THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC
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BIRMINGHAM, FRIDAY, DEC. 26

STATE NEWS

What with high finance and chorus girls this is a bad year for millionaires.

The king's cup has filled the cup of the New York yacht club full of joy to overflowing.

The Northwest Passage has been found, but it doesn't appear to be good for much, after all.

The tallest shaft in the cemetery won't prevent a man from being forgotten after he is dead.

Death is a mistake, according to a young female lecturer in New York. So many of us make it, too.

Notwithstanding Mark Twain's venerable appearance, the heart of him seems to be as young as ever.

That alleged comet which the papers announced, has gone. It was only a little celestial fuzz, anyway.

It isn't really hard to quit smoking; the only difficulty is to avoid changing one's mind, and taking it up again.

About all there is left for Lord Rosebery is to sit on the fence and throw stones at both parties as they go by.

The Rochester Globe, prints this scare headline: "Robbed in a hotel." Such an obvious statement to put in a head!

Mark Twain says he doesn't believe in exercise. Evidently he has never had to frame an excuse for belonging to a golf club.

Mme. Calve says Milwaukee is "a bum town." We are sorry that Milwaukee's opinion of Calve's voice is unfit to print.

"Give your stomach a vacation," says an advertisement. Lord, don't we wish we could! When our stomach goes, we go.

The height of the atmosphere is 109 miles, but there is so little of it, five or six miles up, as to take one's breath and freeze one's ears.

The Chinese have a game called "chefa," which is said to be very much like policy, even to the detail that the Chinese printers play it.

A Chicago woman refused to pay for a new coat because she said it made her look like a camel. Chicago women like to bump themselves.

Owing to a sudden attack of influenza, Mr. Tellum Whott has been forced to defer writing his article on "How to Avoid Catching Cold."

It must not be forgotten that Mme. Bernhardt presents a more conspicuous mark for egg throwers now than she did in her younger and leaner days.

A young woman in New York has boyly owned to being 2,000 years old. This is a whole lot safer than mentioning a limit that looks suspicious on the face of it.

The Emperor of China is talking of going abroad. Perhaps the dowager empress has been looking in his hand and informing him that he is going on a long journey.

The Chicago typewriter girl was has just inherited a fortune of a million dollars will continue to work as a stenographer, but hereafter she won't take much "sass" from the boss.

Mark Twain's moderation in making it his practice never to smoke more than one cigar at a time will be commended by everybody, with the possible exception of the tobacco trust.

Capt. Bernier says he would not go to the North Pole in a balloon. The Cap. has seen icebergs at close range and has an inward presentiment that they would not be desirable things to fall on.

The dyspeptic who is ordered by his physician to walk five miles a day, and who recovers his health by following the advice, ought not to complain because he has to have soles put on his shoes.

It is this way with the man at the races: If his pony wins he will have a pony of brandy after a good dinner, but if the horse he bets on sails in loser, then he will have a schooner with his sandwich.

When U. S. Grant Smith of Minnesota became a grandfather a few days ago it was clearly shown that people who were born during or immediately after the civil war no longer have the right to pose as "young folks."

While in his case the winds are not tempered to the shorn lamb, the baldheaded man congratulates himself that there are no more flies to crawl slowly across his cranium, evoking muttered curses and frenzied, if awkward blows.

We are surprised to learn that a fashionable young man wore a pink shirt at a day wedding in Pittsburg. Everybody knows that the proper thing to wear at a fashionable wedding in Pittsburg is a white shirt flecked with sooty spots.

Caroline Fischer, arrested in New York at the request of Swiss authorities, is said to be another Carrie Chadwick, but "young and attractive." There are thousands of that sort; Cassie made her play handicapped by the lack of youth and attractiveness. Well, not everybody can be a genius.

The contention of that Pittsburg woman that the man who trimmed a Christmas tree wanted to marry her will be considered plausible. No man would trim a Christmas tree for a woman unless he was daffy with love.

THE LONG HAIRED FOLKS IN BENTON HARBOR A WORRY.

SEEM TO BE CROWDING OTHERS OUT BUT INCREASE MERCHANTS' TRADE.

HART SUFFERS FROM BURGLARY AND A VERY SERIOUS FIRE, ALL BY ONE MAN.

The Rollers Crowd.

