

CITY BANK'S NAME CARRIED IT

HOW MUNROE & MUNROE WERE ABLE TO STICK THE CURB.

Bank Officials Criticize Jeopardy—Firm which Dropped \$40,000 on Stock the Haberdasher Refused to Take From His Own Laundry Threatens to Sue Bank

The deeper the facts in the Munroe & Munroe stock washing job are probed the more apparent it becomes that the whole scheme of creating a fictitious value for Montreal and Boston Consolidated on the Wall Street curb depended absolutely upon the financial support afforded the Munroes by the National City Bank.

Not only was it understood among brokers who are engaged in buying Montreal and Boston for the "laundry" curb that the City Bank, through its second vice-president and credit man, Archibald G. Loomis, leading spirit in the underwriting syndicate which had engaged the Munroes to dispose of its Montreal and Boston stock, was supporting the "haberdashery" concern in its operations, but also as told in THE SUN yesterday, the name of the bank was used as reference for the Munroes in the purchase of furniture for the firm's office.

At least one of the creditors means to hold the bank, with Mr. Loomis, responsible for its loss. This firm, which dropped \$40,000 when the clothesline broke, it was learned definitely yesterday, has taken steps to sue the bank and its second vice-president as a preferred creditor.

The firm from which the Munroes got furniture by giving the National City Bank as reference was Joseph P. McHugh & Co., of 3 West Forty-second street. The reference sounded good enough to McHugh and without any investigation he sold the firm the furniture on credit. He got a check in payment a month or two later which came back marked "N. G."

Of the use of the bank's name as reference at McHugh's this was said at the bank yesterday by Vice-President G. S. Whitson: "The bank never authorized the use of its name by Munroe & Munroe, and so far as I know we never received any inquiry from McHugh or anybody else relative to the standing of the firm."

It seemed to be the purpose of the officers in the City Bank yesterday outwardly to take the bank's part in the stock washing scandal as a joke, but the general appearance of the men who direct the bank's affairs hardly indicated that they really regarded the disclosures concerning the loans amounting to \$480,000 made by the bank to the "laundry" concern as unimportant and unsecured notes as mirth-inspiring.

Mr. Loomis, for instance, the second vice-president of the bank and the man who James Stillman, the president, said committed an error in judgment in loaning the bank's name to the Munroes, actually looked unhappy, and most of the others appeared to be ill at ease. Mr. Stillman did not come to the bank yesterday and newspaper men were received by Vice-President Whitson. About half a dozen officials of the bank gathered around Mr. Whitson's chair whenever reporters appeared and volunteered statements of which this is a sample:

"The newspapers are doing well. Let them keep it up. It's a fine advertisement for the City Bank. We've just withdrawn our ads from three banking papers. What's the use of paying for them when we can get the results free?"

One officer was asked whether Mr. Stillman would appear at the bank during the day, or whether an official statement would be issued. Said he: "I can't say. Mr. Stillman is very erratic, you know. He's liable to appear here any minute. He's like the Irishman's fiancée."

Mr. Whitson was asked whether Mr. Loomis's resignation had been received or whether any action had been taken by the officers of the bank in that direction.

"No, it has not," he replied. "I am sure the bank's officers are not going to drop a \$40,000 day without adequate security as a species of overcertification?"

"No, not overcertification. This bank never overcertifies for anybody."

"Isn't it a fact that some banks in Wall Street do overcertify?"

"If they do, I know nothing of it. I know our bank does not."

"Will you say positively whether the bank had adequate security when it loaned Munroe & Munroe \$40,000 a day for eight days before their failure?"

"I don't care to discuss the nature of the security, but this bank did not lose anything by the loans."

"Do you know whether the Federal authorities are going to investigate the transactions?"

"I haven't heard that they were going to do so."

Mr. Whitson said that Mr. Loomis was ready and willing to go on the stand in the bankruptcy proceedings whenever his testimony is desired. If Mr. Loomis had told the entire story when the proceedings first began, he said, there would not be so much talk about it now. Mr. Loomis, he said, was able to explain everything, and would do so at the proper time.

Mr. Loomis was quoted yesterday as having said:

"There was nothing irregular in the transactions of Munroe & Munroe with the bank. Their account was properly kept, and when they suspended they had a balance here to their credit. The bank has not lost a dollar by them, and the matter is not of sufficient importance to talk about."

