HOUSTON IN A NUTSHELL.

What Houston Has in the Way of Internal Improvements.

ANNUAL REPORT OF CITY ENGINEER

Showing What Has Been Done During the Past Year in the Way of Improvements.

One of the most interesting documents that has emanated from any of the public departments of the city for a long time is the report by City Engineer Gueringer of the operations of the engineer's office for the year ending April 1, 1897. The law requires that a report from the engineer's office shall be made annually, but this is the first time one has been prepared within the knowledge of any who have been heard to speak on the subject. It is very full and is statistical to a degree, giving detailed information on all the public works of the city and showing how little has been the appreciation bestowed upon what has been done here in the last few years, dealing with sewers, drainage, bridges, pavements, etc.

The table on sewers gives the size of the openings and shows for the Second and Third wards 8266 feet of eight-inch, 1990 feet of ten-inch, 227 feet of eighteen-inch and 5953 feet of twenty-four-inch pipe, and 820 feet of sixty-inch brick sewer, with eighteen catch basins, forty-three manholes and one flush tank.

The LaBranch sewer district, in the Third ward, has 47,785 feet 8-inch, 4620 feet 10-inch, 3300 feet 12-inch, 4264 feet 15-inch, 3589 feet 21-inch and 627 feet 24-inch pipe sewers, and of brick sewers 350 feet 24-inch, 330 feet 27-inch, 990 feet 30-inch, 660 feet 33-inch, 990 feet 36-inch, 660 feet 39-inch, 330 feet 42-inch, 660 feet 45-inch, 330 feet 48-inch, 330 feet 51-inch and 660 feet 54-inch, with 31 catch basins, 154 manholes and 18 flush tanks.

The Hadley sewer district, Third ward, has 8224 feet of 8-inch pipe, with three manholes and one flush tank.

The LaBranch sewer district, Fourth ward, has 1320 feet of 8-inch pipe, with one catch basin, seventeen manholes and five flush tanks.

The San Felipe sewer district, Fourth ward, has 12,473 feet 8-inch pipe, 330 feet 10-inch and 4 64 feet 18-inch, and 792 feet 24-inch, brick sewer, on feet 30-inch, 320 feet 36-inch, 490 feet 42-inch and 1080 feet 48-inch with 34 catch basins, 79 manholes and 3 flush tanks.

The total of this sewerage system is nearly twenty-four miles, with 103 catch basins, 325 manholes and 46 flush tanks.

The sewer construction for the year April 1, 1896, to April 1, 1897, is as follows:

Elysian street sewer, 3166 feet 24-inch pipe, 5 catch basins and 7 manholes; total cost $4587, (half) paid for by Houston East and West Texas railway, making cost to the city $2293.

Horan street sewer, 416 feet 48-inch brick, with one catch basin; total cost $2588.77.

Carr street (box) sewer (constructed by International and Great Northern railway), 1800 feet; total estimated cost $5420.

The total cost of the above was $14,273.77.

There is now under construction a brick sewer on Heiner street, Fourth ward, which will cost about $3500.

Twenty-four catch basins have been constructed during the past year, affording drainage through the sewers over an immense territory, at a cost of $1130.12.

During the same time eight manholes have been constructed on sewers at a cost of $378.89.

The outlet to the Louisiana street sewer, foot of Congress avenue, was permanently fixed, at a cost of $824.

The American Brewing association also constructed a sewer 10-inch from Bremond street, First ward, to the bayou, with catch basin corner of Girard and Second streets.

The surface drainage constructed during the year, not including drains cleaned and spaded, amounts to 14.4 miles, costing $4669.36, of which the city paid $1167.75. This includes work in the Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth wards, and takes the water well away from sections heretofore flooded after every heavy rain.

The paving in the city is reported at 14.00 miles of which miles stone on Crawford street from McKinney avenue to Clay avenue, was constructed during the year. A recapitulation shows the character of pavement as follows: Brick, 3.89 miles; bois d'arc, 2.93 miles; cypress blocks, 0.77 miles; gravel, 4.06 miles; stone, 0.75 miles; macadam, 1.12 miles.

