

COOK MAKES A NEW PROPOSAL

SAYS HE'LL SUBMIT DATA TO SOCIETIES HERE.

But Only Under Arrangement That Findings Be Announced Simultaneously With Those of Danish University—Greeted by Crowd in Washington.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 3.—Dr. Frederick A. Cook announced to-night that he was willing to submit all of his data and memoranda relating to his trip to the north pole to all geographical and scientific societies in the United States simultaneously with their submission to the University of Copenhagen, provided an agreement could be reached by which the findings of all the societies should be given out simultaneously with the verdict of the Danish university.

This information was furnished in response to the question as to whether Dr. Cook would consider any proposition to submit his records to the American Geographical Society in advance of their submission to the University of Copenhagen. To this inquiry he answered promptly "No." He said that he saw no use of submitting the information to any American scientific board in advance of turning it over to the University of Copenhagen. He said that he had promised that the information should be first laid before the Danish authorities and he saw no good reason for breaking that promise. Then he made the proposal that he was willing to submit the material to the Danish and the United States scientists under an agreement that the findings should be made public simultaneously.

Dr. Cook arrived in Washington shortly before 7 o'clock to-night. He was greeted at the station by a crowd of about a thousand people. It was necessary for the police to make a way through the crowd to enable him to reach his automobile. Just as he was preparing to enter the car an overzealous policeman raised his club and was on the point of attacking Dr. Cook when the officer's uplifted arm was stayed by bystanders. The policeman had much difficulty in keeping the crowd back. The trouble was begun about an hour before the train arrived and was continued until Dr. Cook was escorted from the depot by his motor car. Sky-larking by a crowd of young men who kept shouting "Here comes Cook!" caused the police, who thought apparently when Cook arrived that he was one of the sky-larkers.

There was no committee at the station to meet the explorer. He alighted from the train, accompanied by his lecture manager, his private secretary and some newspaper correspondents, and was met by a crowd of reporters who formed his body guard as he marched from the train to his automobile. As he proceeded through the depot and the waiting crowd finally became convinced that the explorer had finally arrived there was a scramble to get a look at him. There was difficulty in recognizing him, particularly as he made no sign of recognition except to raise his hat once or twice and replace it quickly.

When the explorer arrived at the New Willard Hotel a crowd of a few hundred persons was waiting to receive him in the hotel lobby. A slight demonstration was made and one or two shouts were uttered before Dr. Cook's arrival. Sir Alfred Hogg, chief of the British Army Medical Service, who bears a strong resemblance to the explorer and who arrived in Washington by the same train on which Dr. Cook came, passed into the hotel lobby. He was greeted by a shout, and when he discovered the cause of the uproar he held up his walking stick and addressing the crowd said:

"Yes, here it is. I brought the north pole with me."

Dr. Cook arrived almost on the heels of this incident. William F. Gude, president of the Washington Chamber of Commerce, greeted Dr. Cook in the rotunda of the hotel and accompanied him to his room and remained there until the explorer went to a local theatre to deliver his lecture. As soon as Dr. Cook had brushed up he received a crowd of newspaper men. Almost the first question fired at him was the inquiry as to whether he was willing to submit his data to an American geographical society in advance of its being laid before the University of Copenhagen. After the doctor had made his announcement he was asked whether he intended to make another trip to the north pole in the near future.

"I do not," was the reply. "My polar work may be said to be over. I may at some time in the future attempt another trip to the pole, but I have no present intention of doing so."

"Do you intend to try to reach the south pole?"

"No, I do not, although I have no doubt that the south pole will be located in time, and I believe it will be an easier task than making a trip to the north pole. I believe there is much land in the vicinity of the south pole, which will make it easier to establish the necessary supply stations and facilitate an explorer's efforts to reach the south pole."

Dr. Cook's lecture was delivered before a large audience. He was received with enthusiasm. He followed closely the lines of his address in Boston, Philadelphia and Brooklyn. A number of local scientific men were in the audience, but no one was on the stage except President Gude of the Washington Chamber of Commerce, who presided, and the explorer.

