UNION DEMANDS SIGNED CONTRACT

Emporium Appeals to Its Patrons Regarding Strike.

Cites Its Reply to Drivers as Stating Its Position.

The Delivery Drivers' Union has issued a statement in regard to the strike of the thirty-six drivers employed by the Emporium, who quit work Thursday and were joined by about thirty members of the Delivery Boys' Union. The statement follows:

To-day thirty-six members of the Retail Delivery Drivers' Union went on strike for recognition of the union by the Emporium. The Emporium advertises by circular that it grants everything we ask, but all they say is "you ask and we suggest," but they give nothing. All houses where our members are employed have recognized the union except the Emporium. What we ask is fair and just, but the Emporium absolutely refuses to recognize the union.

In answering our schedule they say, "We have adopted your suggestions," but do not state for how long a time; also, they do not say that they will recognize the union, which we absolutely demand.

The Emporium has issued the following circular to its patrons:

The Retail Delivery Drivers' Union have submitted demands to us regarding their services, which demands so far as they affect the welfare of our employes were already or have since been put into force in our establishment.

In spite of this fact, however, our drivers have been called out and we are therefore obliged to ask your indulgence as to deliveries for a short time.

Kindly read the following copy of our reply to their demands:

"SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Dec. 8, 1902.

"Mr. George H. Shepston, business agent Retail Delivery Drivers—Dear Sir: Referring to our several interviews and to the agreement submitted by you for consideration, I beg to advise you that after careful deliberation the board of directors of this company instructs me to reply as follows:

"Wages—You ask: Double teams, per week, $15; double teams, per semi-monthly, $32 50; double teams, per month, $65; single teams, per week, $12; single teams, per semi-monthly, $26; single teams, per month, $52.

"This scale of wages is now and has been in force for many months past.

"Package wagon drivers—You ask: All package wagon drivers shall not leave their respective firms later than 9:30 a. m., 1 p. m. and 4:30 p. m.

"It has already been arranged that our wagons shall leave the store at these hours.

"Extra trips, you ask—Extra trips shall be $1 each, and not to exceed three hours in time.

"The company has adopted this suggestion.

"Late trips, you ask—9:00 p. m. trips on Saturdays, and the day before holidays, shall be made at $1 each.

"The company has adopted this suggestion.

"Sunday work, you ask—Sunday work shall be at the rate of double time.

"Our business is conducted without Sunday delivery work.

"Holidays, you ask—New Year's day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving day and Christmas day shall be observed as holidays by this union, and no reduction in wages shall be made for the same. No reduction shall be made in a week's wages for any legal holiday during the year.

"These five you name are all holidays in our business, and in addition we close our store on the following days: Washington's birthday, Decoration day, Admission day, making eight that we observe, and for which we make no reduction in the pay of our employes.

"Lunch, you ask—Sixty (60) minutes shall be allowed for lunch.

"The company has adopted this suggestion.

"Week's work, you ask—Six (6) days shall constitute a week's work.

"Six days constitute a week's work with this company.

"Uniforms, you ask—Any firm requiring their drivers to wear uniforms, they shall be furnished by the firms at their own expense.

"Whenever uniforms are required by drivers this company will furnish same at its own expense.

"Concessions, you ask—From the 15th day of December, 1902, to the 31st day of December, 1902 (both inclusive) drivers of this union shall make 9 o'clock trips at the rate of late trips.

"The company has adopted this suggestion.

"Cash deposits, you ask—No cash deposit of any amounts shall be furnished by any member of this union to his employer as security.

"We require no cash deposits.

"Bonds, you ask—Any employer desiring security from drivers shall place them under bonds at their (the employer's) expense.

"This company will stand the expense of bonds when required from drivers.

"Irregular delivery, you ask—All drivers having no regular deliveries shall work under the ten (10) hour system, not to commence later than 9 o'clock a. m.

"Our system already conforms to this request.

"Pay days, you ask—Pay days are to be left to the option of the various firms, but not to cover more than one month's pay.

"All our employes are paid semi-monthly.

"Stable work, you ask—No member of this union shall perform stable work, except that a member of this union shall dust the wagon and harness and polish the metal on same to the satisfaction of his employer. If any employer shall inform the executive board of this union that he is unable to hire a stableman or he is unable to place his wagons in a livery stable, he shall be granted a man, in alphabetical order, every week, to help perform stable work. Conditions and extra pay to be mutually agreed upon between the executive board and the employer and a contract drawn up between them.

"Our drivers are not required to do stable work.

"Non-union drivers, you ask—No member of this union shall work with a non-union driver, provided, however, the union is able to fill the vacancy. If at any time this union is not able to furnish sufficient help, the employer may engage men not members of this union; but such men shall become members of this union not later than two weeks after being so employed.

