MOVE TO DEMAND DEPEW RESIGN

Attack on Senator in New York Senate.

HE HAS STANCH CHAMPIONS

Brackett Leads Attack, but Withdraws for a Time.

DEPEW WILL NOT RESIGN

Despite Criticism of Equitable Graft, He Declares Purpose to Cut Corporation Connections and Stay in Senate.

ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 3.-The New York State Legislature started off with a rush today. Aside from the reading in both houses of the annual message of the Governor, the most important developments were the election of Speaker James W. Wadsworth, Jr., of Livingston, thus finally closing one of the most sensational Speakership campaigns of recent years, and a long debate in the Senate on Senator Bruckett's resolution requesting the resignation of United States Senator Chauncey M. Depew, on the ground of disclosures in connection with the Equit. able Life Assurance Society, which end ed in Mr. Brackett's withdrawal of the

resolution for the time. The debate on this resolution attracted the most attention. Senators Raines, Maitby and Coggeshall led the defense of Mr. Depew, but joined Mr. Brackett in the desire for prompt action upon the resolution. They eulogized the junior Senator on the score of many public services, and urgently pleaded for the immediate defeat of the resolution. Mr. Raines described Mr. Depew as a sick man, and objected to any delay in the matter, declaring that it was brutal to keep such a burden over his head even for a week.

Minority Wants Hand in It.

The minority leader, Mr. Grady, said short notice, and asked for a reasonable time to confer as to their attitude.

feeting against Mr. Depew, and declared that his resolution was in no way consequent upon his former opposition to Mr. Depew's re-election as Senstor. He insisted that his act was prompted by a sense of public duty. In the end, however, he asked leave to withdraw his resolution. Senstor Raines objected to this, but the withdrawal was sustained

A report gained currency tonight that Mr. Brackett's action in some way represented the wishes of President Roosevelt Mr. Brackett requests the Associated Press to contradict this rumor.

Text of Besolution.

The resolution in full follows: Since the adjournment of this Senate, the people of the state and Nation have been staggered by the relation shown to inve existed for years between the Equitable Life Assurance Society and Chauncey M. Depew, one of the Senators of the state in the United States Congress.

Recognizing that these disclosures have aused a total lack of confidence in the ability of the Senator named properly to represent the people in the body to which he was elected.

Resolved by the Senate, that Chauncey

Resolved, by the Senate, that Chauncey d. Depew be and hereby is requested orthwith to resign his seat in the United lister Senate. When the resolution was introduced

Mr. John Raines said he had not been staggered by Mr. Depew's acts, and failed to see in the resolution anything that called for action. He expressed his surthe committee on federal relations when

Champions of Depew.

Mr. Malthy made a speech, in which he said if Senator Depew had done anything OPERA WITHOUT CHORUS unlawful or that unfitted him to hold office, the charges should be framed immediately. He culogized Mr. Depew, who, he said, was a grand character. He denounced the stitude of "alleged reform ers." who kicked everyone and made wild charges. He declared that only he without sin should cast the first stone. Perhaps there were reasons why every Senntor should be asked to resign. Yellow dogs, he said, may be nibbling at Senator Depew's heels, but he has decorated all positions that he has held. The resoluon should not be dignified by reference to any committee, but should be dispose of forthwith. He said there was no reason why Mr. Brackett should not

Mr. Coggeshall said that Mr. Depe was now ill and it was cruel, uncalled for blatant and morbid public clamor that is now endeavoring to blast honest reputations. He said that no one could assail the personal integrity and honesty of Chauncey M. Depew

Depew's Actions Shocking.

Mr. Brackett attacked Mr. Depew, and said his constituents were shocked by the Senator's performance in insurance mat.

Mr. Elisberg said that imputations n grave sested on State Legislatures, also it would have been better if some one othe, than Mr. Brackett, who had vig-orously opposed Mr. Depew's election, had

presented the resolution. - He moved the

touched on a tender subject-legislative corruption, which would have to be takes up before the adjournment of the Legis lature. The insurance investigating committee, he declared, did not touch the bribery of legislators.

Mr. Grady asked that the minority b

given time to decide to take part in this matter and what its course should be.