The long-haired Flying Rollers of the House of David are becoming so numerous in Benton Harbor and are branching out with such alarming rapidity that the inhabitants of the city are beginning to fear that they may in a few years be driven from their own homes and also ruled over by these strange people.

These children of Israel believe that only themselves will remain on earth when the final trumpet blows, and that all those of other faiths will be buried for 1,000 years, after which they will arise. They say that 50,000 of their faith will soon be gathered and that Benton Harbor is the chosen place of the Lord in which they are to congregate.

Meanwhile they are going about their work in a business-like manner. They are continually purchasing more land, and as there are mechanics and members of every trade among them, they have no difficulty in putting up their frame buildings, wholly without outside aid.

The merchants are content for trade is double what was formerly done in the business houses. The inhabitants of the tribe wear their long, flowing hair and they are still living without any meat whatever. All the money goes into a common treasury, and the supply seems to be inexhaustible, new converts are continually coming in, and it will be necessary to have several new buildings before spring, as the large structures now used are overcrowded.

Flood Mills Burned.

Hart village was again visited by a lone highwayman, who operated in regular Jesse James style, just before daybreak Tuesday. Ex-Senator James K. Flood's sawmill was set on fire and a few minutes later the Pere Marquette depot was robbed, the cash drawer rifled of $15 and a penny gum machine was shattered to bits. The highwayman then galloped away, and was seen by a farmer at 6 o'clock riding furiously toward Mears, urging his horse to the limit.

At the Flood mills flames were discovered issuing from the boiler room. The mill is closed down for the holidays and before an alarm could be sounded the flames had spread to an adjoining lumber yard, and this also was destroyed, the total loss being $25,000.

Hart people think the fire was the work of some enemy of Flood's, who hired a tool to do the job, and that the depot robbery was committed by the same party on the side.

Another theory is that the mill was fired for the purpose of a general robbery, as an attempt was made to rob the A. T. Cooper & Co. grocery store also.

Store Dynamited.

The general store of Bodfish & Whitehead, of North Bradley, in which the postoffice is located, was partly wrecked by dynamite at 8 o'clock Sunday evening. The whole town was shocked, but the perpetrators fled without any apparent attempt to rob either the postoffice or the store. The explosive had been placed under the center support of the building, and the interior of the building, show cases, crockery and the postoffice fixtures were demolished.

Burned in Lockup.

Charles Groveburg, aged 51, of Saginaw, who has been working in the woods at Cornwall's Camps, came into the village Wednesday night with $27 and after a day's spree was landed in the village lockup.

At 4 o'clock Thursday morning the jail building burned and Groveburg was cremated. The remains being only recognizable when taken from the ruins. The lockup was a small frame structure and the origin of the fire is a mystery.

Groveburg was a stranger and nothing was known of him but that his home was in Saginaw.

Miners Crushed to Death.

By an extensive fall of rock in the Newport mine Friday eight lives were crushed out. The men were at work on the 1,360-foot level at the time. Without a second's warning 1,000 tons of rock broke away overhead. There was no time to run for safety. They were caught fairly under the mass and crushed like egg shells. In point of number of lives lost this is the worst accident that has ever happened in a mine on the Gogebic range, with one exception.

After being dead apparently for three days, placed in a coffin and about to be buried, Viola Anderson, aged 17, of Elizabeth, N. J., was found to be alive and revived.

Warnings have been sent out by the hydrographic office at Washington to the shipping of the world to look out for the floating dry dock Dewey, as the four 5,000-horse power engines strung out in tandem fashion, will extend considerably over a mile.

A company, to be known as the Sunday Lake Lumber Co., has been organized in Wakefield, to build a saw mill on the south bank of Sunday lake.

Mrs. Nettie Bartlett, of Grand Rapids, has brought suit for divorce, alleging that she fears her husband's mind is unbalanced by reading accounts of a recent murder, and that he may try the same thing on her.

Owing to the continued illness of Judge Carpenter it is likely that Judge A. V. McAlvay will preside over the supreme court as chief justice in June.

The scarlet fever scourge claimed nine victims Monday in Calumet and two in Larium. Over 75 cases have broken out and 24 houses are quarantined.

