ASYLUM CHILDREN, WARDS OF THE CITY, FOUND IN SQUALOR

Diseases, Unchecked, Afflict Little Ones, Says Report of Investigator.

BATHS ARE DREADED AS DIRE PUNISHMENT

Revolting details of conditions in homes where New York city sends the children of its poor continued yesterday to be the principal feature of the testimony of William J. Doherty, Deputy Charities Commissioner, before Charles H. Strong. Mr. Strong is hearing the dispute between the city and State Charities departments at the Bar Association.

In the Colored Orphan Asylum, at 259th street, Riverdale, the city found everything dirty. The children spent all their time in the kitchen. The temporary superintendent, Miss Wood, said that was their proper place, as most of them would have to pass all their lives in kitchens and such places, in her opinion.

The city did not want to continue to send children there, but had to do so, as there was no other place for negro children. Vicious practices were so common that not even the casual visitor was spared a knowledge of them. Mr. Doherty told how the shower bath in one cottage was used as a punishment and was viewed with much dread as such.

At the asylum of the Sisters of St. Dominic in Rockland county 68 of the 259 boys and 411 girls had diseased heads, and of these 28 were suffering from ringworm. The children's teeth and eyes were not properly looked after, the beds were dirty and the younger children were bathed two at a time in one tub. Toilet articles were used indiscriminately, a medicine closet containing poisonous drugs was found unlocked, the class rooms were crowded and there were many cases of retarded children.

Proper Investigation Lacking.

No effort was made to detect those children who were mentally defective and set them apart. The city continued to send children there. Mr. Doherty said, because things were fairly satisfactory and the people in charge tried hard to better them. An inspection last December showed that sanitary conditions had been improved in four respects and a class for the retarded children had been arranged.

Sending children to St. Joseph's Home for Girls at Madison avenue and Eighty-first street was ordered stopped, but had to be resumed because of quarantines elsewhere and because another institution refused outright to take any more children. The worst thing at St. Joseph's, which is conducted by the Sisters of Mercy, was a form of "peonage" in which girls of 14 and 15 were worked eight to nine hours daily without any pay or any reward except an hour's lessons at night.

During quarantine children were kept in a dim basement without toothbrushes and with a common towel. The bed linen in the infirmary was dirty. The table service was bad; napkins were supplied only on special occasions; bread and coffee, cocoa or milk composed most of the breakfasts and suppers.

Reinspection showed things much better, and on March 9, 1915, no less than thirty-four recommendations made by the city had been carried out. The city then began sending children to St. Joseph's Home again.

The boys' department of the same charity (the official title is the Institution of Mercy) at Tarrytown was so bad that the city discontinued sending boys there and has not as yet officially removed the ban. Mr. Doherty found special fault with the old time discipline.

Sanitary conditions were in certain respects disgraceful. Twenty-five boys were bathed together in a tank containing about eight inches of water. The heads of the younger children were dirty, the beds were dirty, the dining room was dirty and the youngsters ate like animals. Some of the teachers got only $25 a month. In school work many of the boys were away behind their years.

Boys Now Work on Farms.

Some improvements have been made. Sanitary conditions are better, and the boys are now employed to some extent on the farm, as was recommended.

The city is not sending children to the children's department of the German Odd Fellows Home Association at Yonkers. Commitment of children was discontinued a year ago, resumed last May and discontinued again last November. The city's physician who aided the inspection said that one could find better physical types in hospitals for tubercular children. He found a lot of diseases, including skin infections, chickenpox, insects of all sorts and children with neurotic stigmas. The neglect of the children, Mr. Doherty said, "amounts to an indictment of the people in charge."

This institution was formerly at Hubbard's, where, just a year ago, a porter in the wing devoted to the care of old people declared that he had accelerated the deaths of several by poisoning them. He accused the superintendent of complicity, but it afterward became clear that the porter was not mentally sound.

Miss R. A. Matthews, superintendent of the Brooklyn Industrial Home, which was raided over in Mr. Doherty's testimony on Tuesday, resigned yesterday. The board of managers accepted the resignation and have asked Mr. Doherty's assistance in picking a new head for the institution.

The hearing before Mr. Strong will continue this morning at 10 o'clock at the Bar Association.

PRIEST MAKES REPLY.

Father Courtney Says Doherty Has Been Misguided.

The Rev. W. A. Courtney, supervisor of Catholic charities and institutions and member of the Board of Child Welfare, said yesterday in reference to Mr. Doherty's charges against Catholic institutions:

"In 1914 the advisory committee of the Department of Charities called at Mount Loretto. They picked out the old-time frame building for inspection, entered the basement and found it in a wornout condition after thirty years of service. Improvement work on that very building had been begun three months previous to the visit and one-third of the improvements were well under way. Four new brick buildings, a new schoolhouse and other improvements have been made at Mount Loretto at a cost of $950,660.08 in the last ten years, $300,000 of this sum having been raised on mortgage. In the face of these glaring facts it seems strange to me that an official of New York city would on one occasion praise the institution and on another denounce it as Mr. Doherty has seen fit to do. It reminds me of a snake in the grass, which I will explain.