After the lecture Dr. Cook went to the National Press Club, where there was a reception. He will remain in Washington to be officially received at 10 o'clock to-morrow morning by the Commissioners of the District of Columbia in the municipal building, after which a public reception will be held there. Dr. Cook will go to Baltimore to-morrow.

Thomas C. Copeland Taken to Bellevue.

Thomas C. Copeland, a writer and statistician who has lived for a good many years at 129 West Seventy-second street, a boarding house, was taken last night to Bellevue Hospital and put in the observation ward in the pavilion for the insane. Copeland, who is 67 years old, has been acting strangely for the last week. He imagined that he was the Deity and had come to save the world. Mr. Copeland came to this country from England about twenty-five years ago. He was once an officer in the British army.

CRUSH TO SEE WAR BOATS.

Men and Women Pushed into River by Jam at St. Louis.

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 3.—A score of women and children fainted, ten persons were pushed into the river and the clothes of others were torn and disarranged in the crush of curious sightseers when the four torpedo boats making up the flotilla came here to escort President Taft down the river. The boats were open for public inspection this afternoon.

Thousands had gathered on the steeply inclined levees long before the time for the boats to receive visitors. When the announcement was made the crowd made a general rush for the narrow gangplank leading from the wharf boat to the tiny war vessels.

The detail of fifty patrolmen were powerless to stop the rush and were swept from their feet for a moment. Women and children caught in the struggling mass were crushed breathless, hats were ruined and clothing torn. One woman with a baby fainted and was only saved from being trampled to death by the police forming a wedge and forcing their way to her. She was soon revived. The child was uninjured.

Three women were pushed into the river in succession. The police charged the crowd with drawn batons while other bluecoats pulled the victims from the water. Those in front were powerless to stop and the ever increasing hundreds in the rear increased the strain on the persons at the foot of the incline.

Finally the police announced no others would be allowed to board the vessels. This relieved the crush.

The gates were opened in a short time and the crush was repeated, several men and boys being pushed into the water. On board the vessels of the flotilla the crowd was dense, but the sailors kept the visitors on the move.

After the second rush better order was maintained and it is estimated that 100,000 persons visited the vessels before night.

GREAT UTILITIES COMBINE

Reported to Be Under Consideration in Chicago.

CHICAGO, Oct. 3.—A gigantic consolidation of Chicago public utility corporations is being planned by a group of local and New York financiers.

This amalgamation of big business interests will represent a total capitalization of nearly \$300,000,000, and the plan of operation as now suggested is a grave political issue in the Mayor's campaign a year from next spring.

The proposition includes the consolidation of the surface street car lines, the elevated railroads, the Commonwealth Edison company and subsidiary interests into a great corporation that will control the business of local transportation and the production of electric light and power.

The scheme proposes a reorganization of the transportation systems of the city along lines that the authors of the plan promise will effect the reforms demanded for many years by the travelling public and by the city government.

The financial and physical economy of each of the corporations entering into the agreement is also to undergo a reorganization that will reduce expenses and increase profits.

That part of the project which may involve the political issues is the provision that the consolidated corporation shall become the licensee of the city under the terms of the traction settlement ordinance designating any individual or corporation to purchase the property of the street car companies at the terms upon which the city would purchase, together with a bonus of 20 per cent.

A 150 POUND SUNFISH.

Crew of the Boat Believe It Was the "Shark" That Seared Long Island Bathers.

Bathers near the eastern end of Long Island have been frightened in the last season by what they took to be an immense shark close to the shore. The fish remained for hours at the surface with its huge fin moving at intervals and looking when seen broadside like the conning tower of a submarine.

The crew of the fishing steamer Florence Stream, Capt. John Hagan, believe that the mystery has been cleared up by them. Last Tuesday when the steamer was lifting nets off Montauk Point Capt. Hagan's men had an extra hard time of it in drawing up one of the nets. When the net was finally hauled aboard it was found to contain a giant sunfish. Capt. Hagan brought the fish to his firm in Washington Market and it was put on exhibition.

Louis Knell, a fishman who for the last fifty years has been connected with the market, says that the fish is the largest sunfish that ever came to the market. It weighed more than 150 pounds. The dorsal fin measured 20 inches in length. The fish is 4 feet long and 5 feet wide.

