

NEW YORK GOSSIP ON MANY THEMES

TAMMANY BEGINS WORK AND THERE SEEMS TO BE NO CAUSE FOR GENERAL ALARM THAT THE CITY WILL BE TURNED OVER GREATLY UNDER NEW MAYOR.

Political, Social, Educational and Industrial Matters Discussed Briefly—Salary-Raising Fever Strikes Department—Figures on the Population of the State—Next Democratic Convention Wanted.

(Journal Special Service.)
New York, Jan. 2.—After all it seems that New York will not have such a terrible time under the administration of Tammany hall. Mayor McClellan, who does his first real work in his new office today, is a man of exemplary character and he has surrounded himself with a cabinet of men whose reputations have stood the closest scrutiny. What the city wants is a clean, fair and square government; and if these men will continue to live up to all that they have planned, Tammany will have, at the end of two years, done more for the city itself in the eyes of New Yorkers than ever before in its history.

Tammany to Go Slow.

One thing is certain, and that is that Tammany will have to "go slow" in the matter of spending money. The administration which has just retired added enormously, though necessarily, to the city debt, and the margin over the city's bonded indebtedness will prove too small for further issue, for city improvements proposed and under consideration. As a result Tammany's chance to do crooked work, if there is really any such intention in existence, will not come to fruition. It makes up the appropriation for next year.

Salary-Raising Fever.

A salary-raising fever has been raging in the city departments, but it is doubtful if it will last, in fact the new board of aldermen is said to have gone on record as intending to check it. To allow the increases that have been asked would mean a serious crippling of the heads of the departments as they would be practically without leeway in the salaries accounts. The board of estimate will not take action of the matter for some time.

No Beer Combination.

There is no truth in the rumor that negotiations to form a great beer combination are in progress among brewers. Experience has shown that similar movements in other cities have proved detrimental to the trade. Some of the smaller brewers may be amalgamated with one or another large concern, but there is no likelihood of a concerted movement to organize a trust.

Another Matter of Drinks.

Another matter pertaining to drinks or stimulants is also engaging the public attention, but in a different way. The Woman's Christian Temperance Union of Mount Vernon, one of the leading suburban towns of New York City, have started a crusade against confectioners who sell brandy drops to children which promises to be waged with vigor. It is asserted that the sale of these drops has become so alarming in Mount Vernon that mothers whose children have been in the habit of buying this sort of candy deemed it necessary to bring the matter to the attention of the W. C. T. U., which is composed of the most prominent women in town.

Population of the State.

Some interesting figures concerning the population of the state of New York have just been published. They show the increase from 1898 until 1900, when the last census was taken. In 1898 the figures were 18,007, in 1900, 2,268,012. The greatest breadth of the state east to west is 326.46 miles, while from New York harbor to the boundary line of Canada it is 325 miles in length. In this estimate is not included Long Island, which extends along the Atlantic ocean for 100 miles to the northeastward from New York harbor. The area of the state is 49,179 square miles. Of this 47,620 square miles is land, embracing 29,476,829 acres.

A Popular Woman.

It is doubtful if any newspaper woman in the United States was more popular than the late Harriet Hubbard Ayer, whose articles on beauty made her famous. She was particularly interested in freckles and spots and several of her friends, having this in mind, have started a movement to establish a shelter for homeless girls as a memorial to Mrs. Ayer. The women in charge of the undertaking propose to carry out many of Mrs. Ayer's plans for the bettering of the conditions of working girls in New York.

The Lady Usher.

The New York theatre which recently introduced the startling innovation of lady ushers reports great success with the experiment. The men who select them may have had in mind a "Congress of All Nations," but so far the "big eight," as the ushers are called, are much prettier and more pleasing than some "lady barbers" who were exploited here a few years ago.

New York Wants It.

Assisted by a local newspaper, many prominent politicians are working as hard as they know how to secure the next Democratic national convention for New York. While the city has many advantages, there is also one great objection to a convention's being held here, and that is its location. Most of the delegates would have to take long railway journeys, entailing much loss of time and an extra expenditure of money. New Yorkers meet this argument, however, with the statement that the convention has gone six times to Baltimore, and the Republicans once, while there have been three Republican conventions at Philadelphia and two Democratic. There certainly is no better convention hall in the country than Madison Square garden, and New York's hotel accommodations are ample for comfort, and that without excessive increased charges for the host that will attend the convention. It is also argued that 1904 would be a good year for a New York convention, as this state is to be one of the hottest battle-grounds in the contest.