"Mr. Doherty seems to be burning with avowed bitterness against institutions. He seems to forget their history, their value and their service.

"Why was this advisory board started? Who suggested its formation? Why does not Commissioner Strong inquire into these questions? Perhaps he will find a better reason for the present investigation.

"The Catholic Church is anxious to put every child in a good Catholic home. The Catholic Church while it has these children keeps them morally clean and does its best to give them a physical, social and moral training."

FIGHT ON BRANDEIS IN SUB-COMMITTEE TO-DAY

Direct Charges of Bad Faith to Be Urged—Thorne to Push Rate Case and Shoe Company Men Are on Hand—Opposition Strong.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2.—A vigorous fight on the nomination of Louis D. Brandeis, nominated by the President for Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, will begin to-morrow before a sub-committee of the Judiciary Committee.

The charges, although not specific and formal, are direct and apparently serious. Several accusing persons already are in Washington prepared to go before the committee and make charges that affect the professional work of Mr. Brandeis as an attorney.

Senator Lodge turned over to the subcommittee to-day several letters and telegrams received from responsible persons in New England suggesting lines of inquiry. Senator Weeks admitted he had received a large batch of protests of like character.

Shoe Men on Hand.

It was said to-day that representatives of the United Shoe Machinery Company are in Washington and probably prepared to make a statement or answer questions concerning Mr. Brandeis's relations with that corporation, first as an attorney drawing contracts and leases, acting as a director part of the time, and later, after he had severed his relations with the corporation, appearing in the courts in litigation in opposition to the company.

Strangely, most of the charges go to the question of Mr. Brandeis's conception of professional ethics. In the Lenox case, which arose at Lynn, Mass., and which has been brought to the attention of the Judiciary Committee informally, representation has been made that Patrick J. Lenox of Lynn, finding himself in trouble and threatened with insolvency, consulted Mr. Brandeis and made full disclosures of his private affairs to the attorney, who advised him to apply for the appointment of a friendly receiver.

Later, it is asserted, Mr. Brandeis appeared as the attorney for a group of petitioning creditors who moved in the courts to have Lenox's business thrown into bankruptcy. The claim is made that a $10,000 fee was paid by Lenox, which was afterward returned to him. A son of Mr. Lenox is said to be in Washington. He could not be located to-night, but has talked with some of the Senators about the case.

One of the most specific and formal charges yet lodged against Mr. Brandeis is that of Clifford Thorne, a member of the Iowa Railway Commission, who is now in Washington and will go before the committee to-morrow. Mr. Thorne appeared before the Interstate Commerce Commission representing State railways commissions and shippers associations to oppose the 5 per cent. increase in rates asked for by the carriers. Mr. Brandeis appeared in the same case representing the commission. Mr. Thorne has contended that Mr. Brandeis acted in bad faith.

The shipping interests of Iowa and that region of the country are extremely bitter in their denunciation of Mr. Brandeis's conduct. Henry Wallace, editor of the *Farm Journal*, prominent in Iowa politics and in the national conservation movement and a member of President Roosevelt's commission on rural home life, has come out in his paper in opposition to confirmation.

Ex-Senator Bristow of Kansas while in Washington a few days ago on official business as a member of the Kansas Railway Commission interviewed several Progressive-Republican Senators and urged them to oppose the confirmation of Mr. Brandeis.

Kenyon Likely to Oppose.

This opposition from radical sources is making itself felt in the Senate. Senator Kenyon, who spoke approvingly of the Brandeis nomination when it was first made, is very much disturbed over the conditions in his own State and is expected to oppose the confirmation unless an explanation is made of Mr. Brandeis's action in the rate case.

Senator Cummins of Iowa, a member of the sub-committee, is a close friend of Mr. Thorne. It is expected that upon the showing made by Mr. Thorne will depend the attitude of most of the Northwestern Progressive Senators. One well informed Republican Senator said this afternoon that the Progressive-Republican support of Brandeis had dwindled to two Senators—La Follette and Clapp—and that he doubted if more than three Republican Senators would vote for confirmation.

The attitude of several Democratic Senators is still doubtful and their votes will depend, they say, upon the showing that can be made on behalf of Mr. Brandeis in refutation of the charges that are being showered on the Judiciary Committee.

It was reported to-day that the Boston Bar Association might send representatives to Washington to fight Mr. Brandeis, but Senator Lodge said he had not learned of it and he expressed some doubt whether any such action would be taken.

CHILD LABOR BILL PASSES IN HOUSE

Vote Is 337 to 46 for Keating Measure Prohibiting Interstate Shipment.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2.—In face of bitter opposition by Democrats from cotton mill towns in the South the House to-day, by a vote of 337 to 46, passed the Keating bill prohibiting shipment in interstate commerce of products made by child labor.