Mr. Loomis, according to this interview, refused to say whether the bank had any security other than the firm's notes. He said that the Munroes had always kept their account regularly and had always been particular to make their checks good before 3 o'clock each day.

"Had they not done so," said Mr. Loomis, "they would have been called down very promptly. Once, I remember, they were a couple of minutes late in getting a check certified for deposit here and they were a good deal out about it."

Speaking of the coincidence that his son, A. H. Loomis, was secretary of the Montreal and Boston company, while he was a member of the underwriting syndicate, Mr. Loomis said:

"There is nothing in that, he was simply secretary for a short time until they could get a suitable person for the place. He was ready to step out at any moment."

The son did step out soon after the failure of Munroe & Munroe.

by Loomis in the matter, as any action so radical as his resignation would be regarded as a practical admission that irregular transactions had been going on in the bank.

No action has been taken in the matter as yet by the Comptroller of the Currency in Washington, and until he does something no notice will be taken of the transactions by the bank examiners in this city.

They examine the city's national banks only once a year, and the examination which they make would not disclose to them whether or not a bank has made a practice of overcertification.

Against Cameron Spear, who, Samuel Untermyer, counsel for the receiver, says, is "P. P. Ward & Co.," one of the syndicate underwriters and the man who admits that he was helping Munroe in wash transactions, there was docketed yesterday an old judgment for \$749 obtained on June 11, 1904, in favor of Siegfried Golde. The judgment grew out of settlement of the affairs of the Cameron Wagon Company, which had a place of business at 37 Warren street. Mr. Spear has denied on the witness stand that he "got away" with \$50,000 belonging to the creditors of that concern.

ACTRESS KILLED BY GAS.

Floy Wayne, Married a Year and a Day, Dies in Boarding House.

Floy Wayne, 23 years old, an actress belonging to Erwin's Majestic Burlesque Company, was killed, and three other members of the company had a narrow escape from death by inhaling gas in Mrs. William Amos's theatrical boarding house at 77 Grand street, Jersey City, yesterday afternoon.

Miss Wayne, who in private life was Mrs. Louis L. Hommer, occupied a room on the third floor. She left the gas burning dimly when she retired early yesterday morning. Her apartment with the company at the Bon Ton Theatre.

Maud Harvey, 29 years old, of 47 Western Boulevard, Chicago, who had a room on the parlor floor, and Lawrence McHale of 433 Navy street, Buffalo, and William Noble of 227 East Twenty-sixth street, New York, who roomed together on the top floor, also went to bed with the gas light burning low.

Employees of the Public Service Corporation's gas department went to Mrs. Amos's boarding house yesterday morning and said they had been ordered to "blow out the pipes." Mrs. Amos remembered that she had complained at the gas office on Dec. 5 that the pressure was poor and told them to go ahead.

The police say the gas men had to disconnect the meters before blowing out the pipes. When they had finished the job they turned on the flow and tested a jet downstairs. They reported that everything was all right and went away.

The lights in the rooms upstairs went out when the gas had been shut off and the rooms began to fill as soon as the gas men had left the meter.

About 1:30 o'clock Edward Hoffman made the rounds of the house to awake the boarders. He received no response when he rapped at Miss Wayne's door and forced an entrance.

The actress, who was found in her night gown lying on the floor, was hurried to the City Hospital but died long before the ambulance got there.

Miss Harvey was found half suffocated in her room. She revived and reported to the theatre for the matinee. McHale and Noble were in a "very doxy condition," as one of them expressed it, when routed out of bed.

Miss Wagner was known before her marriage as Flora Wittmore. She lived in Springfield, Mass. She was married to Hommer by the Rev. W. E. E. Notman, rector of a Church in West Twenty-ninth street, New York, on Jan. 6, 1904. She died just one day after the anniversary of her wedding. She separated from her husband recently. A letter from him making overtures for a reconciliation was found among her effects.

She addressed her reply to 9 East Nineteenth street, care of Oppenheim.

A doll, a loaded revolver and a penny were found in the actress's room.

REITER—BURT.

