WEDDING ENDS THEIR QUARREL

Harry P. Fisher of San Francisco and Miss Barthel Are Married at Seattle

MEET AGAIN BY CHANCE

Old Time Sweethearts Are Reunited After Separating in the East Years Ago

Special Dispatch to The Call.

SEATTLE, Dec. 27.—Harry P. Fisher, a wholesale millinery merchant of San Francisco, and Miss Emma Barthel of the well-known Seattle millinery firm of Barthel & Creel were quietly married Tuesday at the Summit, a fashionable apartment-house. The couple left for a honeymoon through Southern California last night. Back of the marriage there is a pretty little story.

Fisher and Miss Barthel had been lovers in the East. They had a quarrel, and before matters could be adjusted Fisher left for San Francisco, where he went into the wholesale millinery business. In the meantime Miss Barthel came to Seattle, and did not know Fisher was on the coast. Fisher, having never been in Seattle, decided a few months ago to make a trip here, in place of one of his salesmen. In the course of his business he walked into Miss Barthel's store, never suspecting she was his old-time sweetheart. The quarrel of nearly a decade ago was forgotten and the courtship renewed that ended in the wedding last night.

CASE REVEALS MARITAL TANGLE

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 27.—In to-day's proceedings in the probate court in the case of Mrs. Mary Leafgreen, who is suing for one-half of the estate left by Laclede J. Howard, on the contention that she was his wife, William D. Grandon took the stand and testified that he saw Mrs. Leafgreen and Laclede J. Howard conversing together in a large dry goods store here in 1903. He testified that both seemed excited and the woman apparently had been crying. When shown a photograph of Laclede J. Howard he identified it as a picture of the man he saw talking to Mrs. Leafgreen that day.

The affidavit of Thomas Jefferson Miller, Mayor of Tumwater, Wash., who avers that he married Mrs. Leafgreen in Decatur, Ill., in 1883 under the name of Henry Howard, was read in court. In the affidavit Miller states that under the name of Henry Howard he met Mary Moore, now Mrs. Leafgreen, and they were married at Decatur, Ill., in 1883. Later they separated, largely because he was afraid of Mr. Lockwood, his wife's stepfather. The affidavit further set forth that in 1890 he married Mattie K. Stewart, believing that his first marriage was not binding, as he had not been married under his right name. Learning from Attorney Johnson that his first wife was living and his second marriage was illegal, he separated from his second wife and instituted suit for divorce from the first, intending to marry the second as soon as the divorce was secured.

ARRESTED ON CHARGE OF KILLING NEIGHBOR

William A. Carter Accused of Shooting an Iowa Farmer From Ambush.

DES MOINES, Iowa, Dec. 27.—William A. Carter, a professional bondsman, was arrested to-day on an indictment charging him with the murder of Edward J. Gresser, a farmer, living south of Des Moines, who was shot by a person in ambush, who fired through the window of Gresser's home. Gresser was last seen alive on October 2. Since that time the murder has remained a mystery.

Carter's mother owns a farm adjoining the Gresser property, and it is charged that a desire to own the Gresser tract on the part of Carter is responsible for the murder. Carter claimed at the time of the murder that he had been negotiating for the Gresser farm. Bail was refused and Carter is confined in the County Jail.

Princess Colonna Married.

PARIS, Dec. 27.—Princess Bianca Colonna, daughter of Princess Stigliano Colonna and granddaughter of Mrs. John W. Mackay, was married today to Count Jules de Bonvouloir at the Church of St. Honore de Ylau.

SCOTT'S EMULSION.

A QUESTION OF COST.