The debate was marked by a sharp exchange between Representatives Fitzgerald of New York and Webb of North Carolina. Southern members made every effort to defeat the bill and forced the adoption of an amendment offered by Representative Clark of Florida exempting unincorporated canning clubs of boys and girls from observance of the law.

The bill now goes to the Senate. A like measure failed in that body in the last Congress.

The Keating bill was drawn by the House Committee on Labor and reported by almost unanimous vote. It makes it unlawful for a producer or a dealer to ship in interstate commerce goods produced wholly or in part in mine or quarry by children under sixteen years of age. If manufactured they are debarred from commerce between the States if made in whole or in part by children under 14, or by children under 16 employed more than eight hours a day, or by children under 16 employed at night.

Responsibility for observance of the law is placed on the shipper and not on the railway, as provided by the Beveridge bill. Enforcement of the law is imposed on the Department of Labor cooperating with State officials.

Authority is granted to the Attorney-General, Secretary of Commerce and Secretary of Labor acting as a board to establish rules and regulations governing the enforcement. Under this bill any State factory inspector, school attendance officer or any other person is competent to produce evidence of violations to a United States prosecuting officer.

In opposing the bill on the ground that it would rob poor families of a means of livelihood Representative Webb became sarcastic over Mr. Fitzgerald's support of the bill. The latter had said that child labor is a disgrace and that the Federal Government should cooperate with the States in bringing the practice to an end.

"If the conditions in the State which I represent in part were as vicious and as bad as they are in the State of the gentleman from North Carolina, which would compel the Congress to take up a bill like this in order to eliminate these conditions, I should be so ashamed of my own State that rather than attempt to defeat the legislation and prevent such legislation I would retire from this House to private life," said Mr. Fitzgerald.

DEFECTS ARE REMEDIED.

Health Department Says 84 Homes Are Now Satisfactory.

The eighty-four homes for children in this city are now in a satisfactory condition, according to an announcement made by the Health Department yesterday as a result of the department's recent survey. Children who showed physical defects, constituting 56 per cent. of the total, were treated in a competent manner, health officials found. More than two-thirds of the defects were entirely remedied and only 5 per cent. were untreated.

Inspectors of the bureau of child hygiene made 1,443 recommendations for improvements and 654 of these, it was reported, were promptly complied with. The other changes were mainly of a structural nature, requiring time to be carried out.

Household Show in the Garden.

The American home conference and household exposition opened last night at Madison Square Garden for two weeks. Miss Sybil Eden, Red Cross nurse with the Columbia University expedition, will talk to-night on "Retreating With the Serbian Army."

U. S. IS NOT TO BEG COLOMBIA'S PARDON

Senate Committee Lops Off Just $10,000,000 From Panama Canal Treaty.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2.—The Senate Foreign Relations Committee ordered a favorable report to-day on the treaty with Colombia, left over from the last Congress. The vote was 8 to 7. Eight Democrats voted for the report. All of the Republicans and one Democrat, Clarke of Arkansas, voted against it.

The treaty will be reported at the first executive session. It was amended, cutting the proposed indemnity from $25,000,000 to $15,000,000 and changing the apology of the United States, which the original Bryan treaty proposed, to an expression of mutual regret that circumstances had arisen in connection with the acquisition of the Canal Zone to provoke unfriendly feeling between the two countries.

Senator Borah gave notice he would move that the treaty be considered in open session. This motion is to come up when the Foreign Relations Committee meets again. It is believed that the debate will be in open Senate and that there will be some interesting disclosures concerning lobbying influences said to be behind the treaty. From time to time it has been said that a coterie of lawyers in Washington, working with a group in Colombia, would reap large contingent fees if Congress voted the indemnity.

One of Mr. Bryan's close friends in Washington, an international lawyer, lecturer and writer and who formerly was in a diplomatic post, is said to have a contingent fee approximating $1,000,000.

It is believed that the Colombia treaty after debate will fail of ratification. It must receive a two-thirds vote, which would mean sixty-four Senators. Thirty-two Senators voting in opposition could kill the treaty. An authority who has canvassed the situation on both sides says that only twenty-five Republican votes are necessary out of a possible forty to insure failure of the treaty with the added strength that will come from the Democratic side. The same authority estimates that there now are thirty-one Republican votes in opposition. With Senator Clarke's vote this would leave opposition to the treaty short only one vote. Several Democratic Senators will vote against ratification. It is estimated that there are at least eight and probably ten who are ready to vote in opposition.

One feature of the hearings was the failure to give Col. Roosevelt a chance to appear. In the last Congress he expressed a willingness to come before the committee and was assured that he would have an opportunity. Then the matter went over and he was not heard.

NICARAGUA TREATY UP.

