ELIMINATING THE CASSIES.

LOBBIES OF THREE BIG HOTELS BECOME CURIOUSLY EMPTY.

It Hasn't Come Yet to the Large, Swift Kick, but the Kick Is Latent in Ready Toes in Case Moral Suasion Runs Against Too Strenuous a Bluff.

Although it was the night of all nights in the week for Cassie conventions in hotel lobbies, and the mercury was going South at a chill clip, the lobbies of at least three of the big hotels between Thirty-fourth street and Forty-second street last night were curiously empty. The comfortable leather chairs and the velvet divans were comparatively unwarmed. There was no lack of pleasant poppings and seltzer sizzlings and the birds and the bottles were falling in coveys and cases in the red and green and gold temples of food, but the frost that drove the Cassies in had taken them to its own again.

All this may have been true of the other big hotels in the Tenderloin, but in these three at least the Cassie crusade began yesterday. The separating of the goats from the sheep was no small task. It required in the manager and his hotel detective firmness and diplomacy. Exteriorly the difference between a Cassie and a Crœsus is often not apparent at first glance. Mistakes would have been uncomfortable and prolific of trouble. To put it in the words of one house sleuth who was informed by his manager yesterday that he would have to do a little sleuthing:

"You can't go up to a man with glad rags who has a big weed in his face and say 'to the street for yours,' without having the goods. He is liable to knock your block off right off the bat or put you on the bum by roaring to the boss."

But the sorely tried managers had nerved themselves to the will and they found the way. They hit upon the idea of going to Tenderloin detectives, men whose business it is to know five times out of seven the fraud and the four flusher. These capable persons, who do not always make use of their knowledge, spent some hours in hotel lobbies yesterday and Saturday night pointing out the shoestring millionaires. These professional spotters of shoddy in the wool didn't find it necessary to say anything; they just looked. Frequently that was enough.

Cassie in his leather chair, puffing his cigar, discussing intricate problems of finance, knew that trouble was in the wind. A hint is better than a history, and a look is preferable to a swift kick.

Therefore, when those husky flat footed persons who savored of the police station a mile away planted their feet three feet from the ballroom brothers and looked darkly, whispering in the manager's ear at the same time, the hour had come for them to seek pastures new. But such of the breed whose gall was undiluted and whose nerve was Napoleonic had to be dealt with differently.

To them after a while came the house detective, sure of his man. There would be a lively little dialogue of a minute and a half something like this:

The Sleuth—Boss, you'll have to fly your kite. You are damn ornamental, but you ain't a bit of use around here.

Cassie—(On his feet awfully indignant.) I beg your pardon. You have made a mistake. I presume I am addressing a gentleman? (This with cutting coldness and head thrown away back.)

The Sleuth—That'll be about all. Cut it, and skiddoo.

Cassie—Do you know who I am? I am Mr John Van Asten-Orten of Albany awaiting a friend here. I shall call for the manager at once. (Cassie is strong on hyphenated names).

Usually that was the cue for the manager to appear in the offing with a glittering eye turned on Cassie. Also it was the cue for Cassie to move himself and seldom did he fail. Two or three times the sleuth was required by the exigencies to suggest that a large boot makes a good propeller, but only to suggest.

The result of this first day's campaign in these hotels and doubtless others was that they were fairly well cleared of the gentleman grafter. Many of the mob, of course, were still unknown to the professional detectives, but their cases will be attended to later.

The handwriting on the wall is shining clearly also for Mesdames Cassie as well as for Messieurs. They who float into Turkish rooms and observation corridors with a saucy swish of silk skirts and a trail of soap-scent will probably get a hint that certain big hotels uptown are getting weary of supplying writing paper by the ream and losing toilet room properties right and left.

HUNT FOR MISS WETTSTEIN.

Elderly Woman From Heidelberg, Germany, Mysteriously Missing in St. Louis.

