "obey" in the ceremony. Each justice offered to cut it out to oblige her.

She concluded, however, to postpone the wedding on account of the condition of her future husband, who had celebrated the event in advance. A party of friends who had been invited to see the knot tied were disappointed.

CABINET DISCUSSES FAR EAST.

Little Official News in Washington as to the Situation.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—With Russia and Japan involved in a controversy that may bring war at any moment the United States Government is almost wholly without information as to this critical situation. Nothing of a definite character has been received from any American diplomatic agent in Europe or Japan since conditions became acute; in fact, nothing whatever had come to the State Department on the subject for several weeks until the other day, when in response to specific instructions the United States Ambassadors at the great European capitals and the United States Minister at Tokio sent their views on the situation, all of a hopeful tenor.

It is evident that the Russian and Japanese ministries are observing profound secrecy as to the negotiations, not even taking their own diplomatic agents fully into their confidence. While the Japanese legation here receives despatches frequently from Tokio, telling something of what is going on, and the Russian Embassy gets occasional advices, these are not definite enough to indicate the outcome with any certainty. Enough is known, however, to justify the unanderstanding that the Japanese will not wait any great length of time for Russia's response to the last Japanese note, and that failing through serving an ultimatum to get a prompt response, Japan will assume a hostile attitude immediately Japan's position is that delay is all to the advantage of Russia in war preparation, and it would be the height of folly for Japan to permit her opponent to assemble armies and fleets while pretending to be considering the terms of the answer to Japan's communication.

The Japanese, it seems certain, will not tolerate the supposed desire of Russia to postpone making her responses until after the Russian new year.

President Roosevelt and his Cabinet had an earnest discussion to-day over the Russian-Japanese situation. While individual opinion may differ in the White House circle, the sympathy of the Government, as an official being, is entirely with Japan, whose policy with regard to Manchuria is practically the same as that of the United States, while Russia's position is entirely opposed. It is not the intention of the Government, however, to assume anything more than a neutral attitude toward the two combatants, should war occur.

For that reason the question of the distribution of the United States fleet in the Far East is a matter of serious consideration in Administration circles, the question being whether it would be wise to send American warships to protect American trade and other interests near the scene of conflict. Russia, it is surmised, would regard the presence near the theatre of war of a large American naval force as a menace to her own fleet, and the Administration apparently does not wish to take the risk of producing an unpleasantness on that account. When Rear Admiral Evans was ordered back to the Far East from Honolulu, with his battleship and cruiser squadrons, he was instructed to send a vessel to Midway Island, the ocean relay cable station between Honolulu and Guam, to get despatches.

The intention then was to telegraph to Midway specific instructions as to the distribution of Admiral Evans's ships should war between Russia and Japan come after he left Honolulu. On account of the uncertainty of the situation, a telegram was sent by Secretary of the Navy Moody to Midway for Admiral Evans, directing him to "await instructions at Guam." This despatch was delivered to the cruiser squadron, which touched at Midway on Jan. 3 and left the same day. The battleship squadron, under Admiral Evans's immediate command, was probably waiting at some nearby point for the cruiser squadron's report. Upon reaching Guam Admiral Evans will report his arrival and await directions from the Navy Department.

CUBAN LOTTERY BILL PASSED

House Passes Measure as Revenge on President Palma, It Is Said.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

HAVANA, Jan. 5.—The House of Representatives to-day approved the State Lottery bill by a large majority. This action was due, it is said, to the desire of the House to obtain revenge upon President Palma for vetoing the bill providing that Congressmen accused of crimes could only be tried by the Supreme Court. Public opinion strongly supported the President in vetoing this measure, and the House had to accept the veto.

The Loan bill is the order of the day for to-morrow in the House. It is said that the Senate may approve of the temporary tariff bill in order to be able to take an immediate recess.

LEBAUDY'S BAIT REFUSED.

Americans Not Tempted to Enter "Emperor of Sahara's" Service.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Jan. 5.—M. Jacques Lebaudy, the "Emperor of Sahara," has approached United States diplomatic and consular officials with the view of obtaining Americans for the imperial service in his "empire." M. Lebaudy says that he intends to form a navy and is anxious to secure American sailors for the service.

The officers have declined to be seduced into accepting positions by offers of Saharan decorations, pointing out that Americans who would join that navy would be liable to arrest as pirates.

POWDER FACTORY BLOWS UP.

