JUST GOSSIP ABOUT PEOPLE

Renedicks' Ball Will Be Held Tonight in the Ritz-Carlton-Many Dinners to Precede Affair. Party for Younger Set-Anecdotes

WITH the memories of mince ple, plum. pin, chicken salad, soup and oysters texsusse me if I seem a bit mixed as to the way they should go) upon our exhausted spirits (7) we turn tonight to more festivilies, and still more all week long. How, ah how, will our heads and digestions stand it all!

Tonight will mark the first of the big annual balls which are given for the detectation of society by a committee of men, who are among the foremost of Philadelphia's social leaders. And so we have the Benedicks' Ball, and it is to be given for the first time in its history at the Rits Carlton Hotel Instead of Horticultural Hall, as in the last few years. It books muchly to me as if there must be very many who have not received their usual invitation to the ball this season, for surely they could not expect to fit all the guests of pravious years into a small m. Such is the case, however, and as I have heard of no heart-breaks nor murmurings among the social elect who ere wont to go, perhaps they have all been asked, after all, for you know it's possible to have several floors going at se at the Ritz.

THE hosts for the ball this year include John Hampton Barnes, Ned Beale, Beau Borie, Jr., John Cadwalader, Jr., Ben Chew, Charles Coxe, George W. C. Drezel, George H. Frazier, George Harrison, Jr., Pemberton Hutchinson, Wilham Struthers Ellis, Harry McKean, Frederick Mason, Ned Morrell, Clem Newbold, William Lyttleton Savage, Edgar Scott, Aleck Van Reneselaer, Edward Lowber Welsh and Charlton Yarnall.

The patronesses of the ball will be Mrs. John Hampton Barnes, Mrs. Edward F. Beale, Mrs. Beauveau Borle, Jr., Mrs. John Cadwalader, Jr., and Mrs. Chariton

Of course there will be any number of dinners. The Gerald Holsmans will entertain at their home, 2018 Locust street; Mr. and Mrs. Pemberton Hutchinson will give a dinner at the Ritz-Carlton; the John Hampton Barnes will entertain for Suzanne Elliot, and Lorraine Graham will be guest of honor at a dinner which Dr. and Mrs. Hobart Hare will give.

THE school set will have a gay time this afternoon, when Mrs. Walter Jacknon Freeman will give a skating party out at the rink on Market street. Freeman boys are home for the holidays and are greatly in demand at all the parties. Mrs. Freeman is an ideal hostess and knows just how to make the young people enjoy themselves. The party this afternoon will be quite some size, I un-

So IT is really true the First City Troop and Troop A will soon be home! So sers does it seem that the Thayer men have decided to put off their party for cousin, Dorothy Newbold, until Edmund and Aleck arrive after the tenth, se that all five may have the honor of estually entertaining her. It must be mighty nice when one is going out to have five big cousins of the opposite sex ready and glad to see that one meets one and has a splendid time, for to matter how popular a deb is, the first talls and parties are terrific ordeals, and when one has brothers and cousins by the half-dozen or so it certainly helps.

Mrs. Charles E. Ingersoll, Miss Nina Lea,
Mrs. Joseph Leidy, Mrs. Theodore J. Lewis,
Mrs. J. Bertram Lippincott, Mrs. Louis C.
Madeira, Mrs. John Bianchard Miles, Mrs.
Langdon E. Mitchell, Mrs. Randal Morgan,
Mrs. Edgar T. Scott, Mrs. Edward B. Smith,
Mrs. Isaac T. Starr, Mrs. John Conyugham
Stevens, Mrs. William Jay Turner, Mrs.
Alexander Van Rensselaer, Mrs. Samuel D. I see Walter Hopkinson will be back in time to entertain before the first Assmally. The gayety will surely be greatly nented when all the cavalry con esses. Last season the "Talks" were so successful that the committee in charge was able to donate a substantial sum remain-ing after all expenses were paid to the Pension Fund of the Philadelphia Orches-