The expenditures on pavement during the year were: On Girard street, gravel, $1755.49; on Crawford street brick, $15.879.45; reconstructing imperfect levels, $680.60; replacing plank roadway Washington street from Fourth to Fifth streets, $134; repairs on old pavement, $238.04.

On many blocks of paved streets the old wooden crossing covers have been replaced with iron, forty of the iron crossings in all being put in, at a total cost of $1817.44. The iron is almost indestructible, and does away with the constant expense incident to the old wooden crossings.

Another of the works of moment constructed during the year, not embraced in the report of the engineer, is the improvement made at Tenth and Dart streets, near the old city cemetery. An immense gully existed at that point, preceding any communication from the east end of the First ward and the city to the southward. The street forces under direction of the street commissioner did the work, in the intervals of other work mainly, and extending over a period of about a year. The estimated total cost was about $4000. The filling of the great gully, the grading of streets and the putting in of drains makes the street a good one, and it is a great convenience as affording easy access to and from a large territory and many hundreds of people.

The table on highway bridges shows that seven bridges span Buffalo bayou and one is in place over White Oak bayou, all being iron spans with wood approaches except Franklin street bridge, which is of wood. The total value of the whole is estimated at $149,142. One of these—the Hill street bridge—was constructed during the year, at a total cost of $41,025, including house for bridge tenders, etc.

The building permits issued during the year numbered 845, and the statements of cost as given by applicants for permits aggregate $257,772.20.

The fees paid the engineer during the year for surveys amounted to $486.

The recapitulation by the engineer is as follows:

	Cost
Sewers by Houston East and West Texas railway	$3,954 00
Sewers by International and Great Northern railway	5,400 00
Sewers by City of Houston	5,419 77
Catch basins, 26, city	1,320 40
Manholes, 8, city	279 89
Inspecting and cleaning sewers	1,674 05
Total	$18,058 11
27,160 feet drain, city	$2,527 30
8500 feet drain, Galveston, Houston and Henderson railway	620 00
6000 feet drain, Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe railway	440 40
8200 feet drain, San Antonio and Aransas Pass railway	414 58
8000 feet drain, Texas and New Orleans railway	$47 70
6000 feet drain, Columbia Tap	100 00
3800 feet drain, International and Great Northern railway	160 00
Total	$4,809 98
Paving, Missouri, Kansas and Texas railway	$1,360 00
Paving, city	13,374 94
Paving, city, iron covers for	1,817 44
Total	$16,552 38
Hill street bridge	$41,025 68
Renewals of paving, etc	175 00
Preliminary surveys	154 40
Grand total for the year	$82,727 59

The report concludes with some interesting statistical data, from which the following is taken:

Houston was founded in 1836.
Incorporated in 1837.
Population, 1896 (directory estimate), 68,897.
Altitude above sea level, 32.67 feet.
Area in square miles, 9.
Number of streets, 456.
Miles of streets, 240.
Miles of pavement, 14.00.
Miles of sewers, 23.82.
Miles of water mains, 66.
Sizes of water mains, from 6 to 20 inches.
Number of fire hydrants, 500.
Sources of supply, artesian wells, 30.
Daily supply, 7,000,000 gallons.
Daily consumption, 5,000,000 gallons.
Number of miles of steam railway in city, 72.78.
Number miles electric railway, 25.95.
Number of electric street lights, 150.
Assessed value of real estate, $22,827,055.
Tax rate per $100, 2 per cent.

TALK WITH THE CLERKS

ON THE SUBJECT OF SUNDAY CLOSING IN HOUSTON.

The Labor Council Indorses the Efforts of the Clerks for a Day of Rest.

To the President and Members of the Clerks' Protective association:

Gentlemen: At a meeting of the Labor council, composed of the trade unions of the city, it was unanimously voted that a committee be appointed to fittingly assure you of our support and our approval as to Sunday closing, as has been so auspiciously commenced by you.

The committee beg leave to say that we believe that it is right and just, and that an All Wise Providence was right in putting aside one day in the week for rest.

Years and years of experience has proven that surcease from labor is necessary to both man and beast one day in seven, and this is so strongly proven that no one in any position in life has ever attempted to disprove it.