"We believe that as a matter of fact all our drivers are members of unions, and which has never been objected to, but this company cannot delegate the power to select its drivers to others than the officers of the company, and the company cannot agree to compel employes to join the union.

"As to your request that an agreement be signed by this company, dated December 1, 1902, and terminating December 1, 1903, covering all the above points, there is no reason apparent to this company why such a request should be made. No other union, whose members are employed by this company, has ever made such a request of us.

"The foregoing covers all the requests contained in the form of agreement submitted by you. Yours very truly,

"THE EMPORIUM."

EXHIBITION OF PICTURES.—A photographic exhibition is being held in the rooms of the California Camera Club, 819 Market street. The clubrooms are open daily from 10 o'clock to 5. This evening the rooms will be open from 7:30 to 10. The exhibition closes on the 16th.

POSTUM CEREAL.

PRIZE FIGHTER'S HEART.

Coffee Shown to Be the Cause of His Weak Heart.

Frank Wallis, the Illinois champion feather-weight, says:

"Nearly all my life I drank coffee, and it finally put me in such a condition that training for any fight was almost impossible.

"My breathing was poor and slight exertion always made me very tired. I could not understand it, for I was otherwise well and strong, until one day in training quarters a friend and admirer of mine asked me if I drank coffee. I told him 'yes,' and he said that was what ailed me.

"This was two weeks before an important fight of mine was due. He explained how coffee affected the heart and nerves, and told me of the good qualities of Postum Food Coffee. I immediately commenced to use it in place of coffee. The result was wonderful. My nervousness left me, my breathing bothered me no more, my confidence returned and I was as good as ever in a short time.

"I returned victor of the fight, which I am confident I would not have been had I continued the use of coffee."

WINE FLAMES OVER FIELDS

Fire Destroys the St. George Plant at Maltermoro.

One Million Gallons of the Juice of the Grape Ablaze.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

FRESNO, Dec. 12.—The great St. George winery at Maltermoro, five miles west of this city, was totally destroyed by fire at 3 o'clock this afternoon. The fire started in the furnace room of the drying kiln of the raisin packing annex to the winery. The kiln was full of light, inflammable raisin trays, and the flames made great headway among them.

A general alarm was given and all the employes were called in to fight the flames. For a half hour the fire was kept in the drying kiln, but the water pressure grew slack, and in a few minutes the big wooden buildings adjoining and after them the brick warehouses were a mass of flames.

The fire was the most thrilling from a spectacular point of view ever witnessed in this section. Great tanks of wine and casks of brandy burst with the heat, and the liquors burned in beautiful colors and fantastic forms.

A water tank seventy-five feet above the building burned for half an hour supported by a slender flaming scantling and then tottered with a crash and roar into the seething caldron beneath. The wine ran almost in rivers. To the south of the building the ground slopes to the vineyard, and along this slope there was a constant stream of wine, hundreds of thousands of gallons pouring out among the grapevines.

In the mixing-rooms were three great tanks, with a capacity of 50,000 gallons each. The bungs were forced from these by the heat, and for hours the wine ran from them in a solid stream. Adjoining these tanks was the greatest wine tank in the world, having a capacity of 96,000 gallons. From this, too, the wine flowed constantly, and from the four tanks it floated off for miles down Fancher Creek as freely as water.

The buildings destroyed were the entire wine-making plant, the big brick storage rooms, containing fully 300 tanks of wine and brandy; the company's store and office, the Maltermoro postoffice, the St. George raisin packing-house, containing hundreds of tons of raisins, and the brandy distillery of the Eisen-Veith Company. The St. George people had their entire plant full of wine, this being the busy season of the year. Fully 1,000,000 gallons of wine was lost.

The total loss is estimated at $150,000, the insurance being $75,000. The Eisen-Veith Company places its loss at $12,000, partially insured. Its house was full of brandy. The only building of the St. George Company that escaped destruction outside of the dwelling houses was the brandy distillery, in which was stored 60,000 gallons of brandy.

HUSBAND MAKES SERIOUS CHARGE AGAINST HIS WIFE

William Shillingberg, a cook working in a restaurant at 1602 California street and residing at 1406 Pine street, was taken to the Central Emergency Hospital in an ambulance last night in great agony, suffering from strychnine poisoning. He made the statement that he had visited his wife, who is employed by Dr. Kengla, 1121 Sutter street, and that she had given him a drink. As he left to go home he declared that he was seized with severe cramps and believed he had been poisoned by his wife because, according to his statement, she said some two weeks ago that she did not wish to have anything further to do with him and she would get rid of him.

Dr. Maher attended the man at the hospital, and when he was pronounced out of danger and was able to leave Shillingberg withdrew the statement he had made accusing his wife of poisoning him. He said that he would not prefer a charge against his wife, and expressed his belief that he did not think that she had administered poison to him. He then left the hospital for his home.