After he had lain two days too weak to help himself, Dr. Isaac C. Ives, veterinary surgeon, of Coldwater, was found in his barn by a neighbor who was attracted by the whinny of a horse. He was too weak to rally and died. He had been living alone, his wife and two daughters being dead.

MICHIGAN ITEMS.

Plans and specifications have been prepared for a $10,000 addition to the Monroe court house.

Frank Lewis, of Pontiac, went to a husking bee and while operating the machine husked his handsome gold watch.

Mrs. Jeremiah Sullivan was struck and instantly killed by a Grand Trunk engine at a Lapeer street crossing. She was 76 years old.

Mrs. M. L. Preston, the newspaper writer of Charlotte, who was struck by an auto at San Diego, Cal., last Thursday, died of her injuries.

Willie Schimmel, an 8-year-old Flint boy, was accidentally shot in the right shoulder Friday afternoon by an older brother. A flesh wound six inches long was inflicted.

An angry wife, a husband's Christmas jag and the Pittsburg fire department came together and resulted in Frank Wittenberger being sent to jail for a month.

The Benton-Bennett Co., composed of Saginaw, Muskegon and Grand Rapids capitalists, has purchased the largest redwood section in California, it is 59 miles long.

Word reached Kalamazoo of the death of Charles Elmes at St. Louis on Sunday. He is the fourth member of the family whom sudden death has reached.

Gov. Warner has not granted a pardon during his first year of office. One hundred pardons have been granted in the last six years, 57 of them being by Pingree in 1901.

Leslie Hoy, of Kingsley, aged 14, was accidentally shot through his leg and stomach by his companion, Harvey Halliday, when hunting yesterday. He will recover.

George L. Atkins, of Prescott, killed the largest deer seen in that section of the state in half a century. It weighed 439 pounds, and several rifle shots were necessary to dispatch it.

John O'Callahan, a vender of statuary, was found guilty of stabbing Mrs. Thomas Ryan, of Flint, in her home. Ryan gave the man a sound thrashing and the court let him go.

Ola Dahlgren, of Bessemer, overcome by Christmas cheer, lay down on the Chicago & Northwestern railroad track. A passenger train cut off his head and smashed the whisky jug by his side.

Burglars tapped the till in E. C. Weed & Sons' grocery store in Battle Creek, securing $25, and carried away a quantity of goods. The safe, containing several hundred dollars, was not molested.

Albert Neal, aged 19, was found guilty of non-support. His wife was formerly Miss Frances Conger, and both resided at Akron, Tuscola county. A family spat broke out and estranged the young couple.

Banking Commissioner Moore has approved the articles of incorporation of a new state bank to be established at Goodells under the name of Farmers' State Bank of Oxford with a capitalization of $20,000.

Elsie Brown, a pretty, 12-year-old girl, whose family removed from Mendon to Tacoma, Wash., some time ago, has been sent to the reform school at Tacoma for trying to elope with and marry 14-year-old George Bonnell.

H. W. Loomis, of Geneva, N. Y., came to Ionia to fight for a contract with the Pere Marquette railroad for the title to three-quarters of an acre of land. He says he is used to such scraps. He is reputed to be a millionaire.

Kidnaped from his home in a small Canadian village 28 years ago, Rudolph Chartrand, a former resident of Detroit, has located his father in Hancock, as well as a number of other relatives. His mother died at his birth.

Because the Eaton county jail has been condemned and fearing Thomas Jones, alleged burglar, who broke jail last July, would try it again, Sheriff Wallbridge has secured a court order to remove him to the Barry county bastile.

Suit will be commenced on behalf of the Saginaw west side school district against the electric companies which have undermining the streets, public buildings, parks and other public property, under authority of the council, they claim.

Frank Jenks, trapper and scout, who for years made his home at Cass Lake and who is as well known there as the lake itself, has returned to Pontiac from Lake county, where he has homesteaded 160 acres and where he has spent the past five years.

The supreme court of the United States has entered an order advancing to the argument in the 28 cases before the court involving the application of the Michigan ad valorem tax cases to the railroads of this state and set the hearing for February 19 next.

After his arrest Wednesday of Muskegon, had been sentenced by the Detroit house of correction for 65 days for working a confidence game on O. L. McKinley, several shrewd merchants have acknowledged that they had worked the same game on them.