CHICAGO, Dec. 11.—Chicago relatives of Miss Sophia Wettstein of Heidelberg, Germany, who is 70 years old, have asked the police of this city and of St. Louis to investigate her disappearance. Four weeks ago she was at the Christian Endeavor Hotel at St. Louis, whither she went to attend the world's fair. Foul play is suspected.

Since the Centennial Exhibition of 1876 in Philadelphia Miss Wettstein, despite her advanced age, has visited America on the occasion of every international exhibition held here, and, according to her custom came to the United States two months ago, first visiting a cousin here.

Leaving her baggage with her relative the woman went to St. Louis, with the understanding that she was to return to Chicago before visiting other cities.

Her letters from the Christian Endeavor Hotel ceased suddenly four weeks ago, and inquiry sent to the manager of the hotel elicited the response that the register had been lost and that no information concerning Miss Wettstein could be had.

Miss Wettstein carried a considerable sum of money to St. Louis and possessed valuable jewelry.

COAL UP IN PITTSBURG.

Freezing of the Rivers May Bring On a Famine—Railroads Overworked.

PITTSBURG, Dec. 1.—Beginning to-morrow morning, the price of coal to the consumers in Pittsburg will be raised 1 cent a bushel, or 26 cents a ton. This announcement was made to-day and may be the beginning of a coal famine in the Pittsburg district.

The waters in the river are freezing and unless a thaw comes speedily, or some rain, there will be no boat coal for Pittsburg, and the railroads cannot begin to supply the trade in Pittsburg with cars. About 30 per cent. of the cars asked are what the railroads are now supplying and they cannot see at present how they will be able to do any better.

So with millions of coal just outside her gates, Pittsburg is threatened with a famine, and the first screws will be applied to the consumer to-morrow morning.

Druggist Missing and Suicide Feared.

STAMFORD, Conn., Dec. 11.—Robert MacDonald, a well known druggist of Darien, has been missing for a week and his wife fears that he has committed suicide, as he had become very despondent lately and frequently threatened to take his life. MacDonald allowed his business to get in bad shape and several attachments were filed against it last week.

Twelve Below Zero at Saratoga.

SARATOGA, N. Y., Dec. 11.—Low water in rivers and lakes in the upper Hudson Valley and the lower Adirondacks and the sudden appearance of winter are causing much concern in this region. All of the waterways are already handicapped by ice from six to seven inches thick. The thermometer this morning registered 12 degrees below here and 13 below at outlying exposed points.

SURE THE EARTH IS FLAT.

Lake Michigan Navigator Says He Can Prove That the Sun Do Move.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Dec. 11.—Capt. C. H. Francke, commander of the big steel freighter George Stone and well known on the Lakes, believes that the "earth is flat and that he can prove it." He is also certain that "de sun do move."

According to Capt. Francke the earth is a plain as flat as a pancake. The sun cuts a circle over the earth, presenting alternately a bright disk and a dark disk, producing day and night. His experience as a navigator has impressed these truths upon his mind, and he says:

"I can prove 'em, too. Sail to the north or south and you strike ice. Sail to the east and west and you do not find it, because no one can sail due east or west. There is one magnetic pole right in the center of the earth. Sailing to the east or west the deflection of a needle of the compass is such that a vessel merely sails in a circle about this central pole.

"If you go up in a balloon on a calm day and remain up for several hours you will alight in the same spot as when you went up. Now, if the world were revolving at a speed of 34,000 miles a day, you ought to be some 10,000 miles away from your starting point."

ON THE PAYROLL ILLEGALLY.

City Money for Pittsburg's Carnegie Library May Be Held Up.

PITTSBURG, Dec. 11.—That Charles R. Cunningham, superintendent of the Pittsburg Carnegie Library, supposed to be the personal agent of Mr. Carnegie in that institution, is not a resident of Pittsburg and so not entitled to draw city money, is the announcement made by Chairman Helmold of the appropriations committee of Pittsburg Councils. Helmold, who is chairman of the money committee, announces that until the present tangle is straightened out there will be no further appropriations for the Carnegie library.