Ratification, Covering New Canal Rights, Likely.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2.—The treaty with Nicaragua, submitted to the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations in the last Congress by the then Secretary of State Bryan, was to-day ordered reported favorably. The vote was 10 to 3. Senators Smith of Michigan and Borah of Idaho, Republicans, and Clarke of Arkansas were against the report.

This treaty was referred to the last Congress, but no action was taken by the Senate. It has been less objectionable than the Colombian treaty, and there is a prospect that it will be ratified.

The principal opponent of the treaty is Senator William Alden Smith of Michigan, who will pursue his fight on the floor of the Senate.

The Nicaraguan treaty is considerably modified from the form in which it originally was submitted. As reported, it obligates the United States to pay Nicaragua $3,000,000, and in return this Government gets the exclusive rights to an interoceanic canal route, certain islands for a naval base and other important concessions. The Government has no intention of building another canal, but the rights conveyed under the treaty will head off any effort that might be made by other nations.

THIRD CITY CLUB TO ADMIT BOTH SEXES

New Organization for Men and Women May Be Called "Civic."

DUES LESS THAN OTHERS

New York has worried along with only one City Club, and that one with a membership exclusively masculine. New York now rejoices in three City Clubs. No. 2 exclusively feminine, No. 3 mixed. The three will run a neck and neck race this year to purify municipal politics and if 1916 isn't a snow white year in Father Knickerbocker's diary it won't be because he isn't watched.

The mixed club, which is being backed by some widely known men and women, isn't organized yet, and the founders meant to keep it a secret till the first meeting was held; but the secret leaked. Following close on the organization of the Women's City Club, which held its first meeting Monday in the clubhouse on the eighteenth floor of the Vanderbilt, No. 3 is a distinct protest against the segregation of the sexes where men and women have common interests and ideals. It is suspected, likewise, that it is meant to be an object lesson in simplicity and democracy, for criticisms on this line have been heard of the Women's City Club. The step has given rise to a fear that the all women organization, whose object is good practical work, might grow to resemble the Colony Club and other purely social organizations.

May Be Called Civic Club.

It is only fair to say, though, that the organization committee of the mixed club, which will probably be called the Civic Club, say that it intends no reflection on any existing body, that the Civic Club long has been in the making because it was thought to be needed. Among the members of the organization committee, which is sending out 1,000 letters to-day asking men and women to join, are:

Herbert Croly, editor of the *New Republic*; Miss Mary Dreier, leader in the Women's Trade Union League; Norman Hapgood, Mrs. Elsie Clews Parsons, John A. Kingsbury, Commissioner of Charities; G. W. Kirchwey, warden of Sing Sing; Miss Ida Tarbell, Amos Pinchot, Mrs. Gertrude Pinchot, Swinborne Hale, Mrs. Beatrice Forbes-Robertson Hale, Eugen Boissevain, Mrs. Inez Milholland Boissevain, Miss Madeline Doty, prison worker; Max Eastman, Mrs. Ida Rauh, Inez Haynes Gillmore, Frederic C. Howe, Commissioner of Immigration; Mrs. Marie Jenney Howe, Crystal Eastman, Walter Lippmann, Mrs. Clarence Kelley, Paul U. Kellogg, editor of the *Survey*; Henry Moskowitz, Civil Service Commissioner; James Warbasse, Dr. Ira S. Wile, Mrs. Florence Woolston, Miss Emily Hutchinson, Herman Defrem, Miss Henrietta Rodman, John R. Andrews, Samuel Lewisohn, Miss Mary W. Ovington, Howard Nudd, Miss Ethel Peyser, Gilbert Roe, Mrs. Gwyneth Roe, Winthrop Lane.

There are several married couples in that list, not indicated by the way it reads. Ida Rauh is Max Eastman's wife, Henrietta Rodman is Herman Defrem's wife, Inez Haynes Gillmore married Will Irwin Tuesday night, &c.

Striving to Same End.

"In the words of Tennyson's 'Princess,'" quoted Inez Haynes Gillmore just before she started off with her new husband on their wedding journey. "'The woman's cause is man's; they rise or sink together—we will walk this world yoked in all exercise of noble end.' That is to say in plain prose, that it is ridiculous, when we are striving for the same things, to have the men go off to a club of their own and the women to a club of their own."

Winthrop Lane, newspaper man and a member of the staff of the *Survey*, said yesterday that the Civic Club would have quarters somewhere near Fifth avenue between Forty-second street and Fifty-ninth street. For a time it will rent its home; later it is to build a clubhouse. Luncheon, dinner and afternoon tea are to be served at reasonable prices. There is just one requirement for membership—you must be actively interested in public affairs.