Mrs. Shillingberg could not be seen when called upon at the Sutter-street house. Dr. Kengla said that she was ill in bed and could not see any one.

SUBMITS REPORT TO PARK COMMISSIONERS

A. B. Spreckels has written a report to the Board of Park Commissioners in which he sets forth the large amount of work performed by the office force of the Park Commission. Mr. Spreckels goes into the details of the work performed by each department and requests the Commissioners to raise the salary of the secretary of the Park Commission and the assistant secretary $25 a month.

Mr. Spreckels, in his report, says that the Park Commission office is the most economically conducted municipal office in the city and he also shows where the force is more thorough in its work. As an instance he cites the way in which the supplies are purchased and distributed.

When the supplies are bought they are invoiced at the office of the Park Commission and when they are given out are charged up to the foreman of each gang who receives them. When hay, feed and coal are purchased for use in the park, each load is weighed in the presence of a trusted clerk, who keeps the tags and then compares them with the bills at the end of each month. The same rule is followed when loam is brought to the park. Each load is weighed and the man who weighs it hands the driver of the team a slip and each slip is compared with the bill at the end of the month.

In all other departments the same rigid set of rules are followed. Each employe's time is kept exactly and on his slip is stamped the kind of work he performs. At the end of each month he receives his pay and signs his name to the slip so that no mistake can possibly be made.

EMERALD ATHLETIC CLUB TO HOLD BIG FIELD DAY

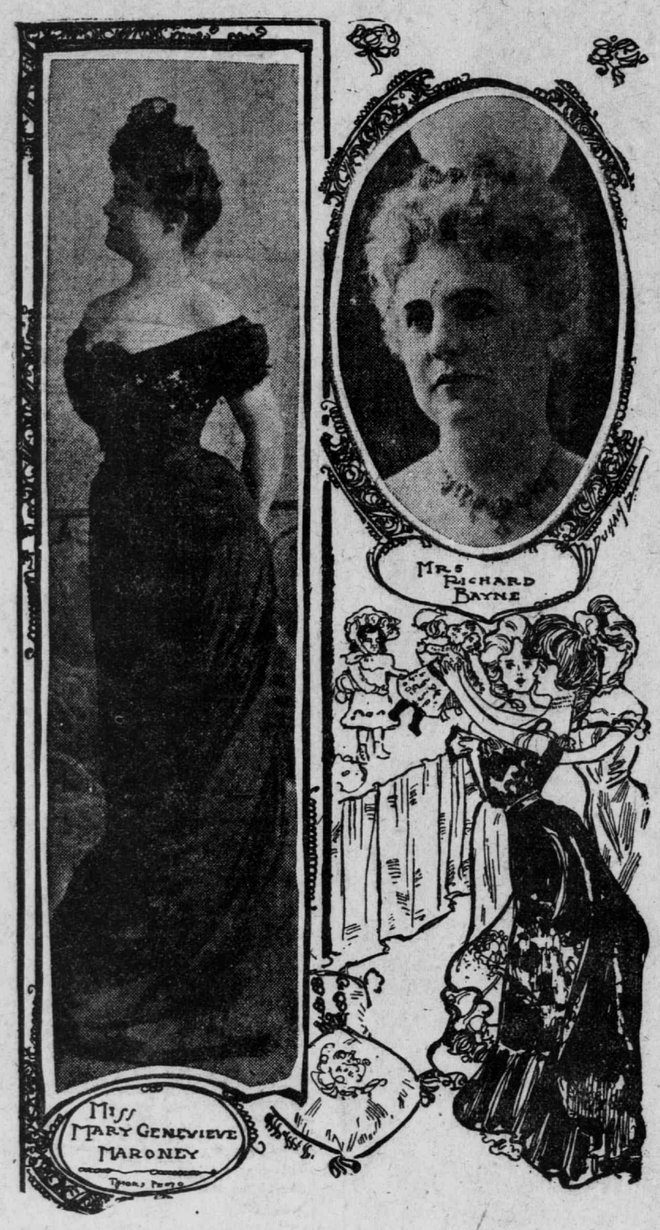
The Emerald Gaelic Athletic Club held a meeting Thursday night to complete arrangements for its first annual field day, to be held at the Presidio athletic grounds on New Year's day. A large number of entries were received for the various events, for which handsome medals and cups are offered. The events include 100-yard dash, quarter mile, one mile, high jump, long jump, hop-step-and-leap, three standing jumps, pole vault, throwing sixteen-pound hammer, putting sixteen-pound shot and forty-two and fifty-six pound weights. The games will be held under the sanction of the Pacific Athletic Association.

The events are open to all amateurs. Entries will be received up to the 26th inst. Entry blanks may be procured from R. J. Curtin, secretary of the club, at 4 Hayes street.

