WONDERS AT THE CAT SHOW

A PATRICIAN, FOR INSTANCE, THAT $2,000 WON'T BUY.

And White Aigrette, the Precious Albino, Is Only One of 'Em—What With Them, Guinea Pigs, Peacocks and Such, the Garden Is Madder Than a Wheat Pit.

With 3,233 roosters and hens crowing or clucking in Madison Square Garden last night at the twenty-first annual exhibition of the New York Poultry, Pigeon and Pet Stock Association; with 1,902 pigeons cooing, countless canaries and other birds singing, and with day old incubator chicks in droves that looked like dabs of butter, all squeaking at the same time, it's no wonder that the pink and white girl with the mink hat and furs said to her companion as she came to the rail of a balcony and looked down on the floor payed with cages: "Sounds like the Stock Exchange, doesn't it?" It did.

Let your country gentlemen with estates examine the foolish white crested black Polish roosters, who have heads like a big white chrysanthemum, or the blue Andalusian pullets or the diamond jubilee Orpington cocks—but the place the sentimentally inclined headed for was the concert hall, where opened yesterday the exhibit of the Atlantic Cat Club.

All over the Garden folks who love live things—and judging from the crowd present last night there are a lot of them in New York—could take their pick of anything furry or feathery they wanted to look at and argue over. Beside the cats, the chickens and the pigeons there are rabbits by the dozens, guinea pigs, songsters, pelicans and wild ducks. There are cages of haughty black shouldered peacocks, who naturally are listed in the catalogue under the heading "Displays." You are stared at by razor billed Curassows, which have red bills like a lobster claw as it is served around Long Acre Square at 2 A. M.

There are rows of white, red and yellow fantail pigeons, their tiny cages ticketed with various colored bits of ribbon whereupon is inscribed in letters of gold the many prizes that have been won; and those fantails know all about their ancestry and personal worth, for they are proudly swollen as to the chest and widespread as to the tail.

Red Jacobin pigeons, who look like a monk with his head entirely covered with his cowl; trim silver pygmy pouters, built like a racing yacht in lines that taper fore and aft; pigeons that look like a dainty pheasant, who are listed under the momentus title of "Any Other Variety Lang Face Clean Leg Tumblers"—they're all there, on the floors, in the balconies, in the restaurant, everywhere. But the cats have all the concert hall to themselves.

Then a man comes up to the cage of a white cat, just a white cat, and temptingly sticks through the bars of that cat's cage $2,000 in the form of 100 twenty dollar bills, and then when the young woman who owns said cat answers: "No, that isn't enough to buy White Aigrette," you grasp that said cat is some feline. And exactly this took place when a cat fancier wanted to buy White Aigrette from its owner, Miss Laura Gould Hopkins. Miss Hopkins spurned the offer with disdain.

"Mad," you say. Well, just two weeks ago Miss Hopkins sold to Mary Garden a son of White Aigrette, and a very young son at that, for $700. When you've learned of the selling price of all the other kittens that call White Aigrette mommer you can readily see that Miss Hopkins knows what she is doing when she turns down $2,000 offers for her champion.

In front of the cat cages yesterday you might see men or women owners patiently sitting on camp stools watching their charges. Some of the cages were gay with decorations of satin ribbons and chrysanthemums that rivalled the coats of the cats in fluffiness, tinselled cords, more ribbons and gilt tacsels. "Mother" among cat fanciers, so it was gathered at the exhibition yesterday, means the woman who owns the cat.

"Who's that young woman wearing the civet cat coat?" asked one girl of another last night.

"She's the mother of Polaris of the Gabels. I forget her name," was the answer. "The woman with her is the mother of Dr. Cook, the blue eyed white male."

Before you worked up to the cage of White Aigrette, the champ, with its bewildering display of twenty-four medals and countless other prizes to the number of eighty or more, you were confronted upon entering with a vision named Snow Storm, also a blue eyed white male. Snow Storm's white neck was arched proudly, and well it might be. Twenty-four prizes in the form of red, white, blue and pink silk badges, all telling in gilt letters just how much of a cat Snow Storm is, fluttered from the top bars of the cage.