PLAINFIELD, N. J., Jan. 7.—Miss Edith Burt, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. William C. Burt, and granddaughter of the late Chauncey Burt of New York, was married to Howard Roland Reiter of Philadelphia at 6:30 o'clock this evening at the home of the bride in West Seventh street.

The Rev. George Gilman, pastor of the Congregational church at Rutland, Vt., a dissonant of the groom at Princeton, performed the ceremony. Miss Marion Douglas of Honesdale, a classmate of the bride at Wesleyan, was maid of honor, and Newark Reiter of Princeton, a brother of the groom, was best man. Frank Reiter, another brother, and Charles Crawford Burt and Chauncey Burt, brothers of the bride, were the ushers. Other guests from Philadelphia, Baltimore, New England and this city were present.

"Bossy," first met his bride at Asbury Park two years ago, where he was employed as a waiter. He is a swimmer and assisted in several rescues.

Reiter was the star half back on the Princeton football team in '08, '09 and '10. He was graduated in the class of '08, and took a three-years' course in the Theological Seminary. Since leaving college he has been engaged in various work and has acted as a coach for other college football teams. He is now considering an offer to take charge of a club at Wesleyan University.

REED—BARROWS.

Miss Fannie Barrows was married to Chester A. Reed of Boston yesterday in the Church of the Ascension by the Rev. Dr. Percy Stickney Grant, the rector.

Dr. William Penrose of Philadelphia was the best man, and Spencer Penrose of Philadelphia and John Wakefield of Boston were the ushers. The bride is a daughter of the late Henry F. Barrows. The bridegroom is a lawyer.

THE WEATHER.

The storm was central yesterday morning over northern New York, moving slowly northeastward. The winds continued high on the New England coast, but had materially diminished on the Middle Atlantic coast and were blowing generally from a southerly quarter. Heavy rain or snow and scattered snow in Kansas, Iowa and Missouri, and heavy rain and snow in New England and moderately heavy snow in the districts around the Lake region. There was some light and scattered snow in Kansas, Iowa and Missouri. Fair weather prevailed in the Southern States and in most of the West and fair or clearing weather in the Middle Atlantic States.

The Middle Atlantic and New England States and cooler by 10 to 20 degrees in the South Atlantic States, west of the Mississippi it was slightly colder. In this city the wind was fair and warmer, with brisk southerly breeze, average humidity, 75 per cent, barometer, corrected to read sea level, at 3 A. M., 29.85; at 9 P. M., 29.84.

The temperature yesterday, as recorded by the official thermometer, is shown in the annexed table:

LIGHT COMPANIES SUE CITY.

ON UNPAID BILLS AND REFUSE TO ANSWER GROUT.

He Had Warrants for Edition Officials. They Refused to Appear and Now Threatens Proceedings for Contempt on Their Refusal to Answer.

It came out yesterday that the lighting companies have at last begun suit against the city to recover on their bills for the light supplied to the city for the period for which the bills were held up. Counsel for one of the companies announced that these suits had been begun, and he made a point of it as a reason why the lighting men should refuse to answer questions in the Comptroller's investigation of the cost of electricity supplied to the city.

Mr. Grout heard the assertion with surprise. He had not heard that the companies had begun proceedings for the recovery of the claims involved in the investigation.

It was afterward learned at the Corporation Counsel's office that out of the twenty-seven companies which have claims against the city sixteen have instituted recovery proceedings. These companies include practically all the larger corporations doing business with the city, and the amount they seek to force the city to pay is probably more than \$2,000,000. It has frequently been asserted that the companies, knowing that they had overcharged the city, would never go into court, but they have gone into court.

In order to recover the companies will be called upon to show that their claims are just and reasonable. The trial of these suits, it was said yesterday, would more effectively bring out the information Mr. Grout is seeking than his investigation can. At any rate the plaintiffs are in a position to object to answering the defendant's questions before trial.

Those called yesterday refused, although Mr. Grout threatened to ask the Supreme Court to commit them for contempt. Grout even went to the extent of having warrants prepared for the arrest of the Edison officials if they had not recognized his subpoenas. These warrants were submitted to a Supreme Court Justice on Friday and the Comptroller was informed by the Judge that the warrants were properly drawn and that apparently the Civil Code gave the authority to him to execute them.

