BLANCHE BATES WILL APPEAR IN IBSEN'S "HEDDA GABLER"

"Garrett O'Magh" Will Open at the Columbia Next Week---"The White Heather" at the Grand Opera-House To-Night, "The School for Scandal" at Alcazar and "Michael Strogoff" at Central

AN event extraordinary in theatrical circles here will be the production of "Hedda Gabler" at the Columbia Theater next Friday afternoon, at a special matinee, with Blanche Bates as Ibsen's singular heroine. To Miss Bates San Francisco owed its first Ibsen production, "The Doll's House," given at the Baldwin Theater some few years ago, and this second characterization by the brilliant actress is awaited with extraordinary interest.

Miss Bates will be supported by a picked cast of the leading members of the company now appearing in "Under Two Flags," and the play will be staged as in its original presentation by David Belasco.

"Under Two Flags" will begin its fourth—positively its last—week to-night and will end on Saturday evening next one of the most successful runs of this or any season in the Columbia's history. Chauncey Olcott, in the new Irish play, "Garrett O'Magh," will follow.

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To-night at the Grand Opera-house the Frawley Company will present a novelty in "The White Heather," a drama by Cecil Raleigh and Henry Hamilton, authors in collaboration of "The Great Ruby" and other spectacular plays of the kind. "The White Heather" was one of the Academy of Music successes and has been obtained from Charles Frohman by Mr. Frawley. The cast will include Mary Van Buren, Katherine Grey, E. J. Morgan, John Mason, Theodore Roberts and Harrington Reynolds, the last named of whom appears for the first time this season.

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"The School for Scandal" will begin its second week at the Alcazar Theater to-night. Miss Roberts has completely recovered from her indisposition and will continue to delight Alcazar patrons with her Lady Teazle. Barton Hill is a notably good Sir Peter Teazle and White Whittlesey looks and acts a graceful and fascinating Charles Surface. Next week the charming old comedy, "The Country Girl," will be put on.

* * *

"Michael Strogoff," with James M. Brophy in the title role, will be the Central Theater's bill of the week. The clever actor is winning many laurels for himself from the Central audiences, and in "Michael Strogoff" finds one of his favorite opportunities. The management promises an elaborate scenic production of the big Russian melodrama, and in addition a number of specialties, that are becoming a feature of the Central bills, will be introduced.

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"The Babes in the Wood" is still delighting the Tivoli audiences. New songs galore are to be heard. "Will o' the Wisp," "Exhibit No. 1," "Things that Cannot Be Explained" and so on, and the harvest ballet and transformation scene, are ever-new delights. The grand opera season is now definitely announced to begin on Monday, July 29, and the opening opera will probably be "Aida."

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The Orpheum has an unusually good bill this week, with the Chevalier Enrico Mario Scognamillo, the famous 'cellist, as the special attraction. Chevalier Scognamillo is an artist of distinguished reputation and his performance alone is worth more than the price of admission. Then there is clever Etta Butler, with her famous impersonations, who bids farewell to vaudeville this week; the Damm brothers, who are not so black as they are painted; Charles Leonard Fletcher, monologist; Gilbert and Goldie, the ever welcome; Irving Jones; Clayton White and Marie Stuart and the Prosper troupe of tumblers and some new biograph pictures to complete the good programme.

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Charity Martin, G. S. Wanrell, Pietro Buzzi, James J. Mackey, Clinton Montgomery, the Kelcey sisters, Baby Ruth and Hinrich's orchestra are the attractions at Fischer's Concert-house. Charity Martin and G. S. Wanrell are first favorites of many weeks with Fischer's patrons.

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The two Lamonts, Lester Reeves and Ione are at the Olympia.

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The Chutes has another strong bill this week. The newcomers who open to-day are Coleman and Mexis, expert and fancy rifle shots; P. J. Duffy, monologist; Kalacratus, phenomenal juggler, and Adrienne Moore, in illustrated songs. The holdovers are P. Richards, the famous cartoonist, and Spenser Kelly, the popular barytone. New moving pictures will also be shown.

