

THAT SUTTON DECISION.

The decision of the naval board of inquiry appointed to determine whether or not Lieutenant James N. Sutton, Jr., killed himself two years ago while a student at the marine school at Annapolis, or whether he met death by a shot fired by one of his fellow lieutenants, has, after much delay, been announced and Sutton is declared to have shot himself.

This decision closes, as far as the officials of the navy are concerned, a case that has caused more bitterness and contention in eastern navy and army circles than any other incident in years. Sutton was killed two years ago late one night after he had been severely beaten by three or four other young lieutenants. The bullet entered his head at a point where experts claimed it would have been impossible to have entered had Sutton fired the revolver himself.

Mrs. Sutton, the mother of the dead lieutenant has worked for two years to get even a court of enquiry appointed to reopen the case and those who followed the testimony as published may well be justified in the belief that powerful influences have been at work since the night of Sutton's death and are still at work to hush up what would probably be the biggest naval school scandal in the history of Annapolis if a thorough investigation was allowed. From the first the officials of the navy directly interested have hindered and delayed the reopening of the Sutton case in every possible way. And in doing this they followed precedent very closely. There has seldom been an army or navy scandal that has not been pretty effectually hushed up. The moment an offense is discovered to have been perpetrated by officers, young or old in either branch of the service they commence laying wires, to keep the truth from the public and belittle the matter.

This is particularly true if the offense is one that reflects discredit upon any particular system in vogue in army or naval circles or which might open the way for civilian criticism of methods employed in the service and its discipline. The offenders are generally made to suffer for their infractions sooner or later, but the public is seldom let in on the investigations, the one idea in the minds of the officers being apparently to hush up anything that would serve to give the public any idea of poor discipline in the government military schools or other branches of the service, negligence in enforcing what rules there

are or that some black sheep exist in the service, the service.

Mrs. Sutton seems determined to take her son's case before congress, claiming the navy officials have not dealt fairly with her or in good faith and in any event a congressional investigation of the affair might shed new light on prevailing conditions at Annapolis.

A brother of the dead marine officer was recently so severely hazed at West Point that he was confined in the hospital for four weeks.

The action of President Taft in summarily dismissing the seven cadets responsible for the cowardly attack will meet with general approval.

DEATH OF CORYDON W. HIGGINS.

Most distressing was the news of the sudden death of Corydon W. Higgins, who, with his father, Will C. Higgins, has been associated in the editorial work of the "Mining Review." Young, bright, and of a signal ability, and really just entering upon his life work, the news of his untimely death came as a blow to his thousands of friends here, particularly among the younger ones, who, so to speak, had gone to school with him only a year or two ago.

His friends in their sorrow extend their deepest sympathy to his parents and his wife, to whom he was married but a month ago.

The action of the coroner's jury in charging negligence in the placing of the deadly disinfectant in the room where poor Higgins met his death, without any sign or warning of any kind, we believe, is right. It is the most natural thing in the world in an apartment or office building, when people are looking for rooms, to enter anywhere while inspecting possible locations, and that anything so dangerous as this poisonous gas should be used anywhere without warning, seems little short of criminal.

HILL FOR SILVER.

The American Mining congress, which meets at Goldfield next month will pay special attention to the present status of silver, and the discussion of ways and means to better the conditions of the white metal.

Moreton Frewen will discuss the silver question from the money side of the case, John Hayes Hammond will talk from the standpoint of the miner, and James J. Hill from the viewpoint of trade.

Hill has become interested in silver, because his railroad and steamship lines are suffering through the falling off of our trade with China.

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" 5	12.15 PM	" 6	2.30 PM
" 7	2.00 "	" 8	3.15 "
" 9	2.45 "	" 10	4.00 "
" 11	3.30 "	" 12	4.45 "
" 13	4.15 "	" 14	5.30 "
" 15	5.00 "	" 16	6.15 "
" 17	5.45 "	" 18	7.00 "
" 19	6.30 "	" 20	7.45 "
" 21	7.15 "	" 22	8.30 "
" 23	8.00 "	" 24	9.15 "
" 25	8.45 "	" 26	10.00 "
" 27	9.30 "	" 28	10.45 "
" 29	10.15 "	" 30	11.30 "
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