Such a sensational turn to the investigation was avoided by the appearance of the Edison representatives at the hearing yesterday. But appearing and answering are two things and the Comptroller now proposes to apply to the courts for the commitment of the witnesses who defied him yesterday for contempt. They will begin a course of litigation that cannot be continued until long after Mr. Grout's term has expired. Comptroller Grout himself expects that the companies will, if necessary, carry the point to the United States Supreme Court. It is apparent, therefore, that so far as Mr. Grout is concerned he will have to depend upon the expense he has called for half a dozen large cities to determine whether or not the process of the city is proper.

The first witness called at the hearing yesterday was H. M. Edwards, auditor of the New York Edison Company. Before he was permitted to testify Henry J. Hornmens and Samuel A. Beardsley, counsel for the company, objected to the proceedings. They contended that the Comptroller had no authority to pry into the private affairs of the company, that the subpoenas issued by the city were based upon contracts which had been made with the city and that the inquiry might be prejudicial to the suit which the company had begun to recover the money from the municipality.

The Comptroller refused to heed the protest. Henry M. Yonge, the Comptroller's personal counsel, then began to answer the questions that upon advice of counsel the witnesses refused to answer.

What Mr. Yonge particularly tried to get at was whether the company in bidding for public lighting contracts had taken into account merely the cost of the production of its lighting or had made provision for the capitalization of the company, its bonded indebtedness and other obligations, in order to pay dividends upon watered stock. To all questions he answered in the affirmative.

Mr. Yonge also asked questions which were similar to the ending of the examination of Joseph Williams, assistant secretary and treasurer of the New York Edison Company.

It came out that the important witness, as he called him, whom Mr. Grout had subpoenaed for two or three days ago is Nicholas C. Brady, first vice-president of the Edison company. Mr. Yonge called a subpoena server to show that Mr. Brady had been subpoenaed, and the witness, after testifying that he had made several efforts to see Mr. Brady at his office and home, said that he had never once mentioned, in the subpoena to serve, Mr. Brady, that he had a subpoena to serve. Mr. Hornmens said that Mr. Brady would attend the next hearing now that it was known that the Comptroller would subpoena him. An adjournment was taken until next Tuesday, at 2:30 P. M.

LAFAYETTE OLNEY DEAD.

Veteran Public School Teacher Falls Victim to Heart Disease.

Lafayette Olney, a veteran public school teacher, was found dead in bed at his home, 130 West 90th street, yesterday morning. Death was due to heart disease. Mr. Olney was born in New York in 1825 and began his service in the public schools at the age of 17, as monitor in old No. 11, in Wooster street. In 1844 he became a teacher in the Chrystie street school, old No. 7, and later was transferred to No. 14, in East Twenty-seventh street.

In 1857 he was made principal of the school in which position he remained for forty-five years, until his retirement in 1902. Justice Vernon M. Davis was one of his pupils in No. 14. He is survived by his wife and two sons.

OBITUARY.

Lewis Bailey, 82 years old, a retired leather merchant of New York city, died last night at his home, 121 North Sixth street, Mount Vernon, N. Y. Mr. Bailey was a veteran of the seventh Regiment and was a well known layman of the Protestant Episcopal Church. While a resident of New York city he was connected as warden or vestryman with Emmanuel Episcopal, St. Ambrose, St. Clements, All Saints and other churches. The funeral will be held in the Church of the Ascension, Mount Vernon, on Monday afternoon. Mr. Bailey leaves two daughters, Mrs. F. H. Holmes and Mrs. Morris Williams, Jr., of Mount Vernon.

James Boardman Adriaens, an old New York dry goods merchant, died last Wednesday at his home, 428 West Twenty-third street. He was 80 years old. Mr. Adriaens was born at Hopeville, New York, and came to New York in 1840. He came to this city when a young man and joined the firm of C. L. Smith, who sold dry goods at wholesale and retail at 11 Maiden lane. Later he became a partner in the business of Smith, Jones & Co., which he took possession of the eleventh of Osgood about ten years ago he retired. Capt. Adriaens was born in Denmark, N. Y., in 1830. He leaves three daughters, two of whom are married.