Cunningham, who is on the books as "superintendent," is known also as the $4,000 janitor. He draws that amount of money from the city yearly, though he is now said to be a resident of Crafton, a suburb. The conditions under which the city has been in the habit of contributing $158,000 to the Carnegie Library here yearly say plainly that each employee of the library must be a resident of the city. Not only this, but he must have been a resident for at least six months before stepping into the place.

It now appears that Cunningham is not only not a resident, but never has been.

PUBLICATIONS.

The Eagle's Shadow
By James Branch Cabell
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R. E. SHERWOOD, L. M. Lyons and F. Steiner will sell books at auction, 6 P. M., 143-45 Park row.

A. RICHMAN, auctioneer, sells daily, noon, evenings, 5 Avenue B, Japanese goods, bric-a-brac.

JOS. N. STROM, auctioneer, sells afternoon, evening, bric-a-brac, at 2009 3d av.

H. TOBIAS, Auctioneer, sells daily Japanese high art at 2273 3d av.

M. HOLZMAN sells bric-a-brac, etc., evenings, at 199 Columbia st., Brooklyn.

AUTHOR IN A POLICE COURT.

Prisoner Who Says He's Owen Kildare, the "Bowery Kipling."

A man who said that he was Owen Kildare, the Bowery Kipling, and author of "The Good of the Wicked" and "My Mamie Rose," was in the Yorkville police court yesterday on a charge of personating an officer. The clerk who drew the formal complaint declared that he appeared to be the least repentant sinner of the prisoners. The clerk saw the man scribbling some notes as he sat in the prisoners' pen and made inquiries about him. It was then that the prisoner's lawyer explained that the prison had entertained an author unawares.

The formal complaint was made by William Clark, a salesman of 328 West Forty-third street, and corroborated by Policeman Larkin of the East Twenty-second street station. Kildare gave his residence as 25 West Ninety-eighth street and said that he was associate editor of a magazine. His wife was in court. She did not seem to be worried by her husband's position.

"This man caught me by the collar," said Clark, "and asked me what I was doing. I was standing in front of the Westminster Hotel, at Irving Place and Sixteenth street. I told him I was waiting for a friend and he said he had been watching me for some time and thought I was not there for any good purpose.

"I asked him what business it was of his how long I stood there, and he said he was a Central Office detective and had a beat from Fourteenth to Eighteenth streets."

"Did he appear to be intoxicated?" Magistrate Pool inquired.

"Well, I should say a little bit. He said he guessed he'd have to take me in, but just then William Murphy, a bartender in the hotel, came out. It was for him I had been waiting."

"He declared that he was Detective Cauley of Police Headquarters," said Murphy, "but he refused to show a shield, and finally said he thought he would let my friend go."

"I did not say I was a detective or a policeman," said the prisoner. "I simply said that I had been watching this young man."

"What is your occupation?" the Magistrate asked.

"I am Owen Kildare, associate editor of a magazine. Here is my card."

"There have been a number of cases of men personating officers. There is no evidence that you demanded money, as is usually the case. But I shall fine you $10 as a warning not to represent yourself for what you are not."

GLASS CUT FIREMAN'S BACK.

John Connell Badly Hurt at a Fire That Did Slight Harm.

In an early morning fire in the basement of 137 Norfolk street yesterday John W. Connell, a fireman attached to Engine Company 17, was so badly hurt that he was taken to Gouverneur Hospital.

A plate glass window in the first floor broke with the heat just as Connell was going down into the basement, and a jagged piece of glass cut through all his clothing and stuck into his back, making a cut four inches long. His comrades had to pull the glass out.

The loss by the fire was $250 to Louis Genze, the occupant.

KIP'S BAY CHURCH 50 YEARS OLD.

Bishop Preaches at the Anniversary of Its Cornerstone Laying.

The old Kip's Bay Methodist Episcopal Church in East Thirty-seventh street celebrated yesterday the fiftieth anniversary of the laying of its cornerstone. Bishop Andrews preached in the morning and at the evening service there were informal addresses by old members, who told of the early days when Thirty-seventh street was considered "out in the country." Frank Moss, who was to have spoken, was unable to be present. He was replaced by Joseph Fettrech.