Mr. Brackett offered to withdraw the esolution, with the intention of reintroducing it, but upon Mr. Raines' suggestion that in the meantime he would change his mind, he withdrew the offer He renewed it later, after Mr. Elleberg's motion to table had been lost by a votof 19 to 28. Mr. Raines objecting, but the withdrawal was sustained by a vote of

TO RESIGN EVERYTHING ELSE

Depew Will Quit Corporations, but

NEW YORK, Jan. 3 .- (Special.)-" have no intention whatever of resign ing from the United States Senate," said Senator Chauncey M. Depew at his office in the Grand Central Station today.

"Why should I resign? I intend now to do my real work in the Senate. Have you ever faced any of these rumor which said I intend to resign, and have you ever had any one give any reason why I should resign?

"I will on April 21 reach my 73d birth day. By that time I hope to realgn from all the companies with which I am connected as a director. In all I am a director in 79 companies. My position here is an honorary one, and I intend to keep it. I never have had any intention of resigning from the United States Senate and have never been requested by any one to resign.

"As soon as I resign from all the companies with which I am connected I will be able then to do my real work in the Senate, as I expect to work harder than ever before. I leave tomorrow for Washngton to be present at the opening of the Senate, and will remain there permanently during the session, only perhaps to run into New York once a week or

CHARGE AGAINST RAILROADS

Lenroot Faction in Wisconsin Accuses Them of Bribe-Giving.

MILWAUKEE Wis., Jan. 3.-A state ment giving reasons why Speaker Irving L. oot, of West Superior, should receive the Republican nomination for Governor. signed by 43 members of the Wisconsin Legislature, was issued tonight from Mr. Lenroot's headquarters. It is a sensational document in which the charges of corruption by the railroad interests that have so often been used by the La Pollette faction of the Republican party in War in are again given to the public.

The charge is exain made that Mr. Len-root had been approached with an offer of railway attorneyships, and the railways net upon such a proposition on such are accused of extending "courtesies" to snswer to the Prench unofficial state-

have improved their financial position that jurrative places were placed at their disposal, that mileage could be had for the asking, if they were "right" according to the railway point of view.

HORRORS OF FAMINE IN NORTH JAPAN GROWING.

Three Provinces Reduced Almost to Starvation-Thousands Eat Roots and Bark.

VICTORIA, B. C., Jan. 2.- The famine in North Japan is causing thousands to starve, according to advices received today by the steamer Empress of Japan. A Government report says Miyagi, Fukushima and Iwate Previnces, with a population of 2,821,557, are confronting the worst famine since the deadly one of 60 years ago. So great is the calamity in Miyagi that famine investigators report: "The sentence of death has been passed on one-third of the people of the prov-

Aiready thousands in these three pr inces are reduced to shrubroots and bark prise that it was introduced, and he of trees to sustain life, and 1,000,000 peo ple are in extreme condition. The misery arising from the famine is indescribable Committees of foreign residents have been formed to arrange systematic re-

Singers in Conried's Company Strike

NEW YORK, Jan. 1 .- Gound's "Faust" was sung at the Metropolitan Opera-House tonight without a chorus, the re-sult of a strike of the recently, organized Chorus Union. The union on Monday had demanded that salaries be raised nearly 50 per cent. Director Helnrich Conreid met the representatives of the union and told them that if members of the chorus would come to him as individuals he

them as members of a labor union.

Tonight, when the usual hour for reporting came, none of the chorus put in an appearance. The opening of the opera was delayed until \$125 o'clock, when the members of the ballet were grouped on the stage to make the scenes as effective as possible under the circumstances. Mr. Conried appeared and addressed the audience, telling briefly of his dealings with the Chorus Union's representatives and stating that a new chorus would be computed as meedity as possible as organized as speedily as possible, no per-formance being omitted in the meantime. Mr. Conried told members of the chorus that no one who went on strike in viola-tion of an individual contract would be re-engaged for a Metropolitan chorus. The

PABIANICE Russian Poland, Jan. 1.— The prefect of police here was assaud-nated today.

Mr. Brackett said Mr. Elisberg had ARE BLUFFING

Explanation of War's Alarms Between France and Germany.