The state military board has a communication from Robert A. Craft, a farmer living near Ludington, who was driven into the camp grounds last summer to sell butter. A gun fired a salute and one of his horses died of fright. The farmer wants pay for his horse.

Ira Davis, relic of Nathan Davis, the retired Allegan capitalist, who died a few weeks ago, is dead at the age of 82 years. She had been confined to her bed since September with a paralytic stroke paralysis. By Mrs. West's death, the bequests of her husband amounting to several thousand dollars, become payable to Oberlin and Albion colleges.

Attorney-General Bird has retained Senator Burrows and Congressman Townsend to introduce a bill to relieve the state of Michigan from the payment of $40,000 interest charged against it in the federal government on funds remaining in the hands of the state after the completion of the Soo canal.

Senator Burrows and Congressman Townsend will endeavor to induce congress to expend the $56,000 interest charged against Michigan by the federal authorities for interest on funds held by the state when the Soo canal was turned over to the state. They will act at the request of Attorney-General Bird.

Chauncey Hall, an employe of the American Screen Door factory, will be totally blind, a flying nail having injured his only good eye.

Letters received from Alonzo Charlette, of Menominee, who is now in the Philippines with the regular army, state that but for a Japanese girl Charlette and 25 soldiers would have been butchered by hostile natives. The men were off duty when surrounded, but the little Jap girl, who was among the women of the party, slipped off and gave the alarm. Now it is reported that Charlette will return to the States with the girl as his bride when his enlistment expires, in a few months.

BLOODY NEWS

THE REIGN OF TERROR IS IN FULL SWING IN RUSSIA.

VIOLENCE AND SLAUGHTER IN MOSCOW MAKE GOOD THE REVOLUTIONARY THREAT.

IF THE ARMY JOINS THEN ALL IS LOST AND THE CZAR'S DETHRONEMENT COMES.

The Moscow Horrors.

With Moscow's baptism of blood, the revolutionaries made good their threat to transform the strike into armed rebellion. The next forty-eight hours should decide whether they can marshal sufficient strength to plunge the country into an actual state of civil war and seriously threaten the immediate overthrow of the government. The government professes confidence that the whole attempt will fail, owing to the woeful insufficiency of arms in possession of the proletariat and by reason of the loyalty of the army as a whole; but its calculations might again be rudely upset. A few arsenals might be seized to furnish arms or the open support of a few regiments might start a landslide in the army. Certainly the shrewdest of the revolutionary leaders fully appreciate that the issue must be decided by the attitude of the army, which is yet to cast the die.

If the plans of the revolutionaries to produce an uprising in St. Petersburg fail, as it is believed they will, an attempt certainly will be made to terrorize the government by guerrilla warfare, in which bombs will play the chief role. The government having embarked in a war against the Reds, it is difficult to see how it can draw back one step.

The revolutionists hold the outskirts of Moscow. A thousand men are working night and day at the barricades, some of which are marvels of strength. Trenches have been dug and wire entanglements have been stretched in front of these fortresses, which extend for blocks and are impenetrable even against artillery.

A terrible holocaust occurred at the Sytin works, where 5,000 workmen were suddenly surrounded by cavalry and artillery. The latter fired on the building which was soon in flames. Hundreds perished in the conflagration.

It is definitely established that the revolutionists have six automatic guns.

Gen. Gen. Doubassoff has taken rigorous measures to discover concealed arms, holding owners of houses responsible and ordering the confiscation of all property where the presence of guns or bombs is disclosed.

The gates of the Tartar city which surrounds the Kremlin of Moscow, where millions of church treasures are stored, have been closed and troops and machine guns have been stationed on the walls. Prince Teherbatoff's "Black Hundred" militia have been armed by Gen. Doubassoff and therefore loyal, while the revolutionists are anticipated if the rebellion is crushed.

Even the Duma in the heart of Moscow remain closed.

Suicide's Career of Crime.

Clarence Weatherby, of Muskegon, aged 19 years, poisoned himself Friday morning at the Detroit house of correction, where the "kick call" was made Friday morning. Weatherby answered with several others. They marched into the infirmary. Evidently Weatherby was familiar with the department, as he slidded up to a medicine chest, quickly selected a bottle of strychnine and secreted it under his blouse. Weatherby was received at the house of correction from Muskegon December 17, sentenced to serve sixty-five days for larceny. Though he was only 19 years of age, he already had been an inmate of the place having served ninety days the summer on a similar count.