Yet this fundamental principle has in a great measure been set aside and annulled by a large part of our citizens who avaricious are crafty and over zealous for their aggrandisement, they forgetting the fact that salesmen employed under such conditions are deprived of liberty, association and improvement, taking from them the very spark of intellectual fire, moral training and character unbuilding.

These employers should certainly know that improved minds, more acute intellects and strengthened character are a paramount factor in increasing their business and improving their class of trade.

While every clothing and dry goods firm closes on Sunday there can be no possible loss to themselves, but great gain in advantages to themselves and employes. These merchants, some of whom are doubtless angry with you now, will, when they begin to appreciate the manifold advantages, heartily endorse, and realize that life is yet worth the living, will be bound to thank the Clerks' union for the enforcement of a good and humane law. We as a body wish you God speed in your work and believe the citizens of Houston will reform from trading on Sunday and will express that the old road will never again be traveled.

William A. Hunter,
J. P. Grimes,
John W. McArthur,
Committee.

Y. M. C. A. MATTERS.

A Series of Meetings form Me—Other Attractions.

Dr. Little will address the men's gospel meeting this afternoon in the rooms of the association. It will be one of the most interesting meetings held in the rooms for some time. This meeting will be one preparatory to the beginning of a ten days' meeting. Every Christian man and worker is most cordially invited to attend this meeting.

There will be a meeting at 3:30 for the quartette and all men who have aided in the orchestra will attend the meeting. Mr. Breaker asks that every man who can sing come to the rooms this afternoon at 3:30. Preparatory for a good live time during the meetings will be made. Professor William Hodgkins asks that all the young men who play on any instrument be present at the same hour for the arranging of the instrumental music.

On Thursday night of this week August Nash of Lincoln, Neb., will begin a ten days' meeting among the men, and knows the difficulties [illegible] he asks that every man in Houston be cordially invited. Meetings will be held at such hours and places as will be most beneficial to the good of the meetings. Special arrangements will be made for the music and one of the most interesting meetings ever inaugurated for men in Houston will be held. Mr. Nash desires men to come just as they are, in the regular working apparel, right from the counter, shops, counting rooms and from the streets, and wants them to feel that they have a place at the meeting.

There will be no classes in the gymnasium of nights during these meetings, and it is requested that during the hours of the meetings all members keep from the exercise room. There will be plenty of time from 8 in the morning till 7:30 at night to exercise. The baths will be open every night as usual. The members are cordially invited to attend these meetings.

One of the most enjoyable events in the history of the junior department occurred last Tuesday afternoon. It was the inauguration of the annual socials. A lovely programme was arranged by the boys and several musical pieces were furnished. This was followed by some remarks by the officers of the department. But the charming part was that the mothers of the boys had spread a table filled with the finest of cake, lemonade, strawberries and everything inviting. Over 100 participated. This department is to soon begin a meeting for boys and every boy in the city is invited to come and take an interest in the work.

For a long time the young men have been saying: "When are you going to start baseball?" Bob Chadwick and several others were in the rooms last night and said: "Call a meeting for 7:30 on Tuesday night. Say to the young men that a crack nine was in readiness for some good playing. Many wanted to join and they have the best grounds in the city. They want every one who desires to play present Tuesday night at 7:30.

Monday night is the time for the meeting of the cycle club. They are therefore notified that there will be business meeting in the hall of the association on Monday night at 8 o'clock. Every member is urged to be present and bring along the names of all new members; also to bring the names of the ladies they wish voted on for honorary membership.

There will be a meeting of the Ladies' Auxiliary to the association in the parlors Wednesday afternoon at 3 o'clock sharp. All members are urged to be present. Reports from the circles are asked for.

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT.

Wanted a Mexican named Gomez and a negro. Mexican about 5 feet 9 inches, talks good English; weighs 155 pounds; had undershirt, little black mustache, straw (Mexican) hat. Negro nearly white, about 5 feet 8 or 9 inches, weight about 125 pounds, had on bicycle cap, colored shirt.

Dark bay horse, 4 years old, 15½ hands high, no brand, has a slight Roman nose, long shank. End spring buggy (piano box), red trimmings and running gear. Buggy made by J. W. Moon.

Gold watch (ladies') aluminum and gold chain.