KAISER BUYS MANY CARS

Could Not Conceal It, So Boldly Proclaimed It-American Rights in Morocco Are Oldest and Will Be Asserted.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.-Neither the American Ambassador to France nor the like official at Berlin could treat of the situation which now exists between France and Germany in any report which could be published here without involving him in trouble. But it is believed that the explanation of this last German movent is to be found in the fact that last July when the Moroccan situation developed an acute phase, the Freuch General Staff discovered that the entire army, and especially the transportation facilijies, were not in a condition justifying France in adopting an aggressive attitude. So the negotiations suddenly assumed a mild tone and have dragged along up to

this time. Meanwhile the General Staff went to work with great assidulty to correct the evils which had developed, with the result that within the last ten days it was discovered that, in the opinion of military experts, the French army is in better condition than at any period in its history. The weakest point last Summer was disovered to be in mobilization, and this has been strengthened, so that vast bodies of troops can be collected at the popular centers and transported to the frontier posts in an incredibly short time.

Germany's Bold Announcement.

It is believed here by officials who have kept close watch on the situation that the Germans have likewise been quietly and, as far as possible, secretly, increasing the efficiency of their army. But when the internal resources failed in the matter of producing a sufficient number of military rallway cars, and it became necessary for the German government to send to foreign countries for the needed supply, it was parent that such an order could not be concealed. So, to make the best of the situation, this news of the placing of the vast order for transportation material was boldly announced from Berlin as an the legislators and providing them with for military action.

As to the part the United States is to play in the approaching Moroccan conferity that Messrs. White and Gunmere, the American delegates, will go into the conference absolutely uncommitted to either the French or the German contention. The Government's view is that America ias, by virtue of her ancient interest in Morocco, rights even superior to those of any European state in deciding the critical questions which will come before the conference. The basis of this statement is that America, single-handed, made war upon the Barbary States, wiped out piracy in Mediterranean waters, and conluded the first treaty of any civilized nation with those states, a treaty which has formed the basis of the demand of every other hation for favored-nation treatment at the hands of Morocco.

Will Take Neither Side.

So, from considerations such as the per petuation of the open door and fair trade for all in Morocco, the United States Govto participate in this important confer ence. As to the question of policing the Moroccan frontier, they stand uncommitted either to the German proposition which favors the creation of an interna tional police force, or the French plan of employing Algerian police for this

DUE TO CHANGE OF MINISTERS

Explanation of Military Activity or

French Frontier. PARIS, Jan. 2.-The Ambassador of one of the powers said today that careful in quiry had convinced him that the recent revival of French military activity, which has given rise to alarmist reports, was due mainly to a change from the military methods of M. Berteaux, the late Minister of War, to those of M. Etienne, the presnt Minister of War. M. Berteaux be longed to the Socialists, whose cardinal principle is opposition to war and a reaction of military expenditures. This naturally resulted in inactivity in mili-

tary preparation.

M. Stienne, on the contrary, is not affillated with the Socialists, but represents the energetic element, which maintains that the country should be prepared to meet every eventuality. M. Berteaux's precipitate resignation had brought M Etienne in control of the military administration, and he immediately adopted a vigorous policy, not for belligerent purses, but in expectation of the general desire to have the army in a perfect state

He appealed to the budget committee of the Chamber of Deputies for exceptions military credits, the details of which were nstituted careful inquiry into the require ments of the frontier defenses, which the closed to be in a lamentable state of in efficiency. M. Etienne proceeded system atically to remedy these and other defects, thus placing the army and all the equip-ment and defensive works in a proper state of efficiency.

widespread impression that the military preparations were designed to meet eventualities arising from the Moroccan accentuated the need for military alert-ness, yet the chief cause of the recent military activity is the adoption of M Erienne's energetic policy of having the army ready to fulfill its functions when-

GERMANY PREPARES FOR WAR Gives Rush Orders for Large Num-

BERLIN, Jan. 2.-The railway admin istration placed orders last week for 29. 000 freight cars, at a cost of \$50,000,000 manufacturers of five geountries stipulating delivery by the middle of February. Besides utilizing the our works of Germany, the contracts were distributed among makers in Belgium, Holland, Switzerland and Italy, which would not have been done unless some reason for