Nothing but pity is felt in Muskegon for the youth. From early youth Weatherby had caused his mother and relatives much trouble. The boy's father died when he was young. In his early teens Weatherby got into trouble by petty thefts. Dime novels and pool room frequenting are said to be causes of his downfall.

"I'm still struggling," said John Burns, now a member of the British cabinet, when asked to write a sketch of his life for the English "Who's Who." Said he: "I was educated at Halleeen and at night schools and still learning. Came into the world with a struggle, struggling now and prospects of continuing it."

Isaac and Edward Marshall, alleged chicken thieves, were held up at Imlay from Mt. Carmel, Ill., to Fairfield, under the custody of Constable James Kingston, when they shot the officer dead in order to escape. The passengers took a hand and Isaac was killed and Edward fatally hurt.

President Roosevelt has bestowed a medal on George Poell, a Nebraska county clerk, in recognition for an act styled "conspicuous bravery," in snatching a child from in front of a flying engine. Poell ran from the engineer's cab alongside the engine to the pilot, saving the child, but fell under the train and lost a leg.

Expressing undying love for his two wives, bigamist H. J. Gibbons, of Norfolk, Va., put a bullet through his head after killing his pet dog "Fannie." Mrs. Gibbons No. 1, with the two young children, is in Norfolk and wife No. 2 is in Atlanta, Ga.

United States District Judge C. C. Kohlsaat held Daniel Garrigan, a Chicago fireman, in contempt of court and sentenced him to three months' imprisonment in the county jail. Garrigan was charged with violation of the federal injunction restraining strikers and their sympathizers from interfering with non-union men in the great teamsters' strike of last June.

Lions roamed through the streets of the city of St. Etienne, France, Thursday, owing to the smashup of a menagerie train, but not one of the 30,000 inhabitants was devoured. Two of the lions were killed and two others have been lassoed and driven to their cages.

School pencils caused an epidemic of diphtheria in Mines Center. The schoolboard buys pencils for the pupils. These are gathered up each night and distributed in the morning. One child contracted diphtheria, and in a few days the disease was communicated to 50 pupils. The state board of health ordered the pencils destroyed and the system abolished.

WHIPPING POST.

"I wish a whipping post could be established in this state for wife deserters and wife beaters," is the declaration of Prosecuting Attorney Orr, of Bay City, and Police Justice William Kelley echoes, "If we had such a law I would pick out the biggest policeman on the force to apply the lash to the back of wife deserters and personally supervise the infliction of punishment to see that the officer did his duty with proper enthusiasm."

These statements were called forth by the conditions uncovered in the investigation of numerous cases of destitution, bordering almost on starvation, in several families consisting of motherless children only.

It appears that there is a good sized contingent of Bay City's shiftless male population of family, that every fall migrates to warmer climes, leaving wife and children to shift for themselves.

The past week several such cases were found where children were suffering hunger while mothers were too ill to work.

Last fall a dozen arrests were made for desertion of children. The fathers were in several instances released on their promises to go to work, and in some instances the officials, at the instance of Judge Shepard, secured jobs for the men. After a brief period of liberty, however, most of them left.

It is also noticeable that there is no race suicide sentiment among the periodical wife deserters, as the average families thrive in numbers, if not otherwise.

Prosecutor Orr says he hopes to take up the subject more in detail in the future meets, particularly if Representative Ming, of Cheboygan, is re-elected. He declares seriously that there is no better remedy on earth for criminals of the class mentioned than physical pain and publicity in the execution of sentence.

Mrs. Switzer Elated.

Acquitted of murdering her husband, Mrs. Margaret Switzer went about Mt. Pleasant free, and in a state of elation. She had kisses and embraces for the people who congratulated her on her acquittal, and she further celebrated the happy event by making a round of the stores, buying goods and paying bills. She was also tried for killing the alleged murder of Dr. John Switzer at Keaton, September 19 last. The couple had quarreled. Mrs. Switzer, it was claimed, was jealous of his alleged attentions to other women. She had left their house the morning of the tragedy and he had followed her. A struggle took place in the roadway, and the doctor fell, mortally wounded, and received in his wife's hand having been discharged. Mrs. Switzer claimed that the shooting was accidental, as it occurred in the struggle for possession of the revolver. She had no desire to kill the life or welfare of her husband, she said. Nor was in terror of him, as he had beaten her, and was violent when under the influence of drink. The jury took her view of the case.