WELL-KNOWN ACTRESS AS THE HEROINE IN IBSEN'S PLAY, WHICH WILL BE GIVEN AT THE COLUMBIA AT A SPECIAL MATINEE NEXT FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

MURDER ENDING TO QUARREL

Young Driver of Milk-Wagon Is Stabbed to Death.

Joseph Whalen Slays G. Welch, His Comrade, With a Pocket-Knife.

Sanguinary Tragedy at the Chutes Ends the Festivities of the Day at the Pleasure Grounds.

Murder brought the festivities at the Chutes to a tragic close at 2:30 o'clock this morning when G. Welch, a milk wagon driver, 19 years of age, was stabbed to death by Joseph Whalen, also driver of a milk wagon.

Both the murderer and his victim had gone to the pleasure resort to participate in the French society's celebration of the Fall of the Bastile. No one knows just how the fatal quarrel began, but the two youths had been drinking.

The murderer used a pocket knife and slashed and stabbed his victim in a dozen places before the horrified spectators could interfere. When young Welch fell bleeding to the ground Whalen escaped in the crowd, but was found hiding in one of the buildings half an hour later by Officers Lord and Reed and placed under arrest.

Whalen, who is not yet 20 years old, refused to talk.

UNIONS WILL CELEBRATE LABOR DAY IN STYLE

General Committee Is Already Out Making Preparations for the Event.

OAKLAND, July 14.—Organized labor is preparing to celebrate Labor day as it has never been celebrated in Oakland before. Labor is well organized upon this side of the bay and it has been decided to make this day a general holiday and to provide a series of events that will make it memorable.

The Federated Trades has taken the initiative in this and has appointed a committee consisting of C. D. Rogers, State president of the Federated Trades, who is a resident of Oakland, and Messrs. Cole and Hopkins to have charge of the day. This committee will arrange the details, consult with the various unions and the public officials and make the necessary arrangements.

It is proposed to have the celebration entirely within the unions and it is expected that they will vie with each other as to the showing each will make.

There is a general movement throughout the unions of Oakland to support the butchers if any of them should get into trouble with their employers through the late strike.

NOTORIOUS DESPERADO DEFIES AUTHORITIES

Although Suffering From Several Bullet Wounds "Scar Face" Jim Refuses to Surrender.

ARDMORE, I. T., July 14.—"Scar Face" Jim, alleged to be a member of the old Dalton gang of outlaws, was located last night in a secluded spot twenty miles east of here suffering from bullet wounds. Last week at Sulphur he had a desperate fight with deputy United States Marshals, and was wounded but escaped. The Marshals had a narrow escape. To-day United States Marshal Haller and several deputies went after "Scar Face," who says he will not surrender. He is wanted for many crimes.

EXPOSITION OFFICIALS CLOSE MIDWAY SHOWS.

Guards Surround the Entrances and Refuse Admission to the Purchasers of Tickets.

BUFFALO, July 14.—The proprietors of the Midway shows at the Pan-American Exposition made another effort to-day to open their concessions on Sunday. Two concessionaires were promptly arrested and taken to police headquarters. No charge was preferred by the exposition officials and the men were released. The showmen returned to their concessions and again began selling tickets. A detail of exposition guards soon arrived and surrounded the entrances, refusing to allow the public to enter. The shows were then closed for the day.

Sisters Ask for the Property.

REDWOOD CITY, July 13.—A petition for a decree terminating the life estate of William H. Clark in 295 acres of land near Burlingame has been filed in the Superior Court by Elizabeth M. Clark, Mary M. Clark and Charlotte A. Peters, all of Waltham, Mass. The petitioners are sisters to whom a deed of this property was made by Clark in 1898, in which deed he reserved to himself a life estate. Clark died a few months after making the deed and it is for the purpose of declaring his death of record that the present proceedings are brought. The property is worth about $60,000.

Bishop Grace Confirms Children.

BENICIA, July 14.—An impressive ceremony took place at St. Dominic's to-day, when the sacrament of confirmation was administered to 150 children and adults from the parishes of Port Costa, Crockett, Valona and this city by Bishop Grace of Sacramento. A solemn high mass was celebrated by the Rev. Father O'Connor, assisted by the Rev. Father Lamb. The altar was beautifully decorated with ferns, palms and candles. After the mass the Bishop addressed the children.