George James of the Olympic Club has been selected as starter and John Purcell will be one of the judges. The timers and referee will be chosen from among some of the most prominent athletes on the coast.

DOCTOR'S DAUGHTERS INAUGURATE DOLL SHOW

Entertainment Opens at Alhambra Theater and Fashionable Audience Aids Charity by Liberally Patronizing Toy Baby Booths



TWO TALENTED ARTISTS WHO TOOK PART IN THE DELIGHTFUL PROGRAMME ARRANGED FOR THE VAUDEVILLE ENTERTAINMENT GIVEN BY DOCTOR'S DAUGHTERS AT THE ALHAMBRA.

THE Doctor's Daughters opened their doll show and entertainment at the Alhambra Theater yesterday afternoon, giving a reception especially for the little folks. There was a large and fashionable attendance and everybody appeared delighted. The theater was prettily decorated. The pillars were wound with evergreens, the balconies beribboned, the floor canvased and the entrance decked with palms.

In the midst of all the pleasure afforded to visitors the main object of the affair, charity, was never overlooked. The visitors were liberal and the fund of the Doctor's Daughters was materially increased.

Mrs. J. Stow Ballard, chairman of the doll committee, was present with her assistants. Mrs. W. D. Fennimore was also busy, and Miss Margo, Mrs. Horace Pillsbury, Mrs. Daniel Drysdale, Mrs. L. H. Bryan and Mrs. Louis Long all gave to the entertainment their best efforts.

The exhibits are worth a visit, and there is a great doll's house, designed by Frank Van Tress and built by J. Trounson, which is one of the wonders of the show. It is a complete country home, from kitchen to drawing-room, from boudoir to dining-room. It is lighted with electricity and won much admiration. Mrs. Fred Tallant and Mrs. D. Drysdale have a Swiss chalet for sale. The grab-bag and fish pond were presided over by Mrs. L. H. Bryan and a number of charming assistants.

The entertainment of the afternoon was excellently given by Ellery's Royal Italian Band, little Reyna Belasco and Ruth and Osmond Smith. Santa Claus presented each child with something from the Christmas tree.

SOCIETY REPRESENTED.

In the evening an excellent vaudeville programme, under the direction of Roy M. Pike, was given before a good audience. The boxes were filled with handsomely dressed patrons, whose indorsement and sympathy aided in making the affair a brilliant success. Society was well represented. When the curtain rose the Stanford Glee Club was the first to receive an ovation, and its songs, "Fill Your Steins" and "Hail, Stanford, Hail!" were warmly applauded. Miss Jean Logan gave her bewitching Oriental dance in costume with charming effect. Her grace and beauty were much admired.

Mrs. Richard Bayne, accompanied by Miss Moroney, sang "Violets" and "The Northern Days" with sweetness and purity of technique. For an encore "Killarney" was also well received. R. L. Stone of the Olympic Club gave a rare exhibition of barrel jumping and skillfully performed some difficult feats. Miss Olive Celeste Moore, prima donna of the Bostonians, sang De Koven's "Tell Me Again, Sweetheart" and Nevin's "Rosary," after which she sang "O, Promise Me" as an encore. Her well-trained voice captivated the audience, to say nothing of her piquant beauty.

LESSON IN FLIRTATION.

A negro monologue was rendered by Ike Karmel of the University of California and the funny stories created considerable laughter. Little Ruth Alameda Smith was irresistible as "The Living Doll," an original conception arranged by Agnes Marie Noonan. Miss Olive Celeste Moore appeared in a delightful musical sketch, with Messrs. Roy and Thomas Pike, introducing clever songs, fancy steps and other specialties. Frank Rodolph was warmly received in his songs and the society singers from "The Strollers" proved a delightfully entertaining and instructive lesson in flirtation. The young ladies were in white gowns and wore black picture hats with plumes. American Beauty roses, pinned on each bodice, were the only touch of color in the artistic picture. The men were in conventional "frock" clothes with silk hats. The interesting couples, as they appeared last evening, were:

Miss Mabel Hogg and Harold Mann, Miss Estelle Lakeman and Du Ray Smith, Miss Ella Wenzelburger and Philip Paschel, Miss Belle Harmes and Dr. Sumner Hardy, Miss Helen Davis and Thomas H. Pike.

TO-DAY'S PROGRAMME.

Miss Martha Stuart Millar, handsomely gowned, recited "The Song From the Violin" and "In Imminent Peril," a mouse story, which was well applauded. The Stanford Mandolin Club closed the programme with selections from "King Dodo" and "Carmen," after which came an informal reception, when refreshments were served and dolls discussed and admired.