Four Persons Killed and Several Injured in Cornwall.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Jan. 5.—There was a terrific explosion in the National Explosive Works at Hayle, in Cornwall, to-day. The district was black with smoke from the explosion of dynamite or cordite. Nearly every window at St. Ives, three miles away, was blown in. Windows were smashed at Penzance, eight miles distant. Four persons were blown to atoms and several others were injured. The explosion occurred in the filter house in the nitro-glycerine factory.

LABOR AGITATOR A MURDERER.

Porto Rican Kills Foreman of a Cigar Factory.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

SAN JUAN, P. R., Jan. 5.—Parilio Forestier, a labor leader and Anarchist, last night shot and killed Simplicio Diaz, foreman in the Aguas Buanas cigar factory. Forestier's bullets took effect in Diaz's heart and head. The tragedy was caused by Diaz objecting to Forestier urging the men in the factory to strike.

KING CHRISTIAN VERY ILL.

Danish Ruler's Return From Austria Is Delayed.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

BERLIN, Jan. 5.—Telegrams from Gmunden, Austria, where King Christian of Denmark has been detained by illness for some time, represent his condition as serious. His journey homeward has been postponed.

France Honors American Artists.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

PARIS, Jan 5.—Gari Melchers, chairman of the committee of the American artists in Paris for works of art intended for the St. Louis Exposition, has been made a Knight of the Legion of Honor. Sedgwick Berend, the artist, has been similarly honored.

CONNIVED TO KILL HUSBAND.

WIFE LAUGHED WHEN HE FELL, SHOT BY BOY LOVER.

Married Him for Money He Did Not Have and Thought to Brighten Her Life by an Intrigue With One Ten Years Her Junior—Confesses Her Complicity.

SALEM, N. J., Jan. 5.—That she might, unhampered, receive the attentions of her lover, Mrs. Alice Ingersoll, wife of a farmer at Whig Lane, fifteen miles from Salem, it is alleged, entered into a conspiracy with her lover to kill her husband.

Ingersoll was shot on Friday night, while he was sitting in the dining room of his home. A charge of buckshot, fired through the window, penetrated his skull and he is dying. His wife was arrested yesterday and is now in Salem jail. She is accused of "conspiring with one William Dennelsbeck to kill and murder her husband, Duke Ingersoll, and of being accessory both before and after the attempted murder."

It is alleged that she prompted her lover, Dennellsbeck, eight years her junior, a shiftless, country lad, to perpetrate the crime. Mrs. Ingersoll is 26 years old. Her husband is the same age.

Ingersoll married Alice Jennings of Bridgeport in 1893. She had French blood in her veins, was a servant and was tired of drudgery. She thought that Ingersoll had more of the world's goods than he really possessed. When he took her to the farm her drudgery began again. Constant bickerings marred their domestic life.

Some months ago she showed a fondness for Dennellsbeck, who spent most of his time about the Ingersoll home.

Last Friday night Ingersoll took his seat, after dinner, beside the stove, only a few feet from a side window. His head was silhouetted on the shade. Some impulse led him to bend his head.

At the very moment a shot rang out and Ingersoll dropped to the floor with nineteen large bird shot buried in his face, head and neck. His wife had been huddled in a corner of the room out of the range of the window.

"When I fell she laughed," said Ingersoll later, "and she laughed more when I asked her to help me."

Alarmed by the shot, neighbors ran to the house. They found that Ingersoll had crawled out of the house, and, dragging himself across several fields, had sought shelter in the residence of Archbishop Wood. Investigation showed that the one who had fired the shot must have been familiar with Ingersoll's habits.

Dennellsbeck had disappeared. Mrs. Ingersoll was arrested and went to jail smiling. She disclosed Dennellsbeck's whereabouts under police questioning, and admitted that she was implicated in the attempted assassination. A warrant has been issued for her lover.

"They tried to put my light out," said Ingersoll to-day. "To think I'd have to be killed on account of that boy."

ZINC WHITE FROM MINE SLAG.

Prof. Ellershausen's Discovery Means New Era of Prosperity for Wales.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Jan. 5.—Prof. Ellershausen, a German, has invented a method of extracting zinc white from refuse slag. He and Prof. Sir William Ramsay successfully experimented at the Hafaa mine in North Wales to-day, showing that a ton of zinc white can be extracted from fifteen tons of slag by a far simpler and cheaper process than is now used in a roundabout production from spelter.

Great Britain imports about 200,000 tons of zinc white annually from the United States, Germany and Belgium because its manufacture from spelter is unprofitable. It is now apparent that millions of tons of mine refuse that has hitherto been regarded as useless can be turned to account.

