

RATES GO UP GO DOWN--BILLS.

Companies Evade Reduction by Increased Pressure on the Meters.

REMEDY IN COMMISSION.

Reform Measures to This Effect Will Have the Strong Support of Mr. Croker.

THE FIGURES TELL OF FRAUDS.

Though the Price of Gas Grows Lower the Stock of the Trust Climbs Higher and Higher.

Under the provisions of the law of 1897 the price of gas in the boroughs of Manhattan and the Bronx is \$1.15 a thousand cubic feet.

Gas consumers declare that the reduction so far made has been a sham, pure and simple, because their bills are no lower than they were before the enactment of the law.

The profits of the gas companies remain the same. This is accomplished by reducing the grade of the gas and forcing it through the pipes at such a speed as to make the meters register higher figures.

If the scheme is carried through of creating a commission to investigate the methods of the gas companies, to see to it that the quality of gas is kept up to a high grade, and that the meters work honestly, the consumers will benefit by the reduction. Otherwise they will be steadily robbed as formerly.

The bill to accomplish this and another bill reducing the price of gas to 90 cents are to be introduced at the coming session of the Legislature, and the moment they appear lobbyists will begin the task of trying to kill them.

Mr. Croker's declaration in favor of the measures guarantee for them the support of all the Democrats. Therefore they are likely to become law.

The gas companies are now doing business on an actual paid in capital of \$11,200,000. They are paying big dividends on \$37,775,000, besides accumulating a surplus. They supply 10,500,000,000 cubic feet of gas a year. Experts say that gas can be made and distributed at a good profit for 60 cents a thousand cubic feet.

Here is a table showing market quotations of gas on the 15th of July and the 15th of December for five years.

The figures tell a plain story. Before the gradual reduction bill was passed, in 1897, the stock of the Consolidated Gas Company seldom got above the 150 mark.

After the passage of that bill the fears of the company about adverse legislation in the future were allayed and the price began to rise:

Table with 2 columns: Year, Quotation. Rows for 1894, 1895, 1896, 1897, 1898.

Gas stock has always jumped after the adjournment of the Legislature.

Funny Things Happen to Three Policemen.

WHEN Mr. Mary Murphy, of No. 734 Second Avenue, went out on Christmas night to get a pint of beer a policeman asked him what he had in the can and what he meant to do with it. This annoyed Mr. Murphy, who ran home and told his wife.

Mrs. Murphy came out to avenge her husband's wrongs. She went up to the first bluecoat she saw, who happened to be John J. Riley, and asked him for his number. Then she abused him for being rude to Mr. Murphy and she arrested her on the charge of intoxication.

In Yorkville Police Court yesterday Magistrate Kiddell reproved Murphy for permitting Mrs. Murphy to avenge his wrongs. "You are the head of the family," said the Court.

"What's that?" demanded Murphy in astonishment. "You are the head of the family." "Not much, then," declared the man. "And that's right," his wife said.

She was found guilty of disorderly conduct, but was allowed to go as she had four babies anxiously waiting for her to dress the Christmas tree.

Italian Rent Interference.

GIOVANNI VINTRELLA, of No. 331 East One Hundred and Fifteenth street, gave a Christmas party on Sunday night. Luigi Terrilli criticized the way in which the macaroni was cooked and Vintrella threw a lighted lamp at his guest. Both had drunk much beer and sour wine.

The lamp struck Terrilli's head and made a scalp wound; it also set fire to his clothes. Policeman Moore, of the East One Hundred and Fourth street station, came in to adjust matters. He found the guests extinguishing the flames on Terrilli. Then he tried to arrest Vintrella, the lamp thrower.

A general row ensued, in which every one attacked the agent of the law. He blew his whistle and Policeman Pettinighill came. They had to draw their revolvers.

In the midst of the row Vintrella escaped to the roof and was about to jump to the building next door when Moore grabbed him. Pettinighill kept the crowd of furious Italians at bay with his revolver.

Vintrella was clubbed badly. He showed the effects of the fight in the Harlem Police Court. Terrilli refused to appear against him, saying he would seek his revenge in his own way and without the help of the law, so the prisoner was held in \$500 by Magistrate Cornell on a charge of disorderly conduct.

She Disrobed and Fought.

POLICEMAN VOSE, of the bicycle squad, was stopped in Lenox avenue on Sunday by a woman, who told him that her servant had become insane and was threatening to kill herself. Vose went to No. 28 West One Hundred and Eighteenth street, where he found that Ella Black, the servant, had barricaded herself in a room. The policeman pushed the door open and stumbled into the room.

The woman hit him over the head with a chair. The woman had completely disrobed, and Vose had much trouble in getting some clothes upon her. He called a patrol wagon and took the girl to the East One Hundred and Twenty-sixth street station house. The only trouble with her was too much egg nog. Magistrate Cornell fined her \$3.

COLONEL ROOSEVELT TO BE THE GUEST OF BLACK.

Will Go to Albany on Friday, Ready for His Own Inauguration.