Found Lifeless in His Room.

SAN JOSE, July 14.—John Downs, for thirty years a well-known resident of this city, was found dead in his home at 362 West San Salvador street this afternoon. Death is supposed to have resulted from hemorrhage of the lungs. His family is spending the summer at Pacific Grove.

Another Offer From Carnegie.

LONDON, July 15.—Andrew Carnegie has offered £3000 for the erection of a free public library in Annan, Scotland.

HARVEY N. SLOPER DIES AFTER A BRIEF ILLNESS

Popular Elk and Business Man Stricken With Pneumonia, Brought On by a Chill, Passes Away After Three Days' Sickness and Before His Mother Could Reach His Bedside

YOUNG BUSINESS AND CLUB MAN OF OAKLAND, KNOWN FROM ONE END OF THE STATE TO THE OTHER, WHO DIED AFTER A THREE DAYS' ILLNESS.

OAKLAND, July 14.—The announcement of the death of Harvey N. Sloper this morning came as a shock to the community in which he had so many friends, for it was hardly known that he was sick. He was about his usual haunts on Wednesday evening, attended a meeting of the directors of a company in which he was interested, dropped into the Elks' clubrooms for a few moments and then went home to be taken with a chill that developed into pneumonia, from which he died before daylight this morning at his home on Myrtle street. He was sick scarcely more than three days and it was not even certain that he was sick enough to send for his mother, the widow of the late State Senator Eli S. Denison, who was summering at Lake Tahoe. When death came his mother and sisters were communicated with and they left Truckee on a special train this afternoon and arrived in Oakland at midnight. His wife, one sister, Mrs. R. B. Ayer, and his brother-in-law, R. B. Ayer, were with him at the time of his death. Pneumonia of the most rapid type was the direct cause of death. Harvey N. Sloper was one of the most popular of the young men of club and business life in Oakland. He was the stepson of the late Senator Eli S. Denison, and when Mr. Denison died some years ago his business of supplying the travelers on the lines of the Southern Pacific Company with literature, news and edibles was incorporated and Harvey N. Sloper became the secretary and manager of the company. He had always been the active manager of the news agency and he simply became the actual head with the death of his stepfather. As such he was known from one end of the Southern Pacific Company's system to the other.

Mr. Sloper had always been much of a club man in Oakland. He believed in supporting the institutions of the towns and was a member of many, but his great interest was in the Elks and the Republican Alliance. He had been director and held different offices of the Alliance and was one of the wheel-horses of that organization. When a trip was planned for the Alliance it was always Harvey N. Sloper who made the arrangements and the plans, and he always did it well.

But it was to the Elks that Harvey N. Sloper gave his best efforts. A charter member of Oakland Lodge No. 171, he always stood by the organization. When it was struggling for recognition in Oakland Harvey N. Sloper worked for it earnestly and to him as much as to any other member is due the fact that Oakland Lodge is to-day one of the leading ones in the State.

No arrangements have yet been made for the funeral, and none will be made until after the arrival of the dead man's mother. The funeral services will, however, be conducted by the Elks, as this was known to be his wish.

Mr. Sloper was a native of Sacramento and 42 years of age at the time of his death. He had lived in Oakland for about 25 years and leaves a widow and two children—a daughter, Miss Florence Denison Sloper, aged 18, and a baby, three years of age. He was married twice, his first wife having died. He had one child by each wife.

MERCILESS RAYS BLIGHTING CROPS

Unprecedented Drought in the Southwest Yet Unbroken.

Kansas Farmers Place Their Loss in Cornfields at Fifty Per Cent.

KANSAS CITY, July 14.—No relief came to-day to break the almost unprecedented drought in the Southwest. The day was a repetition of the past two weeks, with reports from many places in Western Missouri, Kansas and the Territories of temperatures above the 100 mark. At most places the sun shone mercilessly, with not even a fitful cloudlet to break its rays nor a slight breeze. In Kansas City last night conditions proved more bearable, a breeze from the north alleviating the conditions, but a day of intense heat followed.