HONESTLY, did you ever in your life hear anything to equal the remarks which people make to newly engaged girle? I have one in mind at present who is wildly and scraphically in love, and whose little slippered feet have not teached earth since the great day when he asked her to have him. She just ites supernal bliss all the time. Imagine her expression of countenance Rhen a young married woman to whom she was introduced at a luncheon turned and looked at her very keenly and then "How long have you been remarked: "Several months," beamed Mrs Fiancee, "but it has only been an-nunced four weeks." "Well," said blase -, "I was engaged in March and married two months afterward; but let tell you, you don't begin to know them still you're married, and sometimes you are pleasantly surprised, but oftener you be should blows!" and she shook her bead knowingly, as much as to say, "I know the brutes." NANCY WYNNE.

Personals Mrs. Arthur Brock, of 2101 Spruce street, has issued invitations for a dinner on Feb-ruary 13 in honor of her daughter, Miss Elisabeth Norris Brock.

Mrs. Gardner Cassatt has issued invita-

Hr. and Mrs. William Bell Watkins are realway congratulations on the birth of a less. Mrs. Watkins will be remembered as the Gladys Mackay-Smith.

Mrs. Francis Strawbridge, of Wissahickon France, will give a luncheon at Manhelm Tuesday, January 2, in honor of her secs, Miss Anna Strawbridge,

The Cafe Chantant at the Germantown Cheixt Club, to be held on Monday will benefit the X-rainery S, at Sits o'clock, will benefit the Women's Army and Navy Relief Association of Germantown.

The committee in charge includes Mramas Franklin Brown, Mrs. George Activates franklin Brown, Mrs. George Activates A Martin, Mrs. Joseph Mayle, Jr., Mrs. Alfred S Welli, Mrs. Joseph Mayle, Jr., Mrs. Alfred S Welli, Mrs. Joseph Wellis Churchill Williams and Mrs. Alexante W Wister, Jr.

The program will consist of esthetic small give the "Peer Gynt Suite" and the Swan."

A Blariet in one act, entitled X-Babbette:

Playist is use act, entitled "Babbetta; Bush in Laughtor," also will be given members of the Plays and Players, insing Babbette, an artist's model. Mrach Scholes; a Stranger, Mr. Joseph Laor Dearing, and Plares, keeper of a secon. The action passes in Plares is un a side street in the Latin Quarter Parts. Encouraged by the success of their ren-dering of "The Upper Room" tast Lent, at Edward's Players will present another of Hobert Hugh Besmon's mystery plays, "The Nativity Play," tonight and tomorrow

Peris.

Peris.

Peris.

Peris.

Monsignor Benson has followed the Manager to Monsignor Benson has followed the Manager It more applicable for our times making it more applicable for our times which the story of the Monsignor Benson has followed the Manager It more applicable for our times which the story of the Monsignor Benson has followed the Monsignor Benson has followed the Monsignor It more applicable for our times which the story of the Monsignor Benson has followed the Monsignor It more applicable for our times which the story of the Monsignor Benson has followed the Monsignor Benson has followed the Monsignor It more applicable for our times which the story of the Monsignor Benson has followed the Monsignor It more applicable for our times which the story of the Monsignor Benson has followed the Monsignor It more applicable for our times which the story of the Monsignor Benson has followed the Monsignor It more applicable for our times which the story of the Monsignor Benson has followed the Monsignor It more applicable for our times which the story of the Monsignor Benson has followed the Monsignor It more applicable for our times which the story of the Monsignor It more applicable for our times which the story of the Monsignor Benson has followed the Monsignor Benson

RHYMED APPEAL ASKS CASH FOR SUFFRAGISTS

Pennsylvania Branch of Congressional Union Sings for Campaign Fund

The Pennsylvania Branch of the Con-gressional Union for Voman Suffrage in appealing for funds to finish its campaign for the ballot has issued verses, written by the respitly appelated finature chairman of the branch. The versified appeal is:

If your Christman left that "banpy bosh".
And you would share your love.
Draw from your deak root new tank book.
And the not make a techn.
But write a charge for walleage.
And send it off post heat.
The New York will be brighter.
For the duty you have faired.