The club invites artists, writers, professional and working people. Its democratic character is shown right away in the rates. There is only one class of membership for residents of New York city and the initiation fee is only $5, the yearly dues $15. In the Women's City Club it costs $100 to become a founder, $10 entrance fee and $20 yearly to be a charter member, and $20 for house members. The men's City Club on West Forty-fourth street is even more expensive; $50 is the initiation fee for Manhattanites and $60 yearly.

It is prophesied that a woman will be president of the Civic Club, and the male members of the organization committee declare their perfect willingness to vote for a woman and obey her.

EIGHT ACCUSED IN MURDER.

Bench Warrants Issued in Dobbs Ferry Case.

DOBBS FERRY, N. Y., Feb. 2.—District Attorney Weeks of Westchester County obtained bench warrants to-day for eight persons indicted in connection with the conspiracy to murder Gregorio George, who was found with his throat cut on the night of January 15. The batch contains two "John Doe" warrants. Sheriff Weisendanger refuses to tell who are the new characters introduced into the remarkable case, but he says he will have them under arrest in a day or two.

The others indicted are Mrs. Antoinette George, widow of the murdered man; Mrs. Mary Figlio, his sister-in-law, and Vito Raimonda, the Georges' star boarder, all of whom are in the White Plains jail, and Kitty McCormack, Adolph Rosci and William McCormack, who were arrested in Hoboken.

Mrs. George has applied to Surrogate Sawyer for appointment as administratrix of the estate of her husband.

Sheriff Weisendanger will go to Albany to-morrow to make arrangements for the extradition of the prisoners in New Jersey.

"DOC WATERBURY" SENTENCED.

Confidence Man Pleads Guilty to Grand Larceny.

Jules H. Ford, who under the name of Doc Waterbury gained international fame as a confidence man, was sent to Sing Sing prison yesterday by Judge Mulqueen in General Sessions for not more than two years and six months and not less than one year and three months. He pleaded guilty to grand larceny.

Dr. Allan Starr of 5 West Fifty-fourth street gave Ford a check for $200 for membership in the Gridiron Club of Washington. It later appeared that Ford had no authority to collect the money in the name of the club, and when arrested in Montreal he admitted his guilt.

Ford was sent to prison several years ago for violation of the Federal statutes in publishing an untrue story. He was pardoned by the President.

SPLIT ON MERITS OF "THE WEAVERS"

Mrs. August Belmont's Letter Bares Misunderstanding About Drama Society.

REICHER OUT AS MANAGER

Members of the Drama Society are divided in their opinions concerning the merits of Hauptmann's play "The Weavers," it was learned yesterday. Although the playgoing committee of the society officially has decided not to approve the play and not to sell tickets for it, many of the members feel privately that the play has many good points both on dramatic and labor reform grounds. John Corbin, secretary of the society, said yesterday that the official reason for the rejection of the play was because it was considered unsuitable for production for "dramatic reasons only."

In an opinion expressed several days ago to Mrs. August Belmont, however, he said the play was not approved because it relates to labor conditions that no longer exist and because the play does not deal with the real labor question. This opinion was repeated in a letter written by Mrs. Belmont to Miss Helen Murat of the Industrial Relations Committee and was the means of causing a general impression that the society objected to the play purely on labor grounds.

Mr. Corbin explained yesterday that his opinion about "The Weavers" as given to Mrs. Belmont was intended only as his personal view of the play and that he did not expect Mrs. Belmont to interpret it as voicing the official opinion of the committee. "It is all a great misunderstanding," he said. "Mrs. Belmont was under a misapprehension when she quoted my personal opinion as being official."

The letter written by Mrs. Belmont which raised the question of just what the attitude of the Drama Society toward "The Weavers" is follows:

Mrs. Belmont's Letter.

"The Drama Society does not include in its general plan the sending out of bulletins regarding revivals of old plays. But upon receipt of your letter I telephoned the secretary of the society, who is also a director, to ask what had been the committee's decision in the matter, as I have not seen a performance of 'The Weavers.' He informed me that 'in the first instance it was a revival of an old play and in the next instance the subject relates to conditions which have absolutely no bearing upon matters in this country and in fact no longer exist in Germany; so the vital point of the play has passed its usefulness, and that the production, while interesting and well done, did not justify the members of the committee in using it as one of their special selections.'

"Therefore under the circumstances I cannot be of any assistance to you in this matter."

Miss Murat, to whom this letter was sent, said last night:

"It appears strange that Mr. Corbin, who admits that 'The Weavers' was rejected only from the dramatic standpoint, should say, as shown in the letter, that the play is 'interesting and well done.' It would certainly seem that the committee has not fully made up its mind about the play and that there are many of them who are divided in their opinions about it. I should like to hear just what their official position is."

Among the directors of the Drama Society are Mrs. August Belmont, Mrs. Edward Hewitt, Mrs. Philip Lydig and Mrs. Frederick W. Pratt. The plays which it has sanctioned are "Hobson's Choice," "Major Barbara," "Quinneys," "Grestwhile Susan" and "Marie-Odile." Mrs. Belmont was unable to be reached last night to explain her understanding of Mr. Corbin's remarks. Others did not wish to discuss the subject.

