DISMAL OUTLOOK FOR RUSSIA

PROF. MILIUKOFF SEES SMALL HOPE FOR THE FUTURE.

Talks to a Great Crowd in Carnegie Hall on the Efforts to Establish a Constitutional Government—No Real Civil Liberties—Bishop Potter Presides.

About four thousand persons assembled last night in Carnegie Hall to hear Prof. Paul Milinkoff relate the history of Russia's struggle for freedom, analyze the present situation in the country of the Czar and outline the plans of his party, the Constitutional Democrats, for obtaining future concessions from the Government.

Bishop Potter presided, and among those who sat on the platform were Isaac N. Seligman, E. R. L. Gould, Robert H. Collier, James Reynolds, the Rev. Percy Stickney Grant, Hamilton W. Mabie, Dr. Lyman Abbott, Dr. Joseph Silverman and Robert Erskine Ely. Dr. Takamina, a well known Japanese resident, was also present.

In introducing the speaker Bishop Potter said in part: "It is a happy augury for the future services of the Civic Forum that it is enabled to present to you under the condition which bring us together this evening one who represents one of the most tremendous movements which attract the attention of the civilized world to-day. We are recognizing that whatever value the Monroe doctrine may have had, we have come to a peroid in human history when we must adjust our glasses.

"We are fortunate in having with us to-night one who represents not a destructive but a constructive force—one who stands for those great ideas and ideals which have created states, and which are more and more destined in the future to triumph over the paternalism and absolutism of the past."

A prolonged burst of applause greeted Prof. Miliukoff and deferred his opening remarks for at least a minute and a half. He was obviously much affected by the cordiality of his reception, and when he began to speak it was somewhat difficult for even those in the front seats to hear what he said.

The trend of Prof. Miliukoff's long speech was pessimistic. It was summed up in his remark toward the end. "I would be much happier myself if I could answer your wish for information with words of good hope and with the glad tidings that quiet and security have returned to Russia," he said. "But I am here to tell you the truth."

He gave it as his opinion that what so many predicted would be the beginning of a successful movement for popular government in Russia, the establishment of the Duma, was the real high water mark of the movement, and that what has happened since has been retrogression. "The court and the nobility in particular have now become the leading forces in an openly avowed movement which is now setting in for the restoration of autocracy."

Prof. Miliukoff declared that the Radicals, once they had obtained the formation of the Duma, became intoxicated with success. In spite of the best advice, they insisted upon rushing matters. Strikes were declared among the laborers, but the owners and the Government supervisors banded together and overthrew the labor delegates. As a last resort a strike of 100,000 men was declared and the leaders in this were thrown promptly into prison. The armed insurrection in Moscow was the last stage of this movement and it was put down with slaughter. Peace was restored in the cities by force.

Then the Agrarian insurrection was organized. The peasants made front, but little progress. Where the Constitutional Democrats differed from the Revolutionists in this and other matters was delineated as follows by Prof. Miliukoff:

The revolutionary movement aimed at a commonwealth, while the reactionaries wanted to reestablish autocracy. The Constitutional Democratic party decided to fight for a parliamentary rule under a constitutional monarch.

The revolutionists wished to have a charter worked out by a constitutional convention and sanctioned by a victorious revolution. The reactionaries did not want any charter at all, or at the worst a consultative representation granted by the Czar. Our party proposed a charter worked out by the first representative assembly, subject to the approval of the Czar.

As to agrarian reform, revolutionists defended the principle: "The whole land to the whole people"—the land to be appropriated by the people themselves acting through their delegates in local committees, which were to be elected on the basis of universal suffrage. The Government would permit nothing except a regular sale of land through the medium of the existing Peasant Bank and at the open market price. Our party proposed a systematic extension of the emancipation reform of 1861 by dealing out additional allotments to the communes from the free (crown) lands and from the larger private estates, to be expropriated by means of a compulsory sale at a fair price. The price was to be settled by special committees formed of private landowners and representatives of the peasant communes in equal numbers.

Prof. Miliukoff said that following this the Government resorted to its old policies.

The "liberties" granted by the manifesto were never regularly used. Many of the provinces of Russia were administered by exceptional law and this gave a legal pretext for not enacting the constitutional liberties. The general evil from which Russia always suffered—arbitrariness in administration and non-observance of law—greatly increased in the state of civil war which practically prevailed in Russia after the manifesto of October 30. The country was divided into two hostile camps, between which no compromise was possible. The feeling of general unsafety increased immensely under these conditions and this existing misrule became largely responsible for that state of anarchy and terror for which Russia now suffers. In the last twenty-five years of the nineteenth century 134 death sentences were pronounced in Russia, on the average five sentences a year. In the two years following the manifesto the number of criminals sentenced to death (almost without exception for political offences) rose to the enormous total of 2,717, of which 1,780 were executed. The whole number of persons condemned for political offences during these two years was 18,274, while formerly it had not exceeded 1,000 a year and the number for 1904—about 4,000—was considered as quite exceptional.