Snow Storm wears his long hair carefully parted down the dorsal fins and then permits it to spill over like the plumage on a charlotte russe. As he is listed as a blue eyed white male, doubtless his eyes are like sapphire rings resting on an ermine muff: but Snow Storm was tired yesterday and wouldn't give onlookers a treat by opening his eyelids. Right next to him, by way of contrast, was Monsieur le Coshon, big and lithe and as black as the mouth of a cave.

Madamoiselle Genee, a shaded silver tabby kitten, hasn't any kick coming as to treatment. Mam'selle might have reclined yesterday on a cushion in her cage of Nile green silk trimmed with satin ribbons, but she didn't use the cushion. Also beside her in the cage was a sleeping bag of gray flannel, ribbon trimmed. The luxuries girded Mam'selle. She preferred to sleep in a far corner of the cage on a strip of brown wrapping paper that covered the floor of the cage.

Mrs. D. F. Connolly's Chinchilla, Sandalphone, is listed as a kitten. Sandalphone in color, markings and size looks more like a St. Bernard pup. If Sandalphone is a kitten now he's going to be a regular bear cat when he grows up. Not far from him is Fizz, who began humbly and burst into fame.

Fizz is a silver tabby belonging to Mrs. Mary Mills Jensen. Mrs. Jensen found Fizz one day when he was a kitten all mussed up and whining for a home against the iron railing that guarded an areaway. He's marked like a tiger. Persons that know say that he is the best marked cat of his class they ever saw. Somebody interrupted while a visitor was looking over Fizz yesterday.

"What does Ch. mean on the catalogue?" a girl asked Mrs. Jensen.

"Ch.," she repeated thoughtfully. "I can't remember. Let me see the catalogue."

The questioner handed over the book.

"Oh!" cried Mrs. Jensen, "that means champion White Aigrette. "I should have known at once that it meant champion if I knew you were talking about White Aigrette."

White Aigrette is a white, blue eyed female, and she's worth all the $2,000 offered for her, and more, because the perfect white cat, being an albino, is the most difficult kind of cat to obtain and it also is the most showy. These are the cats that figure most in the big championship class.

The cord holding her medals stretches from side to side of her cage. Dangling at the head of the string is a gold star, the North Star medal awarded to White Aigrette at Minneapolis because the judges thought her the best cat in the show. Most of the other medals in the long string were won on the same decision. From the top of her cage hang badges that show she has won prizes and specials in almost all the larger cities of the East and middle West. White Aigrette was born on May 15, 1906, and so has many of her lives still in working condition. She takes her honors easily.

Chorus Girl reclines next to White Aigrette. Chorus Girl's dressing room sports only four medals and fifteen seconds and special prizes, but as Henry W. Johnson, brother of the owner of Chorus Girl, Miss Marion Johnson, explained, Chorus Girl has been exhibited only once as a kitten, once in the novice class and—at the present exhibition—for the first time as a cat. It should not be forgotten, also, that she won a $250 cup in Rochester, and really is doing more at her age than even White Aigrette did.

Her husband, to use the term the cat fanciers employ, is the famous Famo, who, according to the English cat artist, Louis Wain, has the best head of any white tabby he ever has seen. The distinguished pair have two children in the current exhibition, Famo Kama and Santa Bianca. The experts said last night that Chorus Girl and her husband and two promising children doubtless will receive the gold medal for the best family of cats in the present show.

Miss Johnson also has in the exhibition the only black Manx cat in America, whose name is Iani. Just because a cat is minus a tail, it was explained, is no sign that it is a Manx. A regular Manx is built like a kangaroo as to his legs. The legs supporting the quarter deck are longer than they really ought to be. There's a theory that the hind legs are so long because long ago they absorbed the tail, but the theory never has been proved. Iani has been shown only three times but has three first prizes to his credit and four special prizes. He wears a collar of solid gold.

When a dog fancier happened last night upon an Australian cat named Fluffie Ruffles, born in Australia last April and exhibited by Mrs. E. N. C. Smith, the dog man cried, "There's a cat I'd like to own"—which is a concession for a dog fancier. All the crowd agreed with him, for Fluffie Ruffles is the trimmest wad of fur in the exhibit. She's also built like a baby kangaroo to a slight extent and owns a particularly long ratlike tail marked like a rosaconstrictor. Her markings and a short coat that makes her look as if she had just come from a good haircutter's shop calls upon you to say "That's the daintiest, triggest thing I've seen here yet."