Reicher Out as Manager.

Emanuel Reicher has resigned from the management and quit the cast of "The Weavers," at the Garden Theatre, it was learned yesterday. The members of the company, under the direction of Augustin Duncan, brother of Isadora Duncan, have taken over the production and are applying the box office receipts toward their salaries, which Mr. Reicher was unable to pay.

When Mr. Reicher first organized his company he made contracts guaranteeing thirty weeks' salary. After about fifteen weeks he announced that he would be unable to pay the players in full and asked them to give him back the contracts. This they refused to do, but compromised by agreeing to continue the play and attach the receipts, provided he would pay the overhead expenses. Mr. Reicher agreed to do this, but found it impossible after a short time. He therefore resigned from all connection with the play and the company is now carrying on the production with the support of the Industrial Relations Committee of Washington. This committee has subscribed $1,000 toward the support of the company and will issue 100,000 cut rate tickets to increase its patronage. Mr. Reicher will continue his work with the Modern Stage.

FOR MORE RAPID SCHOOL WORK

Experiment of Covering Three Years Course in Two Begun.

Two hundred boys started yesterday to do three years school work in two years. The plan is an educational experiment conducted by the Board of Education and the trustees of Teachers College to devise means of saving time for capable pupils.

The boys were specially selected for their mental capacity, and the experiment will be conducted in Speyer School, Lawrence street near Amsterdam avenue. The principal of the school will be C. B. Jameson, principal of Public School 43, of which the Speyer School will be considered an annex. Prof. Briggs of Teachers College will cooperate as educational adviser.

The boys will be grouped according to their mental ability and each group will progress as rapidly as it can. All the boys have completed their sixth year in the elementary schools and at the end of two years they will be ready for the second year work in the high schools, thus saving a year.

If this experiment is a success it will probably be extended to other schools. Supt. Maxwell estimates that there are about 5,000 boys in the city who should have the same opportunity if means can be devised for doing intensive work.

ARRIVALS AT THE HOTELS.

Plaza—Mr. and Mrs. Herbert A. Parsons, Cleveland; Mr. and Mrs. C. Supple, Philadelphia; Mr. and Mrs. William G. Baker, Jr., Baltimore; Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Sayles, Pawtucket, R. I.; Mr. and Mrs. Pierre L. Harbey, Tuxedo, N. Y.

Vanderbilt—Mr. and Mrs. Walter Eder, San Francisco; Walter Hermann, Cincinnati; Mr. and Mrs. William S. Reburn, Washington, D. C.; Mr. and Mrs. M. Gillet Gill, Baltimore; Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Dudley, Englewood, N. J.; Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Cobb, Islip, L. I.

Manhattan—Sir William and Lady Peterson, Montreal, Canada; Mr. and Mrs. George E. Sprague, Lynn, Mass.; Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Stevenson, Baltimore; Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Pole, Newton, Mass.; Mr. and Mrs. Henry Parsons, Boston, Mass.

Martinique—Mr. and Mrs. Walter Chittenden, Binghamton, N. Y.; Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Knapp, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.; Mr. and Mrs. Lynn, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.; Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Haines, Washington, D. C.; Mr. and Mrs. S. S. Farnham, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

DENIES MRS. MOHR PAID FOR $200 MOTORCYCLE

Alleged Accomplice Remembers Nothing About Night of Crime Save That He Went Riding—Wife and Mother Held for Perjury.

PROVIDENCE, Feb. 2.—The arrest on charges of perjury of the wife and sister of Henry Spellman, one of the negroes on trial with Mrs. Elizabeth F. Mohr for the murder of her husband, enlivened to-day's session. They were charged with contradicting their testimony before the Grand Jury after leaving the stand.

Mr. Phillips of the Attorney-General's staff announced at the adjournment of court that the State's witnesses in rebuttal would take up about an hour to-morrow. Judge Stearns warned counsel on both sides that he would expect them to go on with their arguments at the conclusion of the testimony. The case probably will go to the jury Saturday.

When Capt. Monahan told of his visit last night to Mrs. Spellman's home and of her telling him that she knew nothing about the case, he was angrily accused by William S. Lewis, attorney for Brown, of having talked with the women for the direct purpose of contradicting them. Yesterday afternoon they had been called by the defence, but were not in the building.

Both women said when they took the stand this morning that Spellman had come home about 9 o'clock on the night of the shooting, which took place several miles away at 8:45 o'clock. The State alleges that Mrs. Spellman previously claimed that she did not see her husband on that day, because he was living at his sister's, and that Mrs. Dailey said she did not hear him come in, because she was asleep. Capt. Monahan, in rebuttal, said that last night both told him they did not know anything about the case.

Brown Attempts an Alibi.