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High School....Hartford.
Public Library....Hartford.
Hotchkiss School....Lakeville.
Taconic School....Lakeville.
Noyes Memorial Library....Litchfield.
Public Schools....Manchester.
Phebe Griffin Noyes Library....Lyme.
Public Library....Meriden.
High School....Meriden.
Wesleyan University....Middletown.
Eaton School....New Haven.
Lovell School....New Haven.
New Haven County Bar Asso....New Haven.
Public Library....New Haven.
Public Schools....New Haven.
Yale University....New Haven.
Public Library....New London.
Miami University....Oxford.
Library Association....Ridgefield.
Hotchkiss Library....Sharon.
Plumb Library....Shelton.
Enfield Public Library....Thompsonville.
Public Library....Wallingford.
Public Schools....Waterbury.
Public Library....Waterbury.
Webster School....Waterbury.
Library Association....Watertown.
Normal School....Willimantic.

NEW JERSEY.
Public Library....Atlantic City.
Public Library....Cranford.
State Normal School....Castleton.
College of St. Elizabeth....Convent Station.
Public Library....Dover.
Public School....East Orange.
Lakewood School....Lakewood.
Lawrenceville School....Lawrenceville.
Drew Theological Seminary....Madison.
Public Library....Madison.
Morris Academy....Morristown.
Morristown Lib. & Lyceum....Morristown.
Newark Academy....Newark.
Public Library....Newark.
Free Public Library....New Brunswick.
Sage Library....New Brunswick.
Public Schools....North Paterson.
Public Library....Paterson.
Public Library....Plainfield.
Public Schools....Plainfield.
Princeton Library....Princeton.
Princeton Univ Library....Princeton.
Public Schools....Princeton.
High School....South Orange.
Free Public Library....Trenton.
N. J. School for Deaf....Trenton.
N. J. State Library....Trenton.
State Normal School....Trenton.
High School....Vineland.
Jarvis Memorial Library....Wharton.
Public School....Wharton.

PENNSYLVANIA.
Carnegie Library....Allegheny.
Western Theo. Seminary....Allegheny.
Allegheny Theo. Seminary....Allegheny.
Public Schools....Allegheny.
Allegheny High School....Allegheny.
Western Univ'y of Penna....Allegheny.
Mechanics' Library....Allegheny.
Blairsville College....Blairsville.
Blairsville Free Library....Blairsville.
Public Library....Bloomsburg.
Carnegie Library....Braddock.
Carnegie Free Library....Braddock.
Bradford Library....Bradford.
Public Schools....Brookville.
State Normal School....California.
Public Library....Canton.
Clarion Normal School....Clarion.
Crozer Theo. Seminary....Chester.
Carnegie Library....Connellsville.
Carnegie Library....Duquesne.
Public Schools....Dravosburg.
Public Library....Easton.
State Normal School....Edinboro.
Williamson Free School of Mechanical Trades....Elwyn.
Public Library....Erie.
Public Library....Emporium.
Public Schools....Flemington.
Friends' Library....Germantown.
Grove City College....Grove City.
Penna. State Library....Harrisburg.
Public Schools....Harrisburg.
Carnegie Library....Homestead.
Kiskiminitas Prep School....Kiskiminitas.
Wick Barre School....Kittanning.
Foulke & Long Institute....Langhorne.
Public Schools....Langhorne.
Public Library....Lock Haven.
Public Schools....Malvern.
Public Schools....Maynesburg.
Memorial Library....Mauch Chunk.
High School....McKeesport.
Carnegie Free Library....McKeesport.
Allegheny College....Meadville.
Commercial College....Meadville.
Theological Seminary....Meadville.
Public Library....Meadville.
State Normal School....Millersville.
Mount Pleasant Institution....Mt. Pleasant.
Albright College....Myerstown.
High School....New Castle.
Public Schools....New Kensington.
Public Schools....North Braddock.
Public Schools....Oil City.
St Charles Seminary....Overbrook.
Public Schools....Pittsburg.
Lincoln Av. School....Pittsburg.
Laroner Av. School....Pittsburg.
Lexington School....Pittsburg.
Carnegie Free Library....E. E. Pittsburg.
E. Liberty Y. M. C. A....Pittsburg.
E. Liberty Academy....Pittsburg.
Shady Side Academy....Pittsburg.
Inst. for Deaf & Dumb....Pittsburg. (Edgewood Park.)
Riter Conley Tech. Soc....Pittsburg.
Apprentice's Library....Philadelphia.
University of Pennsylvania....Philadelphia.
Drexel Institute....Philadelphia.
Free Library....Philadelphia.
Jefferson Med. College Libry....Philadelphia.
Mercantile Library....Philadelphia.
Phila. Commercial Museum....Philadelphia.
State Institute....Polk.
Young Township Schools....Punxsutawney.
Public Schools....Ranklin.
Public Library....Reading.
Public Schools....Reynoldsville.
Public Schools....Rockland.
Susquehanna University....Selins Grove.
Public Library....Sewickley.
Carnegie Library....Sharon.
St. Joseph Parochial School....Sharpsburg.
Public Schools....South Sharon.
Swarthmore College....Swarthmore.
Cumberland Valley State Normal School....Shippensburg.
Slippery Rock State Normal School....Slipper Rock.
High School....Tarentum
Tionesta School Board....Tionesta.
Public Schools....Uniontown.
Public Library....Warren.
High School....Waynesburg.
State Normal School....West Chester.
Public Library....West Chester.
State Normal School....Westfield.
Osterhout Free Library....Wilkesbarre.
Wash. & Jeff. College....Washington.
Wash. & Jeff. Academy....Washington.
Washington Seminary....Washington.
Public Schools....W. Homestead.