There's a champion Siamese male near by in a class all by itself. Its name, Siam de Paris, tells of its route to America from Siam. Miss J. R. Cathcart, owner and exhibitor, bought him in Paris for $500. The peculiarities of Siam, aside from his bigness, are the color—a seal brown head and shoulders which shades off steadily to a tan that grows almost to a light gray out at the tail tip—his big eyes of turquoise blue and his funny way of talking to himself steadily in murmurings not a bit like the back fence meows we hear—but more like a groan.

Two black cats, Rastus and Dusky Belle, have been provided by their owner, Miss Ella von Beuthuysen, with red skirts like a ballet dancer, the reason for which is evident when you learn from the legend on their cage that they are better known as "The Gold Dust Twins." Near the twins are Shiraz, a remarkable male blue, and a Chinchilla named King Winter, who has no peers, owing to the fact that he is the only cat known who owns a face ruff that runs all the way around—one way of saying that Ibeen has nothing on King Winter when it comes to whiskers.

The medal to the best cat in the show, according to the wise, will go, it seems, either to White Aigrette, Shiraz or King Winter. According to the respective owners of the cats, however, the best cat in the show is the one that the owner, whoever he or she may be, is telling you about as you pause before the cages. There'll be heartburnings after the awards are made.

THE FIFTH AVENUE BRANCH

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Interest allowed on Deposit Accounts.

Acts as custodian of personal property and manager of real property.

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Lebaudy to Appear in a Play of His Own

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

PARIS, Dec. 30.—Jacques Lebaudy, the self-styled Emperor of the Sahara, has written a play called "The Heart of the Sahara Desert," in which he purposes to impersonate the leading character. It is said that he intends to lease a theatre here and present the play with every imaginable luxury of scenery and costume.

Canadian Blames Politics for Arrest.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Dec. 30.—George Whitfield of Montreal was arraigned in the Bow street police court to-day on a charge of forgery. He told the Magistrate that the proceedings were part of a scheme of his political opponents in Canada. The charge against him, he said, referred to an overdrawn check for $50 which he met three months ago. Whitfield was remanded.

The Weather.

Dec. 31—Temperatures much below normal covered all the eastern states yesterday. Freezing weather reached Jupiter, Fla., and it was below zero over northern New York and the interior of New England. It was also colder from the Ohio Valley south to the Gulf and zero weather covered Wisconsin and parts of Illinois, Indiana and Ohio.

Between the Mississippi River and the Rocky Mountains, on the Pacific coast and in parts of the middle and lower lake regions it was warmer. At Bismarck, N. D., it was 50 degrees warmer than on Wednesday morning.

The pressure was high over the lake regions and south and southeast over the Gulf and south Atlantic States, and was low over the Missouri Valley. There were snow flurries in the lake regions and light rain on the Pacific coast; elsewhere the weather was fair.

In this city the day was fair and colder; wind, brisk to high westerly; average humidity, 51 per cent.; barometer, corrected to read to sea level, at 8 A. M., 29.88; 3 P. M., 29.95.

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

	1909.	1908.		1909.	1908.
9 A. M.	8°	38°	6 P. M.	16°	49°
12 M.	14°	44°	9 P. M.	14°	47°
3 P. M.	16°	46°	12 Mid.	14°	45°

Lowest temperature, 6°, at 5 A. M.

WASHINGTON FORECAST FOR TO-DAY AND TO-MORROW.

For eastern New York, fair and not quite so cold to-day; fair and warmer to-morrow; moderate southwest to south winds.

For New England, fair and slightly warmer to-day; fair and warmer to-morrow; moderate west to south winds.

For the District of Columbia, eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland, fair and not quite so cold to-day; fair and warmer to-morrow; light to moderate variable winds, becoming southerly.

For western New York, light local snows to-day and slightly warmer; partly cloudy and warmer to-morrow; moderate west to south winds.

For western Pennsylvania, partly cloudy and not so cold to-day; warmer and generally fair to-morrow; moderate southwest to south winds.

ZELAYA'S FRIENDS WRANGLE

TROOPS USED TO KEEP ORDER IN NICARAGUA ASSEMBLY.