Prof. Ramsay said, after the experiments, that he could not see why a new era of prosperity should not dawn in Wales. It is noteworthy that in the course of the process cadmium is extracted, which is serviceable in procuring radium.

Roxburghe Quits the Guards.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Jan. 5.—The Duke of Roxburghe, who recently married Miss May Goelet of New York, has resigned his commission in the Royal Horse Guards (the "Blues").

OVER THE FENCE CRIME.

Poolroom Cases Lead Judge Cowing to Criticise the Law.

In imposing a fine of $25 each upon Thomas Rogers, Patrick Duffy and David Cole, who pleaded guilty yesterday in the General Sessions to being the doorkeeper, the cashier and the sheet writer in a poolroom at 76 Church street, Judge Cowing said:

I cannot understand why the Legislature should make it a crime to bet on the outside of a fence, and not a crime to bet inside. What is wrong in one place is wrong in another. I see no difference, but the Legislature says there is, and that is the law. The District Attorney is here to enforce that law, and I am going to help him. If you come here again you will be sent to jail.

When Judge Cowing had passed sentence District Attorney Jerome rose and said that he had not intended to criticise Judge Cowing for fining people convicted of running poolrooms rather than sending them to jail.

"I have known you, Judge Cowing, sixteen years, socially and judicially," said Mr. Jerome. "Opinions differ sometimes, but I know of no reason why any one should impugn your motives."

"Whatever differences there may be are honorable and amicable," said Judge Cowing. "I have been on the bench twenty-five years, and no one can attack my honesty with reason. If any one can I am willing to resign."

The case of Lightning Jim Stewart, who is accused of running a poolroom in East Thirty-second street, will be continued to-day.

ACCUSED OF EMBEZZLEMENT.

Deputy Surveyor of Customs Peer of Syracuse Arrested.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—The Treasury Department received information to-day of the arrest of B. L. Peer, deputy surveyor of customs at Syracuse, on a charge of having embezzled $1,200 of the funds of his office.

SYRACUSE, Jan. 5.—Peer was arrested on a warrant sworn out by Frederick A. Kuntzsch, surveyor of the port of Syracuse, charging him with converting to his own use $207 belonging to the United States, collected by him on Dec. 24 last from the Butler Manufacturing Company in payment of duties on merchandise.

Peer is about 30 years old and married. He has been connected with the office ever since it was created, about seven years ago.

Baltimore Harbor Closed by Ice.

BALTIMORE, Md., Jan. 5.—The harbor approach is frozen for forty miles and many vessels are stuck in the ice.

Rashness Often Brings Misfortune

and to neglect a cough or cold when such a pleasant and quick cure as Hale's Honey of Horehound and Tar may be used is indeed rash. Get it of your druggist, 25c., 50c., or $1 a bottle.

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MINERS LOSE AGAIN.

Umpire Carroll D. Wright Decides Against the Saturday Half-Holiday.

Scranton, Pa., Jan. 5.—The decision of Carroll D. Wright, the umpire appointed by Judge George Gray to decide whether the miners in Schuylkill county shall continue to have a half holiday on Saturdays, is against the miners. The decision is in the custody of Thomas D. Nichols secretary of the Anthracite Board of Conciliation, and will not be made public in its entirety until copies have been made and sent to the employees and the operators whom it directly concerns.

The miners at the Schuylkill collieries had had the Saturday half holiday for several years, but at the end of the strike in 1902, the custom was abandoned. A demand was made by the men that it be continued, but the operators refused it.

The miners then submitted the question to the Board of Conciliation. The board failed to reach an agreement. Several weeks ago the board referred the matter to Mr. Wright and to-day his decision was received.

POTTSVILLE, Pa., Jan. 5.—The decision of Umpire Wright refusing the short Saturday workday is the most severe disappointment the miners of the anthracite region have yet met with as the result of the interpretation of the award of the strike commission. The question affects exclusively the 35,000 employees of the Reading Coal and Iron Company. When the commission awarded the miners a nine hour day the company compelled them to work nine hours on Saturday also, which was one hour longer than they had ever previously worked on that day.

As the result of the decision the hours of the employees are now shortened only four hours a week from the time they worked before the strike, and they also lose $250,000 they expected to receive as pay for overtime the company compelled them to work since the award.

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From Pimples to Scrofula, from Infancy to Age. A single set of Cuticura, consisting of Soap, Ointment, and Pills, price One Dollar, is often sufficient to cure the severest cases of