When the afternoon session began Victor Brown, who is accused of having fired two shots at Dr. Mohr over the rear of the automobile, took the stand in an attempt to establish an alibi. He gave a plausible explanation of his movements on the night of the murder, although Attorney-General Rice questioned him for more than an hour.

Brown, a constantly smiling, sometimes indignant, young negro, told the jury that on the night of the shooting he took a ride on his new motorcycle, as he was in the custom of doing every night, and did not notice where he was going or remember meeting any one he knew, except a few witnesses for the State. Try as he would Mr. Rice could not puncture this statement or succeed in removing the impression that it was the most natural thing in the world for Brown to be riding about for several hours with no definite direction just at the time when he is charged by the State with holding up and shooting Dr. Mohr and Miss Emily Burger.

Brown was fully as insistent on the point that Mrs. Mohr did not give him money with which to purchase the machine, but in this part of his story he did not withstand cross-examination so well. He volunteered the statement that he was making $60 a month and supporting his wife. Mr. Rice succeeded in getting before the jury that three months previous to the murder, at the time Brown bought the machine, his wife was writing to him asking that he send money to pay the rent.

Despite all this Brown stuck to the statement that he saved $200 with which to purchase the machine and that Mrs. Mohr did not have anything to do with it.

He Contradicts Healis.

The remainder of Brown's story consisted mostly of straight denial of the testimony given by Healis, the third negro implicated in the murder, who has testified for the State. The charge of the defence that Healis fired the shots and dragged in the two other negroes and Mrs. Mohr to save himself was backed up by Brown's testimony that he often saw Healis with a revolver. He denied that he had ever talked with Healis about "fixing" Dr. Mohr some night when the latter went to Newport. In answer to the question, "Did you shoot Dr. Mohr?" he said, "I did not," and looked at the floor.

At times Brown gave snappish answers to the Attorney-General's questions, and at others gazed about with a look of injured innocence as he made replies that moved the court to laughter. Judge Stearns finally threatened to have the room cleared if order was not kept.

Letters from Brown's wife to him were handed the witness in an unsuccessful effort to have them placed in evidence.

"Why does any one but your wife address you as 'my dearest husband'?" asked Mr. Rice after looking at the letter.

"They're liable to," replied Brown casually, and then looking hard at the back of the letter said: "Looks to me as if one of those words had been fixed." The letters were ruled out as privileged communications between husband and wife, but Mr. Rice did get on the record that at the time Brown was supposed to have money enough to buy a motorcycle his wife was asking him for money to pay the rent.

Although Brown gave an alibi for the night of the murder that was hard to shake, he said that he was unable to remember where he was on the four days previous, at the time when the State contends he was arranging with Healis and Mrs. Mohr to hold up the doctor's car.

Another interesting disclosure of the day was made by Arthur Cushing, of counsel for Mrs. Mohr and coadministrator with her of the estate.

He showed that Dr. Mohr's receipts were more than $200 a day and that he might have had a large sum of money with him the night of the shooting.

Approves Auto Insurance.

ALBANY, Feb. 2.—Following a plea on behalf of owners of private pleasure automobiles made by former Highway Commissioner John N. Carlisle the Assembly Insurance Committee voted today to report favorably two measures introduced by Assemblyman Machold of Jefferson which would permit the formation of mutual automobile fire and casualty insurance companies. Two similar bills introduced by Senator Weeks passed the Senate to-day.

SUN TO BE DARKENED EVEN IF CLOUDS CLEAR

Snow and Sleet Predicted for To-day, With a Partial Eclipse Certain.

That eminent meteorologist, the groundhog, who issues his annual prophecy every February 2, is supposed to have come out of his burrow yesterday, looked at the sunless sky and vanished below. He could not have seen his shadow with the Hyslop shade detector in the rayless morning. According to his philosophy, as interpreted by the rural folk who believe in him, his failure to see his attenuated silhouette means that we shall have a mild spring.

The snow and sleet that blurred the vision of the groundhog cannot be classed as anything worse than a light winter visitation. The snowfall downtown, that is in the neighborhood of the Battery, where the experts on the Whitehall Building tower measure things, was about an inch and a half. Up in Central Park, where the Weather Bureau also maintains a station, the fall of snow and sleet was about four inches, and perhaps way out in the Borough of The Bronx it may have been more than that.

Street car and other vehicular traffic was much disturbed by the sleet and the blocks on all the thoroughfares, due chiefly to the stalling of horse drawn trucks, held up passengers for periods varying from fifteen minutes or so to an hour. At night ice coated rails on the elevateds created electrical pyrotechnics and the sky looked in spots as if the aurora borealis was on the job.

The snow removal department had on its list of those willing to handle snow shovels about 20,000 men. To the appeal for shovellers 6,727 of these responded. In addition seventy automobile ploughs and twelve horse drawn ploughs were used.