The City Alarm.

New York's gay element is alarmed at the possibility of there being no French ball this year. The idea that a season will pass without any Parisian gawdy at Madison Square garden, or any delectable dances delectably removing top hats with their toes seems incredible. Time was when the "French ball" deserved its celebrity as a social function unique of its kind. It marked the climax of a season's dissipation for the callow youth. The sight of the signs there and the memory of cold bottles provided him with memories of juvenile "real devilness" sufficient for a lifetime. The excuse given for the discontinuance of the balls is a financial stringency among amusement lovers. Perhaps they have also grown too innocuous to attract.

A Hard Job.

Impressario Heinrich Conried is find-

ing the management of the Metropolitan Opera house a different undertaking from conducting the Irving Palace theatre, which he did so excellently. Justly or unjustly, Mr. Conried is being criticized for numerous and unexpected defects in stage management at the operatic performances. Mr. Grau did not escape censure in respect to this detail, but Mr. Conried had gained well-earned renown as a stage manager, and something like perfection was expected. No fault is found with the singers, but there is vast room for improvement in the matter of stage management.

A Common Disease.

"New Yorkitis," the victim of which is imbued with an overweening sense of the importance of New York and New Yorkers, is a very common disease here, but another malady which may be even more prevalent is "humeritis manhattanensis," according to a well-known physician, or "New York shoulder." The malady comes from hanging on to the straps in the trolley and elevated cars and three-fourths of all strap-hangers are said to suffer from enlarged shoulders and intermittent pains, which are attributed to rheumatism.

MR. FURNISH BACK FROM CALIFORNIA

THINKS ASA B. THOMSON OUGHT TO BE REINSTATED IN OFFICE—IMPROVED IN HEALTH BUT SAYS HE IS PERMANENTLY OUT OF POLITICAL FIELD.

William J. Furnish of Pendleton is a firm believer in the honesty and integrity of Asa B. Thomson, the suspended receiver of the La Grande land office. "When a man is vindicated by the courts," said Mr. Furnish, who was in Portland yesterday, "I think it an injustice that he should be deprived of his position and subjected to further humiliation. I have known Asa B. Thomson since he was a little boy, and I never, until the bribery charge was brought, heard a word against him. Whether he is reinstated or not, I shall always feel that he should have been."

Mr. and Mrs. Furnish arrived yesterday from California, where they have been for the past two months on account of Mr. Furnish's health. "I am feeling much better," he said, "but I am taking things easy, for I do not want another setback." Mr. and Mrs. Furnish will return home tomorrow.

"I have not paid much attention to politics or anything else except my health," he added, "and I don't know what's going on."

Mr. Furnish was the Republican candidate for governor at the last election, but since then has taken but a small part in politics. Last summer when Mr. Furnish was in Portland he made the statement to The Journal that he always expected to figure in politics, inasmuch as he was a citizen, and when the time came to vote would cast his ballot.

"I'll repeat what I said before," he remarked this morning, "and that is, I still expect to vote when the time comes. Further than that, however, I am not in politics."

Business conditions in California, he said, are very good, and the outlook is promising. "I was in and around Oakland and Sacramento most of the time and never went into town. I was looking for quiet and rest, and I am thankful that I am able to be back."

Mr. Furnish is strongly in favor of the Cello canal and declared that he believed the great majority of the people of Eastern Oregon and Washington were anxious to see the "gateway to the ocean" opened.

He was asked what he thought of former Congressman Malcolm A. Moody's chances for renomination, but professed ignorance of the fact that The Dalles man was yearning to again represent his state in the lower house at Washington.

COULDN'T THROW DUST IN HIS EYES

A MOTORMAN FINDS EXPLANATION FOR THE SUDDEN INDUSTRY DISPLAYED BY WOMEN ALONG HIS ROUTE ON NEW YEAR'S MORNING.

Just a trace of dust blew into the face of a passenger as he looked out of the window of a car traveling the residence district yesterday, and a look of inquiry showed him that the cause was a woman behind a broom. She was sweeping the cement sidewalk in front of her house—or it may have been her employer's house—and she was doing it with a good will.

"Does she do that often?" asked the passenger of the conductor when the car stopped to add another nickel to the revenue of the company.

"It doesn't happen often," was his laconic answer.