In any number of stores you'll see various preparations of cod liver oil at as many different prices. You'll wonder, perhaps, why Scott's Emulsion costs more than some other kind in as large a bottle. Hearing only one side of the question you may be led into buying the "just as good as Scott's" at the lower price. That's false economy. Scott's Emulsion costs more because its more expensive to make. Every ingredient is tested and guaranteed of the purest quality. No adulteration, no shaving of quality. There's no economy in bargain medicine. If you can afford to experiment with your health, substitutes may satisfy you. We take it, however, that you want a pure preparation, a reliable remedy and something that's going to help you. That's what you get in Scott's Emulsion. Thirty years the standard.

SCOTT & BOWNE, 409 Pearl St., New York.

QUEER MANIA OF A CHINESE

Brooding Over His Ineligibility to the Presidency Causes Him to Lose Mind

COMMITTED TO ASYLUM

Wong Bing of Spokane Feels That He Would Shine as America's Chief Executive

Special Dispatch to The Call.

SPOKANE, Wash., Dec. 27.—Brooding over the fact that he could never become President of the United States has unbalanced the mind of Wong Bing, a young Chinese, and he has been committed to the asylum at Medical Lake. Up to a week ago Wong Bing ate rice, smoked opium and lived happily in local Chinatown on Front avenue. His inability to rule over this country had apparently not disturbed him greatly. But when he realized that he could never write messages to Congress or bust trusts he began to peel off his clothes. This caused a commotion among the other wanderers from the Flowery Kingdom, and Wong Bing was locked up in jail. Then Wong Bing began to lament in high-pitched Chinese his inability to become President of these United States, and other prisoners became considerably disturbed. After the lamentations of Wong Bing had made one night hideous it required heroic efforts on the part of the jailers to save Wong Bing from annihilation.

ANGRY HUSBAND SHOOTS ACTOR

DANVILLE, Ind., Dec. 27.—Charles H. Smith of New York City, a member of the "Two Johns" theatrical company, was shot and fatally wounded this afternoon by F. C. Cooper of New York, a member of the "Morris Island" company. The shooting occurred in Smith's room at the Saratoga Hotel and resulted from a quarrel between the two men over Mrs. Cooper.

Cooper was accompanied to the hotel by Harry B. Walters of Minneapolis and James Young of Chicago. He entered Smith's room, locked the door and fired five shots. The bullets took effect in Smith's head and back. The three men then attempted to escape from the hotel, but were prevented by Richard Roberts, the clerk, who held them until the police were called.

Cooper arrived unexpectedly from Pittsburg and found his wife in the company of Smith. An exciting scene followed, in which Smith assaulted Cooper with his fists. Cooper went out and, it is said, told Walters and Young that he wanted them to help him out of some trouble. He was held under $5000 bonds.

POSTAL SERVICE CRIPPLED BY THE LOW SALARIES

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—In his annual report, made public to-day, First Assistant Postmaster General Hitchcock says that the low salaries paid clerks in first and second class postoffices is decreasing the standard of efficiency. It is impossible, he says, to induce efficient men to enter this branch of the service when the salary to begin with is but $600 a year, with no certainty of promotion for perhaps several years.

PROMISES ALL CLAIMS WILL BE SATISFIED

Broker Has Offers of Aid That Suffice, So He Says.

Continued From Page 1, Column 5.

creditors even to consult. Probably the claimants will now all send in their accounts and statements for the committee of creditors to consider. No accurate idea of the total losses of those whose funds have been dropped by "bucket-shop" methods can be obtained. There is no reason to believe that the losses will be less than $100,000, unless Mitchell pays.

While the names of the Mitchell creditors are concealed as carefully as possible, it is known that they number more than 100. Not more than one-tenth of them were at yesterday's meeting. The majority of those in attendance were attorneys, representing one or more clients each. Several high-priced lawyers were among the legal representatives, whose scale of fees implies wealthy clients who are determined to learn all that can be ascertained about Mitchell's transactions and to do all that can be done to get what they can out of it.