Albany, Dec. 26.—The arrangements for the reception in Albany of Governor-elect Roosevelt and his family and for the inauguration ceremonies are complete. Colonel Roosevelt will reach here late next Friday afternoon and will go with his family direct to the Executive Mansion, where he will be entertained at a dinner by Governor and Mrs. Black. There will be no guests outside of the two families and perhaps the two private secretaries, Colonel William E. Griffith and Colonel William J. Youngs.

On Saturday Governor Black and family will leave the Executive Mansion and Colonel Roosevelt and his family will take possession. On Saturday night Colonel and Mrs. Roosevelt will attend the ball at the State Armory given by the society people of Albany for Troop A, of New York.

On Sunday at noon Secretary of State Palmer will administer the oath of office to Colonel Roosevelt at the Executive Mansion. This is a mere formality and the ceremony will be repeated at the State Armory on Monday. On Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock Colonel Roosevelt will attend All Saints' Cathedral, where Troop A is to listen to their chaplain preach.

On Monday the inauguration exercises will take place in the Assembly Chamber, being so timed that the oath of office will be administered at noon. After the inauguration ceremonies Governor Roosevelt will hold a general reception in the Executive Chamber, from 3 to 5 o'clock.

Pedler Insane Through Worry.

Henry Victor, thirty-nine years old, a pedler, living at No. 91 Sheriff street, was arrested yesterday on complaint of his wife, who says he is insane. Business has been bad and Mrs. Victor says that her husband has worried so much that he has lost his mind.

AN HOUR'S START MADE MISS A MRS.

Girl's Angry Father Chased Elopers, but Arrived Just Too Late.

SHE A BRIDE AT FIFTEEN.

'I'm Mrs. Gordon,' She Said Demurely, and So Perrine Drove Sadly Back Home.

A girl of fifteen eloping with her lover and a wild chase by the irate father, who caught up with the pair just as the marriage had been performed, was the comedy-drama played at Marlboro and Freehold, in New Jersey, on Friday last.

Daisy Perrine was the prettiest girl in Marlboro, and had suitors a-plenty, but she was in love with young William Gordon. Her father, a widower, objected to his attention, on the ground that the girl was too young, and forbade their meeting, but they did meet clandestinely. The father learned this, and, with the aid of the girl's grandmother, arranged to keep Daisy under surveillance.

On Friday Perrine, Daisy and the grand-mother went to visit at a relative's, where they were to spend the afternoon. Soon Daisy remembered that she had forgotten to attend to a fire properly, and skipped away homeward. The girl's manner was so innocent and ingenious that neither father nor grand-

TITLE TO RAILROAD LANDS CONTESTED.

Washington State Declares That Grant to Northern Pacific Has Been Forfeited.

Tacoma, Dec. 26.—The fusion government of this State will probably endeavor to have the Northern Pacific land grant in this State set aside by the Federal courts. The grant consists of nearly nine millions of acres and is valued at several million dollars. The report of the committee appointed by the last Legislature to investigate into the legal status of the company's land grant was made public to-day.

It takes the ground that the present Northern Pacific Railroad Company is not entitled to the land because the grant was made by Congress only to the original Northern Pacific Company, whose property was foreclosed upon in 1875.

The committee takes the position that all bonds and mortgages, based on the land grant, issued after reorganization in 1875, are invalid for the reason stated. Congress has never ratified the alleged transfer of the land grant to the present company, and the conclusion is reached that the land grant reverted to the United States when the foreclosure was made in 1875.

The committee recommends that the Attorney-General be instructed to commence an action to have the land grant forfeited and thrown open to settlement. It is understood that J. Pierpont Morgan and the Northern Pacific Company will endeavor to have the present action of Congress set aside by an act confirming the new company's title to the land grant.

HENRIETTA RYSDICK DEAD.

Aged Member of a Family Whose Name Has Been Made Famous by Trotters.

Mrs. Henrietta Rysdyk, aged ninety-three, was laid at rest yesterday in Cypress Hill Cemetery, Brooklyn. She was a sister-in-law of William Rysdyk, the famous horseman, whose name is a family tree of highest honor in the sporting world. To the memory of Rysdyk's death, their grand-stand to-day a granite shaft that cost \$50,000.

Mrs. Rysdyk, who married the brother of the horseman, was born near the Battery, of old Revolutionary stock. Her home for years had been at No. 330 Leonard street, Williamsburg.

mother suspected anything. That moment of carelessness undid the watchful labor of weeks. But who would have thought of a pretty girl choosing Friday as a wedding day?

The Daisy who stepped away so innocently was a changed girl as she turned the corner. There Gordon was waiting for her with a horse and wagon and together the two started for Freehold. It was an hour before the father suspected anything, and then he hurried to his home. Daisy was not there and he soon learned that she had gone away with Gordon.

"Rent me this rig to drive to Freehold," he said. "Can't. I need it myself," was the brief reply. "I'll buy it—must have it—will give you a big price!" cried Perrine, frantically.