To-night there is a prospect of rain in Oklahoma, but there are no indications of a change from any other part of the Southwest.

With no relief in sight the fears for the crops that have been experienced daily are fast becoming realities, and the scarcity of water and generally dry conditions make the element of fire almost a serious one. What the real damage to corn, the crop most affected, will be is problematical, but it is probably safe to say that half the crop will be lost. The supply of water is short in almost every direction, and the shipments of cattle and hogs to this market to save them continue.

In Kansas City to-day the Government thermometer registered 102, and at Marysville, Kans., 104 was recorded, against 100 yesterday. There were three prostrations at Marysville.

ARDMORE, I. T., July 14.—Reports from the cotton belt show that cotton is being injured by the drought that has prevailed in the Chickasaw Nation for the past five weeks. Unless rain fall within the next few days crops will be cut short. About 60 per cent of the corn crop has already been ruined. The crop of other grains is a total failure.

ST. PAUL, July 14.—The hot wave continues throughout Minnesota and the Dakotas. At Huron a child went to sleep in the sun and died from the heat. New Ulm, Minn., reports a temperature of 104, with a number of prostrations. The State agricultural experimental farm reports that the hot weather is doing great damage to wheat in Southern Minnesota and that chinchbugs are very numerous and are contributing to the destruction.

OMAHA, July 14.—This State has had a very torrid day. The thermometer here registered 104. The atmosphere was fresh, however, with an absence of anything that tended to hot winds. Reports from the State are to the effect that rain is needed, but with the absence of winds the crops will stand considerable hot weather. Spring wheat and oats in Nebraska are well nigh a failure.

BURLINGTON, Iowa, July 14.—To-day was the sixth day in succession that the mercury went to 100 and above. There are no signs of relief.

JACKSON, Miss., July 14.—All over the State corn, cotton and other forms of crops have been seriously damaged by the long-continued drought.

RAIN BREAKS THE DROUGHT.

DENISON, Tex., July 14.—The worst drought ever experienced in this section was broken this afternoon by a terrific rainfall of more than two hours' duration, the volume of rain being almost equal to a cloudburst. The storm was accompanied by a wind of almost tornado force. Reports indicate that the rain is general in this vicinity. It has come just in the nick of time to save the cotton crop. It will benefit the fruit crop and supply water for stock, lack of which had caused much distress.

The Southern Methodist Episcopal Church, recently erected at a cost of $15,000, was partially demolished and a number of small houses in the northern portion of the city were wrecked. Shade trees and window glass throughout the city suffered. A tornado is reported to have passed over the Chickasaw Nation, but there are no particulars here.

EUROPE SUFFERS FROM HEAT.

LONDON, July 15.—"The intense heat has completely dried up the country around Berlin," says the Berlin correspondent of the Times, "and all moisture has withdrawn from the soil to a depth of several feet. Fruit is falling from the trees before it is ripe and potato and hay crops have been seriously affected by the drought."

COPENHAGEN, July 14.—Extreme heat continues throughout Denmark. Seven deaths due to heat were reported to-day.

GENEVA, July 14.—There is no abatement of the terrible heat. At noon to-day the temperature was 99 degrees Fahrenheit. Numerous cases of heat prostration and slight sunstroke were reported.

OIL MEN THINK FUTURE BRIGHT

Business Conditions Are Succeeding Boom Period.

The oil men are confident that conditions are growing more favorable to them. In the Kern River district many new parties are making inquiries. The solution that the oil producers of Los Angeles County have about reached concerning the marketing of their output is certain to have a good effect. The members of the Oil Producers' Association of Los Angeles arrange for disposing of all their oil on a five years' contract with the Oil Storage and Transportation Company for a 5 per cent commission. The Oil Storage and Transportation Company and the Union Oil Company offered about the same terms for handling the oil. No contract will be made unless 500 wells are included. The Storage Company will sell out 70,000 barrels of oil now on hand and will then sell exclusively for the members of the Producers' Association.

The most interesting clause to the general public is that which provides that should the average price received for the oil be less than sixty-five cents per barrel in any month the contract may be canceled at once. The Union Oil Company offered to store oil for one cent per barrel per month.