Congress Overthrows the Tobacco and Alcohol Monopolies Held by Zelaya's Supporters—Uproar and Violence Follow—Admiral Kimball's Call Personal

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

MANAGUA, Dec. 30.—Although Mexico has shown her friendship for Nicaragua in various ways and it is known that she favors the Presidency of Dr. Madriz she has not as yet recognized the latter's Administration formally.

There was a lively session to-day of the National Assembly which ultimately resulted in the calling of troops to preserve order. The Congress adopted an order which authorized President Madriz to cancel the tobacco and alcohol monopolies held by companies in which ex-President Zelaya is one of the largest shareholders. The proposition to cancel the concessions caused the Zelayist supporters in the House to come forward as vigorous defenders of their leader's financial interests.

One of them, Señor Gomez, made a heated speech against the order, which caused spectators in the gallery to howl at him. He stood the interruptions as long as his temper permitted, and then he seized a glass of water and hurled it into the face of one of the noisiest of the interrupters. Pandemonium followed, and it was necessary to call in soldiers to oust the occupants of the gallery.

The companies holding the tobacco and alcohol monopolies have realized immense profits, their average yearly being 150 per cent. The Government will now take over these concessions and use the profits to pay the interest on the loan obtained from British financiers some time ago. The shareholders will be recompensed for their investment.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—It was said at the State Department to-day that Rear Admiral W. W. Kimball, commanding officer of the naval force at Corinto, who several days ago called on Señor José Madriz, President of Nicaragua, did so on his own initiative and not as a result of instructions from the Department. His call was purely formal and had no political significance, it was explained. It was denied both at the State and the Navy Departments that he will be asked to explain the reasons for his visit.

The State Department has received no confirmation of the reported recognition of the Madriz Government by Mexico, Honduras, Salvador and Costa Rica. Officers of the Department doubt the authenticity of these reports. No important despatches bearing on the situation were received at the Department to-day.

Señor Enrique C. Creel, ex-Mexican Ambassador to the United States, gave out a statement to-day outlining the views of his Government upon the political situation in Central America. Señor Creel will leave Washington to-morrow for New York, where he will spend a few days before returning to Mexico city to make a report to President Diaz upon the result of his mission. Señor Creel's statement was:

"It is due to the press and to the public that I should make the following statement. I have completed the work of my mission with gratifying and satisfactory results.

"The resignation of President Zelaya was the proper way for him to end his administration under the prevailing circumstances. Such action has avoided many difficulties.

"The asylum granted by Mexico to ex-President Zelaya was in full accord with the law of nations, and under no consideration unfriendly to the United States.

"The election by the national Congress of Dr. José Madriz as provisional President of Nicaragua was a happy event because it prevented anarchy, a second revolution and further complications with the United States.

"The elements of peace and patriotism of the Nicaraguans are finding their way on both sides; and it is to be desired that successful negotiations may follow, if not on the first tentative, after a full consideration of the case and by the support of high principles of love to their country and the action of blood and sentiment of members of the same family.

"So far as Mexico is concerned, the policy of my Government, always friendly to the United States, has been well understood and appreciated by President Taft and Secretary Knox. They have both been kind enough to congratulate me.

"The United States and Mexico will continue acting and cooperating in full accord to consolidate the peace in Central America, to give solid consistence to the Washington conventions of 1907 and to develop a feeling of high respect to the international court of Cartago."

Heavy Gales on Way to Bermuda.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

HAMILTON, Bermuda, Dec. 30.—All incoming vessels report terrific weather on the way here. The Pickford & Black liner Ocamo, which sailed from Halifax for Bermuda and the West Indies on December 24, arrived here to-day sixty hours late. She lost her entire deck load on the trip.

Six vessels are reported to be in distress off St. Georges.

Celtic's Fire Put Out by Flooding.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 30.—The fire in the hold of the White Star liner Celtic, which was discovered among some cotton in hold No. 6 on December 22 while the vessel was on the way from New York to this port, has been extinguished by flooding the hold. The vessel was not damaged.

England May Get Mond Art Collection.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Dec. 30.—It is said that part of Ludwig Mond's collection of paintings will become national property, including Raphael's "Christ on the Cross" and works by Titian, Botticelli, Tintoretto and other great Italian masters.

Hamburg-American Liner Grounds.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Dec. 30.—A despatch to Lloyd's from Shanghai says the Hamburg-American liner Brisgavia grounded on leaving that port to-day. She is in no danger.