"If it's so important as that, take it free," said the other; and Perrine leaped in and slashed the horse with the whip. "If I kill the horse I'll pay you for it!" he cried, and out of the town he dashed. Out into the country, tearing up hill and down and keeping the horse in a constant gallop, he went and was soon in Freehold. The wagon clattered straight toward the Methodist parsonage, and there, at the gate, coming out, were Gordon and Daisy.

"I'm Mrs. Gordon," said Daisy, demurely; and without a word the father headed his horse back for Marlboro.

Called to a Chicago Church.

Cleveland, O., Dec. 26.—Rev. Frank De Molin, pastor of Emmanuel Protestant Episcopal Church on Euclid avenue, is considering a call from St. Peter's Church, Chicago. He is the son of the Rev. Dr. De Molin, and though very young has been remarkably successful.

Fire in Father Larrabee's Church.

Chicago, Dec. 26.—Father Larrabee's Episcopal Church of the Ascension has been damaged \$20,000 by fire, which started from an overheated furnace. No other church in the West has more advanced ritual services and furnishings.

Great Underwear Sale! Great Underwear Sale! Great Underwear Sale! Great Underwear Sale!

O'Neill's SEMI-ANNUAL SALE OF Women's Muslin Underwear!

The Big Semi-Annual Sale of Women's Muslin Underwear begins this morning—a little earlier in the season than usual, but with more and better opportunities for money-saving than ever before, special attention being directed to the fact that the quality of the goods is far above the average offered at Special Sales, the Embroideries and Insertions being unusually handsome.

- At 19 Cents CORSET COVERS of muslin, V-shape front and back, trimmed with embroidery. Also in square shape front, high neck, front of twenty-four fine plaits trimmed around neck and down front with Swiss embroidery.
At 29 Cents CORSET COVERS, with square yoke of Valenciennes lace, finished with ribbon, arm-holes trimmed with lace; also with square yoke of embroidery and five plaits.
At 39 Cents MUSLIN GOWNS, V-shape neck, finished with insertion, plaiting and small ruffles around neck and sleeves; also in high neck, with square yokes, finished with ten plaits and ruffle around neck and front.
At 49 Cents CAMBRIC CORSET COVERS, V-shape front and back, finished with embroidery, insertion and beading.
DRAWERS of extra quality muslin, finished with deep ruffles of English embroidery, and finished with beading of double rows of three fine plaits.

Special Values in Eiderdown Dressing Sacques and Robes. Also in Fine Silk and Saten Petticoats. Another Manufacturer's Stock of Women's Jackets, At Prices Just as Tempting as the Last. Glance at This!

We bought twelve hundred Jackets last week from one of the largest and best makers in town. Most of them are made of rich Kersey, in shades of Black, Navy, Tan, Brown and Castor. They are of the latest production and are entirely men tailored. Short, jaunty effects, some finished with rows of stitching, others plain—all of them lined throughout in rich Taffeta or heavy Satin; a full line of sizes. We have divided them into two lots, and will offer them at 8.98 and 10.00. The Prices of these Garments in regular stock would be \$15.98 and \$20.00 each. Sixth Avenue, 20th to 21st Street.



La Grippe? TRY VIN MARIANI The Ideal French Tonic FOR BODY AND BRAIN Since 1863, Endorsed by Medical Faculty immediate lasting efficacious agreeable

DOWN GOES THE PRICE! WE MEAN BUSINESS!

The West Shore Railroad Company has rented our store. We must vacate by Jan. 1st. Every article will be sold at a mere fraction of its cost.

BEAUTIFUL, BRILLIANT WHITE TOPAZ, SET IN RINGS, PINS, STUDS AND SCARF PINS, 50c. EACH. BARRIOS DIAMOND CO., 415 BROADWAY. Every Broadway Car Passes the Door.



A lady living at Lawrence, Mass., describes an interesting condition of affairs in her household. When she first heard of Ripans Tabules she was having an awful spell with her stomach. She had had them off and on all her life and had swallowed enough medicines to stock up a drug store. "I was losing flesh every day," said she. "Some days I was so weak I couldn't get out of bed. I know if I hadn't got relief I wouldn't be here now." Two dollars' worth of Ripans Tabules was all she ever used, and they made her a well woman. Her husband says she looks better now than he ever saw her. She made him take the Tabules for biliousness and they acted just as well in his case. Ripans Tabules are a regular stand-by in that family now.

WANTED—A case of bad health that R-I-P-A-N-S will not benefit. They banish pain and prolong life. One gives cash. Note the word R-I-P-A-N-S on the package and accept no substitute. R-I-P-A-N-S, 10 for 5 cents or twelve packets for 48 cents, may be had at any drug store. Ten samples and one thousand testimonials will be mailed to any address for 5 cents, forwarded to the Ripans Chemical Co., No. 10 Spruce St., New York.

JOURNAL FIRST IN "WANTS" OVER WORLD AND HERALD. Table with columns for JOURNAL, WORLD, HERALD and rows for MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY, and Totals.