CONDENSED NEWS.

President Palma, of Cuba, has asked $200,000 with which to exterminate the yellow fever germ.

William Jenkins Emmet, descendant of Robert Emmet, the Irish patriot, died in New Rochelle, N. Y., Friday, aged 90.

Bobbie Garrabrandt, the Paterson, N. J., murderess, was granted a parole by the board of pardons. She had been in jail for thirty-four years.

Marshall Field, Jr., has been appointed guardian of his three grandchildren. The estate is valued at about one and one-half million.

Mrs. Fred Peck perished, aged 60 of Menominee, was boiling oil to use on her floors when the stuff exploded and covered her with the blazing fluid. She was literally cooked to death.

President Roosevelt has selected Joseph H. Choate to head the American delegation to the second Hague peace conference, ex-President Cleveland having expressed a disinclination to go.

The Americans employed on the construction of the Panama canal had to pass Christmas and will pass New Year's day with their salaries unpaid, due to the canal commission's lack of funds.

Charles H. Ehler, a patient in a hospital at Bakersfield, Cal., suffering from a self-inflicted wound, says he can give testimony which will acquit Caleb Powers of the murder of Gov. Goebel of Kentucky.

A letter from Walter Scott, the cow boy miner who was reported murdered in Death Valley three days ago, was received by a friend in Los Angeles Monday. Scotty said he was shot but was not seriously hurt.

By a blunder of Frank Tucker, a drug clerk, Minnie Evelyn Killingbeck, of Ansonia, Conn., was given bichloride of mercury instead of one of headache tablets, and the girl died in a few hours. Tucker was the girl's sweetheart.

Sole heir to $2,000,000 is the luck of Billings Sherman, a Hoosack Falls, N. Y., school pupil, through the death of his grandfather, Jesse Billings, of Northumberland, N. Y., who left no will. The grandfather was eccentric and probably talents to the accumulation of wealth.

Homer Lear, a non-union metal polisher, was shot and killed Thursday night at Newark, O., in a fight with 20 union men, during which as many shots were fired. Three hundred employees of the Wehrle Stove Works have been on strike since July, and this is the first serious trouble.

Fred Pabst, former president of the Pabst Brewing Co., and one of the best known millionaires in Wisconsin, is studying agriculture at the University of Wisconsin. He recently acquired a fine stock farm and has decided to go into the business of stock raising on an elaborate and scientific plan.

Mrs. Marie Santangelo was admitted by the immigrant inspectors at New York because her husband is a naturalized citizen of Youngstown, O., but her two young children were ordered deported because they had trachoma. While the children were under detention one died of scarlet fever and the other is too ill to be moved.

Congressman Longworth of Ohio, has introduced a bill appropriating $5,000,000 for building suitable residences in the foreign capitals for our ambassadors and ministers. He says that now the necessity of paying rent makes it impossible for any except rich men to accept such places.

The senate has delayed confirmation of Gen. Geo. B. Davis as advocate-general of the army, and of Gen. William Crozier as chief of the bureau of ordnance, in the hope that they shall take rank from the date of their new appointments or from their original appointments to the positions they now hold.

LATE NEWS

MARYLAND ROCKED BY AN EARTQUAKE WHICH JARS OTHER STATES.

RATE RAISING IN FRATERNAL INSURANCE GETS A HARD KNOCK IN TEST CASE.

TRADE WITH CHINA AND JAPAN HAS PASSED ALL RECORDS DURING PRESENT YEAR.

Earthquake Shakes.

The town of Hancock, Md., and numerous other towns in Washington county were shaken by an earthquake shock at 6 o'clock Friday night until the houses rocked and windows rattled, causing the residents to become greatly alarmed.

The seismic disturbance was also felt all through that region, in Pennsylvania and West Virginia. At Berkeley Springs the shock was felt distinctly and the town was alarmed. A rumbling noise like distant thunder was heard, followed by a wave which extended for up into the air, and was felt in every town and village through that section. The disturbance lasted for a few seconds, and at first was thought to have been caused by a terrific explosion. Later it was learned that the shock was felt for many miles around Hancock.