Inquiries made regarding the reasons for urgency resulted in obtaining the statement that the ordering of the cars was a precautionary measure, the general staff desiring to be ready to move troops if necessary by the first of March This is only a proper measure of sprutensive-military arrangements going on in France, which, among other dispositions, include the movement toward the German frontier of six regiments of ar-

tillery, or 180 guns. The ordering of these freight cars, each of which would accommodate 46 soldiers. is only in consequence of the French preparations, and must not be taken to indicate any hostile design on the part of Germany, whose peaceful intentions remain unchanged. The step taken is due to the conviction long held and acted upon here that the best preservative of peace is complete preparedness for any eventuality. The word war is not used, because such a word in itself would be a provocative, and every interest both in and outside the government shrinks from such a possibility unless it be a small group of military men.

The government will probably regret the publication of this intelligence, but its transmission seems necessary to a proper understanding of the drift of events and of how both France and Germany are strengthening their diplomatic position on the eve of the Moroccan con ference by material preparations.

No doubt exists here that the French and German policies will differ in the conference on the question of policing the Moroeco-Algerian frontier and on some less important questions.

CONTENTS TODAY'S PAPER

YESTERDAY'S Maximum temperature, 46 deg.; minimum, 42 Precipitation, none. TODAY'S Occasional min foutheasterly with

Rebel leaders admit defeat and plan re-organization for new struggle. Page 4 Anniversary of Red Sunday to be day of mourning. Page 4.

Moscow rebels shot in scates without trial. Page 4. Mutiny of Linievitch's army cuts him off

Warlike preparations of France and Ger-many explained as game of bluff. Page I. Rojestvensky accuses Britain of preparing to attack his fleet. Page 6. Hungarians at Debreczen force Prefect to resign. Page 6. Morales attacks Puerto Plata, but is re-pulsed. Page 6.

National. House begins debate on Philippine tariff to-day. Page 6. President leaves Senate to settle Santo Do-mingo affairs. Page 6. Military and naval preparations for new Boxer uprising. Page 4.

Pamine in Japan may cost 1,000,000 lives. Page 1. Hermann disappears on way to Washington. Page 3. to revive Malheur irrigation project.

Trial of Decatur completed. Page 12. New York Senate debates motion to demand Depew's resignation. Page 1. Depen says he will not resign from Senate, but from corporation offices. Page 1.

but from corporation offices. Page 1. Governor Higgins' message urges drastic in-surance law. Page 4. Railroads accused of bribery in Wisconsin. McCall resigns with farewell message and Orr succeeds him. Page 4.

Tornado causes death and devastation at Albany, Ga. Page 4. Great windstorm in Chicago. Page 4. onstorm blocks Northern railroads. Mysterious murder of wealthy man at New Haven. Page 3.

Mrs. Yerkes' sister denies there was a reconciliation. Page 2. Pittsburg women object to wearing ciothes Pacific Coast.

Attorneys for Coeur d'Alene miners come to rescue of Hogan, allas Orchard, charged with murder of ex-Governor Steunenberg, Page 5. Justice of the Peace Turner awears that Kelliher induced him to forge land pa-pers. Page 12.

clothing of G. W. George, missing its Walla farmer, found in his garret. Page 5.

Grain Inspector Arrasmith refuses to appoint Deputy at Governor's request.

Fruitgrowers are in session at La Grande. Pioneer California miners, brothers, mur dered on their claims. Page 12. Commercial and Marine.

improved tone in local wheat market. Page Dry weather causes firmness in grain at San Francisco. Page 12. Stock market in hands of speculative pools.

Page 12.

Northern Pacific places order for material for peninsula bridges. Page 12.

Bark Paramita ran through terrific gale off Oregon coast last week. Page 12. Tug dispatched from San Francisco to search for disabled City of Puebla. Page 12 French saller uses revolver on board the bark Bretagne. Page 12. been regular. He did not handle these

Saloonkeeper Webber attempts to shoot po-licemen raiding his place. Page 10. Tax levy for 1903 much lower than for last year. Page 8. Pinn for church federation submitted to committee. Page 8. Council decides to buy sits for forestry building and appropriates \$14,060. Page 2. Public is aroused over gas graft. Page 1. Property-owners to make test fill on East Side. Page 9.