Work in the Fields.

The San Diego Union tells of the progress in prospecting for oil on the coast of Lower California. The place selected for beginning operations is about fourteen miles south of the boundary line of the United States and is near Point Rosario. Lumber and machinery have been sent down by direction of J. M. Elwood, the contractor for drilling.

The Pacific Refining Company's plant at Gosford is soon to be constructed. Three 600-barrel stills, with a capacity of 1200 barrels per day, will be installed.

According to the Inyo Register the 50 Oil Company, which was organized to operate near Owens Lake, owns no land in Inyo County that can be found recorded in the county records. The Register says:

General Manager Cooke, under date of June 21, writes to this office that the date when operations will be commenced cannot be set, but that it is not far distant. "We are negotiating for a complete standard rig, and it is possible and very probable that the entire outfit will be on the cars or on the wagon road overland by the middle of August, 1901, and headed for the Inyo County oil fields." He sends a list of San Francisco men who are interested. He thinks that as the chief expenditures will be in this county, and the ultimate benefits of successful operation almost beyond estimating, the people of Inyo should assist the venture by taking stock. To make the investment safe and to insure a test, he suggests that people subscribe stock to the amount of $1500 or $2000, depositing the money with some trustee, to be paid when the complete oil drilling rig is placed on the ground.

Basis of Solidity.

The Los Angeles Herald takes a view of the oil industry that will be generally accepted by the knowing ones, saying:

Evidence seems to be accumulating that the oil industry is rapidly settling down to a basis having more solidity than that of a year ago. In Texas, as in California, the actual boom in oil, as distinguished from its steady and substantial progress, was short lived. It is not to be said that the boom was an unhealthy condition for it was what always comes with the sudden discovery of a great opportunity for the sudden acquisition of wealth. As was inevitable, while some persons made fortunes, others lost heavily, but on the whole, the result was beneficial alike to the investors and to the world at large, the latter getting the benefit of an immense industry born full fledged. Now that period of excitement has passed and in its stead we have some thousands of people interested in oil property who are calmly considering the industry on the same lines they might if they were producing food products or clothing for the public.

Efforts are being made in some quarters to revive the excitement of a year ago, but with little success. It is foreign to the spirit of the times, and the public is ready for the new condition. Meanwhile the work of developing the oil fields of Texas and California is going ahead steadily, and money is coming in for more conservative development than was previously the case. Industries had been built up in California with a high-priced fuel, and they were prosperous, but of a sudden they found that their fuel bills were cut in the middle, and with a saving of 50 per cent in the cost of fuel large profits resulted. How can it be otherwise, then, that the time is ripe for that secondary benefit of the production of oil on a great scale in California—a great advance in manufacturing?

The Coalinga Water Company now supplies seventeen drilling rigs and pumps water into four townships. Four and one-half miles northwest from Coalinga is the pumping plant of the Coast Range Water Company, which has two good wells, with the capacity of 200,000 barrels per diem.

Must Perfect Claims.

Several thousand acres in Kern County are held under mineral claims which will expire January 1 unless the legal amount of prospect work is done upon them. This may stimulate leasing. There may be some excitement with jumpers at the opening of the year also.

In five months the oil shipments from Coalinga have amounted to 1443 barrels.

The Arroyo Seco Company has succeeded the Salinas Oil Company, operating in Monterey County.

The San Benito Crude Oil Company expects to add three rigs to its present outfit.

The Corning Oil and Gas Company in Tehama has drilled 1100 feet.

The grading on the Sunset Railroad is rapidly progressing. Several miles of track have been laid. The road will probably be completed in September.

Workmen are laying pipe for the Chanslor & Canfield Midway water system.

The Bakersfield Californian says:

Superintendent Hersey of the Thirty-three Oil Company has solved the question of increasing the capacity of any producing well by bailing out the sand and forming a cavity or receptacle at the bottom of the casing. In this way there is always a supply from which to draw directly instead of depending upon the seepage as it comes from the various strata. It has often been noted that wells when kept clear of sand gradually increase in capacity as they are used, and tests which have recently been made prove that the theory set forth by Mr. Hersey is correct.