MARYLAND.
Enoch Pratt Free Library....Baltimore.
Johns Hopkins University....Baltimore.
Lutheran Deaconess Training School....Baltimore.
Peabody Institute....Baltimore.
Academy of the Visitation....Frederick.
Free Library....Hagerstown.

MASSACHUSETTS.
Public Schools....Abington.
Public Library....Abington.
Public Library....Amesbury.
Public Schools....Amesbury.
Amherst College....Amherst.
Public Library....Amherst.
Public Schools....Amherst.
Memorial Hall Library....Andover.
Theological Seminary....Andover.
Robbins Library....Arlington.
Public Schools....Athol.
Lasell Seminary....Auburndale.
Public Library....Barre.
High School....Belmont.
Agassiz Grammar School....Boston.
Amer. Acad. of Arts & Sci....Boston.
Boston Atheneum....Boston.
Congregational Library....Boston.
Mass. State Library....Boston.
Middlesex Law Library....Boston.
Middlesex Law Library Assn....Boston.
New England Conservatory of Music....Boston.
Public Library....Boston.
Simmon's College....Boston.
Public Schools....Bridgewater.
State Normal School....Bridgewater.
Public Library....Brockton.
Gilman School....Cambridge.
Harvard University....Cambridge.
Harvard Divinity School....Cambridge.
Harvard Law School....Cambridge.
Public Library....Cambridge.
Public Library....Canton
Public Library....Chelsea.
High School....Chicopee.
Public Schools....Chicopee.
Public Schools....Clinton.
Public Library....Cohasset
Public Library....Concord.
Haitin High School....Danvers.
Public Library....Dalton.
Enfield Library Assn....Enfield.
Sheets Memorial Library....Everett.
Public Library....Fall River.
Public Schools....Fall River.
Public Library....Farmington.
Public Library....Fitchburg.
Franklin Library Assn....Franklin.
Heyward Memorial Library....Gardner.
Peabody Library....Georgetown.
Lawyer Free Library....Gloucester.
Public Library....Grafton.
Public Library....Greenfield.
Groton School....Groton.
Public Library....Haverhill.
Public Library....Holyoke.

An Unanswerable Argument

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