To-day's entertainments will be similar to yesterday's, essentially the same programmes being rendered. A feature of this afternoon's programme will be Miss Cecil Cowles, the child phenomenon, who will delight the audience with her songs, piano selections and pretty dances. In the evening the University of California Glee Club will open the programme, instead of Stanford. There will be a large attendance to-day as the brilliant affair closes this evening.

* * *

The first Friday Fortnightly of the season at Cotillon Hall last evening was well attended and proved quite an army and navy affair. Many of the debutantes were in white and the number of full dress uniforms added much brightness to the scene. The cotillon was led by Miss Daisy Parrott and Lieutenant Stewart, assisted by Miss Mary Parrott, Lieutenant Howland, Lieutenant Craigie and Lieutenant Terry. The cotillon was a delightful affair and the dancing continued until a late hour.

Those in the first set were:

Miss Helen Dean, Miss Florence Josselyn, Miss Laura Sanborn, Miss Gertrude Josselyn, Miss Emily Wilson, Miss Helen Murison, Miss Allen, Miss Ruth Allen, Miss Elena Robinson, Miss Genevieve King, Miss Helen de Young, Miss Hazel King, Miss Clarissa Evans, Miss Reina Mailliard, Miss Violet Buckley, Miss Laura Van Wyck, Miss Howell, Miss Gertrude Eells, Miss Milton and Miss Catherine Selfridge. Among the men were Captain Penn, Knox Maddox, Gerald Rathbone, Philip Baker, Frank King, Ernest McCormick, Albert Russell, Edward McAfee, Lieutenant Allen, Mr. Thurston, Mr. Bourn, Percy King, William Smith and Lieutenant Gherardi.

Those who received with Mrs. Salisbury were:

Mrs. Charles Josselyn, Mrs. Carter Pitkin Pomeroy, Mrs. James Robinson, Mrs. Louis Parrott, Mrs. William Bourn, Mrs. Cyrus Walker and Mrs. Ira Pierce.

* * *

Mrs. Louis Parrott gave a large dinner at the Richelieu before the Fortnightly cotillon. Covers were laid for fifty and the decorations were pretty and artistic. Among those present were:

Miss Dean, Miss Gertrude Josselyn, Miss Lucie King, Miss Emily Wilson, Miss Gertrude Eells, Miss Stella McCalla, Miss Alice Brigham, Miss Kate Brigham, Miss Hazel King, Miss Florence Bailey, Miss Gertrude Jolliffe, Miss Daisy Parrott, Miss Mary Louise Parrott, Mr. and Mrs. George Pope, Alfred Bourne of New York, A. E. Balfour, Jack Corrigan, E. M. Greenway, Joe Tobin, Wilberforce Williams, Percy King, Frank King, Raymond Armsby, Sydney Salisbury, Lieutenant Stuart and Lieutenant Howland.

* * *

Mrs. W. S. Leake gave a charming tea yesterday afternoon in her apartments at the Palace Hotel. A large number of guests were entertained between the hours of three and six. Red was the color scheme in decoration. The receiving room was made artistic with American Beauty roses and foliage in profusion. In the refreshment room were clusters of holly, huckleberry greens and red hangings. The candelabra had red shades, which shed a soft light over the scene. Those who assisted the hostess in receiving were:

Mrs. J. J. Spieker, Mrs. Genevieve Green Hamilton, Miss Mamie C. Barrett, Miss Georgie Spieker, Miss Bessie Gowan, Miss Edith Gowan, Mrs. Henry Hale Fuller, Miss Irma Dresbach and Miss Blanche Dwinnelle.

* * *

Fred Greenwood was host at a handsome luncheon yesterday at the University Club in honor of Miss Ethel Keeney and T. E. Tomlinson, who will be married on Wednesday next. Covers were laid for eleven. Among those present were:

Miss Keeney, Mr. Tomlinson, Dr. and Mrs. Ernest D. Chipman, Miss Leontine Blakeman, Miss Grace Spreckels, Mrs. Charles L. Bent, Knox Maddox, E. M. Greenway, Clarence Follis and Mr. Greenwood.

* * *

Mrs. Earnest Chipman, who is the guest of her brother, Fred Greenwood, gave a pretty tea at his residence on Thursday afternoon. A large number of callers were received. Among those who assisted in receiving were:

Mrs. Samuel Buckbee, Miss Charlotte Ellinwood, Mrs. George Greenwood, Miss Ella Bender.

FOURTH OF VOTES FOUND ILLEGAL

Ballots Thrown Out by Wholesale in the Sheriff's Fight.

Rogers Has Made a Net Gain of Thirty-Nine Votes in the Recount.

Oakland Office San Francisco Call, 1118 Broadway, Dec. 12.

With eleven precincts counted, ranging from Livermore to Berkeley, Rogers had gained thirty-nine votes when the recount closed to-night. There have been 732 Rogers votes counted, of which 176 have been thrown out, leaving him 556 in these eleven precincts. There have been 524 Bishop votes counted, of which 215 have been thrown out, leaving him 609 votes, or a majority of 53, in these precincts, which is 39 less than the official canvass gave him.