ELECTRIC POWER WITHOUT DYNAMO

Chicago Chemist Invents a Coal-Consuming Battery.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

CHICAGO, July 14.—The problem of direct transformation of coal into electricity without the medium of steam engine and dynamo—that will o' the wisp that has so long and successfully eluded chemists and electrical engineers—has at last been solved by Assistant City Chemist Hugo Jone, and his invention, a coal-consuming battery, has been patented, bearing date of June 25, 1901. Speaking of the effect of his invention, Mr. Jone said to-day:

"The shortcomings of the steam engine have been long recognized by engineers. The waste of heat energy in producing steam from coal and converting it into power is more than 90 per cent in some engines; even with the best it does not fall below 80 per cent. In my battery electrical energy is produced by oxidation of lead and of ferrous chloride. The oxidation is effected by nitric acid, which after deoxidation is again regenerated by being brought into contact with air. The nitric acid, therefore, is not used up.

"Lead and sulphur dioxide are obtained by heating sulphate of lead with powdered coal in retort, the proportion of these being twelve parts of sulphate of lead to one part of powdered coal. The retort is heated by coal ordinarily, though gas, gasoline or oil may be used.

"In the battery the lead and sulphur dioxide, after having been utilized for the production of electricity, combine to form sulphate of lead. This can again be broken up by heating with coal and can once more be used for generating electricity. The one feature of my battery is the conversion of heat into electricity."

INTENDING SETTLERS GATHERING AT EL RENO

Accommodations for Feeding and Handling the Large Crowds Have Thus Far Proved Ample.

EL RENO, O. T., July 14.—The trains to-day have been bringing in moderate crowds for registration. There are probably 10,000 people at this time, and everything is quiet and orderly. Every one is comfortably situated and a large number more could be accommodated. The water supply is abundant, and every provision has been made to house and feed the multitude.

The temperature has hung around the 100 point, and while every one has perspired freely they have suffered no serious inconvenience. Indications now point to rain during the night.

EXCITING COMBINATION RACE.

McFarland and Cooper Are Shut Out on Their Heat.

NEW YORK, July 14.—At the Vailsburg, N. J., track to-day the most exciting race was the combination one-mile race for professionals, in which team work was not only allowed but encouraged. The surprise of the race was the fact that McFarland and Cooper were shut out on their heat. They were looked upon as likely winners.

Frank J. Kramer and John F. Fisher proved to be too speedy for the others and won in the end, Kramer capturing first place, Cooper second and Kimble third.

Half-mile handicap, professional—Won by J. T. Fisher, Chicago (20 yards); Tom Cooper, Detroit (scratch), second; Owen Kimble, Louisville (25 yards), third; Floyd Krebs, Newark (40 yards), fourth. Time, 1:00.

One mile combination, professional—Won by Frank Kramer and J. T. Fisher; H. B. Freeman and Hardy Downing second; Lester Wilson and Otto Moya third; Al Newhouse and Walter Badgett fourth. Time, 2:11.

LONDON MARKET CONTINUES WEAK

Leipzeiger Bank Failure Causes a Great Depression.

LONDON, July 14.—There is little encouragement to be derived from a review of financial conditions in London at present. The conditions may be fairly described as bad and the most optimistic are forced to admit that the era of recovery and prosperity, so often predicted, must now be postponed to a very indefinite future.

What had seemed a promising outlook has grown worse from the day of the announcement of the failure of the Leipzeiger Bank. While at first this seemed an isolated event it now appears to have involved Germany, Belgium and even Paris in a severe depression. Germany, anxious to strengthen its financial position, threw securities recklessly on an unreceptive market. Every fresh effort to realize only accentuated the downward movement. Following this continental depression came the Argentine finance bill riots. Next came the most serious and most unexpected blow of all—the bad break in New York, just when the disbursement of a big crowd of impending dividends, estimated at £130,000,000, led London to expect the strongest American support. Naturally the bottom dropped out of everything here. Consols touched the lowest point since 1875 and home rails fell off 20 to 30 per cent from last year's highest figures.