Knell says the crew of the fishing steamer believe this is the fish that gave Long Island bathers their scare. One of the habits of the sunfish is to swim near the surface with its dorsal fin showing.

OPPOSES WOMAN IN OFFICE.

Speaker Before Political Equality League Gives Hearers a Surprise.

CHICAGO, Oct. 3.—Maybe the members of the Political Equality League did not know that the speaker whom they asked to open their session would do so by saying "I do not believe that women should hold public office."

TRYING TO PERSUADE HEARST

INDEPENDENCE LEAGUE WANTS HIM TO RUN FOR MAYOR.

Committee Labors With Him and It Thinks That He Won't Shirk His Duty—Is Averse to Making the Run Personally, but the Committee Has Hopes.

The strongest kind of pressure is being brought to bear upon William R. Hearst by the leaders of the Independence League to run for Mayor as an independent candidate. Mr. Hearst himself is personally averse to running this year and has so told the heads of the league.

Charles E. Gehring, chairman of the county committee; Melvin G. Palliser and John J. Hopper and others of the league called on him yesterday and endeavored to persuade him to recede from the attitude that he has taken, that nothing could induce him to become a candidate for Mayor this year.

It is known that Mr. Hearst thinks that such a campaign on his part would be useless so far as probable success at the polls goes. Charles F. Murphy, leader of Tammany Hall, tricked Mr. Hearst out of the control of his own organization at the recent primaries, and the only way that Mr. Hearst could be nominated would be by petition. This would mean a great amount of work and a great expense of money. Those who are close to Mr. Hearst say that he does not much favor the idea of spending money this year, but would rather reserve his resources for the gubernatorial campaign next year. Mr. Hearst, it is said, has ambitions looking toward Albany.

Mr. Hearst's lieutenants, however, want him to take an active part in the Mayor's campaign. After seeing Mr. Hearst yesterday the committee held a conference in the Hermitage Hotel and decided that whether or not they had the backing of Mr. Hearst they would try to put an independent ticket in the field.

"For the last three days," said Mr. Gehring, "I have been actively canvassing the sentiment of the members of the Independence League, and that sentiment has proved conclusively to me and to the members of the league's county committee that the league will not support either Gaynor or Bannard."

"Does that mean that the league will put a third ticket in the field?" he was asked.

"I can't speak for the league," he answered, "because the league has been stolen from us by Charlie Murphy, but if the feeling of our organization is followed out we will certainly put an independence ticket in the field."

"Will Mr. Hearst head it?" it was inquired.

"I am not in a position to say anything about that now," Mr. Gehring said, "but I and some other members of the league had a long talk with him this afternoon at his house, and while I don't want any inferences to be drawn from what I am saying I think that Mr. Hearst would not shirk his duty if a call was made upon him to run for Mayor on an independent ticket."

Although Mr. Gehring and some of his associates in the league's county committee are endeavoring to run an independent ticket, led by Mr. Hearst, there are a large number of members of the organization who are opposed to a separate ticket this year. These men think that Judge Gaynor represents the views of the Independence League and that he should be endorsed by that body.

Efforts have been made to obtain from Mr. Hearst himself some expression of views as to how he stands on this division of opinion in his organization. Mr. Hearst has so far refused to commit himself. At his office for the last three or four nights the statement has been made by his secretary that he might give out a statement at any moment, but so far it has not been forthcoming. Again at his office last night it was said that Mr. Hearst was not yet prepared to make any announcement.

It is asserted that the league will make no effort to hold a city convention. If this was done Mr. Murphy, who now controls the league by reason of the primary elections, would have resolutions passed indorsing the ticket nominated at the Democratic city convention in Carnegie Hall last Thursday night.

Mr. Hearst, Mr. Gehring and the other leaders of the league realize the fix they are in and it was intimated frankly last night by Mr. Gehring that if the league is to nominate a ticket of its own this year it will have to be by petition. Mr. Gehring explained that the league would have until October 13 to file such a petition with the Board of Elections and that he could get the necessary 2,000 signatures to nominate by petition in a couple of days.

WOMAN STRANGELY MISSING.