The progress of the recount has shown that the candidate who received the most votes in a precinct always had the most thrown out. As an instance of this, in the Sixth Precinct of Alameda the official canvass gave Rogers 142 and Bishop 53 votes. In the recount 40 of Rogers' votes were thrown out and 6 of the Bishop votes. In the First Precinct of the Sixth Ward Bishop was given 134 votes by the official canvass and lost 51 of these, while Rogers received but 60 and lost 25 in the recount. The Bishop men take comfort from this and say that all of the precincts counted up to the present time except the one in Alameda have been Bishop precincts and that this will even itself up in the long run. The Rogers men say that they have gained 39 votes in eleven precincts, or an average of 3 to a precinct, and that this ratio maintained throughout the county would elect Rogers.

Five precincts and a half were counted to-day. In Fruitvale No. 7 Bishop lost 21 votes and Rogers 17. Bishop had 10 majority in this precinct and the recount reduced it to 6. In Alameda No. 6 Rogers lost 40 and Bishop 6. In the Second Ward No. 2 Bishop lost 9 and Rogers 5. In Newark Bishop lost 14 and Rogers 4. In Livermore No. 2 Bishop lost 33 and Rogers 11. In Berkeley No. 15 Bishop lost 8 and Rogers 15.

But besides the question of who shall be Sheriff of Alameda County there is a very serious question involved. Under the law as it is now construed ballots are being thrown out by the wholesale. The slightest mark invalidates a ballot under the decisions of the Supreme Court. Up to the close of court to-night 1556 votes had been counted and 391 had been thrown out. This as a small fraction over 25 per cent of the vote, which means that under the law as it now stands one-quarter of the voters of this county are being disfranchised.

This may have an effect upon other offices, and how far it will go no one is able to foresee. It might even have some effect upon the Republican Judges elected, for every ballot that is now being thrown out is just as illegal as a vote for Governor, Judge or what not as it is for Sheriff. The number being thrown out is astounding to everybody in Oakland, who consider this an intelligent community that is not likely to make errors in voting. But the law is such that the slightest slip of the rubber stamp discards the ballot and deprives the citizen of his vote for every office from Governor down to Constable.

In some precincts the votes thrown out exceed the votes cast for either of the candidates in question and sometimes nearly equals the votes left for both candidates. In the First Precinct of the Sixth Ward 104 votes were thrown out as illegal and but 119 were left as legal to be distributed between the candidates. In the Seventh Precinct of Fruitvale 51 votes were thrown out, while the two candidates combined got only 66 votes.

These are the figures that are the talk of Alameda County even more than the Sheriff's fight.

NO MORE FREE OCEAN VOYAGES

House Committee to Investigate Traffic on Transports.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

NEW YORK, Dec. 13.—The World has the following from Washington: At a meeting of the House Military Affairs Committee to be held next Monday General Ludington, quartermaster general of the army, will be asked the names of all private citizens who have been furnished free transportation across the Pacific.

The committee has been informed that some fifty persons in no way connected with the military service have been furnished free accommodations on transports. In some instances these persons have paid $1 a day for meals, but in most cases the Government paid for the meals.

Secretary Root issued an order some time ago that free transportation to outsiders should not be issued. Shortly after this General Miles applied for free transportation for some guests whom he desired to accompany him on his trip around the world. The request was granted.

FIGHTS WITH HIS COOK.—Stathis D. Grives, a Fourth-street restaurant-keeper, and V. Skofis, his cook, had an altercation yesterday in which both were badly beaten. They were sent to the hospital and later arrested.

THE CHRISTMAS CALL.

Issued To-Morrow, Will Consist of 66 Pages, Together With Art Supplement, "When Cupid Holds the Reins." The Postage on This Edition Will Be, Domestic 5c, Foreign 10c.

DIED.

PHING—In this city, December 12, 1902, A. F. Phing, a native of Maine, aged 62 years 2 months and 19 days.

[illegible] Notice of funeral hereafter.

BERKELEY HILLS YIELD NUGGETS

Secret of Nurserymen Leaks Out and Rush Follows.

Wildcat Creek Is the Latest El Dorado and College Is Excited.

BERKELEY, Dec. 12.—A miniature reproduction of the rush to the Klondike was to-day enacted in the college town when the carefully guarded secret of two poor nurserymen leaked out and it was rumored that gold had been discovered in paying quantities in Wildcat Creek, a small stream which winds through the hills not two miles back of the university. The babbling of an indiscreet friend today revealed the fact that Thomas Brown and Henry Heine, two florists, who have a little seed ranch on the hills, about four miles north of town, have discovered gold in the sands of the rivulet and have been secretly working them for some time.