Pertland and Victoity.

Alleges Kelliher Suggested the Plan and Paid \$7 for Each False Certificate.

LAND - BUYER DENIES ALL

Bank Cashiers, as Experts, Declare Belief That Justice of the Peace Did Not Sign Names to the Applications.

SALEM Or., Jan 1 - (Special.)-The con fession of H. H. Turner that he forged the name "G. I. Rice" to an application for the purchase of state land and forged the same name to an assignment of the certificate of sale issued upon that appl cation was the sensutional development of the Keiliher-Turner land-fraud trial today. Turner also testified that he forged fictitious names to about 36 other applications, and said he adopted this plan upor a suggestion from Kelliher, who paid him

If for each certificate he procured. The defense put three bank cashlers upon the witness-stand, and, after examining the signatures and comparing them with Turner's writing, they testified that they did not believe Turner wrote the names or could have done so. To the casual observer there is no similarity between the names.

The trial was not concluded today, bu closing arguments will be made tomorrow morning and the Kelliher case will go to the jury before noon. The charge of for gery against Turner was dismissed in order that he might be made a witness against Kelliher.

Case Against Turner Dismissed.

At the morning session Judge Burnett ruled that the applications other than the one upon which this case was founded could not be introduced in evidence until their connection with the case had been more fully shown. This evidently caused a change in the plans of the prosecution and H. H. Turner was called as a witness.

The attorneys for Kelliher objected to Turner testifying until he had either been convicted or acquitted. After ar gument, Judge Burnett sustained objection, and District Attorney Mc-Nary dismissed the case against Turner and the latter took the stand.

Turner testified that in 1900 while he was studying law in Salem, Kelliher came to him with the inquiry whether he desired to purchase state land, and he replied in the negative. The same inquiry was repeated the next | though I am afraid my some negotiation Turner undertook to ceeded and was given another blank rupted her. to which he also secured a signature. Kelliher commended his work and gave him many more applications to work upon, agreeing to pay him \$7 for each application and certificate he procured. Turner declared that after this character of business had been going on for some time Kelliher found fault with the way one of the applications was signed by the applicant and Turner told him it was hard work to get people to sign the applications, whereupon

Kelliher told him to sign them himself.

Confesses to the Forgeries. This plan Turner adopted in many instances and testified that in the case of the Rice transaction, he signed the name G. I. Rice in both the application and the assignment of certificate of sale. He also identified the bunch of 36 applications offered in evidence yesterday and said that he signed the names to all of them, taking the names from a Salem directory, but changing the initials. He said that for the purpose of disguising his handwriting, he used many different kinds of pens and held his hand in different positions. Turner said he had Attorney Charles E. Lenon attach his notarial seal and signature to some of the applications, because Kelliher said he wanted him

to get some other notary to act, because Portland people were watching him and he did not want Turner's name on the papers. On cross-examination Turner admitted that he had told sev eral persons that his transactions were regular and legal, but that he did so because he did not want to give the facts to the newspapers. Turner's story was not shaken by the cross-examination.

Expert Says Turner Wrote Them. This afternoon A. A. Cunningham testified as an expert on handwriting

that Turner wrote the signatures on all

Charles E. Lenon related the facts in regard to Turner bringing a bundle of applications to him with the request that he put his notarial seal thereoand this he did, after Turner swore that the persons whose names were signed came before him and signed them. Turner's reason for the request was that the party lived out of town. George G. Brown, clerk of the Land on cross-examination said that so far as he knew, Kelliher's transaction had

time they were filed. Turner Asked to Copy Names.

asked him to copy the names in the applications which he said he forged. The this would have properly come in as cross-examination, but that the defense witness and try to discredit his testimony. The objection was sustained.

and others were called and testified that they know the reputation of H. H. Turner for truth and veracity to be bad. J. C. Goodale, Edward Hirsch, G. P. Litchfield and Joseph Albert testified to the good reputation of Kelliher. Mr. Albert, L. J. Adams and J. M. Poorman, as experts or andwriting testified that from an exam nation of the applications introduced they did not believe H. H. Turner signed the names therein.