Went for Vacation Seven Weeks Ago and Left No Address.

BOSTON, Oct. 3.—Miss Elizabeth G. Johnson, niece of Prof. Thomas E. Pope of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and employed at the institute as secretary to Prof. Cross and librarian of the physics library, has been missing nearly seven weeks.

Miss Johnson disappeared from her lodging house, 191 West Canton street, on August 12. Prior to that she told her landlady, relatives and friends that she intended to go on a vacation for her health.

On August 12 she wrote a postcard to her sister briefly announcing that she was going away for a complete rest. She added that she did not wish to be communicated with and would decline to give any address.

She left her trunk, typewriter, all her clothing, books and other personal property. Her relatives did not worry until she failed to report for duty at the institute when the term began, September 15. They supposed she was spending a quiet vacation somewhere and would return then, but her failure to do so and the absence of any tidings have occasioned deep concern.

Relatives searched for her privately, but after exhausting every possible means they were compelled yesterday as a last resort to solicit the aid of the police. They fear Miss Johnson was made despondent by falling health and may have become mentally unbalanced.

PEARY IN STEAMER ACCIDENT.

Boat on Which He Was Travelling Collided With Another.

PORTLAND, Me., Oct. 3.—Commander Robert E. Peary had a thrilling experience to-day while on his way from Portland to his summer home at Eagle Island when the steamer Aucoosco, on which he was a passenger, was run down off Peaks Island by the steamer Merrycoenag.

TWO PRISONERS ON THE SHIP

ELEANOR BEATTIE AND A. T. HOYT BACK FROM EUROPE.

Both in Charge of Detective Flood of the District Attorney's Office—Woman Charged With Stealing \$1,500 Worth of Goods From the Gerham Company.

Eleanor Lorraine Beattie, who sailed hence several months ago in the Cunarder Carmania for Liverpool as Mrs. Bruce Blake, returned yesterday by the White Star liner Baltic under the name of Eleanor L. Burton accompanied by Lieut. Bernard Flood of the detective force of the District-Attorney's office. She is charged with obtaining by representing herself to Mrs. Margaret Stears about \$1,500 worth of jewelry and silvers from the Gerham Manufacturing Company, of which Mrs. Stears was a customer. Although she fought extradition in England she declared that she was innocent. One of the first persons who greeted her after she had landed was Eddie Mallon, private detective for the steamship lines. He asked her if she remembered him and she said she did not have the pleasure. Then he recalled to her that a messenger boy from a millinery shop here had gone aboard the Carmania just before the gangplank had been taken down about three months ago and delivered a \$40 hat in a bandbox to Mrs. Bruce Blake. The detective asked her to recall that she took the box from the boy and fired him out of her cabin, and that he came down the pier declaring that he could not go back to his employer without the box or the \$40, which he said Mrs. Bruce Blake had refused to give him.

Then she remembered the incident, at least in part, and grasping the hand of the detective remarked that she surely would have delivered herself up to him then if she had only known that he was a detective and she had also known about that utterly absurd charge against her. Mallon then reminded her that she had surrendered to him the box that she insisted at first she was entitled to take without paying the \$40 and that she had also declared that she was an English woman lawyer of distinction and birth and that he would suffer for interfering with her.

Detective Flood said that if she was confident of her innocence and was so good a person she hardly would have sought extradition proceedings so vigorously, her lawyer declaring that she believed she would be railroaded to prison for the "Yankess," notwithstanding her innocence. She was taken from the ship to the Tombs.

Another prisoner that came with Flood is Adelbert T. Hoyt, who is accused of forging the name of Julia E. Forges on a check for \$5,000. Hoyt had been arrested here two years ago and had been admitted to bail, but jumped it and later turned up in Europe. He told Detective Flood that since he left New York he had been leading an honest life, but inasmuch as Flood had learned that he had given trouble to the French and German police departments his declaration about the honesty of his method of getting a living is strongly doubted by the police.

He was caught by Flood and a Scotland Yard man in the office of the American Express Company in the Haymarket and resisted arrest so strongly that it took the strength of both his captors to subdue him.

ONE HURLED INTO TREETOP.