A deed conveying to Charles Elsey the property owned by Mitchell on Sherman street, near San Antonio avenue, in Alameda, was placed on record in Oakland yesterday. It was made out on December 22 and is from Robert B. Mitchell to Charles Elsey, both of San Francisco, in consideration of the sum of $10, subject to a mortgage of $6000 held by the Alameda Savings Bank. The property in question is on the west side of Sherman street, 260 feet from San Antonio avenue, and covers 75x150 feet.

ENORMOUS SUMS SPENT TO FOIL BLACKMAILERS

Lobbyist Hamilton Explains Need of Insurance Corruption Fund.

Corporations Preyed Upon by Legislators Laden With "Cinch" Bills.

As forecast in The Call of yesterday, the statement sent from Paris by Andrew Hamilton, the lobbyist, who looked after the interests of the big life insurance companies at various State capitals, did not divulge the names of legislators and politicians, to whom immense sums have been distributed in recent years. Hamilton excused the maintenance of a political bureau by the insurance companies on the ground that they were constantly subjected to attempted blackmail by members of Legislatures, who "held up" the corporations by the introduction of "cinch" bills. He informed the Insurance Investigating Committee that he kept no books and no records of his disbursements and would refuse to reveal the identity of any person who had been in his pay.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Andrew Hamilton, the legislative agent of the New York Life Insurance Company, who, according to testimony, has been intrusted with hundreds of thousands of dollars by the company and has not accounted for $235,000, has been heard from by the legislative committee, but has declined to make an accounting.

A statement by Hamilton was read to-day. It was presented by Secretary John C. McCall of the New York Life, who went to Paris to secure an accounting from Hamilton.

In his statement Hamilton says that he is unable to produce any books or accounts, because he undertook the legislative matters for the life insurance company with the express understanding that he was to make no accounting. Absolute secrecy was necessary in retaining assistants, therefore no checks were used in making payments.

Hamilton went into an explanation of the reasons for organizing this confidential service, as he characterized it, covering his methods of work and citing a number of legislative bills in which he had been interested. A list of expenses from 1899 to 1904 was appended to the statement. The sum of $235,000 unaccounted for, he says, would be greatly reduced by his running account, which still is unsettled and open, and, as a matter of good faith pending a settlement, he offers to deposit $100,000 with the company.

WORK REQUIRED SECRECY.

Hamilton says that he has no checks to produce, adding:

Payment by my check would necessarily have disclosed the fact that the persons receiving the check was under retainer by me and would thus have necessarily hampered that portion of my work that was most efficacious, namely, absolute secrecy. Cash, drafts and certificates were generally preferred.

Hamilton gives a long summary of the various styles of hold-up measures or bills hostile to insurance companies, many of them taxation measures. He says:

Bills to compel the companies' reports to be repeatedly and unnecessarily published in newspapers are advocated to gain favor with the press for increasing their revenues. Outrageous propositions, such as the 10 per cent tax proposed in Arkansas, or absurd propositions like the Michigan bill, where a doctor's certificate of ill health would excuse the payment of the insurance premium and keep a policy in force; or the Virginia bill, making it actionable for a life insurance agent to enter the office of a man where the sign "No Agents Allowed" is displayed, find legislative favor. However ridiculous these bills may seem, they demand attention.

In Indiana the attempt was made to pass a law placing the surrender value of a life insurance policy upon the list of personal property which was taxable to the owner. Companies which offered no such advantages to policy holders supported it as an attack upon their rivals who offered this advantage. The measure, however, was defeated. Immediately the State Assessors proceeded to tax policy holders, proclaiming that the existing law was broad enough in its terms to cover this. If this was true of Indiana, it was probably true of many other States in the Union. The New York Life Company, through my department, retained eminent and influential counsel and succeeded by a divided court in defeating the project. Following out this idea developed in Indiana, several States, notably Arkansas, introduced similar measures, all of which were defeated.