General Denial by Kelliher.

A. T. Keillher then took the stand and testified that he has been engaged in dealing in state lands since 1899; that in 1900 Turner came to him and wanted to do work for him, and Kelliher finally agreed to pay \$7 each for certificates of sale. He declared he did not employ Turner to secure applications, that he did not know how he procured the applications, never made inquiry, on that subject, did not know any of the applicants in the certificates alleged to be forged, never suggested or recommended that Turner sign the names himself and had no reason to believe or suspect that

they had been so signed. In March, 1966, Keilther inquired of Turner whether there was any truth in the reports that some of the papers had been forged, and Turner declared that for every application and assignment that passed through his hands a person had appeared before him and signed his name Kelliher testified that he made the payments of the first installments on the certificates to the State Land Board.

Effort to Prove No Fraud.

Evidence was also introduced to show that full payment of the legal price for the land had been made on the Rice certificate, the efforts of the defense being to prove that no one has been defrauded and therefore that one of the essential elements of forgery is lacking.

This closed the testimony, and after ar argument by Deputy District Attorney C. L. McNary for the state and George G. Bingham for the defense, court adjourned until tomorrow morning. defense will base its case largely upon the unreliability of Turner's testimony.

WOMEN PROTEST AT NECESSITY OF BEING CLOTHED.

Debate on Female Impedimenta De velops Startling Opinions in Woman's Club at Pittsburg.

elieve women's dresses should not extend below the knees," said Mrs. Sara Archer at the meeting of the Woman's Club of Pittsburg tonight. "I-" That miget do for some women. interrupted a tall and angular member

PITTSBURG, Jan. 3 .- (Special.) -"I

of the club, as she looked at Mrs. Archer's pretty figure meaningly. Mrs. Archer, without condescending to notice the interruption, continued: day with a similar answer, but after of them anyway-will be shocked at my views, I must give them." And Mrs. Archer looked meaningly at the tall and angular woman who had inter-

"Women's Sartorial Impedimenta," was the subject for discussion, Mrs. Jerome B. Schaub, who is not tall and angular, read a long paper discussing women's fashions from the time of Mother Eve to the present, in which she gave the customs of Mother Eve much the best of the argument.

Mrs. M. W. Wray said she never had been able to forgive Mother Eve fully for having made it necessary for women to wear clothes, and added that weather. She, however, was fashionably gowned. Other women blamed commercialism for what they termed "I wonder if we are not all fools to follow the fade and fancies men manufacture for us," said Miss Matilda

SECURES OUTLET TO GULF

St. Paul Road Buying Kansas City Southern Road.

CHICAGO, Jan. 2. - (Special.)-There was a revival today of the reports con perning the sale of the Kansas City Southern Railroad. Persons claiming to have inside information said that contracts for the sale had actually been placing of gas meters. Gas meters are drawn up and signed, and that official delicate things. They have lungs just announcement of the transfer will be like humans, and the freer they breathe made soon. They will not state to whom the greater the golden harvest reaped by the transfer is to be made, but general the poor stockholders of the company. A opinion accepts the rumor that the Chi- lung-congested gas meter will throw the cago, Milwaukee & St. Paul will get it entire working force of the Portland Gas to secure the greatly desired outlet to the Company into a nervous fit. Gas experts Gulf independent of present affiliations. know that with heat gas expands, with the St. Paul on an equal footing with pany is so solicitous about where it its Western competitors and would be places a meter. It shuns a cold place for of inestimable value when the St. Paul the meter as an old maid would a draft. opens its new Pacific extension, as it The choice spot for placing a meter is will enable the parent road to work up as near the house furnace as danger will Important Oriental traffic from the cot- permit, so as to keep it warm, ton fields of the South with which the acquisition of the Kansas City Southern would bring it in contact.

PUEBLA ON WAY SOUTH

Being Towed by Chehalis, Favored by Fine Weather.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 4.- The Spreckels tug Relief, with Captain Pillsbury representing the underwriters, on board, eft yesterday to meet the disabled steamer City of Puebla, which is coming home at a leisurely gait in tow of the steam schooner Chehalis.