The above goods were taken from Mr. P. E. Norsworthy by the two above named parties near Sheldon last night about 12:30.

Valise with clothes, all marked J. E. N.

Albert Erichson,
Sheriff Harris County.

Houston, Texas, May 29.

Taken up by E. F. Brandt, May 29, at Addicks, Texas—One gray horse 12½ hands high, 9 years old, brand 5-2 left hind leg, scar on left hip and red spot under belly on right side.

Albert Erichson,
Sheriff Harris County.

Who wants one sorrel horse about 5 years old, 14 hands high, nick tail, roach mane, branded TA (connected), half circle over on left thigh. Apply Albert Erichson, sheriff, Harris county, or B. F. Davis, constable, Brunner.

May 24—Strayed or stolen from W. C. Teal, bay horse, 8 years old, 15½ hands high, branded 5 (dash over top) on left shoulder. Some white spots on left shoulder and white ring around left mind foot; paces under saddle; $5 reward. Return to W. C. Teal, Lyons avenue.

Strayed or stolen on February 20, 1897—One mare, dark sorrel, 14 hands high, 9 years old; branded DJ left hip, was shod all round, small saddle marks; $5 reward. W. D. Van Wagener, Houston.

Strayed or stolen February 20, 1897—One gray mare mule, age 15 years, 15 hands high; was shod all round. $5 reward. W. D. Van Wagener, Houston.

Albert Erichson,
Sheriff Harris County.

THE PRINTERMEN.

Everything in Good Shape and a Big Time Expected.

Today the union printers and their friends take their much-talked-of day's outing. A large number of tickets have been disposed of and every indication points to a big crowd at San Jacinto park. Ample service and accommodations of all kinds have been provided.

Rain they say they will not have and that settles it. Last night's indications being unfavorable. Mr. Daniels of the arrangement committee desires to state that as the soil about the park is sandy, rain leaves no disagreeable effects, and that the disagreeableness of muddy grounds, in any event, need not be anticipated.

Ample seats, tables, chairs and other necessary comforts have been provided by a special committee of the union, and the crowd can hardly be too large for the arrangements made. The contests will begin promptly at 11 o'clock, as a large number of prizes and souvenirs are to be awarded.

Today is printers' day. They invite their friends to be with them. They know how to entertain and propose to demonstrate that fact today.

San Jacinto Park, where the picnic is to be held, is where the Houston East and West Texas railway crosses the San Jacinto river, and is a beautiful place.

The train schedule is as follows:

Leave Central depot at 8 a. m., 10:30 a. m., 1:30 p. m., 4 p. m. and 6:30 p. m.

Trains leave Houston East and West Texas depot five minutes later than the above time.

Returning, leave San Jacinto River Park at 9 a. m., 11:30 a. m., 2:30 p. m., 6:30 p. m. and last train at conclusion of ball.

Kindergarten Commencement.

The closing exercises of Mrs. Atwood's kindergarten and primary school will be presented at the Third Baptist church, corner White and Decatur streets, Friday at 8 p. m., June 4, 1897. The excellent programme which has been arranged for the occasion will be presented by the pupils of the school, assisted by some special characters.

PROGRAMME.

Music ..... Orchestra.
Professor Wm. Hodgkins, leader.
Dumbbell drill ..... by the School
Recitation—selected ..... Louise Wagner
Recitation—"Little Jim"..Freddie Minster
Dialogue—"Crowning the May Queen"
Ella Vogt, Mattie Merett, Madge Charske, James Gombert, Fred Minster, Georgie Fromm.
Recitation—"Baby's Letter..Gussie Fromm
Recitation—"Lost Doll" ....Sunset Wood
March and drill ..... by sixteen girls
Recitation—"A Plea for Boys" .....
..... George Fromm
Recitation—Selected by Miss Mary Conwell ..... "Charade"
James Gombert, Elma Sweeny, Alma Vogt, Chancey Turner, Eula Atwood, Eddie Namendorf, Fred Minster, Annie Lee Charske.
Recitation—"Charlie" .....Madge Charske
Recitation .....
"The Story Kathie Told Lena Pizer"
"Governor's March" .....
By the Juvenile Christian Endeavor Orchestra.
Recitation (selected) by Miss Madie McLoid
Recitation—"Nobody's Child" .....
..... Anita Schneider
Violin solo ..... by Moody Dawson
Recitation—"Naughty Zell"..Eula Atwood
Vocal solo—"Cuckoo Song" .....
..... Miss Bessie Hughes
"The Woodland Fairy Play,"..by the School Tableaux.