In the American section there was an immense decline, the greatest being in Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul, which fell off 17 points, and Atchison, which fell off 16 points. Union Pacific shares declined 14 points and other Americans showed proportionate losses. It is now rumored here that the decline was the result of a preconcerted plan by the leaders of the market to shake out the weak bull interests. Fortunately the local bull account is a comparatively small one, but the moral effect of trading has been decidedly pressing.

The money outlook for the future is quiet and easier.

BERLIN, July 14.—Last week ended with a new low record of quotations in most industrials, many showing violent falls. Complete pessimism marked the trade of the week. The news from the industrial centers continued unfavorable.

The newspapers generally concur in the opinion that the downward movement has not yet been exhausted. All describe the tone of the market as extremely depressed and hopeless.

Many companies, in the course of the week, made discouraging reports and the air was thick with unfavorable rumors.

Interest in Wall street revived, but trading was slight except in Canadians. Wall street's nervousness caused renewed apprehension and the papers are now calculating the probable effects here of a crisis in New York. The Kreuz Zeitung asserts that German speculators have heavy engagements in New York.

The money market continues to show a great abundance of money, call loans relaxing to 2½ per cent. Discounts remain at 3 per cent.

The Prussian State railways department has ordered 300 locomotives at prices 2 per cent lower than those in the last order.

BATHING PARTY SWEPT TO DEATH

Drown in Swift Current While Making for the Shore.

SAVANNAH, Ga., July 14.—Six persons were drowned while surf bathing at a picnic of the Hebrew Gamahl Hasad at Daufuskie beach this afternoon. The dead:

MRS. ABRAHAM DICKSTEIN, aged 23.
ANNIE KRONSTADT, aged 10.
IDA KRONSTADT, aged 17.
LEAH SILVERSTEIN, aged 17.
ANNIE HOROWITZ, aged 13.
ISAAC SACHT, aged 22.

A strong southeast wind was blowing and the tide was at flood. Fifty yards off shore is a shoal and between the shoal and the shore is a sluice. The party was bathing on the shoal, but finding the tide getting rather high the bathers concluded to go nearer shore. Almost at once they found the sluice over their heads, with big waves pounding and a sweeping current running. Of twelve who started across the sluice only six reached the shore.

Mrs. Dickstein's body was recovered, but the others were swept out to sea.

FIRE LAYS WASTE FOUR BLOCKS OF HOUSES

Department Finds It Necessary to Blow Up Buildings to Check the Flames.

ENID, O. T., July 14.—Four blocks of business houses on the public square were destroyed by fire in less than three hours' time by a fire that started after midnight last night. The water supply was inadequate and it was necessary to blow up buildings with dynamite to check the flames. Owing to the continued drought everything burned like matchwood. A light wind blew from the southeast and saved the eastern part of the town. The total loss is estimated at $180,000. The insurance will be light.

SHOT TO DEATH BY LOVE-SICK STABLE BOY.

Murderer Completes His Terrible Crime by Sending Bullet Through His Own Heart.

NEWTON, Kans., July 14.—Miss Oma Beers, the 18-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Beers, was shot and killed last night by Herbert Hacklett, a stable boy formerly in the family's employ, who afterward shot himself through the heart. Hacklett became fascinated with the young lady, who did not in any way return the infatuation.

The girl was shot four times and the surroundings indicated that she had made a terrible struggle for her life.

Aeronaut Fatally Injured.

SPRINGFIELD, Ohio, July 14.—Paul Hague, known as Professor Zeno, an aeronaut, was fatally injured this afternoon at Inland Park, falling 200 feet. His parachute failed to open.

A good many people secretly rejoice at the misfortune of their friends.

WANT FRANCHISE DECLARED VOID

Berkeley Trustees Wish to Forfeit Transit Line Privilege.

BERKELEY, July 14.—When the Town Trustees meet Monday night the proposition will be brought up to declare void the franchise over the old horse-car line between East and West Berkeley, now held by the Oakland Transit Company. Captain W. H. Marston, the president of the board, is the leader in the movement to disfranchise the road.