Out of the 18,274 condemned 1,114 criminals belong to a class which is rarely considered as criminal; they were directors of newspapers and periodicals who tried to make use of the freedom of the press proclaimed by the manifesto. Nine hundred and thirty-eight newspapers and periodicals were stopped forever in the same period of time. Public meetings—another "liberty" granted by the manifesto—are practically permitted by the police only during the electoral campaign and almost exclusively in large cities. The right of forming unions and societies, which makes the third "liberty" of the manifesto, can be of service only for such organizations as enjoy the protection of the Government. Registration is regularly refused to organizations which are suspected of opposition on most futile pretexts. Not satisfied with the prosecution of such associations, the Government recently began a systematic prosecution of the duly registered and legally existing professional unions.

In short, any one who would tell you that Russia really enjoys civil liberties granted by the manifesto would advance a lie. The truth is that only those liberties were and are permitted which the Government was and is powerless to forbid; and such liberties are often used without any legal restraint, while a regular and law abiding practice of civil liberties is nearly always refused legal permission. Thus, under the new régime of national representation the executive power tried to remain what it had always been before, and it never thought of changing its former methods of administration. And as long as the present misrule lasts it is almost impossible for the legislative power to do its proper work.

Prof. Miliukoff said that the struggle for a constitution became a violent battle of the classes, and that therefore the revolution, if it had lost some of the dramatic externals, now was striking deeper into the misery of the people.

The real and terrible dramatic sense of the events which may still unroll before your eyes does not confine itself to the rise and fall of certain "heroes" or great personages whose fate you may follow with interest. And it is not exhausted by some appalling statistics of people shot or hanged, houses burned, servants of the Czar blown up or assassinated, conspiracies discovered and the like. The interest of the struggle lies much deeper. The social composition of the Future Russia is now at stake. The fate of centuries to some is now being determined.

And what are the forces that try to hold it in check? The alliance of the two decaying political powers for their own self-defence cannot obstruct the royal historical road the nation is following. The childish explanation of the movement, as initiated and fostered by a foreign or anti-Russian intrigue, cannot do away with its deeper causes. And the foolish idea that the peasants of our communes can be changed at once into private proprietors can only cause new ferment in our villages, honeycombed with poverty and famine as they are. In short, wherever we turn or look we only meet with new trouble to come, nowhere with any hope for social conciliation or peace.

In concluding Prof. Miliukoff said that his only reason for making his trip was to ask for the sympathy of the American people for the Russians after they had heard the facts in the case. He said that if Americans ever came to realize the true degree of suffering among his people they would never be able to rest secure while such things existed. "I appeal to you in the name of that great whole, humanity, and in doing so I am quite sure to give you back as much as I receive."

At the close of the speech Mr. Gould proposed a vote of thanks to the man who had come 11,000 miles just to tell the Civic Forum the truth about some things concerning which Americans had as yet had only partial or incorrect reports.

An opportunity was then given for persons in the audience to ask questins. Many were handed in and read by Robert Erskino Ely, who said that if the professor failed to answer some of them it was because he had to go back.

The Russian, however, warmly repudiated this insinuation, saying that he always spoke his mind freely and without fear of consequences.

In reply to a question about the prospect of rights and privileges for the Jews, he said that as the composition of the Third Duma was mainly anti-Semitic the outlook in that direction was far from pomising. His party, he added, had always stood by the Jews.

In regard to the ability of the peasants to discuss intelligently their own condition and general politics, he said that although discussion of economic and industrial problems was not by any means their forte, they were, after all, because of the great importance of the agrarian problems, the most vital factor to be reckoned with.

DRY PARTY TREASURIES.

Wall Street Men Don't Hanker for the Job of Financing the Deficits.

Wall Street men are getting out of political committees. A short time ago George R. Sheldon resigned as treasurer of the New York Republican State committee. Within the last few days August Belmont has resigned as treasurer of the Democratic national committee. Chairman Thomas Taggart of the Democratic national committee has appointed W. H. O'Brien of Indiana as treasurer to succeed Mr. Belmont.

The reason assigned last night by Mr. Belmont's friends for his resignation was that all his time for some time to come will be taken up with business affairs, and that no matter who is nominated as the Democratic candidate for President at Denver Mr. Belmont would have no time to attend to the duties as treasurer.

Mr. Belmont has been opposed by the Bryan men. He was active in the support of Alton B. Parker for President in 1904. Indeed, it was through the agency of a press bureau presided over by Mr. Belmont's representatives that Judge Parker became a national Democratic figure. All the expenses of this press bureau were met largely by Mr. Belmont, and after the close of the campaign he was confronted with additional expenses. This led to considerable friction.