Chinese to Study Aerostation.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

BERLIN, Dec. 30.—Newspapers here say that China is sending technically trained officers to Europe to exhaustively study everything connected with aerostation.

Zero Weather Should Warm the Heart

at the thought of hundreds of worthy families in our midst suffering from cold, hunger, illness.

Funds for coal, food and warm clothing will be gratefully acknowledged by R. S. Minturn, Treas., Room 211, No. 105 E. 22d St.

R. FULTON CUTTING, President.

N. Y. ASSOCIATION for IMPROVING the CONDITION of the POOR.

DICKINSON TO PORTO RICANS.

Tells Them That Some of Their Aspirations Will Be Realized Soon.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

SAN JUAN, P. R., Dec. 30.—Secretary of War Dickinson received yesterday delegations of business men and politicians. In the afternoon, accompanied by Gen. Edwards, chief of the bureau of insular affairs, and Gov. Colton, he attended the inauguration of the Porto Rico Association at the Stock Exchange and delivered an address the keynote of which was business. In his remarks he mentioned Chicago, the success of which city, he said, was due to the cooperation of its business men.

In the evening the association gave a banquet in honor of Mr. Dickinson at which in a speech he made his first declaration of the policy that would be pursued regarding Porto Rico. He promised that some of the aspirations of the islanders would be fulfilled very soon.

The condition of Gen. Edwards, who was injured by falling off the sea wall yesterday, is much improved. He expects to make the tour of the island with Secretary Dickinson.

While Passed Assistant Surgeon T. C. Grayson of the naval yacht Mayflower and Dr. Kennedy of the naval hospital here were driving in a coach the vehicle came into collision with a trolley car where the track makes a downward curve The car hit the front wheel of the coach, upsetting it. Dr. Kennedy fell on Dr. Grayson, who was bruised about the body and had one of his legs injured slightly.

JAPANESE COMPLAINT HEEDED.

Chinese Newspaper Suppressed in China—Case Goes to Foreign Consuls.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

SHANGHAI, Dec. 30.—International importance attaches to a case arising from a Chinese-Japanese dispute here, which now goes before the Consuls. The Japanese Consulate on November 18 complained to the Taotai of the anti-Japanese tone of a Chinese newspaper published in the foreign settlement, and at the Taotai's instance the matter was taken to the Mixed Court in the form of a demand for the punishment of the editor.

The hearing was adjourned, but an order was issued closing the newspaper office. The editor engaged British counsel, who protested that the proceedings were illegal and he demanded opportunity to appeal to the consular body. The Mixed Court magistrate without waiting for an appeal issued a written judgment ordering the permanent suspension of the newspaper and closing the case.

An appeal has now been made to the Consuls. Local sympathy is with the editor. The Japanese action is condemned as high handed.

RAILROAD MAN HELD IN LONDON

D., L. & W. Agent Arrested for Swindling Company Out of $500.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Dec. 30.—J. J. Shelley, an American, was arraigned in the Bow street police court to-day on a charge in an extradition warrant of having stolen $500 belonging to the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad Company.

Shelley, who surrendered himself to the Scotland Yard authorities yesterday, made a statement in which he declared that while he was a passenger agent of the Lackawanna company he paid various bribes at the suggestion of one of his superiors for the purpose of securing business for the company.

Shelley said that he obtained the money for the bribes by securing railway tickets at half price by signing to certain forms the names of clergymen or Sisters of Mercy who were allowed to travel at reduced rates and then selling these same tickets at higher rates.

Shelley was remanded.

EARL PERCY DEAD.

Unionist Leaders Deplore His Loss to the Party—No Light on Duel Story.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

PARIS, Dec. 30.—Henry Algernon George Percy, by courtesy Earl Percy, the eldest son and heir of the Duke of Northumberland, who according to reports here has been ill of pneumonia, but who is reported in London to have been wounded in a mysterious duel, is dead.

The death of Earl Percy is regarded as a serious loss to the Unionist party, in which he was one of the rising men. He had conspicuous abilities, which he applied with much zeal when he was in the Indian and Foreign offices. He gave promise of a brilliant career. Mr. Balfour and other Unionist speakers in their speeches to-day paid warm tributes to him and deplored his death. The Unionist press highly eulogizes him.