At the capital of every State we have either retained representatives of the companies or acted in co-operation with some one who has retained representatives duly influential. It has been found advisable, as the result of experience, to avoid as far as possible any exact public conclusion as to who represents us. The known presence of a corporation representative at legislative halls is the signal for renewed vigor in the attacks of blackmailers and cranks, and, unfortunately, members of the legislative body are frequently deaf to reasoning where a non-voting or corporate interest is at stake. Prevention is again proved herein to be better than cure.

Where it becomes necessary we have often occasion to employ the columns of the press for a discreet advocacy of our views. This method has been found to be very efficacious, but it has also been found to be very expensive.

HONEST MEN IN LEGISLATURES.

I have found in my work that in every legislative body in the United States there was as large a proportion of honest men as there is in any body of men in any walk of life. Permit me also to state that in my work I have not found it so difficult to defeat blackmailers. A man who is out to blackmail corporations is generally well known and his character thoroughly understood. These men never retain influence for any length of time, and I have found that requests to the honest members of the Legislature for help in defeating the blackmailers is always readily and cheerfully granted.

Hamilton sets forth that the tax measures alone defeated by him have saved the New York Life Insurance Company more than $2,500,000. In concluding his statement he says that "the injunctions of the president of the New York Life to me were always unmistakably explicit that my expenditures and work were to be strictly confined within the limitations of the law of the land. These instructions have been faithfully followed to the letter."

Secretary McCall was questioned by Hughes as to what further light he could throw on the statement of Hamilton, but said he could give no information. He did not question Hamilton's figures nor the large amounts for traveling expenses. He asked Hamilton for a full statement and relied on his honesty to explain everything. He did insist that Hamilton produce checks or check books, but Hamilton said he had none.

LIE IS PASSED AT INQUIRY.

When McCall was excused Henry D. Appleton of the State Insurance Department was called. He completed his testimony begun last Friday, and during the examination was told that Morgan, former president of the Bankers' Life Insurance Company, had testified that Appleton said it would cost the Bankers' Life $50,000 to reincorporate. Appleton said:

"If Mr. Morgan said that he is a liar."

Louis F. Payne, former Superintendent of Insurance of the State of New York, was called to the stand and explained a large number of appointments of confidential examiners on the ground that an unusual number of examinations were made during his term of office. Hughes produced a list which showed that in 1897 two examinations were made and in 1898 two more were made, while in 1899, the last year of Payne's administration, the number had not been brought out when adjournment was taken.

CHANGES BY THE MUTUAL.

All General Agencies to Be Put on Salary Basis.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Emory McClintock was elected vice president of the Mutual Life Insurance Company at the meeting of the board of trustees to-day. Mr. McClintock is a native of Pennsylvania. He is to be put in active charge of the company's technical affairs. In addition, he was elected a trustee to-day, as was also President-elect Charles A. Peabody. They were chosen to fill the vacancies made by the resignations of Elihu Root and Rufus W. Peckham.

It was voted to put all general agencies on a salary basis after January 1 next, instead of a commission basis. Two of the foreign agencies are to be discontinued, the Australian agency and the agency at Copenhagen.

DEATH HEEDS THE PRAYER OF FOUR SISTERS

Hope That They Would Expire Together Is Realized.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

CHICAGO, Dec. 27.—The fourth of the aged Meuret sisters—who prayed that they might die together—to die within a week was Marian Meuret, who expired to-day. Pneumonia caused her death. Two of her sisters lie mortally ill, it is believed.

The four sisters who have expired in the last seven days in their little cottage in Chestnut street, where their father, Joseph Meuret, built a shanty years ago when Chicago was a village, were: Jane, spinster, aged 69, known as "baby sister," died last Wednesday; Magdalene, widow of a man named Quiloz, aged 70, expired early yesterday; Florentine, spinster, aged 63, died soon after Magdalene; Marian, spinster, aged 72, died to-day.

These are the sisters who are dying: Genevieve Dieter, aged 79, dying in Kossuth County, Iowa; Margaret Dieter, dying in West Chicago of pneumonia.