Many of the States have passed laws since the national campaign of 1904 prohibiting corporations from contributing to campaign funds. In the gubernatorial campaigns of 1906 there was plenty of evidence to the effect that the corporations were very glad of it. Not so with the chairmen of the political committees. They were still eager for the contributions from corporations, but they didn't get them. The answer was "No, no. You politicians go to work and pass these stringent laws against contributions from all interested in corporations, and then you ask us to subject ourselves to fines and imprisonment."

There is every prospect that the approaching Presidential battle will be run with scant funds in the treasurers' hands.

A DINNER ON THE VERDI.

Steamship Line to Brazil Means a New Inter Continental Era, Mr. Barrett Says.

A hundred or more guests were present at the ship warming dinner given last night on the new Verdi of Lamport & Holt's Brazilian line in the slip of Pier 8, New York docks, Brooklyn. T. E. Jevons of the line was toastmaster.

The tone of the speeches was one of congratulation that there had been established a steamship service to South America which could compete with the service offered by European lines. John Barrett, Director of the Bureau of American Republics, said that the sailing of the Verdi would mean the opening of a new era between North and South America. George E. Anderson, Consul-General at Rio de Janeiro, told of the advantages awaiting the American trader and manufacturer in the southern hemisphere.

The Verdi will compare favorably with many of the ships in the Atlantic service. She makes her first trip on January 29.

MADE OFF WITH MAGAZINES.

William J. Knipe, Tammany Captain, Fined $10 in Special Sessions.

William J. Knipe of 506 West 173d street, a clerk employed by the American Express Company and Democratic election district captain in The Bronx, was fined $10 for petty larceny in Special Sessions yesterday.

On January 2 May Stenbo of 438 East Seventy-sixth street, who has a newstand in the Canal street subway station, saw Knipe pick up two magazines valued at 25 cents and then run for a train. She pursued him, and Detectives Flood and Fitzsimmons of the District Attorney's office, who chanced to be on hand, arrested him.

When Knipe was arraigned in the Tombs police court he told Magistrate Harris that the magazines had been slipped without his knowledge into a newspaper which he had just bought. The Magistrate then discharged him. Assistant District Attorney Krotel at once had him rearrested.

TO BE BURIED IN VIRGINIA.

Mrs. Kathleen J. Martin's Body to Be Taken to Charlotteville.

The body of Mrs. Kathleen J. Martin, who died on Monday at the Brooklyn Hospital from the bullet wound inflicted by her husband, Arthur E. Martin, before he shot and killed himself at the Hotel St. George on Saturday, was removed yesterday to her cousin's home at 493 Twelfth street. It will be shipped to-morrow to the Trevelyan home at Charlotteville, Va. Mr. Trevelyan, denying a current report, says that the dead woman never bore the name of Nichols and was not the daughter of an English peer.

SHAW HAS A CURRENCY PLAN

EXPOUNDS IT AT DINNER OF THE ADVERTISING MEN.

He'd Let the Banks in Critical Times Issue More Currency on Their Credit by Paying 5 Per Cent. on the Output —Has No Faith in a Central Bank.

The Sphinx Club, which is made up of advertising agents and persons who pursue publicity with seven jointed adjectives, are not by any means a jealous aggregation. Last October for their guest and principal speaker, they had the Hon. T. Lawson of Boston. Last night it was Leslie M. Shaw who had the floor.

Our financial system is decidedly bad, according to Mr. Shaw; spavined, ringboned, subject to the shakes and frightfully stiff. Principally, it is unable to stretch, said Dr. Shaw—beg, pardon, Mr. Shaw—and it's got to be limbered up in a hurry. President Frothingham of the club in presenting Mr. Shaw described how simply the trust company president presides in his own office—no fuss or feathers in getting to him; no long line of flunkies to dodge or placate. All that is necessary is to walk in, say how d'ye do to the great man, and there you are. [Cheers.] Then Mr. Frothingham referred to Mr. Shaw's services as head of the Treasury Department, whereupon Mr. Shaw arose and said:

"This reminds me of a story. [Laughter.] My old friend, W. H. H. Miller, when Attorney-General, once went back to his old home town, and while the stage was taking him to his house, he chinned with the driver.

"'D'ye know who I am?' he asked the driver.

"'Sure.'

"'D'ye know that I'm now Attorney-General of the United States?'

"'In course.'

"'All the folks here know it?'

"'You bet they do.'

"'Well, what do they say about it?'

"'Oh, they jest laff.'"

Mr. Shaw said our currency system is all right enough in some ways, the form of money, for instance; but that it lacks elasticity; its volume won't stretch to meet the demands of business. There is constant expansion, about $150,000,000 a year, but no contraction at times when contraction would be a most helpful thing. He said it was like a very long rope with a farmer at one end and a stubborn mule at the other, with possibility of trouble going over rough places.

"We lost our grip on that rope a few weeks ago," said Mr. Shaw, "and had a pretty hard time getting it back again."

There are about 400 members of Congress, who have 500 plans for readjusting the currency, he said, but you can't get any one fellow to listen to the other fellow's plan. However, Mr. Shaw had a plan which he thought would solve the problem. First he talked of the various methods proposed by which the currency system could be reformed.