There has been no confirmation of the duel story.

PUTS BLAME ON ENGLAND.

Austria Complains of the Expense of Annexing Two Small Countries.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

VIENNA, Dec. 30.—During a debate in the Reichsrath last night Count Pirinski said that the unsatisfactory state of Austria's finances was due to the annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, which, he said, might have been attained in a much less expensive manner if the other Powers, especially England, had not forced Austria's hand. The speaker added that the relations between the two countries had now become somewhat better and the traditional friendship of Austria and England, it was to be hoped, would be renewed. The Count expressed the hope that Austria would be able to accomplish the important, splendid mission of mitigating the menacing tension between Germany and England.

PROSPEROUS PRUSSIA.

Savings Bank's Statistics Show That the People Are Putting by Money.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

BERLIN, Dec. 30.—Statistics of the Prussian Savings Bank, published to-day, are cited as evidence of the growing prosperity of German workers. The deposits of Prussians, comprising two-thirds of the population of the empire, reached a total at the end of 1908 of $2,393,250,000, being $112,500,000 more than in 1907. The excess of deposits over withdrawals was $30,000,000.

The number of accounts has increased twice as fast as the rate of increase in the population and now average thirty for every hundred of the people.

RIFFS ATTACK THE SPANIARDS.

Repulsed by Artillery Fire—War in Morocco Apparently Not Over.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

MADRID, Dec. 30.—The Riff tribesmen to-day attacked the town of Alhucemas with a severe rifle fire. The garrison repelled them with artillery. The incident has caused surprise and anxiety here. It apparently confirms those observers who declare that the peace in Morocco is illusory.

NAVY LAUNCHES LOST IN ICE

ARCTIC JAM AT NINETY-SIXTH STREET LANDING.

Thousands of Men on Leave Shiver Ashore, Unable to Get Back to Their Ships—Leave Extended by Wigwag and Navy Tugs Called by Wireless.

The furloughs of about 4,000 of Uncle Sam's bluejackets expired yesterday morning and more than 2,000 of them showed up at the man-o'-war's landing at the foot of Ninety-sixth street at daybreak, when the mercury was making them long for the shelter of the steel sides of their steepled homes in the frosty Hudson. The breeze that swept across the river had piled up an icy barrier between the sailors and their ships extending more than 100 feet off shore and the shivering tars waited for the launches that never came.

Mingling with furlough men were the crews of five of these launches that had put off from the battleships about 4 o'clock in the morning to be ready to receive the men on leave and take them back to their ships. The crews had been forced to abandon their launches, or "steamers," as the naval men call them, and make their way to the shore over the packed ice. The westerly wind had banked the ice cakes up against the Manhattan shore, affecting seriously only the neighborhood of the landing. The shore above Ninety-sixth street was comparatively free of ice, as was that below. It was said that the Granite State, moored at the north of the long municipal pier at the foot of Ninety-sixth street, acted as a dam and helped create the ice jam.

The launches that were caught in the ice and whose hulls were crushed were one from the repair ship Panther, one from the Minnesota, two from the New Jersey and one from the New Hampshire. The launches were not deserted until they were actually sinking, and some of the tars stepped onto the ice when the gunwales were level with the surface of it. Many of the bluejackets were without peajackets. They built bonfires near the landings and got to leeward of them, getting some warmth and a lot of smoke.

The plight of the furlough men and the shipwrecked tars from the launches was communicated finally to the fleet and other launches were lowered from several battleships to help bring the sailors back. The Vermont sent in two launches which after vainly bucking the ice fortifications sprung leaks and hustled back to their ships, everybody bailing. It was a close call for launches and men. A launch of the Kansas that tried to smash a way to the shore was forced to back out with crushed bows. She set her whistle screaming for assistance, and the Connecticut put down a launch and took off the men of the Kansas's launch, which was towed to the ship not a minute too soon. A big crane hoisted her aboard as if she had been a Christmas toy boat.

Meanwhile the furlough men shivered and waited and shifted their quids and cursed the Arctic conditions of the Hudson. It was partly the spirit of discipline and partly a longing for "home" that impelled them to stick it out. They were relieved later in the morning by a message conveyed from the flagship Connecticut by the old time wireless wigwag; that their leaves would be extended until 4 o'clock in the afternoon. Wireless messages were sent to the navy yard for tugs, and three came later in the day and took anybody who wanted to go—and nearly everybody did—to their ships.