The death of the entire family was predicted two weeks ago by Florentine, who is said to have possessed clairvoyant powers. There were seven sisters. Five of them lived together in a little cottage. The first of the five to go was the eldest, Mrs. B. West, who died last summer. Now the four others have died within a week. The two dying sisters, who married brothers named Dieter, are the only ones that survive.

CALL MONEY BRINGS NINETY PER CENT

Highest Rate Touched Since the Panic of Four Years Ago.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Call money was loaned freely and in large quantities at 90 per cent in Wall street to-day.

This is the highest rate touched since the panic of May, 1901, and is an exceptionally high figure, betokening acute stringency at any time. It is not, however, unprecedented, as in the panic of December, 1899, call money loaned at 186 per cent, and it touched the latter rate frequently and even higher rates in the panics of 1893, 1890 and 1884.

Ninety per cent for call loans was the maximum of the day and the average rate was well under that figure, ruling at from 40 to 50 per cent.

ANDREW CARNEGIE WAKES TO MUSIC EVERY MORN

Hymns Played Upon Organ in His Home as Clock Strikes Eight.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Andrew Carnegie is awakened every morning by music. Just as the clock strikes eight each day the first notes of "Lead, Kindly Light" or "Silent Night," his two favorites, roll out of the pipes of an immense organ in his home on Fifth avenue, rousing the steel king for the day and starting the machinery of his household to work. He believes in being brought back to consciousness by the music of some hymn he loves, so that his first thoughts will be restful, soothing and give him inspiration for the day.

When living in his castle at Skibo, Scotland, he is awakened each day by three musicians with bagpipes under his window. The instrument in his Fifth-avenue house is played by Walter C. Gale, organist of the Broadway Tabernacle.

System Spells Economy.

We have all modern devices for time saving and systematic office helps. Card index cabinets, loose leaf ledgers, filing cabinets, office ticklers, cards, binders, guides, cabinets. Glad to talk with you about systems. Sanborn, Vail & Co., 741 Market street.

MITCHELL'S CREDITORS SELECT A COMMITTEE.

Continued From Page 1, Columns 1 and 2.

who did his best to calm her. Percy then came to Clark's rescue and also made an effort to explain matters to her. She said she had large holdings and feared for the worst. When the meeting was finally called to order the fair speculator in stocks seemed more calm and listened with keen interest at every stage of the proceedings.

During the progress of the session both entrances to the offices were locked. Clark acted as the inside sentinel, and not a single person gained entrance from the moment the doors were barred. Every minute or so some anxious one would apply for admission, and Clark would answer the rattling of the door knob or the knock on the glass panes.

He was very particular, however, as to whom he permitted to enter the star chamber. When the meeting was over the rooms were at once besieged by press representatives, anxious creditors and others prompted by curiosity. All questioners were turned down by those fortunate enough to gain entrance to the inside room, and a deathlike silence prevailed when the meeting came to an end.

MORALES SHOT IN ISLAND RIOT

United States Government Preparing to Send Marine Guard to Santo Domingo

READY TO INTERVENE

Vice President Caceres Is Called Upon to Assume Control of the Country

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—The Navy Department has received a cablegram from Commander Chambers of the Nashville, dated at Puerto Plata, last night, stating that he had been informed from a Government source that President Morales had been shot and seriously wounded.

As soon as she can be commissioned the cruiser Dixie will be ordered to the West Indies, carrying a strong marine guard for such service as conditions may require. The Dixie will become the flagship of the mosquito squadron detailed for service in those waters.

The Navy Department to-day received a brief dispatch from Puerto Plata, Santo Domingo, announcing the departure from that port for Monte Christi of the gunboat Dubuque. No details of her mission have not yet been received.

The gunboat Paducah left Norfolk to-day for Monte Christi. The Navy Department has advised Rear Admiral Bradford of her departure and that she will be at his disposal as soon as she arrives in Dominican waters. The Paducah is a sister ship to the Dubuque and will be attached to the squadron guarding American interests in the West Indies.