J. H. Elliott, former law partner of Amosson, Chas. and whose certificate of admission to the New York Bar Association was signed by the grandfather of President Roosevelt, died on Friday in Denver, Col.

A cablegram announces the death of James H. Hill, editor of the American and Knoxville, Tenn., Daily Journal and Tribune.

MATTRESSES.

Clearance sale of surplus stock high grade Ostermoor Mattresses, regular \$25 and \$30 kind; assorted sizes, extra thick, extra soft, especially nice French Rolled Edges or Imperial Borders; weighing 60 lbs.; one or two parts; in beautiful art ticks; offered while they last at \$18.50 each. Delivered anywhere.

OSTERMOOR,

116 Elizabeth St. Near Grand Street. 132 Bowery. All cars transfer to door.

TO SAVE CONDEMNED WOMEN.

Mrs. Blakenstetter Doesn't Want Mrs. Edwards and Mrs. Rogers Hanged.

STAMFORD, Conn., Jan. 7.—Mrs. William J. Blakenstetter, wife of the vice-president of the Blakenstetter Manufacturing Company, sent broadcast to-day what she terms an appeal to American women to protest against the hanging of Mary Rogers of Vermont and Kate Edwards of Pennsylvania, each of whom murdered her husband. The Edwards woman is to be hanged on Feb. 5 and the Rogers woman on Feb. 16.

"Such a spectacle would be a disgrace to the country," said Mrs. Blakenstetter to-day. "I have heard that not a single woman in Vermont has shown mercy for the Rogers woman. Such a thing is a disgrace to our sex. Either the woman is not right in her mind or she is of such a low grade of intelligence that it would be unjust to punish her by death."

"I have no sympathy personally for either of the women except that my pity is forced by the fact that those unfortunate creatures were so born and so bred that whatever spark of intelligence was born in them remained unquenched by good influences. I hold that it is wrong to put them to death."

Before the steamer sailed several parcels, some flowers and a lot of letters were received for Mrs. Gelshehen, showing that the senders apparently had not been apprised of her departure on Tuesday. Two men said to be in the employ of District Attorney Jerome were on duty at the pier to watch arrivals on Friday night and yesterday morning. They remained until the ship sailed. Among the passengers on the Deutschland was Mrs. John D. Crimmins, a very intimate friend of Mrs. Gelshehen. She said she had expected to have the latter as a fellow voyager, and seemed very much disappointed upon learning of her earlier departure. William R. Gelshehen, Mrs. Gelshehen's son, did not sail yesterday. Young Gelshehen and the servants all swore before the Grand Jury that Mrs. Gelshehen had sailed on Tuesday.

Mrs. Gelshehen's stateroom on the Kaiser was secured by telephone on Monday. The line officials do not know from whom the telephone message came. Mrs. Gelshehen's name did not get on the passenger list.

The Grand Jury did not meet yesterday, but it is expected to hold a very interesting session to-morrow. Former Supreme Court Justice Fursman, who acted as Mrs. Morse's counsel in her suit to reestablish her divorce from Dodge, has been subpoenaed to-morrow, but he is not expected to appear. The Grand Jury has been told by the Grand Jury last spring. Books and papers obtained by subpoena from a certain law firm connected with the Dodge-Morse case were in the District Attorney's office yesterday, and three public accountants employed by Mr. Jerome were going over them with the view of finding where the money came from.

One of the witnesses of this firm is a young man named William R. Hummel, and he will be asked to explain certain entries in these books. Mr. Hummel is also among the witnesses who have been summoned for to-morrow.

Charles W. Morse's name was on the passenger list of the steamship Ionia of the Cunard Line, which arrived yesterday, but he was not aboard. According to the purser two rooms for "C. W. Morse and wife" were engaged on the other side, but they were not occupied. Cabled reports from Paris yesterday were to the effect that Mr. Morse was still at the Hotel Ritz in Paris.

Friends of Mr. Morse's expect that he will be back here almost any day. They believe that his return depends upon his success in the negotiations for the purchase of the French line, not as yet concluded. They hardly expect him to sail before they are.