It was said by a flag officer of the fleet that the New Jersey boats had been located and that they would be raised this morning. It is the worst disaster that has happened to naval launches since the new navy went into commission. There was not a man who did not stick to his ship until she began sinking, and a few had cold duckings.

BATTLESHIPS SAIL ON JAN. 6.

Will Engage in Manœuvres and Target Practice in Guantanamo Bay.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—The battleships of the Atlantic fleet, now at New York, will leave there on January 6 for Guantanamo, where they are due about January 11. The Idaho and the Mississippi will leave the Philadelphia yard on January 5 and join the other vessels off the Delaware Capes. The Louisiana, the Georgia and the Virginia will remain at the Norfolk yard until their repairs have been completed and will then proceed to Guantanamo to join the fleet.

The fleet will engage in a series of tactical manœuvres and target practice at Guantanamo Bay until about May 1, when it will start on a cruise. The itinerary for this cruise has not been worked out. There has been gossip in naval circles, however, that the fleet may visit several European ports.

A MILD DAY AT MEDICINE HAT.

Jack Frost's Usual Abiding Place Least Chilly Spot in the North.

CHICAGO, Dec. 30.—Medicine Hat, famed as the abiding place of Jack Frost, whence all the cold waves come, was one of the most comfortable spots in the North to-day. The thermometer recorded 34 degrees.

In Chicago the temperature dropped to 7 degrees below zero this morning, making the coldest December 30 ever recorded in this city and the coldest day of the present winter.

Fortunately the icy blast was no more than the last gasp of the cold wave that has ruled the West for days and the hope of warmer weather is held out by the local forecaster, who promises a big rise in the temperature.

The intense cold caused much suffering and considerable anxiety among coal dealers. At least five deaths in Chicago are attributable to the cold weather. The fuel shortage has not been relieved, although both railways and coal dealers are toiling night and day to get the fuel to the city and to then get it delivered.

Another heavy snowstorm and Chicago would be confronted with a situation of extreme gravity. Many large consumers are exhausting their supply on hand, while in some instances delivery is not made until a week after the order is sent in.

"This is the coldest December day we have ever recorded," said Prof. H. J. Cox, the weather forecaster, "if we except 1872 and 1903, and to-day was the coldest this year if we except January 6, when the mercury fell to 10 below. Relief is on the way though, the cold wave has been punctured."

"How do you explain this," he was asked.

"Well, the real reason is a low barometer in the Northwest. That is causing the winds to flow in that direction from the South and with them comes a flush of Southern warmth to temper our icy air. The heart of the cold wave has moved on toward the East. The clouds will continue with us though for some time. They may give us rain or it may be snow."

Weather almost as cold as Chicago experienced was felt in many parts of the country at the same time. Reports of bitter cold come from many cities. Even the South is shivering.

Reports from other points show the following temperatures: Davenport, Ia., 10 below; Dubuque, 12; Duluth, Minn., 6; St. Paul, 10; Green Bay, Wis. 10; Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., 8.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., Dec. 30.—To-day was the coldest of the winter in this part of the State. The mercury got down to 5 degrees below zero in this city, and at several exposed places in the mountains—Gouldsboro, Glen Summit, Bear Creek, Harveys Lake and White Haven—it ranged from 5 to 10 degrees below zero.

GLENS FALLS, N. Y., Dec. 30.—Glens Falls and other towns in the Adirondack region are in the grip of real winter. In this city the mercury this morning went 20 below, while towns in the heart of the big woods report 30 and 40 below zero. Lake George is closed two weeks earlier than usual. The extreme cold coming at this time will prevent the streams from filling, and as the drought has not been broken many communities will suffer from lack of water.

How often have you started out to buy an overcoat or a suit—and with a "limit" fixed in your mind, spent far more?

Happen into an average clothes shop and ask to see garments at the price you have decided upon.

The alert salesman shows them—but he also shows something much better—at a much higher price.

And the difference in cut, appearance and finish is so apparent that you are tempted—and "fall."

That would not occur here. Our lower-priced garments possess all of the distinction which characterizes our products at higher cost.