Seeking sand wherein to plant their carnations, the two made a trip to Wildcat Creek, which is about a mile back of their house, about a month ago and brought back a considerable quantity of it in glass fruit jars. Upon pouring it out grains of the precious metal were discovered.

Startled by their find, the two men returned to the spot where they had procurred the sand and made further investigations, with the result that gold in sufficient quantities to invite further search was brought forth.

MEN WORK IN SECRET.

The two fortunate men have continued to work the bed of the creek in secret with results that are more than satisfying. So runs the story that seems to have some foundation.

The two nurserymen, whose ranch is situated on the outskirts of a little hamlet known as Schmitzville, on the San Pablo road, maintain a discret silence upon the subject of their discovery. They admit the find and the additional fact that they have signed a written contract of partnership in order to work their hidden claims jointly, but they are silent on the location of their placer and upon the amount of gold which they have found.

When interviewed at his home to-day. Henry Heine said:

"I do not care to say much on this subject. We discovered the gold when we were bringing sand home for our pinks. We have signed a written agreement of partnership in order to work together. As to the location of the spot where we made our discovery, we are not saying much." Heine's remarks were borne out substantially by his partner, Brown.

Credence is given to the story of Heine and Brown on account of the fact that in former times pieces of gold-bearing quartz have been found at various spots on the Berkeley hills.

GOLD IN CONGLOMERATE.

The geology of the range does not set at variance the story of the two nurserymen. Professor Vance C. Osmont of the geological faculty at the university said to-day concerning the conformation of the hills:

"While the upper end of the Wildcat canyon is largely of volcanic character and not likely to contain gold, the middle and lower part of the valley is made up of what the geologists call conglomerate. Gold occurs in this formation often and it is not unlikely that quartz gold lies somewhere in the valley. If so placer gold in the bed of the stream would be a natural result."

Wildcat Creek is a short stream, which has its source directly east of Grizzly Peak, the highest of the range, and flows almost north along the course of a narrow valley until it reaches the bay near the town of Stege. Only one or two farms are situated upon its banks and the remainder of its course is through a country rough enough to conceal the secret of the two new fledged argonauts very effectually.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Louis Pierce, a cattleman of Suisun, is at the Grand.

T. W. Matha, a merchant of Napa, is at the California.

W. H. Williams of Chicago is stopping at the Russ House.

Count and Countess Lepic of Paris are again at the Palace.

Ward L. Lilly of the cruiser New York is at the Occidental.

F. G. Noyes, a capitalist of Napa, is stopping at the Palace.

F. E. Dowd, Assessor of Sonoma County, is at the Lick House.

George W. Grie, a capitalist of Ferndale, is at the Russ House.

J. F. Condon, a well-known merchant of Veiti, Nev., is at the Grand.

N. L. Knudsen, the lumber man from Sonora, is at the Lick House.

O. J. Woodward, a banker from Fresno, is registered at the Lick House.

R. D. Stephens, a well-known fruit merchant of Sacramento, is stopping at the Palace.

David Young, superintendent of the Sperry Flour Company at Stockton, is at the Russ House.

H. S. Kirk, a member of the firm of Kirk, Geary & Co. of Sacramento, is stopping at the California.

C. C. Raysdale, owner of the stage line running from Williams to Bartlett Springs, is at the Russ House.

C. B. Sexton, a well-known bowler and better known by his friends as "Cannon Ball" Sexton, who is employed in the Custom-house, is speedily recovering from his late illness. He is at present stopping at the Russ House.

Californians in New York.

NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—The following Californians registered here to-day: From San Francisco—A. Ferguson, Mrs. H. W. Jenkins and W. A. Lampe, at the Grand; G. E. Plummer, at the Grand Union; A. J. Frey and S. N. Feldheim, at the Herald Square; Mrs. Herd, at the Navarre; H. J. Morton and wife, at the Holland; H. P. Brown, at the Victoria; Dr. H. L. Delmel, at the Everett, and T. R. Turner, at the Imperial. From Los Angeles—N. O. Bagge and M. L. Graff, at the Holland.

Iroquois Club Elects Officers.

At the regular weekly meeting of the Iroquois Club, held last evening at Pythian Castle, the following officers were elected to serve for the ensuing year: J. C. Gorman, president; W. H. Kline, vice president; W. J. Locke, second vice president; E. R. Zion, recording secretary; H. L. Blenfield, corresponding secretary; A. D. Pratt, financial secretary, and W. A. Asmussen, treasurer. Trustees—Louis Metzger, Dr. W. J. Bryan, Charles Gildea, C. J. R. Buttlar, L. V. Merle, D. G. Dexter and A. M. Armstrong.

It was resolved that a note be addressed to the Senators and Representatives of this State requesting them to use their influence to secure the admission of Oklahoma, New Mexico and Arizona as States at the present session of Congress.