If your Christmas left you were and sad And you would not reserve to the And Promy from your desk your letter pad And, somewhat in this strain. With to the left of the strain. A message short and smeet. In prose or years, as you like best— The figures count and feet.

"I know you've willyd a good, hard fight. And that you've waged it well. I know too that a enopagement in the second to the second in the seco

In other words, if and in gar.
No matter now you feel
If Sains and no did not bring.
The best things for year, weal,
Just bark me words and take advice;
Hemershor fee thirdee;
Hais Huicking is the right address.
Where C. U. a can be seen

The checks it is explained prosefully, hould be made payable to the treasurer of

APPEAL FOR FUNDS FOR PLAGUE VICTIMS

Emergency Aid Committee Sends Request for Aid to City's Parents

An appeal for funds for the little Philatelphians who are convalencing from infan-tile paralysis was usued today by the Home Relief Division of the Emergency Aid Com-mittee. The appeal is addressed especially o the parents of children who escaped the

Photo by Photo-Craftern.

MRS, EDWIN D. PECK

Mrs. Peck before her marriage last

month was Miss Helen Harmann

Radley. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Stone Radley,

of Oak Lane.

George Dallas Dixon. Mrs. James Large,

rill Ladd, to Mr. Merrill A. Kercher,

The Hiustrated Musical Talks which are to

be given on alternate Thursdays, beginning January 4, at Witherspoon Hall, are under the patronage of some of the most distin-

guished Philadelphia women, who are well known for their interest in artistic mattern. The honorary vice presidents include Mrs. A. J. Cassatt, Mrs. Cornelius Stavenson, Mrs.

and Mrs. Pope Yeatman will act as patron

tra, and this year the committee hopes to contribute an even larger amount to the Endowment Fund of the orchestra.

The Manufacturers' Club gave a Christ-

LAST NIGHT

Copyright, Life Publishing Company

A composite picture of Mabel's

mistletce experience.

nas party yesterday morning at 10 o'clock

A moving-sicture entertainment was held in the auditorium and the club Christmas tree was exhibited to the guests.

W. H. Chase of 6147 Oxford street, who has been suffering from plaurisy, will leave shortly for Florida with his family to re-

Mr. and Mrs. A. Chertak stanounce the engagement of their daughter, Miss Tiliye Chertak, to Mr. Samuel Grass.

main some time.

courge.
Contributions should be sent to the head quarters of the organization, at 1425 Wal iut etreet. The appeal says; "Aid us in the care of the children who

re now leaving the convalescent hospitals and are going back to their homes and mothers. All are more or less badly crip-pled and in need of braces, and the long. Mrs. William Byrd Page, Mrs. Alexander W. Wister and Mrs. Francis Howard Wil-liams are patronesses of the affair. Dancing will complete the evening's fesveary treatment, which will enable them, n perhaps a year or two, to run or walk of use their hands as your obliders, do. "Won't you give what you can in happy hankfulness that your children are not suf Mr. and Mrs. James Beach Ladd, of Aldworth, Ardmore, announce the engage-ment of their daughter, Miss Frances Ferfering as these children are, paralysed in both legs or both arms? None is able to play as your children are doing today."

SIGMA ALPHA EPSILON MEETS IN PITTSBURGH

Nearly 1200 Delegates Assemble for Biennial National Meeting of Fraternity, Showing Great Growth