Difference there is—but it is a difference of luxury of fabric or lining—not model or craftsmanship. If you buy your suit or overcoat of us you need never exceed the cost determined upon before your visit.

Suits & Overcoats for Men

$15, $17.50, $20, $22 & $25

A liberal variety of fabrics and colorings in our own exclusive models.

Broadway **Saks & Company** 34th Street

HUDSON FREIGHTER SUNK.

Armitage Brearley's Hull Probably Crushed in by the Ice

TARRYTOWN, Dec. 30.—The freight propeller Armitage Brearley, which plies between Tarrytown and New York, sank at Hastings this morning on her last trip for the season. She was due in Tarrytown last night, but owing to the cold and ice it had to put in at Hastings.

This morning the ice came down with the tide in large cakes and the captain decided to back her in behind the dock. He had the boat placed about eight feet off the rock when she began to sink by the stern, and in ten minutes she was on the bottom. It is believed that a cake of ice stove a beam in her hull.

The cargo contained mostly perishable goods, including a large consignment of turkeys and groceries, and it is said that many Tarrytown homes will be without turkeys on New Year's.

The boat was insured, but the cargo is almost a total loss. It was valued at from $8,000 to $10,000. The Brearley was owned by Requa & Duell and had been in service since 1869.

Found Frozen to Death.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Dec. 30.—The body of an unidentified man who apparently had been frozen to death was found in a deserted blacksmith shop in Georgiaville, about a mile from the Smithfield town farm, this morning. It is supposed that he was connected with the town farm and that he was making his way toward that institution through Sunday's big storm when he sought shelter in the old shop.

Two Die of Exposure.

James Stillane, formerly a saloon keeper at 258 Seventh avenue, was found frozen to death last night in the cellar of 241 Seventh avenue. He had been wandering about for several days without proper nourishment.

Emma Hill, 79 years old, was found dead yesterday morning in her rooms in the basement at 131 Varick street. Dr. Sampson of New York Hospital said that she died of exposure.

Newark Bay Frozen Nearly Over.

Newark Bay off Bayonne is frozen over out to the channel and with one or two more days of cold weather all navigation will cease. Yesterday scores of boys enjoyed the best skating in years on the bay and went more than half a mile from shore. The ice is thick enough to bear a team of horses.

Ice Stops Nyack Ferry.

TARRYTOWN, Dec. 30.—The Hudson River is frozen nearly all the way across. The ferryboat Rockland, which plys between here and Nyack, made her last trip of the season yesterday.

ITALY SHOWS GRATITUDE.

Gifts to Foreign Consuls at Naples for Aid in Earthquake Distress.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

NAPLES, Dec. 30.—Artistic shields commemorating the aid given to the earthquake sufferers in Sicily and Reggio di Calabria were presented to-day to the American Consul and the Consuls of the other countries concerned. The local officials and many officers were present. The French Consul gave thanks for himself and his colleagues.

Havana All Ashiver.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

HAVANA, Dec. 30.—The mercury here to-day registered 53 degrees above zero. The weather is the coldest of recent years. Everybody who possessed an overcoat donned it and the rest of the population shivered.

¶ Jones Improved Eureka Leaves are marvels for lying flat. Samples free to Bookkeepers.

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BALFOUR TAKES THE STUMP.

Attacks Home Rule as Subverting Great Britain's World Position.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Dec. 30.—Ex-Premier Balfour made to-day his first public speech since his recent illness. He addressed a large assemblage at Haddington and advocated stirringly the Unionist party planks. He condemned the Government proposals and was especially severe upon the revival of the Irish home rule controversy.

Mr. Balfour said that if home rule were established it would subvert Great Britain's position among the nations of the world.

Coward Shoe

Strength for Weak Arches

The firm, springy steel support in the waist of the COWARD ARCH PROP SHOE, exerts a gentle, upward pressure beneath the foot structure, which eases the strain on sagging muscles, relieves the ache, and restores strength and elasticity to the arch of the foot.

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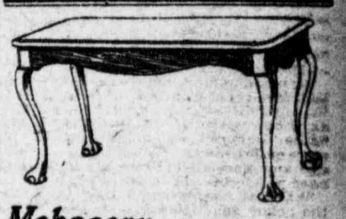

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