Engineer and Fireman Are Killed.

FORT WORTH, Tex., Dec. 12.—A Rock Island northbound passenger train ran into a broken rail near Terrill early today and was wrecked. Engineer George Clark and Fireman George Wells of Fort Worth were killed.

NEW DISCOVERY OF GREAT VALUE

Potassium Cyanide Can Be Produced From Atmosphere.

Professor O'Neill Invents a Process Invaluable to Mining Men.

BERKELEY, Dec. 12.—Professor Edmund O'Neill of the chemistry department of the University of California made public to-day a discovery in the production of potassium cyanide which bids fair to revolutionize the whole process of gold milling by the cyanide process such as is in general use to-day. By means of his newly discovered process the Berkeley professor claims that he can produce the expensive necessity in gold milling at less than one-half the present cost, thus reducing the heavy expense attending the extraction of gold by the cyanide process to a minimum.

Acting on the general principle in use at the Niagara Falls of the production of nitric acid from the nitrogen of the air, Professor O'Neill conducted a series of experiments covering a period of six months, as the result of which he can now produce potassium cyanide from the nitrogen component of the atmosphere at an approximate cost of 5 cents a pound, whereas the old method cost 25 cents a pound.

Using a simple apparatus, the gas of petroleum or coal is mingled with the atmosphere, which is four-fifths parts of nitrogen, and subjected to the influence of an electric arc, the resultant being hydrocyanic acid. This, when treated with potash, readily yields potassium cyanide. The cost of the materials is very little and the requisite energy to produce the combination is also inexpensive.

The former process of producing potassium cyanide is so expensive that more than $2,000,000 is spent annually on imports of the chemical. Its use is so general that besides the importation eighteen factories in this country turn out a large amount of the stuff yearly.

WILLIE BRITT EASY GAME FOR HIS BOXING BROTHER

Willie Britt as an exponent of the manly art when pitted against his hard-hitting younger brother is a frost. Time was when Willie was there with "the goods," and the best of his class reluctantly admitted after a go with him that he could certainly extend the grand wallop.

Other fields have since attracted Willie's attention. In the meantime Brother Jimmie developed and in quick order mounted the ladder of pugilistic fame to the top rung, incidentally with the aid of Will's managerial abilities. Recent successes have imbued the elder Britt with the old-time spirit, and in unguarded moments he gave the low down that even with Champion Jimmie honors would fall if he ever mixed it up with him. Willie was earnest in his talk and finally told Jimmie of his feelings. Jimmie poohpoohed the idea and laughed heartily at the "buffalo" talk of his manager. The result was a challenge, and the denouement came last night at the Central Theater. Willie without training was fat and unfit to go the pace. At times he showed the old-time cleverness, but Jimmie's perfect blocking and a stiff punch or two made Will feel sorry he had "four-flushed" and was called.

KENNEDY GRANTED NEW TRIAL BY JUDGE COOK

Judge Cook heard the arguments yesterday afternoon on a motion for a new trial for William B. Kennedy, alias "Yellow" who was convicted by a jury of murder in the first degree in connection with the killing of Policeman Eugene C. Robinson at Sixteenth and Valencia streets on January 21.

The Judge intimated that he would render a formal decision this morning granting the new trial on the ground that there was no corroboration of William Henderson's testimony, as required by a decision of the Supreme Court, he being a co-conspirator. He thought the District Attorney should take the matter before the Supreme Court to have the point definitely settled.

District Attorney Byington says he will take the matter before the Supreme Court. He says that the section of the Code enacts that anything tending to connect the defendant with the crime is sufficient, and he holds that there is enough evidence in that regard.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Mrs. F. Wright, of Oelwein, Iowa, is another one of the million women who have been restored to health by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

A Young New York Lady Tells of a Wonderful Cure:—

"My trouble was with the ovaries; I am tall, and the doctor said I grew too fast for my strength. I suffered dreadfully from inflammation and doctored continually, but got no help. I suffered from terrible dragging sensations with the most awful pains low down in the side and pains in the back, and the most agonizing headaches. No one knows what I endured. Often I was sick to the stomach, and every little while I would be too sick to go to work, for three or four days; I work in a large store, and I suppose standing on my feet all day made me worse.

"At the suggestion of a friend of my mothers I began to take Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, and it is simply wonderful. I felt better after the first two or three doses; it seemed as though a weight was taken off my shoulders; I continued its use until now I can truthfully say I am entirely cured. Young girls who are always paying doctor's bills without getting any help as I did, ought to take your medicine. It costs so much less, and it is sure to cure them.—Yours truly, ADELAIDE PRAHL, 174 St. Ann's Ave., New York City."—$5000 forfeit if original of above letter proving genuineness cannot be produced.