Injured Joy Riders Cared For by Churchgoers at Bensonhurst.

Six men were spilled and one thrown into a treetop when an automobile owned and driven by Prescott McKinney, 24 years old, of 158 Bay Twenty-eighth street, Bensonhurst, crashed into a tree at Eighty-third street and Twenty-second avenue, Bensonhurst, yesterday morning. McKinney, who lost control of the steering gear and drove the machine into the tree, was thrown against the steering wheel and three of his ribs were fractured. He was taken in an ambulance to the Coney Island Reception Hospital and later was removed to the Kings County Hospital.

Reginald Boyd, a special policeman of Newburgh, landed in the treetop, sustaining a broken nose and internal injuries. He was taken in an ambulance to the home of John Barber, Eighty-second street and Twenty-second avenue. The other injured men are Charles Dietrich, a bank clerk, of Twenty-second and Benson avenues, internal injuries and contusions; Murray Hennessy, owner of a hotel on Henderson's walk, Coney Island, broken ribs, internal injuries and concussion of the brain; Gerald O'Connor, a hotel proprietor, of Bay Twenty-fourth street and Benson avenue, contusions; John Roth, a special policeman, arm broken.

The party had been to Manhattan on an early morning joy ride. While Dr. Plunkitt was coming from the Coney Island Reception Hospital the injured men were cared for by churchgoers on their way to the Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit at Eighty-second street and Twenty-second avenue, a block from the scene of the accident. The automobile was wrecked and the tree shattered.

UNDER SIXTY FEET OF EARTH.

Farmer Digging With Neighbors for His Son, Buried in Cave in Well.

SATVILLE, L. I., Oct. 3.—John Cosson, son of a farmer living about two miles north of Central Islip, was buried under sixty feet of earth this morning in the cavern of a well he was assisting his father in digging. The cavern occurred at 9 o'clock this morning. Late to-night men still were at work in an effort to rescue the young man, but had not yet reached him or his dead body.

There is a stratum of rock under the Cosson farm which has prevented the driving of a well down to the ninety foot depth, where water is to be found, so the Cossons dug a well to the water and then began setting in iron pipe, filling up around the pipe as fast as it was set. Cosson had the well filled about thirty feet of the hole when the cavern came.

The pit had been walled with a temporary staving of planks, which were being removed as fast as the pit was filled with earth. The work was begun last year and was partially finished then, the old wooden staving being allowed to remain in place. It is thought that this may have become rotten and that it gave way.

The young man's father was at the surface at the time and immediately got together a number of men and began digging out the filling of the hole. It is necessary to replace the staving as fast as the earth is removed, so the work is moving slowly.

MRS. FRENCH HURT ON TRAIN.

Hospital Doctor Accompanies Her From Mott Haven to Washington.

While a passenger on the Colonial Express of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad between Boston and Washington on Saturday, Mrs. Mary French, 72 years old, wife of J. H. French of 1237 Kenyon street, Washington, D. C., fell against a chair in the parlor car, sustaining a fracture of her right arm and a severe shock.

Mrs. French was passing from the dining car to the parlor car when the train lurched and threw her. She was assisted by passengers and the conductor was notified. On account of her age Mrs. French's condition was regarded as serious and the engineer was ordered to make all possible speed.

A record run was made from South Norwalk, Conn., to Mott Haven, where Dr. James Mooney was waiting with an ambulance from the Lincoln Hospital. The physician set the arm and urged Mrs. French to go to the hospital, but she refused to do so. Dr. Mooney was asked to accompany her to Washington, to which he agreed.

Mrs. French's car was transferred on a boat to New Jersey and the run was made to Washington over the Pennsylvania line. Dr. Mooney, relieved by physicians in Washington, returned to Lincoln Hospital yesterday.

POPE COMPELLED TO REST.

Audiences Suspended Because of Slight Ailment by Doctors' Order.

LONDON, Oct. 3.—The Madrid correspondent of the Morning Post says that large contingents of Arabs coming from the neighborhood of Fez have reached the region south of Zuluana. The Kabyles, who are faithful to the Sultan, are encouraging the continuance of hostilities in the Rif country despite their protestations of friendship for Spain.