Just then another sweep of dust showed that another broom was in operation and there was another woman behind it.

"There must be trouble here," observed the conductor, as he wiped the dust from his eyes. "Must be a strike on hand."

BAD STREETS DELAY FIREMEN

SHODDY FACTORY BURNS WIFE \$3,000 LOSS AND ADJOINING PLANTS ARE THREATENED—1,100 FEET OF ROSE STRETCHED TO REACH FLAMES.

Lack of a breeze was all that prevented a disastrous conflagration along Portland's water front last night. The shoddy mill and warehouse of the Pacific Warehouse company was totally destroyed and the Standard Box Factory plant adjoining narrowly escaped a fate similar to that which overtook its East Side plant which was destroyed by fire two months ago.

The Portland Lumber company's plant, a short distance away, was threatened. The loss does not exceed \$3,000, with no insurance.

Only the most heroic efforts of the firemen, handicapped by serious obstacles, confined the blaze to the shoddy factory. The fire served again to show the great necessity of a fireboat to protect the water front and the need of a full paid department.

The shoddy plant, which was situated on the river bank at the foot of Montgomery street, was enveloped in flames within a few seconds after the blaze started. The cause is not known. Fifteen men are employed by the firm, two of them working at night. William Kyler and a Japanese boy, G. Matshima, were in the building last night. At 6:15 p. m. Kyler started the dynamo and a few seconds later a sheet of flame burst from a pile of shoddy. The Japanese ran for a place of safety, but Kyler attempted to save the typewriter, desk and office records. The flames overtook him and he was compelled to rush for his life. His face and hands were painfully scorched.

John Carlson, a watchman for the Standard Box factory, turned in an alarm. Before the firemen had left their quarters the entire warehouse was in flames and the sky was illuminated so that the reflection was seen from all parts of the city. The department did as well as was possible but they were greatly handicapped by the exceedingly bad condition of the streets and the long distance to the fire. Then they had to lay 1,000 feet of hose.

At first it looked as if the Standard box plant could not be saved. This was situated about 15 feet south of the shoddy plant, but the firemen found the north end of the box factory in flames. Engine company 5 ran a line of hose through the Standard plant and with the aid of Engine 4 extinguished the flames in this building and confined the fire to the shoddy plant.

Realizing the danger to the surrounding property Chief Campbell sent in special calls for Engine companies 1 and 3 and three lines were kept playing on the flames which continued to burn for two hours. Hose company 2 and Truck company 4 was kept on the spot most of the night overhauling the tons of shoddy and putting out the blazes.

The burned factory was a one-story frame building about 100 by 100 feet in area. Considerable prepared shoddy was in the plant, together with machinery for manufacturing the product. The building was owned by W. K. Smith and was worth possibly \$1,000. It is not believed that the loss to the shoddy plant will exceed \$3,000. There was no insurance carried.

The department was handicapped by almost impassable streets. Engine 5 had to come up Front street, as it could not get through Hood street. Truck 2 broke a 33-foot ladder on the way to the blaze. None of the drivers could urge their horses beyond a walk because of the deep mud.

TO DIG UP BURIED CITIES.

(Journal Special Service.)
Boston, Mass., Jan. 2.—The expedition headed by Mr. Pumphelly, the archaeologist, and backed by Andrew Carnegie, starts from Boston today to search among the buried cities in Western Afghanistan and the Crimea. The expedition is one which has long been under consideration. Last year Mr. Pumphelly went to Russia with Professor Davis of Harvard, for the purpose of looking over the ground and to obtain permission from the Russian government to conduct the desired investigations in her territory. Mr. Pumphelly started this year in advance of the expedition to complete the relations with the Russian diplomats. The expedition starting today will meet Mr. Pumphelly in Cairo, Egypt. There the members expect to complete the equipment of the data needed for their work, and thence will proceed to the vicinity where they will begin excavations. This section has never before been thus searched by scientists, and the work of the party is awaited with widespread interest on its efforts will be rewarded by the finding of many traces of the early tribes who peopled this portion of the continent. The return trip to America will be made in the early spring.

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All druggists sell charcoal in one form or another, but probably the best charcoal and the most for the money is Stuart's Absorbent Lozenges; they are composed of the finest powdered Willow charcoal, and other harmless antiseptics in tablet form, or rather in the form of large, pleasant tasting lozenges, the charcoal being mixed with honey.

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