The idea of a central bank had been suggested, but he doubted its value. He didn't think the people as a whole would stand for it. A central bank to be successful would have to do a commercial business, and then what would become of the existing banks? Wiped out! If the central bank shouldn't do a commercial business, what would it do nine months in the year with its accumulation of money?

Then there was the suggestion of a currency based on other security than Government bonds—such as municipal bonds, for example. Mr. Shaw couldn't see the practicability of that scheme, because, said he, there isn't one bank in 200 to-day that holds municipal bonds or cares for them.

But there was a third way, indubitably the best, and his very own idea. He would have the banks, in times of urgent need, in crises, issue a supplemental currency, with the approval of the Comptroller of the currency, on no security other than their own credit and the payment of 5 per cent. interest on the issue. The supplemental money must be identical in appearance with ordinary bank notes, otherwise the public would get scared and run like a rabbit. Therein lay the unwisdom of clearing house certificates, explained Mr. Shaw. They didn't look like the real thing. They didn't look like money. What happened? Everybody began to hoard as soon as they appeared.

Mr. Shaw didn't think the plan would be dangerous, because the approval of the Comptroller of the Currency would be obligatory, and the Comptroller would know exactly which banks should be permitted to take advantage of the scheme, and which because of previous misconduct, should not be allowed the privilege. Then, too, he thought, the volume to be issued could be graduated according to the size and the commercial needs of the town in which the bank was located. Such currency would be retirable easily, he thought, for the reason that as soon as convenient the bank could hold out a sum of money equivalent to the issue of supplemental money, and meet the new notes as fast as they came in.

Before he sat down Mr. Shaw asked if there were any newspaper men in the room; not that he was afraid there wasn't, but that's a question Mr. Shaw always asks when he speaks in public. He has the habit. President Frothingham hastened to assure him that the official stenographer of the club was on hand and that every word, every joke, every period, comma and semicolon had been faithfully jotted down. Thereupon Mr. Shaw sat down, happy, though he rose again at once to say that it was painful the way the papers were always misquoting him.

"Which, interpreted," said Mr. Frothingham, humorously, "means that the daily press is a joke." [Roars of laughter.]

Alexander D. Noyes, financial editor of the *Evening Post*, admitted that he was a pessimist usually, but said that he took the most cheerful view of the financial outlook. He said he thought that people generally had made up their minds that no matter what has happened they would begin all over again and build up solidly.

Among those present were Condé Nast, F. C. Hoyt, F. W. Armstrong, Arthur W. Morse, W. W. Seeley, Samuel Bull, M. P. Gould, J. N. Jeffores, L. S. Dow, L. A. Soule' Francis Bellamy, Victor Sutro, L. B. Palmer, L. D. Gardner, Daniel A. Carroll, David Williams, R. N. Conger, J. G. Robin, W. S. Yerkes, A. E. Gans, David Nevins, G. Howard Harmon, H. J. Hall, Benjamin Wood, H. H. Vogel and Irving Wardman.

ITALIAN BANKER AWAY.

Caponigris Depositors Can Get No Money at 20 Mott Street.

A representative of the banking house of Bolognesi, Hartfield & Co., 50 Wall street, went to Police Headquarters last night and asked that an effort be made to find Pasquale Caponigri, an Italian banker who had been in business at 20 Mott street for twenty-five years. Caponigri, he said, had drawn a check for $1,300 on the Wall street firm when he had only $300 on deposit there and the firm sent its representative up to inquire what that meant. He found that Caponigri had been absent from his place of business for several days and had moved out of his house at 159 East Seventy-fourth street.

Depositors with Caponigri raised a great disturbance in front of 20 Mott street yesterday when they found only a clerk inside who wasn't authorized to pay out any money.

SAFE IN CANADA IF ACQUITTED.

Examiner Brown Has a Second Chance to Beat the Government.

For the second time Charles H. Brown, a former examiner of silks in the United States customs service in this city, is standing trial in the United States Circuit Court on a charge based on his entering false invoices of the weight of silks in favor of the fomer firm of A. S. Rosenthal & Co. He was tried once and convicted, appealed, gave bail, jumped it, was extradited from Canada on a new charge, thrown into Sing Sing on the old conviction, released on the protest of Canada that this was illegal and is now on trial on the charge on which he was extradited—namely, violating his oath of office as a customs officer. If he is acquitted he must have a reasonable time to return to Canada, from which he cannot be extradited on the conspiracy charge on which he was originally convicted.

FLOATING ELEVATOR BURNS.

Drifts Out Into the North River a Pillar of Flame.