Cannot Raise Rates.

Supreme Court Justice Gaynor, of Brooklyn, handed down a decision Saturday in which he declares that the supreme council of the Royal Arcanum had no right to put into effect rates for the assessment of members different from those at which they were admitted into the order. The decision is the result of a suit brought last month by James Lawrence Mock, formerly secretary of Berkeley council, No. 1954, Royal Arcanum, to test the power of the council to change the rates, and was tried in the equity term before Justice Gaynor, who said:

"The amendments complained of which increase the assessments are void for the reason that they change the contract of the members with the organization."

Thriving Trade.

No feature of the export trade of the United States in 1905 has shown a larger growth than the trade with China and Japan, says a bulletin issued by the bureau of statistics of the department of commerce and labor.

In the 10 months ended with October exports to China aggregated more than $50,000,000 in value, against $20,000,000 in the same months of 1904 and $13,000,000 in the corresponding months of 1903.

Exports to Japan were $46,500,000, against a little less than $22,000,000 for the same period in 1904 and $16,000,000 in the corresponding months of 1902. No other countries of the world to which our exports are sent show gains approximating those of China and Japan.

The growth in exports to China from the United States is especially marked in copper, cotton cloth, flour, sewing machines, locomotives, paper, canned beef, manufactures of tobacco and lumber, though cotton cloth and copper are by far the most important of these items.

To Japan the growth occurred in flour, carriages and other vehicles, raw cotton, electrical machinery, sewing machines, locomotives, leather, paper, canned beef, tobacco and lumber.

Longworth-Roosevelt.

A Washington dispatch says that Miss Alice Roosevelt and Congressman Nicholas Longworth of Cincinnati will be married at high noon on February 22 next, Washington's birthday.

It is the wish of Mrs. Roosevelt that she be married by an Episcopalian, Rev. Cotton-Smith, rector of St. John's church, immediately opposite the White House, will probably read the service.

It is said that Miss Alice had little difficulty in selecting her wedding gown. She will wear the lightly embroidered gown worn and bequeathed to her by her grandmother.

Miss Ethel Roosevelt, half-sister of the bride, may be the only maid of honor.

Honesty is a virtue which wears well, but does not always produce satisfactory returns.

Unless we despise a woman when we cease to love her, we are still a slave without consolement of intoxication.

Mrs. Sarah Whitmire, a widow who got her home near Muncie valley, Pa., was murdered Thursday night by robbers, after a desperate struggle.

Ohio's supreme court decides that the state has a right to change of venue in criminal cases, the same as the accused. It is one of the most important rulings in the history of Ohio criminal law.

Too much adulation bestowed upon his fiancee by other men caused an estrangement between Tom Shevlin, the famous Yale halfback, and Miss Elizabeth Sherley, a second cousin of Rep. Sherley, of Louisville, Ky. Miss Sherley says she objected to her accepting the attentions of other men and that this led both "to agree to quit."

Mrs. Laura Corey, wife of the president of the steel trust, who is believed to be infatuated with Actress Mabelle Gilman, has decided to bring suit for divorce in Pittsburg, instead of Nevada. She now wants to fight it all out in her own home.

In view of the decision of Attorney-General Moody that midshipmen cannot be dismissed from the academy by the secretary of the navy on the recommendation of the superintendent, there is discussion at Annapolis as to whether several midshipmen dismissed during the past few years cannot by legal action compel their restoration to the service.

Brumidii friezes in the rotunda of the capitol at Washington are now to be completed. They depict scenes in the history of the new world, commencing from the time of its discovery by Columbus in 1492. Brumidii died in 1880.

The house in which President Roosevelt was born, at 28 West Twentieth street, New York city, has been purchased for $60,000. It will be restored as nearly as possible to the shape in which it was at the time of the president's birth, including the furniture and fittings, and then presented to the nation. Andrew Carnegie contributed to the project.

HUMAN LIFE CHEAP IN PARIS

Murder Needed to Qualify New Members of a Gang.

The "Five Points," the meaning of whose name is unexplained, are a cheerful gang of cut-throats just discovered. Their dark deeds read like story stories of distant days of old.