EXCOMMUNICATES WHOLE CITY.

Pope Punishes Adria for Stoning Its Bishop in Anti-Clerical Outbreak.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN.
ROME, Oct. 3.—The Pope, through the Consistorial Congregation, has pronounced personal and general excommunication against all the inhabitants of the city of Adria and its suburbs for severely injuring Bishop Boggiani of that diocese with sticks and stones during a recent anti-clerical demonstration there.

This is the first general excommunication of a city during the present pontificate.

Adria is a town near the Adriatic coast and close to the banks of the River Po. It has a population of nearly 12,000 people.

LATHAM FLIES HIGH TOO LATE.

So Rougier Sweeps In \$15,000 in Prizes at Berlin Flight Fest.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN.
BERLIN, Oct. 3.—The aviation meeting at Johannisthal closed this evening. Rougier, with a Voisin biplane, bagged the big prizes, amounting altogether to \$15,000. The events awarded to him were for distance, 130 kilometers, or about ninety-eight miles; most prolonged flight, 2 hours 38 minutes, and highest flight, 158 meters, about 514 feet.

The most popular competitor, however, was Hubert Latham, who captured the speed prize of \$2,000, having covered twenty kilometers in 18 1/2 minutes. Farman won only a couple of second prizes.

Latham beat Rougier's high flight by fully a hundred meters this afternoon, but as it was after sundown it did not count.

Twenty thousand spectators watched the final performances. Many prominent persons were present, including Princes August Wilhelm and Oscar, the Japanese and French Ambassadors and Orville Wright.

TWO BROTHERS DROWNED.

Tumbled While Standing in Canoe to Have Picture Taken.

AMEBURY, Mass., Oct. 3.—James Mahan, aged 24, and his brother Joseph, aged 17, both of this town, were drowned in Lake Gardner this afternoon while having their pictures taken in a canoe. The young men stood up in the craft to allow Miss Bella Bailey to take a snapshot of them and as they did so the canoe jumped from under them. Neither could swim and they drowned a short distance from shore, Miss Bailey being unable to render any assistance.

POLAR BEARS IN A FIGHT.

Several Hundred Visitors Watch Ten Men Separate Them at the Bronx Zoo.

Admiral and Ivan, the two big polar bears in the Bronx Park Zoo, had a terrible fight yesterday afternoon and it took ten men with sticks and pitchforks nearly half an hour to separate them.

Real feeling had existed between them for a very long time, and six months ago, after they had lived in cat and dog fashion in the same cage, they were separated. Ever since they have been clawing at one another through the steel bars of their cage partition and trying to get at one another. The wire mesh at the top of the cage, however, held until yesterday.

Admiral apparently was jealous because Ivan came from further north. Anyway they began their dispute with many growls and then Ivan climbed to the top of the cage, struck one of his big paws in the wire mesh and ripped open a hole large enough to get his body through. In a jiffy he had crawled into Admiral's cage and soon they were at it for all they were worth.

Their shaggy white coats were red with blood long before the keepers got them apart. Several hundred persons watched the fight.

HEAVY TRAFFIC ON LINERS.

Record Day of 4,294 Passenger Arrivals—Big Day for Steerage.

It was a record day for cabin passengers yesterday, 4,294 having landed from eight transatlantic steamships. The baggage of this throng was examined by 250 inspectors, who worked swiftly for twelve perishing hours. It was impossible to tell definitely the amount of money taken in at the piers on both sides of the Hudson, but the deputy surveyors on the job guessed that that also would be a record.

The Hamburg-American liner Cleveland brought the largest cabin list, 933, and the mammoth George Washington of the North German Lloyd came next with 817. The White Star liner Baltic let loose 811 and the Red Star crack Lapland, the only Sunday ship of the line, carried 718.

It was also the biggest October day in many years for steerage passengers, about 4,200 arriving at Ellis Island. For the first Sunday in months all the immigration force was on duty until sunset. The immigration boarding officers' force was not big enough to properly cover the ships, most of which arrived in a bunch in the morning.

A PEARY SAILOR ASSAULTED.

Held Up By East Side Thugs and His Head Battered.