The steam grain elevator Empire State, owned by the International Navigation Company, got on fire last night at the Italian Line pier at the foot of West Thirty-fourth street and drifted out into the North River a pillar of flame. Late in the afternoon she had finished loading a cargo of grain into the steamship Sannio, which sails for Genoa to-day, and swung around to the south side of Pier 64 to lie up for the night. None of the crew was aboard when the fire started. They had a bad fire on the pier four years ago, and Jake Lydikson, the watchman, remembered that if somebody had cut the lines of a blazing barge the fire would not have amounted to much. So when he saw flames shooting out of the engine room windows of the Empire State he sprang aboard, cut the lines of three cotton barges that were lashed to the elevator on the port side and then cut her starboard lines and let her go.

The elevator rose eighty feet above the deck, and within a few minutes the flames were shooting through the roof and from the windows on the four sides.

The wrecker William E. Chapman, from far down the river, spotted the fire, made for the blazing craft, caught her in midstream and got a bow line fast. She had towed the lighter over toward Weehawken when the fireboats New Yorker and McClellan arrived. The elevator proper was destroyed, but the hull was little damaged. The loss is put at $19,000.

Sparks set fire to the shed of the Pennsylvania Tunnel Company at the foot of West Thirty-third street. The fire was soon put out.

GEN. JOSIAH PICKETT DEAD.

Had Been Under Military Arrest Since Battle of Cold Harbor.

BOSTON, Jan. 14.—Gen. Josiah Pickett, a civil war veteran, who had been under military arrest ever since the day of the battle at Cold Harbor, died at Worcester this morning after a long illness, aged 85. Heart failure is given as the cause of death.

Gen. Pickett went to the front as Captain in the old Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Regiment, and was later promoted to the Colonelcy of the regiment. He participated in many battles and was seriously wounded at Cold Harbor. He was brevetted Brigadier-General for distinguished services.

The story of the arrest of Gen. Pickett and its subsequent developments is unique in the history of the civil war. At the time Gen. Pickett was Colonel of the Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Regiment and received orders from Gen. Stannard, the brigade commander, regarding his actions in the approaching battle. The orders were not clear and he sent them back with the request that they be explained so that he could understand them or that new orders be issued. This angered the General, and he returned the same orders with a message that they did not need explanation and he should follow them as they were issued. Col. Pickett replied to the orderly that he would not carry out orders he did not understand, and he was forthwith ordered from his command and under arrest.

The battle of Cold Harbor was fought the next day, and the regiment was in command of its Lieutenant-Colonel, when Col. Pickett came from his quarters ready for duty with the remark that he did not propose that a little matter like a difference of opinion between him and the Brigade Commander should prevent him from taking part in a battle. He went into the fight and assumed command of the regiment, which was in the thick of the scrap and which was nearly wiped out. Col. Pickett received a wound which put him on the invalid list, and he came home to recuperate, and his subsequent career after his return to the Southern battlefields brought him so prominently to the front that he was promoted to be a General and was honorably discharged from the service.

When Senator George F. Hoar was alive he tried to have the odium of the arrest removed from the name of Gen. Pickett, but it had already been overshadowed by the honors which had been shown to him by the nation and his home city, and he refused to let the Senator bring the matter to the attention of Congress to have his name cleared.

Soon after the war Gen. Pickett accepted a position in the custom house at Boston, and in September, 1866, he received the appointment of postmaster at Worcester. This position he filled for over twenty years. In 1889 Gov. Ames appointed him a member of the Massachusetts Armory Commission.

Obituary Notes.

Dr. Joaquin Morill, one of the best known practising physicians on the Hudson River, died yesterday of consumption at his home in Poughkeepsie. Dr. Morill was a relative of the Duke of Alva. He was born in Havana on December 21, 1841. His father was a wealthy planter and broker who bore the titles of Marquis and Count of Palestine. His mother was Eugenia Alvarez. He was graduated from the University of Havana in 1860. Subsequently he studied medicine in Paris. The outbreak of the civil war drew him to the United States in 1861. He joined the 137th Regiment as surgeon and was taken prisoner at the second battle of Bull Run. He was confined in Libby Prison until 1864, when he was exchanged. He remained in the service until 1865. In 1866 he entered the Spanish army in the rebellion in Cuba and served until 1870. He was Commodore-Surgeon of the Alexandria fleet in the yellow fever epidemic at Vera Cruz. With the exception of this interval his life was passed since 1874 in Poughkeepsie. Dr. Morill was married and is survived by his wife and three married daughters.

William Livingston Alden died last night in Buffalo at the home of his daughter. He was born in Williamstown, Mass., in 1837, and was a lineal descendant of John and Priscilla Alden. He was United States Consul-General to Rome under President Cleveland in his first term of office and was knighted by the late King Humbert with the order of the crown of Italy for distinguished services in Italy's fight for independence. He was the author of many books, a contributor to magazines both here and in Europe and was at one time an editorial writer on the New York *Times*.