BILLIARD TOURNAMENT.

Light Guard Boys Will Contest for a Prize.

A billiard tournament has been inaugurated among the members of the Houston Light Guard club and Messrs. C. Arthur Williams and Milby Porter have been appointed by the house committee to manage the affair. The prize will be a fine one. The following is a schedule for the play:

May 30—Powell vs. Porter; Hutchinson vs. Pescay.

June 6—Powell vs. Pescay; Porter vs. Hutchinson; Huston vs. Burns; Shaw vs. Huey.

June 13—Powell vs. Hutchinson; Porter vs. Pescay; Huston vs. Shaw; Burns vs. Huey.

June 20—Powell vs. Huston; Pescay vs. Burns; Hutchinson vs. Shaw; Porter vs. Huey.

June 27—Powell vs. Burns; Porter vs. Huston; Pescay vs. Shaw; Hutchinson vs. Huey.

July 4—Powell vs. Shaw; Porter vs. Burns; Pescay vs. Huston; Hutchinson vs. Burns.

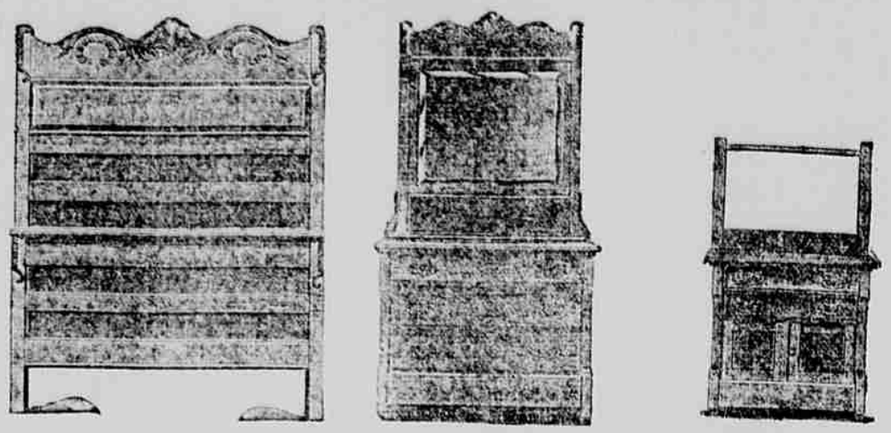
July 11—Powell vs. Huey; Porter vs. Shaw; Pescay vs. Huey; Huston vs. Huey; Burns vs. Shaw.

Liver complaints cured by Beecham's Pills.

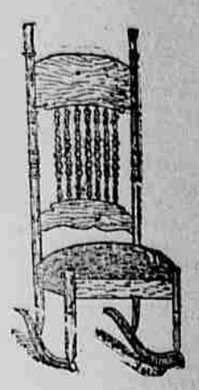
BEGINNING TOMORROW, WE WILL INAUGURATE A

BONA FIDE SPRING CLEARING SALE

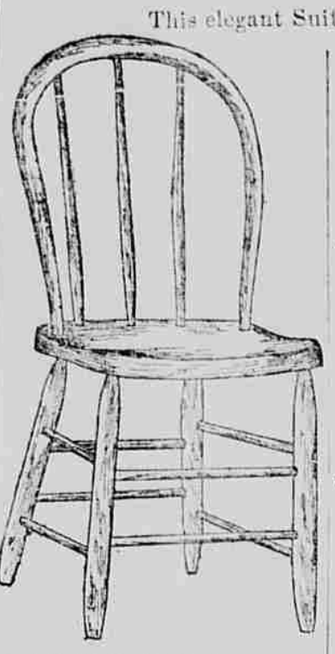
We must dispose of a large lot of our stock preparatory to ordering our new goods. To do this and make things move quick, we will place every article in the house on sale at genuine Clearing Out Prices. This is our aim and you must get the benefits. We will not be able to tell you the price of every article, hence ask you to call and let us show you how we can save you big money on our genuine Clearing Sale. Every article must move. Here are some of the prices:



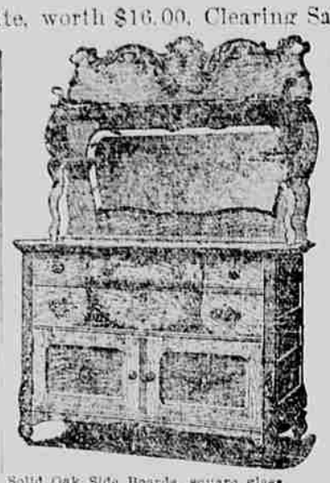
This elegant Suite, worth $16.00, Clearing Sale Price **$11.50.**



This Elegant Rocker, Oak, worth $6.00, Clearing Sale Price..... $3.



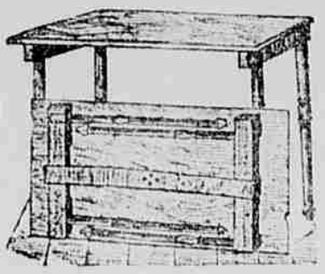
Wood Chairs, Clearing Sale Price.... 32c



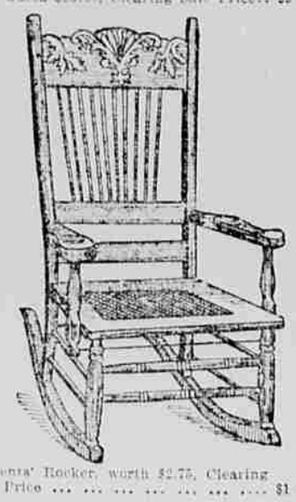
Solid Oak Side Boards, square glass, worth $16.00, Clearing Sale Price.. $9 75

Worth $11.00, now..... ..... $6 75

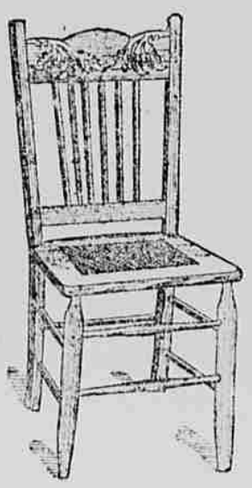
This Odd Dresser, 24x30 glass, Clearing Price... ... ... $8



Ladies' Sewing Table, worth $1.75, Clearing Sale Price... ... . 95c



Gents' Rocker, worth $2.75, Clearing Price $1 65



High Back Chair, worth 75c, now.... 50c

Note the Following Low Prices:

$13.00 Refrigerators $9
$5.00 Extension Tables 3
$2.75 Rattan Rockers 1
$10.00 Hall Racks... 7
50c Carpet... 3
25c Matting... 12
$3.50 Smyrna Rugs 1
$1.50 Smyrna Rugs 1

Remember we can furnish your homes from the cellar to the garret. We boast on the most complete stock in Texas. If you will call on us we will show you how easy it is to save money by buying from us. Every article sold is guaranteed to be as represented. This is a genuine Clearing Sale, and means dollars to you.

ALBERT CHIMENE & CO.,

1205 CONGRESS AVENUE.

N. B.—All goods honest make. We don't sell Penitentiary Trash.

DR. Wm. A. BOXELL.

Alcohol, Morphine, Opium, Cocaine and Tobacco Habits treated by the quickest, surest and best method known, entirely different from all other methods, and absolutely harmless. A perfect cure guaranteed or money refunded.

Diseases of Women, Nervous Diseases, and all Sexual Weaknesses, Losses and Impediments, male or female, treated with expert ability. Chronic Diseases of the Eye, Ear, Nose, Throat, Lungs, Heart, Stomach, Liver, Bowels, Rectum, Kidneys, Bladder, Blood and Skin. Difficult treated.

Catarrh, Asthma, Bronchitis, Consumption, Malaria, Dyspepsia, Constipation, Diarrhœa, Dysentery, Piles, Rheumatism, Dropsy, Neuralgia, Chorea, Epilepsy, Paralysis, Eczema, Scrofula, Syphilis, Stricture and other chronic diseases treated with eminent success.