Three sailors who went ashore from Peary's ship, the Roosevelt, were set upon as they were returning to the ship at the foot of East Twenty-fourth street last night by half a dozen toughs, and one of them, John Coady, 26 years old, of St. John's, N. F., received an ugly scalp wound.

At Twenty-fourth street and First avenue the party was stopped by the thugs and the price of a bucket of beer was demanded. During the fight that followed Coady's companions ran ahead to the ship for a relief expedition, and when they returned Coady was alone and lying unconscious in the gutter. They carried him to Bellevue Hospital, where Dr. Hooker took seven stitches in his scalp.

FIRST DAY FOR REGISTRATION IS TO-DAY.

To-day is the first day of registration.

The other registration days are to-morrow and October 9 and 11. The booths will open at 7 o'clock in the morning and will remain open until 10 P. M.

MR. GRANT BANISHES RATS

AND THERE IS A GREAT SILENCE IN THE ASCENSION CHOR.

The Rector Forbids False Hair on One Side of the Chancel Rail and 39 Women Knew What They Think of What a Man Thinks He Knows—That!

The Rev. Percy Stickney Grant, rector of the Church of the Ascension, at Fifth Avenue and Tenth street, has won his fight against rats and puffs and all forms of artificial hair—at least in so far as the wearing of such feminine decorations by the members of the choir of his church is concerned.

The matter was first broached by the rector as much as a year ago, it is said, in the form of suggestions. He let it be known that the wearing of mounds and waves and clouds of somebody else's hair in the chancel was not to his liking. But his suggestions were not heeded and the twenty-three women and girls of the choir kept right on stuffing up. Again, so the report has it, the rector dropped a hint or two where it would get to the ears of the offenders.

It got to the desired ears all right, but found them deaf. And so month after month the choir of the Church of the Ascension—the female part of the choir, that is—kept right on wearing its vestments, and above them the usual odium of hair which not even the most optimistic and charitable ever would believe had grown there.

Then last Friday when the choir was getting into its vestments for the Clyde Fitch funeral, Richard Henry Warren, the choirmaster of the church, issued an order prompted by the Rev. Mr. Grant, embodying the clergyman's former suggestions, but putting them in the form of peremptory instructions. Whatever hair had not accrued in the ordinary course of events simply had to come off if the women wanted to stay in that choir.

Of course, all wanted to stay. And, also of course they weren't at all pleased to lose the effect of the hair which they had come to consider as much a part of themselves as that with which nature had graced them. There were hard looks and unkind words were spoken, but the order stood and that was all there was to it. So right there in the dressing room hair began to fly, and in a very few minutes every one of the fluffy heads was as sleek as the most straitlaced could wish.

During the time between that hour and the first service yesterday there was a lot of talking done by the members of the choir and much complaining, and it was thought—or, at least, hoped—that the dreadful order would be rescinded before the women and girls had to face yesterday morning's congregation. But yesterday morning the order was repeated, and Mr. Warren further said that it was a permanent order, to be obeyed right along, week after week. So yesterday again the dears went into their work with their hair combed neatly to the sides or anywhere they wished to comb it provided it was their really and truly native hair.

Last night there were rumors of bitterness in the choir. Some of the members went as far as to prophesy that Mr. Grant would simply have to give in before the discussion was finished.

"Why," said one of them, "what does Mr. Grant expect us to do? He is an awfully nice man and all that; but so man seems to understand such things. Honestly, I look a perfect fright without my rat and I am not afraid to acknowledge it. If I can arrange my hair as I please—well, I am not so bad-looking, do you think? And I simply can't allow people to see me with my hair all plastered down like some old woman's. Something has got to be done. None of us wants to kick up a fuss, but we must consider ourselves a little and insist that we be allowed to dress our hair as it best becomes us."

Another said that maybe fashion would settle the difficulty before the confits had a chance to become any more serious than it already has become. She understood, she said, that puffs and rats and all that sort of thing were going out anyhow and that sleek, well combed hair was to be the mode.

"And of course," she added, "if that should be the style, why, there won't be any more trouble, because we couldn't appear in the chancel as frights with a lot of false hair tucked up on our heads when everybody else was wearing hers plain."