James R. Randall, author of "Maryland, My Maryland," a Southern poet and journalist, died suddenly yesterday at Augusta, Ga., from congestion of the lungs. The body will lie in state to-day at the Church of the Sacred Heart and the funeral will take place to-morrow morning. Expressions of sorrow have been telegraphed to Augusta by Cardinal Gibbons and other high dignitaries of the Church. A month ago while in Baltimore Col. Randall attended a public gathering, and received a severe chill because of a poorly heated hall.

Julius Melchers, the sculptor and father of the famous artist, Gari Melchers, died at his home in Detroit last night after being paralyzed for eight months. He was a friend of the late Carl Schurz and with him was driven from Germany in 1848 for revolutionary practices. He was one of the earliest German settlers of Detroit.

John J. Sullivan, who will be buried to-day from his home, 1016 Pacific street, Brooklyn, was engineer at the Borough Hall for the last five years. He was formerly an engineer on the Brooklyn Bridge and n the Department of Highways. He was a Knight of Columbus and a member of the Washington Club.

Samuel Fisher Kimball, of 80 Broadway, a member of the New York Stock Exchange since 1886, died last night of heart disease at his home, 247 West Seventy-fourth street. He was born in New York in 1852 and was graduated from the College of the City of New York. His wife and son, Dr. Paul Wellington Kimball, survive him.

John Wesley McCune, who was buried yesterday from his home, 740 Park place, Brooklyn, was a son of the late John Wesley McCune, who made a fortune as the inventor of the special ink used by the American Bank Note Company. He was a member of the Meadow Creek Sporting Club.

Thomas Augustus Skidmore, who had been sign contractor for the Centaur Company for thirty years, died on Sunday at his home, 640 Halsey street, Brooklyn, in his fifty-eighth year. He was active in Democratic politics in the Stuyvesant Heights section. He leaves a widow.

George W. Higgins, the oldest member of the Chicago Board of Trade, died Monday night after a brief illness. Mr. Higgins was born seventy-eight years ago at Cape Cod, Mass. He went to Chicago in 1852, joining the Board of Trade the following year.

NO EXTRA CHARGE FOR IT.

Advertisements for THE SUN and THE EVENING SUN may be left at any American District Messenger office in the city.

SAYS BINGHAM TO JEROME

"I WANT THESE THINGS TRIED OUT PUBLICLY."

This in Reply to the District Attorney's Statement That Somebody Accused by Crooks Is Trying to Create a Breach Between the Two Departments.

District Attorney Jerome intimated yesterday that crooks or politicians are trying to create a breach between Police Commissioner Bingham and himself. The inference was that crooks or politicians are behind the charges which have been made to the Police Commissioner against members of the District Attorney's disbanded raiding squad.

Gen. Bingham's reply was that no clique inside or outside of the Police Department was responsible for the action which he had taken against the District Attorney's raiders. He had acted on his own initiative because of common reports that certain men connected with the District Attorney's office had been going about town holding up people at the points of their revolvers.

Here is Mr. Jerome's statement:

"It is the duty of the Police Commissioner of the city of New York to run his department according to his judgment, and it is the duty of the District Attorney of the county of New York to run his department according to his judgment.

"Gen. Bingham and I are personal friends and have, I believe, mutual respect for each other's judgment. As to matters recently occurring we have been in frequent consultation. As far as I know Gen. Bingham has not made any statement publicly in regard to it, and I have not done so. I do not believe at this time that any public statement coming from either of us would serve any public service and I am unwilling to discuss the matter further than this: that no party of crooks or politicians in or out of the Police Department is going to bring about any misunderstanding between the Commissioner and myself, or in any way impair that cordial cooperation between us which is so essential to keep the criminal classes in check.

"A careful, painstaking and unprejudiced investigation is being made by Gen. Bingham and myself in reference to matters which have been recently under discussion, and when we have reached any conclusions the actions that we may respectively take will indicate what they are.

"There seems to be a deliberate purpose on the part of certain people whose reputations have by public rumor among the crooks of this city been called into the gravest question to create a breach between the Commissioner and myself.

"Apart from the warm personal friendship existing between us we are both too wise to the forces on foot to allow them to accomplish this result."

Mr. Jerome declined to specify who the trouble making persons are.

Gen. Bingham dictated this statement after he had read what the District Attorney had said:

"That the information on which I have acted has come to me from all sides proves that no clique inside or outside of the Police Department has been the cause of my recent action. I know that what has so far been done in the matter under discussion has been done of my own invention, under my own direction and in consultation with practically no one.

"It has long been common report that certain men connected with the District Attorney's office have been going about the town holding up people at the point of their pistols. Many men have told me personally of their experiences in this way. The District Attorney has such confidence in his men that he does not believe these stories. I am nearly satisfied of their truth and have such verbal and written information and evidence that I should fail in my duty if I did not do all in my power to 'thresh out' these charges. I want these things tried out publicly.

"Mr. Jerome and I are good friends and will continue to be so."

The Commissioner's statement that he wanted the charges tried out publicly was regarded in police circles as particularly significant. In the minds of many it indicated that he believes criminal proceedings ought to be instituted.