The forecasters said last night that there would be snow and sleet to-day and that Friday probably would be fair. The murky skies predicted for this day will disappoint the professional and amateur astronomers who were hopeful of seeing a partial eclipse of the sun. For this city the eclipse begins at 10:20 A. M. and ends at 12:30 P. M.

U. S. NAVY FOURTH, NOT THIRD, SAYS STRAUSS

Ordnance Chief Tells House Committee French Lead Us in Gun Power.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2.—Rear Admiral Joseph N. Strauss, chief of the Bureau of ordnance, told the House Naval Committee to-day that the gun power of the French navy was greater than that of the American navy and that, therefore, the United States now stands fourth instead of third among naval powers, being preceded by Great Britain, Germany and France.

He told the committee that it had not decided whether or not to equip the battleships and battle cruisers to be authorized at this session with sixteen inch guns which he believed was practicable.

Representative Callaway of Texas, a "little navy" man, wanted to know whether or not one target out of ten shots fired at a range of 12,000 yards wouldn't be regarded by experts as good shooting. The Admiral wearily replied in the negative.

Admiral Strauss said that while the Hammond aero controller torpedo would do good work as a part of the coast defenses it was not fitted for use on naval vessels. He said the Department was working on a wire net to trap submarines, such as have been used with good effect by the British in the North Sea against the Germans.

U. S. AEROPLANES USELESS AT FRONT

English Flier Says They Are Poorly Made and Motors Can't Stand Strain.

ASSAILS GERMAN CORPS

Not a single areoplane made in the United States is capable of enduring the service demanded of the machines used at the scenes of war to-day, according to Lieut. J. E. C. Scott, a British aviator and areonautic engineer, who is in the country on a diplomatic mission for his Government. He added that there is not an aeroplane motor made on this side of the Atlantic which is capable of giving the service needed.

"We are constantly having trouble with the machines made over here," Lieut. Scott said, "partly because your American manufacturers are careless. You do not take the pains in building a machine that the French and British makers do. But it is partly also because you have not learned the requirements.

"Do you know that in this country the manufacturers actually do not understand the specifications which are imposed by the purchasing Governments in regard to motor manufacturing—the quality of steel and such things?

Fine Figuring by English.

"In building a war machine the British makers figure as close as 1-100 of an inch on the wooden parts and 1-1000 for the steel parts of the body, while for the motor it is usual to figure to 5-1000 of an inch. That is why our machines last, while the average American machine at the front is useless after five or six hours in rough weather. The machine is warped and the motor is worn out.

"There are only about six makers in the United States who produce a machine that can really fly, and not one of these can be compared with the average homemade machine. You have not a single motor that is satisfactory."

Lieut. Scott could not talk about his own experiences on the front, but he derided the flying corps of Germany as inferior and "lacking in sportsmanship."

"They don't dare to do what the British, French and Belgians do every day," he said. "You never see a German plane scouting over the lines alone, and you never see a German plane rise up to meet one of our scouts singlehanded. Whenever they see a hostile plane coming near they wait until it is right over the lines. Then four of them will get up in a square about him and close in on him from four sides. Not very sportsmanlike of them, and even at that they practically never get us because their machines aren't in our class.

Three Classes of Machines.

"We have three classes of machines in the service. One is the ultrafast cruiser, capable of making from eighty to ninety miles an hour; the second is the fighting machine, which goes from sixty to eighty with big loads; the third is the speedy scout, which is a short machine capable of from ninety to 130. Our scouts outclass the enemy by about ten miles an hour, and that's why they are almost never caught.

"The newest and fastest of the British machines is the one you have heard of as the 'Super Bullet.' It will make between 120 and 150 miles an hour with a crew of four men, and experiments are being made to increase its speed further. It is a larger plane than the 'Super Canada.'"

Franklin Simon & Co.

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Sale To-day

Men's Winter Overcoats

Sizes 33 to 44 Chest

15.00 Heretofore $24.50 and $27.50

A variety of single breasted models of the new winter materials (including the warmth without weight fabrics) in the newest colorings and patterns; with self or velvet collars.

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22.00 Heretofore $30.00

Overcoats for general wear (made of warmth without weight Imported and Domestic fabrics) in plain Oxford, Tweed, Heather mixture and Homespun; also newest Invisible Overplaids in a large variety of colorings.

Men's Silk Lined Overcoats

Fitted, Semi-fitted or Chesterfield Models

25.00 Heretofore $30.00 and $35.00

Hand Tailored, Silk Lined Overcoats, of Oxford or Black Vicuna, velvet collar. An exceptional assortment of the best Imported and Domestic fabrics. 33 to 46 chest.

Men's Fur Lined Overcoats

Natural Muskrat Lining

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Sizes 36 to 46 Chest

35.00 Regular Price $60.00

Hand Tailored shell of black English Coating, lined with Natural Muskrat Fur (including sleeves), collar of genuine Hudson Seal or Persian Lamb.