James M. Beck, Mrs. Gelshehen's counsel, refused yesterday to answer any questions. Mr. Beck called on Assistant District Attorney Rand on Monday, the day that Mr. Jerome's letter to Mrs. Gelshehen requesting her residence to come forward was received at her residence. It is understood that Mr. Beck was told just what the District Attorney wanted to see Mrs. Gelshehen about. What Mr. Beck said is not known, but it is known that Mr. Jerome and his assistants were more than surprised when they learned on Friday, by the testimony of her son and the servants, that Mrs. Gelshehen had sailed after the interview between Mr. Rand and Mr. Beck.

England's Finest Woolens.

The largest stock and the very best qualities of Imported Cloths Reduced from 25% to 33 1/3%

in order to close out every yard of seasonable fabrics.

This is the largest tailoring sale of the year.

Nothing Reserved.

Burnham & Phillips

Custom Tailoring Only.

119 & 121 Nassau St.

AUCTION SALES.

Antiquities

The Contents of The Old Windmill Shop

will be sold by Public Auction, on account of MR. WM. J. SHANNON

Retiring From Business.

J. HATFIELD MORTON, AUCTIONEER, will sell by public auction.

Monday, January 16th,

at 2 o'clock P. M. at following days by order of WM. J. SHANNON.

7 EAST 28TH ST.

known as the Old Windmill Shop, the entire contents of the highest bidder for cash, and I make the public statement that there is no limit or restriction as to the disposal of second-hand articles, and every article received by me. This sale is worthy the attention of connoisseurs, collectors, dealers and others who are desirous of obtaining the exhibition and securing a bargain.

J. HATFIELD MORTON, AUCTIONEER, Telephone, 2700-3418 St. 1184 Broadway, N. Y. City.

NOTICE.

Mr. Wm. J. Shannon has turned the entire premises over to me, with instructions to dispose of the same at the highest bidder for cash, and I make the public statement that there is no limit or restriction as to the disposal of second-hand articles, and every article received by me. This sale is worthy the attention of connoisseurs, collectors, dealers and others who are desirous of obtaining the exhibition and securing a bargain.

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NOTICE.

Saks & Company

Broadway, 334 to 34th Street.

The January Sale of Muslin Underwear for Women

Not for a day—not for a week, but for the entire month has our sale been organized. Scarce a day is spent without the addition of a new collection of garments to augment what we count the most comprehensive collection of undermuslins that has yet been presented—undermuslins of sheer, though serviceable, fabrics, generous in proportions, and elaborated with rich laces and embroideries for the service of the discerning at

Price Concessions of One-Fourth to One-Third

Gowns—39c, 50c, 79c, 98c, \$1.29, \$1.50 to \$7.95

Covers—19c, 39c, 50c, 79c, 98c, \$1.50 to \$4.95

Skirts—79c, 98c, \$1.19, \$1.69, \$1.98 to \$4.95

Chemise—79c, 98c, \$1.19, \$1.50, \$1.98 to \$4.95

Drawers—19c, 39c, 50c, 79c, 98c, \$1.50 to \$4.95

Imported Hand-Made Underwear.

Exquisite garments which demonstrate the cleverness and ingenuity of the Parisian needle-workers' handicraft, at the following extreme price reductions:

Gowns—Formerly \$5.00 to \$12.50. At \$3.95 to \$8.95

Covers—Formerly \$2.98 to \$7.50. At \$1.98 to \$4.95

Drawers—Formerly \$3.98 to \$7.95. At \$2.50 to \$4.95

Apparel for Infants and Children AT GREATLY REDUCED PRICES.

Short Coats of Colored Fabrics. One, two and three year sizes.

Formerly \$3.95, \$7.75, \$10.50, \$12.50, \$18.00

Special at \$2.50, \$5.50, \$7.45, \$8.95, \$12.50

Long and Short Coats of White Fabrics. Infant to four year sizes.

Formerly \$5.75, \$9.75, \$11.50, \$16.50

Special at \$3.95, \$5.95, \$7.95, \$9.95

French Hand-Made Gimpes. Four to fourteen year sizes.

Formerly \$1.85 to \$5.90. At 98c to \$3.95

Long French Hand-Made Slips. Formerly \$6.50 to \$37.50. At \$3.95 to \$16.50

Short French Hand-Made Dresses. One, two and three year sizes.

Formerly \$15.95 to \$32.75. At \$5.95 to \$12.50