Assistant District Attorney Smyth, who has charge of the investigation at the Criminal Courts Building, examined about a dozen witnesses yesterday. Among them were several policemen who were known to be friendly with Reardon, the head raider, and Sergt. Joseph Wasserman, another member of the squad. One of the men who was questioned was John O'Brien, who was transferred yesterday from Inspector Walsh's staff to Staten Island. His home is in The Bronx. O'Brien is one of Reardon's friends, and at Police Headquarters his case was cited as one of those where appointments had been made to an inspector's staff at Reardon's request.

The recent transfers of Patrolmen Lang and Johnson from the Fifth street station to Far Rockaway and of Magistrate Corrigan's probation officer, Henry Hand, from a detail in the police court to plain clothes duty in the Mercer street station were mentioned by friends of the accused raiders as other cases in which members of the force had suffered because of their friendship with Reardon.

Gen. Bingham hasn't received Reardon's special policeman's shield yet. Reardon apparently hasn't been able to find it.

SPAIN PAYS OLD CLAIMS.

Settles for Depredations of Privateers Between the Years 1819 and 1834.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14.—The State Department has received from the Spanish Government $570,000 in full payment of the principal of the Spanish indemnity claims. These claims were the result of the depredations of Spanish privateers upon American commerce and of the war between Spain and her American colonies.

All claims prior to 1819 were settled by a claims convention of that date and ten days after the treaty of 1819 was concluded the President of the United States approved an act of Congress relating to the depredations of Spanish privateers. In 1834, when the last claims convention between Spain and the United States was negotiated, Spain agreed to pay to the United States claimants the sum of $600,000 with interest at 5 per cent. on the claims arising between the years 1819 and 1834.

The final settlement of the claims will be made on a basis of 95 per cent. of their face value upon the surrender of the certificates to the Treasury Department. The certificates are largely held in New England, where the vessels were owned which suffered from the depredations of the Spanish.

MOVE FOR THE JENKINSES.

Indicted Bankers Want to Inspect Grand Jury Minutes.

Counsel for John G. Jenkins, Sr., John G. Jenkins, Jr., Frank Jenkins and Fred Jenkins yesterday made application to Judge Fawcett in the County Court in Brooklyn for permission to inspect the minutes of the Grand Jury for November. The Jenkinses are under indictment for conspiracy and perjury in connection with the suspension of the Williamsburg and Jenkins trust companies.

It was contended by counsel that an inspection of the minutes is necessary in order that his clients may know just what they are charged with so as to determine whether a motion to quash the indictments is proper. Assistant District Attorney Elder opposed the application and said that the indictments themselves contained all necessary information. Decision was reserved.

The trial of the Jenkinses has been fixed for Monday next.

Killed by His Runaway Team.

Frederick Ruppert, 40 years old, a driver for the Farmers Feed Company of 365 Johnson avenue, Williamsburg, who lived at DeKalb and Stuyvesant avenues, was killed yesterday in the yard of the New York and Brooklyn Brewing Company at 191 Bushwick avenue while trying to stop his runaway team of horses. The horses trampled him, his skull was crushed and two wheels of the vehicle passed over him.

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JERSEY LEGISLATURE BEGINS

WITH SIGNS OF ANYTHING BUT A PEACEFUL SESSION.

New Idea Man From Essex Proposes Scheme to Get Bills Out of Committee—Fight on Comptroller Morgan—Gov. Stokes's Final Message Deals With Capital.

TRENTON, Jan. 14.—The New Jersey Legislature of 1908 organized this afternoon, barely three months after the final adjournment of the Legislature of 1907, which was in session for more than eight months of the calendar year. In accordance with caucus agreement Senator Thomas J. Hillery of Morris was elected President of the Senate and Frank B. Jess of Camden Speaker of the House. Howard L. Tyler of Cumberland was chosen as Secretary of the Senate and Capt. James Harker of Passaic Clerk of the House.

The first discordant ripple occurred when Assemblyman W. Fellowes Morgan, a New Idea member from Essex, introduced a resolution providing that upon request of not less than fifteen members of the House a committee should be compelled to report within two hours any particular bill which had been referred to it.

Assemblyman William P. Martin of Essex, also of the New Idea movement and the majority leader on the floor of the House, said he favored the principle of compelling committees to report all bills, but thought it poor policy to raise the question at that particular time. He got the resolution referred to the Committee on Rules, of which he is chairman. There was another tilt in the House between Assemblyman Martin and Assemblyman Sullivan (Dem.) of Hudson. Mr. Sullivan wanted the House to limit its distribution of patronage to the minor officers provided for by a statute, but the majority members didn't appear to take Mr. Sullivan seriously and the usual excess of officers over the statutory allowance was named.