When the line was purchased recently by the Transit Company work of tearing up the roadbed was immediately commenced, presumably with the object of putting down a better track. Since then no cars have been run. This is contrary to the franchise, which calls for the "continuous" running of cars. On this ground members of the board claim the right to make the company forfeit its privilege.

When the original fifty-year franchise was granted some sixteen years ago no provision was made for the town to secure a percentage of the receipts. For this reason the Trustees want the franchise forfeited and another one issued. Town Attorney B. A. Hayne, under instruction from the board, is looking up the law on the matter.

The old franchise has become valuable property in recent years. The road would make the connecting loop between the San Pablo and Grove-street lines and would connect the business centers of Berkeley.

RUNAWAY COUPLE MARRY AND ARE FORGIVEN

Lloyd Elwell and His Young Bride Will Be Welcomed by the Girl's Mother.

BERKELEY, July 14.—Miss Mae McCoy and Lloyd Elwell, who disappeared from this city Friday after telling Miss McCoy's mother they were going to attend an Epworth League meeting in San Francisco, were married in that city on the same day. Rev. John Stephens, a Methodist Episcopal pastor, performed the ceremony.

To-day the young people sent word of their marriage to the bride's grandmother, Mrs. Mary Hearsch, who resides on O'Farrell street, San Francisco, and later met W. H. McCoy, Mrs. Elwell's brother, there. The grandmother and brother gave their blessings to the runaway couple and a speedy reconciliation all around is promised. Mrs. McCoy has decided to welcome her new son-in-law to the family circle.

The plans of the newly married couple have not been fully decided upon, but they probably will go to Riverside for the rest of the vacation and return here in August for young Elwell to complete his university education.

Would Bar American Crews.

LONDON, July 14.—William H. Greenfell, M. P., who is a well-known oarsman and a member of the Thames Conservancy Board, writes to the Times to-day announcing that he has given notice to the stewards of the Henley Royal Regatta of his intention to move a resolution to confine the entries to the British islands. His principal reason, he says, is that the regatta was never intended for international contests and is not suited to them.

BREAKS RECORD FOR PROSPERITY

Growth of Our Foreign Commerce in Past Year.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

CALL BUREAU, 1406 G STREET, N. W., WASHINGTON, July 14.—All former records are surpassed by the statistics of foreign commerce of the United States for the fiscal year which came to a close on June 30.

A preliminary statement prepared by the Bureau of Statistics in the Treasury Department shows that the combined value of imports and exports for the fiscal year amounted to $2,310,413,077, against $2,244,424,266 for the year ending June 30, 1900, the largest previous record.

The imports for the year amounted to $822,756,523, a decrease of $27,184,651 in comparison with the imports for the previous year. The exports amounted to $1,487,656,544, an increase of $93,173,462 in comparison with the previous year, making the balance of trade for the year in favor of the United States $664,900,011, or an increase of $120,358,113 over the balance of trade for the previous year.

In addition to this there was an excess of $17,901,139 in the value of silver bullion exported over the value of that metal imported.

Notwithstanding this large balance of trade in favor of the United States, figures show that the imports of gold during the year exceeded the exports of that metal by but $11,342,332. This means that the immense balance of trade between this country and the rest of the world was largely settled by other means.

A certain amount of gold is carried abroad by American tourists and returning Europeans, but as most of these carry letters of credit this amount is relatively small. A large part of the balance goes to pay freight bills on American exports carried in foreign steamers and some of it to pay interest and dividends on American securities held abroad. The small imports of gold in the face of a large balance of trade during the past year, however, is principally due to the fact that American capitalists are now allowing much of their money to remain in Europe for investment and sales of bonds by foreign governments in the United States have gone far toward settling the balance of trade.

The principal items of American export are breadstuffs, live animals, provisions, cotton and mineral oils. During the year just closed the total exports of breadstuffs amounted in value to $287,487,239; cattle and hogs amounted to $36,537,062; provisions to $179,875,250, cotton to $313,283,573, and mineral oils to $69,905,889. Each of these articles showed increases, though while the quantity of mineral oils exported was greater than in the previous year, the reduction in prices reduced the valuation nearly $5,000,000 below last year's figures.