The State Department to-day received by cable from Santo Domingo advices which threw much needed light upon the revolutionary disturbances reported from there yesterday. These were to the effect that the diplomatic corps had been notified by the Dominican Minister for Foreign Affairs, General Tejera, that President Morales having abandoned the capital, leaving the Government without an acting head, the Cabinet had called upon the Vice President, General Caceres, to take charge pending the temporary failure of Morales to exercise his functions. Caceres is known to favor the American receivership. The city of San Domingo was quiet and the Cabinet officers were exercising their functions without interruption.

General Caceres is understood to be at Puerto Plata and as the Clyde Line steamship Cherokee with Captain Colton, the controller of customs, aboard, is due to touch at that port to-day, it is understood that he will take passage immediately for San Domingo City, almost two days distant.

As the situation is understood here there has been no actual change in the dominant party in Santo Domingo as the result of Morales' abandonment. The fact is the party known as Horacia, of which General Caceres, the Vice President, is the principal figure, has all along controlled the Cabinet, and this Cabinet, in turn, owing to the peculiarity of the Dominican constitution, has completely dominated the Presidential office. As Morales was ambitious to conduct his own Government, he fell under suspicion of disloyalty to his party and also was suspected of intending to join the opposition, or Jiminez party. Finding himself without power, because the Cabinet controlled the party, Morales anticipated removal by the party leaders and fled to the revolutionists, with the intention of securing a sufficient force to re-enter the capital and drive out his enemies.

It is generally admitted that if required marines will be landed to protect the lives of Collector George R. Colton and his two American assistants. Whether such a protection would be extended to his Dominican assistants was left in doubt. Another positive statement made was that the administration would in no way work toward the resoration of Morales.

SAN DOMINGO, Tuesday, Dec. 26.—Fighting is reported to have occurred last night ten miles west of this city. American Minister Dawson and other foreigners have left their country seats and have come to town.

JUVENILE AID TO BE SPREAD OVER NATION

Judge Lindsey Said to Have the Backing of Rockefeller Jr.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

DENVER, Dec. 27.—Judge B. B. Lindsey has been requested to go to New York by a millionaire, supposed to be John D. Rockefeller Jr., and accept assistance in making the juvenile court system of Denver a national institution. The name of the philanthropist is a jealously guarded secret.

Judge Lindsey will be in New York on February 18. His work in this city has attracted the attention of the heir of the Rockefeller millions, and a sum equal to a king's ransom will be placed at his disposal to aid boys whose home influence needs supplementing. Judge Lindsey will meet wealthy men who are interested in juvenile court work. The financial management will be in the hands of the millionaire, but Judge Lindsey will be in charge of every branch of the work to be undertaken.

The organization will erect in every city a building for the home of its Juvenile Aid Society.

DOCTORS HAVE LITTLE HOPE FOR YERKES' LIFE

But Few Hours More May Remain to the Chicago Capitalist.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Charles T. Yerkes of Chicago, who is critically ill at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, is being kept constantly under the influence of opiates. Dr. Loomis, who has attended Mr. Yerkes since his illness began nearly six weeks ago, stated this afternoon that unless there should come a sudden change for the better, Mr. Yerkes might not live more than twenty-four hours longer. To-night at 11 o'clock it was said at the hotel that there has been no change. Mr. Yerkes' wife, son and daughter are at his bedside.

To Cure a Cold in One Day

Take LAXATIVE BROMO Quinine Tablets. Druggists refund money if it fails to cure. E. W. GROVE'S signature is on each box. 25c.

MINING MAN OF PROMINENCE MEETS DEATH

WELL KNOWN MINING MAN WHO WAS FATALLY INJURED IN RAWHIDE TUNNEL.