A young fellow of twenty, arrested for having shot down and half killed a woman whom he had never seen before in the boulevard de Clichy, told the police, "All I meant to do was to qualify."

On the further inquiry it was found that he was a probationary member of the "Five Points" gang. He had been accepted as a candidate for full honors five months ago, and had gone about with the gang on business. But he lacked the necessary qualification for complete membership.

The first rule of the gang is that it is necessary to kill some man or woman. Robbery, burglary, arson and other minor crimes qualify you only for the probationary stage, that reached by our hero.

For five months he vainly tried to screw his courage to the sticking place, and was despised as being too full of the milk of human kindness by the band of brothers, for whom he had no love. Finally, to put an end to their taunts, he determined to kill.

At last, taunted by them to desperation, he said, "I will bear it no longer," and a woman passing by him as he spoke, he addressed, "Here goes!" and fired his revolver point blank at her temple.

The woman, who is in hospital, may recover, but will be lame for life.

"Five Points" brothers, all of whom by the rules of their club have taken or attempted lives, are still at large.—Paris correspondence of the London Telegraph.

MAKING IDEAL FINANCIAL DEAL.

Party of the Second Part Very Complacent Individual.

Hearing voices inside the room the wife of the eminent financier paused at the door of his office and heard this conversation:

"Yes, I have several hundred thousand dollars over and above any possible amount we shall need for this year for taking up matured excavement policies, or paying death claims, which we should like to invest in good securities."

"You have full power to invest this fund?"

"Absolutely!"

"H'm! I am glad to meet you, indeed. It happens most opportunely that our firm is about to organize a syndicate for the exploitation of certain suburban properties. The security is gilt-edged and the profits are sure to be large. We can use a considerable amount of money in financiering this enterprise."

"Do you consider it, personally, a desirable investment?"

"I consider it away up in G. It's the best thing I've struck in a week."

"Well, I'll see you again to-morrow and we will arrange for the—"

Here the conversation ceased.

The wife of the eminent financier waited a moment longer, then knocked lightly on the door and went in.

"Why, Jasper," she said, surprised at finding him alone, "I thought I heard you talking to somebody."

"Quite likely, my dear," he answered with a large and genial smile. "I was talking to myself."—Chicago Tribune.

How Minister Saved Situation.

The Bishop of Llandaff at Newport mislaid his robes and had to preach without them, and elsewhere a clergyman forgot that he had undertaken to conduct the service, which was consequently dispensed with.

But in neither case did the people suffer from their carelessness, like a Scottish congregation mentioned in his reminiscences by Sir Archibald Geikie, who tells how the minister neglected to bring the manuscript of his sermon and had to make time to go home, a mile off, and fetch it. Almost distracted, he gave out the 119th Psalm, and directly the congregation began to sing the first of the 176 verses he rushed away to the manse, from which he by and by returned to the church breathless, finding the clerk waiting uneasily.

"How are you getting on?" he gasped. "Oh, sir," said the clerk, "they've got to the end of the first verse, an' they're cheepin' like wee mice!" The pious congregation was exhausted, but the situation was saved.—Modern Society.

Science of Eating Soup.

There is a reason for everything, and therefore Mary Hamilton explains in "What to Eat" why we imbibe our soup in the manner we do. Everybody has not thought out this important question and the information will at least prove interesting. According to Mary Taylor, who seems to be an authority, the proper thing is to eat the soup, turning the bowl of the spoon away from one and executing a curve which is completed when it reaches the mouth. This, she says, is scientific, for thus a complete circle is described from the time you start to eat the soup until the contents of the spoon reach your mouth, and by doing so the circular movement you make keeps the soup in the bowl according to the law of centripetal force.

A Cheering Thought.

I have read with dismay how the trusts day by day
Have reached for the cash I am earning;
And they say that ere long there'll be pressure so strong
That the funds they will straight be returning.

Sometimes I am blue for a minute or two,
But one thought makes existence seem sunny,
My spirit can't sink as I'm pausing to think
Of the men who are owing me money.

There's the total that comes from the various sums
I have paid the insurance director;
And the taxes I'm told are unjustly controlled
But some time we will get a collector.
The figure is not of much interest to me,
And repay each man's share, I will venture;
I'm not on poverty's brink, but it's jolly to think
Of the men who are owing me money!
—Washington Star.