Nothing was heard today of the Puebli but the steamers Centralia and Rainter which arrived from the North, both reweather all the way along the coast. They did not see the Puebla. It is ex-pected that the Chehalls and her tow will Lewis Savage, John Gray, Mark Savage reach port some time Friday.

PUBLIC AROUSED OVER GAS GRAFT

Complaints by the Score Are Made by Indignant Consumers.

PRICES ARE EXORBITANT

Cost of Manufacture Is Reduced by Change From Coal to Oil, but Quality Is Poor and the Charges No Lower.

To quote the unhappy comedian from the "Sho-Gun," the "ha-ha-happy" days for the Portland Gas Company are over. Aroused at last by the high rates, poor quality and indifferent service from the Gas Company, the consumers are not only clamoring for better, but cheaper gas Heretofore one overworked clerk worked himself to a frazzle at the company's emplaint counter, made excuses for exorbitant bills and listened with ears that tingled to the countless protests about gas that would neither furnish light nor heat, All day yesterday two young men handled the rush of business at the complaint window and were swamped by those who raised their voices in protest.

Of course the majority of those who poured their tales of woe into the ears of the two complaint clerks knew that they were doing a hopeless thing, for the ompany makes it a point to listen but o heed not and there is no redress. With this corporation it is "heads I win, tails you lose." For years past the Portland gas consumers have been aware of the fact that they were paying more for their gas than any other city on the Coast. Consumers have found out that the Gas Company cared not whether an employe read a meter wrong. A bill one month might be \$10 and the next \$30. This was a matter of indifference to the company. The consumer walled his complaint into the ears of the clerk, but always paid his money at the other window.

Gas Now Made by Oll.

Consumers, however, are not all easy marks. They have been watching and waiting and while they have been watching they have grown wise to many things. First they discovered that the company changed its plant so as to manufacture gas from oil instead of coal. They knew that the making of gas by coal was the more expensive. They also were aware "I consider the present style of that they were paying \$1.50 per thousand women's dress yery unsanitary and. for their gas and they also knew that it was reaping a nest profit from the sale of the by-products-coke and coal tar. The company gave it out that when the new plant for manufacturing gas was completed there would be a reduction. The reduction came, but there were a few who figured it out that the profit the company was making from oil gas must be greater than when it could make gas from coal and also sell their coke and

Reaping Golden Harvest.

The fact of the matter is, that in spite of the outlay of money which the Gas Company has expended in new plants and gas mains, those who are behind the comwomen should wear only clothes pany have been reaping a golden harvest enough to protect themselves from the With the new process of making gas from crude oil, the Portland Gas Company can put its product into the homes of the consumers for considerably less than 70 the preposterous present-day fashions. cents a thousand. The people were hoodwinked when the recent reduction to \$1.15 a thousand was made. They also were inclined to half believe that the millennium was about to ooze through the company's gas mains when they got \$1.15 gas Of course the company officials made the consumers believe that they were bestowing charity, but they winked the other eye, for the company was making gas for less than 70 cents and selling it for \$1.15, which is what the German would call his "I per cent."

Gas Meters Near Furnaces.

This is not the only joke the gas company has played on the easy-going public. There is a neat little dodge in the The acquiring of this road would place | cold it contracts. That's why the com-

The interior of a meter is a delicate affair, and works on the same principle as a bellows or a pair of lungs. In cold weather the oil used is thrown down in a precipitate, the pressure is greatly di-minished. If the meter is placed in a warm spot the gas is melted, so to eak, and the more heat surrounding the meter the faster the flow of gas, witherties being increased. This means creased gas bills, while on the o hand, if the gas is sluggish and thick the ompany's profits are decreased and the bad, and the housewife complains because there isn't heat enough in the gas range

to bake the bread. Aside from the complaints against the "windy gas" is the complaint which comes from the employes sent out to read the meters. Stories of people being charged up for the use of gas when their homes were closed for the Summer, or when they have refused to burn gas be-

(Concluded on Page 9.)