OAKLAND, Dec. 27.—William Liddell, a pioneer resident of California and one of the best known mining men of the Pacific Coast, was fatally injured last evening at the Rawhide mine in Tuolumne County, of which he was superintendent, and died to-day at 5:10 a. m. Particulars of the accident are lacking, but members of his family in this city have been informed that the superintendent, while inspecting the mine, was struck on the head by a falling rock, the blow fracturing the skull at the base of the brain.

Physicians were at once summoned from Sonora and Jamestown, but as the man is seven miles from the latter place, it was some time before they reached the injured man. An operation was performed, but the injury was too severe and the patient passed away without regaining consciousness.

William Liddell was a native of Scotland, aged 59, and came to the United States with his parents when he was but 6 years of age. The family came at once to the Pacific Coast, where the deceased had since resided. At an early age he engaged in mining, becoming one of the best known mining men in the country. Fifteen years ago he removed to Nevada, where he resided in Virginia City. He remained in that State for seven years and shortly after his return to California he accepted the position of superintendent of the Rawhide mine, which he held at the time of his death.

The deceased leaves four children, his wife having passed away two years ago. All the members of his family reside in this city, at the home of Alfred Wilkie, 1669 Broadway. They are Elbert, Ethel and Florence Liddell and Mrs. A. R. Wilkie, the wife of a son of the well-known tenor, Alfred Wilkie.

Mrs. Lewis R. Mead Dies at Byron.

OAKLAND, Dec. 27.—Mrs. Lewis Risdon Mead, wife of L. R. Mead, proprietor of Byron Hot Springs, died yesterday at the springs, after a long illness from heart trouble. Mrs. Mead was stricken Sunday afternoon seriously and rapidly sank. She had gone to the springs from San Francisco to spend the Christmas holidays, having been staying at the St. Dunstan's, the San Francisco residence of the Meads.

The Meads were formerly residents of Oakland. Mead is general manager of the Risdon Iron Works, a director of the Mechanics' Library and prominent in business affairs in San Francisco. Dr. Louis D. Mead, a son, who resides at Byron Hot Springs, is the only surviving child.

The funeral will be held to-morrow afternoon at 1:30 o'clock from the Church of the Advent, East Oakland.

Former Mayor of Stockton Is Dead.

STOCKTON, Dec. 27.—Supervisor W. C. White of this city died to-day, after a long illness. The deceased was a former millman and lumberman, but retired from the business several years ago, giving most of his time since to his two farms. He came to California in 1863, served several terms as City Councilman and one term as Mayor of Stockton. Two daughters—Miss Etta White and Mrs. J. L. Whitmore—survive him. The deceased was a prominent Mason, Odd Fellow, Knight of Pythias and Elk. He leaves a large estate.

Death of Los Angeles Millionaire.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 28. — Hon. Jonathan S. Slauson, philanthropist, millionaire and probably the most generally known man in Los Angeles, died at 12:15 o'clock this (Thursday) morning at his home in this city after an illness of six weeks. His death was due to paralysis.

ATTACKS GENUINENESS OF EGYPTIAN GEMS

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 27.—At the annual meeting to-day of the board of managers of the Free Museum of Science and Art of the University of Pennsylvania Henry Chapman Jr., a member of the board of juniors, attacked the genuineness of the large collection of gems made to the museum by the late Professor Maxwell Somerville, the famous Egyptologist. He said the collection reflected nothing but discredit upon the museum and all those connected with it. He offered a resolution, which was adopted, calling for the appointment of a committee of five to employ an expert or experts to investigate the collection of gems in the museum.

The collection in question was presented by Professor Somerville shortly before his death in 1904. It is one of the largest collections in the world and has always been considered one of the most valuable. It has been examined with interest by experts from all over the world.

INJURED BY EXPLOSION WHILE OPERATING LANTERN

CHICAGO, Dec. 27.—A tank containing bromide gas, which was being used to operate a stereopticon lantern in the Salvation Army Barracks at 6325 Halsted street, exploded tonight and fatally injured Captain Follet, who was working the lantern. His left leg and left arm were blown off and he was severely bruised and cut about the body. His wife and daughter were blown through a plate glass window by the explosion, but both escaped with minor bruises.