Dr. Boxell has letters of recommendation from the leading business men of this city, and testimonials from hundreds of persons whom he cured after their cases were considered hopeless.

Write for Home Treatment, describing case carefully, and enclosing stamp. All medicine furnished from the doctor's own laboratory. No calomel, strychnine, morphine, arsenic or other poison used as medicine.

Call on or address Dr. Wm. A. Boxell, rooms 207 and 208, Mason block, Main & Rusk, Houston, Texas. Office hours, 9 to 12, 2 to 5 and 7 to 8.

THE INITIAL CONCERT

By The Houston Post Band at the Auditorium.

Professor Joseph Pristia, assisted by his daughter Madeline and the Houston Post band, of which Professor Pristia is leader, will give their first concert at the Auditorium on Saturday and Sunday evenings, June 5 and 6.

Professor Pristia is a splendid solo cornetist, his forte being classical music and the productions of the old authors. He is also a composer, his latest effort in this direction being the "Houston Post Waltz."

Miss Madeline, the daughter of the professor, has a thorough musical training and will appear at the concert in both vocal and instrumental music, in both of which she excels.

The entire band will participate in the concert, which will conclude each night with a dance.

It is the intention of Professor Pristia to make Houston his future home and open a conservatory here, where he will teach music in all its branches.

Suing for Damages.

Mrs. Theresa Goldberg and her 7-year-old son Walter, by his next friend, E. Raphael, filed suit yesterday in the district court against the Houston and Texas Central Railway company for damages growing out of injuries received by her and the killing of her husband H. S. Goldberg, by the late wreck on that road. She fixes actual damages for death of her husband at $5000; injury to herself, distress of mind, mental suffering, etc., $5000; actual expenses incurred, funeral, doctor's bill to self, etc., $1327.50.

At Forest Park.

There will be a special attraction at Forest Park this afternoon by John R. Scanlan's vaudeville and dramatic company. Professor Griffith will also give a balloon ascension and parachute leap. Baseball, music, dancing and bathing are among the other attractions.

Rathbone Sisters.

D. C. Helburg has issued a circular calling a meeting of the Rathbone Sisters for Monday at 8 p. m. to elect officers and select a name for the new temple.

ATTENTION, HOUSTON LIGHT GUARD!

Special Order No. —.

You are hereby ordered to assemble at the armory on Sunday afternoon, May 30, at 2:30 o'clock, for the purpose of taking part in the memorial services of Decoration Day. The uniform will be helmets with spikes, blue coats, white trousers.

F. A. Reichardt,
Captain Commanding.

WE TAKE CARE

Of your Shoes if you buy them from us! We shine, or polish them, and keep them in general good order, FREE OF CHARGE.

With every pair we sell, we give a ticket entitling you to have your Shoes cleaned, oiled, polished or shined, FREE OF CHARGE.

GENTLEMEN! How you ever figured what a saving this is? You'll spend $10 a month having them shined elsewhere!

LADIES! It's the only place in Houston where you can have your shoes cleaned or polished. Economize by buying your shoes from us.

Our $1.50 Shoes are Money Savers.

ACHENBACH & SCHULTE, 1103 Congress Ave.

Monday's Cash Sale.

Rogers silver plated Tea Spoons, 6 for $1 00
Rogers' silver plated Table Spoons, 6 for 2 00
Johnson Bros.' "Watland" 112-piece Dinner Set for 4 90

Our line of China and Glassware, Toys, Dolls, Baskets and Cutlery is the cheapest and best in the city.

Houston China Hall,

JAS. F. DUMBLE, Manager.
1006 Texas Avenue. Phone 662.

Sam's Shoe Store, 315 Main Street.

JUST RECEIVED,

A full line

Ladies' Bicycle Leggins.

Come and see our stock before purchasing your vacation and outing Footwear. We can fill your wants.

We have a complete stock (all sizes) Sneakers. Men's, Boys' and Youths' Tennis Oxfords; price 50c.

SAM'S SHOE STORE, 315 Main Street.