One of the most interesting political developments of the day was a determined fight to prevent the reelection of State Comptroller J. Willard Morgan, of Camden. He is opposed by David Baird, the putative boss of Camden county, who is trying to land Henry J. West of Camden in the place. Baird, succeeded in lining up the Camden delegation against Morgan, and should he persist in the fight, will probably down the present Comptroller. The election of West is a different proposition. It is said that if Morgan cannot land, the Essex delegation will support George E. Halsey of Orange and will seek to enlist the aid of other North Jersey counties. It is scarcely a probability that Camden can down Morgan and retain the office of Comptroller.

Gov. Stokes in his retiring message cautioned the legislators against making laws that would interfere with business and halt the investment of capital, saying:

Evils and abuses are there that need the restraint of law, but the motive of law should be to cure, not to kill; to punish the guilty, not the innocent; to encourage, not terrify, capital. What we need is remedial rather than punitive legislation; constructive rather than destructive policy; just, not frenzied, enactment. Abuses can be stopped, wrongs can be righted, the people can be protected, without paralyzing industrial life. The State should not legislate for receiverships.

Gov. Stokes made a plea for corporate publicity as one of the most effective means of inspiring public confidence.

After calling attention to the fact that the State has passed an effective act prohibiting overcapitalization in cases of public utility corporations the Governor suggested a novel method for preventing this condition in other business companies by abolishing the par value of shares of stock and having each share represent merely an aliquot part of the assets of the company. In outlining this plan he says:

The problems growing out of capitalization in business corporations are predicated entirely upon the fixed par value of the issues. Par value is the basis of discussion concerning this subject. If the shares of the stock in certain classes of corporations were issued without a value fixed by the dollar mark the difficulty would ne eliminated. If a corporation should be organized not with a thousand shares of stock at a value of $100 per share but simply with the issue of one thousand shares of stock without any determined par value the question of over capitalization could never arise.

The corporation would have its assets and its liabilities, but its standing in the business and banking world would be largely determined by its net worth and the accepted rules of credit rather than by the artificial valuation indicated by the dollar mark on the stock. Dividends could be declared upon the shares, not in rate per cent., but in fixed amounts, and the question of overcapitalization would be entirely eliminated for all parties concerned—for the corporation that sells, for the public that buys its products and for the holders of its stock. The investing public is too often induced to buy stock by the glittering promise of the dollar par value mark, rather than by the real assets of the corporation.

Should this plan be authorized as a positive method of incorporation, as an alternative, side by side with the present law, provision should be made for filing in the proper State department a schedule of the assets and liabilities of the corporation. This would serve as a basis for the levying of the franchise tax and a source of information to shareholders as to the value of their property.

The Governor outlined some of the recent important enactments of the Legislature and called attention to the fact that State expenditures have increased so enormously that the State is threatened with a deficit instead of its much vaunted surplus. In this connection the Governor made an urgent appeal for economy in the administration of public affairs and recommended the consolidation of some of the salaried commissions and boards now exercising cognate duties.

Among the recommendations made by the Governor were an amendment to the Constitution providing for the election of members of the Assembly by districts instead of by counties, the establishment of a civil service commission, reform in the method of selecting grand juries, the establishment of a public utilities commission and greater simplicity in legislation.

SHOE MEN FOR TARIFF REVISION.

Applaud Gov. Guild as He "Cuts His Political Throat."

The National Boot and Shoe Manufacturers' Association, which has been in session at the Hotel Astor for two days, had its annual dinner last night in the ballroom of the hotel. More than three hundred boot and shoe men were there when John H. Hanan, president of the association, introduced Gov. Curtis Guild, Jr., of Massachusetts, the principal speaker.

Gov. Guild's remarks on the need for reduction of the tariff on hides and a general revision of the existing schedules were received with applause which quite drowned out the hilarity of a college dinner in an adjoining room.

Gov. Guild said that after the next national election a special session of Congress would be called to consider the revision of the tariff in "the interests of common sense rather than of special interests." The present duties on wool were "utterly unscientific," and the duties on bituminous coal, beef and steel rails were needless.

When giving his speech to the reporters Gov. Guild announced that he was "cutting his political throat." He said in his speech though that he was not a candidate for any further public office.

FOUND TAFT SENTIMENT WEST.

Judge Wilfley Also Reports Roosevelt Out of the Running.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14.—Judge Lebbeus R. Wilfley of the United States District Court at Shanghai called to-day at the State Department. He arrived in Washington last night from St. Louis, where he stopped off to visit a brother.

Judge Wilfley said the object of his visit was not so much to defend himself from any charges that have been received at the State Department against his administration of the court at Shanghai as to secure further legislation from Congress to correct the defects which have been found to exist in the court. He will urge the passage of a law for the adoption of the California code as a basis of procedure. Appeals from the Shanghai court lie to the California court.

Judge Wilfley is an ardent Taft boomer. "The sentiment is overwhelmingly for Secretary Taft for President," he said. "I found it particularly strong west of the Mississippi. After realizing that President Roosevelt was positively out of consideration they seemed to be unanimous for Mr. Taft."

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