The only other persons in the barracks at the time of the accident were three small children, and they escaped with slight injuries.

ANOTHER STEEL MERGER PLANNED

Big Combine to Be Formed in Pennsylvania With a Capital of $150,000,000

J. W. GATES INTERESTED

Republic Company to Head Organization of Which Topping Will Be President

PITTSBURG, Dec. 27.—A combination of iron and steel interests is being formed which will have a capital stock of about $150,000,000. The principal concern in the movement is the Republic Iron and Steel Company. Other companies said to be included in the project are the Tennessee Coal, Iron and Railroad Company, the Sloss-Sheffield Iron Company and the La Belle Iron Works. John W. Gates, C. S. Guthrie and other leading men in the Republic company are said to be promoters of the proposed big corporation.

It was learned to-day that John A. Topping, who has resigned the presidency of the American Sheet and Tin Plate Company, and who will sever his connection with the United States Steel Corporation on January 1, will be made president of the new combination. Topping left Pittsburg last night and could not be seen here regarding the report that he would be put in control of the company when it is formed.

The details have now been perfected and two plans are under consideration. One is to form a holding company similar to the United States Steel Corporation, with the Republic, Tennessee, La Belle and Sloss-Sheffield as subsidiary companies. Another plan is to merge all the companies and retain the name of the Republic Iron and Steel Company.

FORUM CLUB HOLDS AUCTION JUST FOR FUN

The Forum Club waxed gay yesterday afternoon, when it became the collective guest of the retiring president, Mrs. Frank Fredericks.

The clubrooms at Sutter street and Grant avenue were gay with holly and huckleberry, when the full quota of the club was received by Mrs. Fredericks, assisted by Miss Isabel Vail, Miss Sadie Fitch, Miss Hendy and Miss Judson, all smartly gowned and fetching.

Just what was going to happen was a dark, dank secret, until Auctioneer Curtis arrived—the only man admitted—who proceeded to inspect a pile of packages in a corner.

Then the secret was out.

Presently the auction was on, and it was not long before reckless plunging—to the tune of fifty beans—had wrought the usually decorous club into a veritable "pit."

When the packages were opened, great was the fun thereat, for each one contained a witty allusion and a weird gift.

During the afternoon, Mrs. Newton J. Tharp, unquestionably one of the cleverest readers in town, gave some interpretations in capital style, followed by Miss Dunn upon the piano.

A bowl of eggnog—superbly concocted—was served in lieu of the ubiquitous tea, whose odor hangs heavy in every woman's clubrooms.

Should the awful fact leak out that a woman's club had fed real eggnog to its friends it might start some innocent clergyman or some ex-president to talking upon the degeneracy of clubwomen, and their headlong flight to inebriety and ribaldry.

OFFICIAL COUNT INCREASES THE PLURALITY OF JEROME

Has a Lead of More Than Fifteen Thousand Votes Over Opponents.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—District Attorney Jerome's plurality was increased by nearly 5000 over the returns made on election night by the official returns made public to-day by the Board of Elections. His plurality is 15,064 instead of 11,450, as originally printed. This gain was the result of corrections made by the board of canvassers and the counting of so-called void and protested ballots before Justice Giegerich.

ANOTHER MAN ARRESTED FOR THE DIAZ MURDERS

Louis O. Coughener Taken Into Custody as Soon as He Leaves Hospital in Mexico.

EL PASO, Tex., Dec. 27.—Louis O. Coughener ("Shorty"), having recovered from his wounds sufficiently to leave the hospital, has been imprisoned by the Mexican officials at Santa Rosalia and charged with complicity with O. E. Finstad in the murder at Diaz of R. W. Rutherford Jr. and C. W. McMurray. Four Mexicans have also been arrested on suspicion.

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