J. Cassatt. Mrs. Cornelius Slevenson, Mrs. Leopold Stokowski and Miss Frances A. Wister, while Mrs. W. W. Arnett, Mrs. Louis F. Benson, Mrs. Arthur Biddle, Mrs. Edward W. Bok, Miss Mary A. Burnham, Mrs. Samuel E. Carpenter, Mrs. C. Howard Clark, Jr., Mrs. Herbert L. Clark, Miss Mary E. Converse, Mrs. Norton Downs, Mrs. Russell Duane, Mrs. Samuel S. Fels, Mrs. George A. Fletcher, Mrs. John Marshall Gest, Mrs. John H. Gibbon, Mrs. Frank T. Griswold, Mrs. Elisha A. Hancock, Mrs. Richard H. Harte, Mrs. Charles PITTSBURGH, Dec. 28. - Nearly 1200 selegates and member visitors are here to-lay for the opening of the biennial meeting f Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity, double he number in attendance at any previous ational meeting. Today was "get together" ession. Tomerrow will be staged the most laborate exemplification of the fraternity

itual ever seen at a national meeting.
Thursday night the annual banquet will
e held, the speakers' list including Don R. timy, of New York, president of the nacook, Mrs. Richard H. Harte, Mrs. Charles W. Henry, Mrs. Sydney E. Hutchinson, Mrs. Charles E. Ingersoll, Miss. Nina Lea. ional body: R. Key Pitiman, of Tonopah, Nev.; Federal Judge Arthur J. Tuttle, of Detroit; Colonel William Brandon, of Tusaloosa, Ala., the birthplace of the order and United States Senator-elect Philander . Knox. The convention ball, Friday night will close the meeting.

MARINES HERE FOR CHRISTMAS

Warriner, Mrs. Andrew Wheeler, Mrs. A. H. Wintersteen, Mrs. Joseph L. Woolston Transport Hancock Arrives After Police Duty in Santo Domingo

> The United States transport Hancock with 600 marines aboard, arrived at League Island Navy Yard in time for Christman dinner yesterday, the first meal in United States soil for sixteen months. on United States soil for sixteen months, the marines having been engaged in police duty during that time in Santo Domingo. The men were members of the Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Fifteenth and Nineteenth companies of marines, attached to Philadelphia, and the Ninth company, an artilizery battalion of Annapolis.
>
> It was the opinion of the men that there was no prospect of immediate peace on the island. The Government, they said, was completely disorganized and several independent bandits ruled the mountainous interior. Hope of pacification lies, they said, in the eventual disarmament of the natives.

TURKEY IN AIR FLIGHT Gives Exhibition in Aeronautics and Is

Finally Subdued

Residents alonk Earlham street in Germantown are wondering today if turkeys can have premonitions. The wonderment was provoked by what seems to have heen a very evident case of it yesterday. Shortly before dinner time a wild turkey was seen flying through the air above the street, finally alighting on a roof of a three-story house. What seemed to have made it wild was the approach of dinner time and the shadow of an axe. It escaped from a poultry man in Coulter airset, west from a poultry man in Coulter street, west of Wayne avenus, and volplaned down the thoroughfare. It was finally subdued by a suried stone and carried away by a negro if it had had a premonition, the negro's targe and copious amile testified to its co-

TO AID STRICKEN-POLAND

Cardinal Gibbons Accepts Honorary Chairmanship of Committee

BALTIMORE, Dec. 26. - Cardinal Gibbons has socceed the honorary chairman-ship of the Maryland Committee for the Relief of Poland's War Victims. He expresend heen sympathy for the work and said he would assist in every way possible. The cardinal said a woman who recently had been in the ravaged sections of Foland told him that virtually all children under seven years had periahed for want of food or shelter.

Thug Beats and Robs Socialist Thug Heats and Robe Socialist
Carl Banner, of New York, a Socialist
orator, is in a serious condition in the
Califren's Homeopathic Hospital suffering
from a fractured law and nose and cuts
and bruises inflicted last night by a robber
who attacked him after he had finished
upeaking at a meeting at Eleventh street
and Girard avenue. Beiner was walking
up Ninth atreet when at Thompson street
he was attacked and robbed of his watch
and a small amount of money.

Alleged Meck Wedding Causes Arrest Alleged fileck wedding Causes Arrest
J. P. Krarbly, said to have lived with his
wife and children in West Philadelphia,
was held in \$200 ball by Magistrate Beaton,
in Central Police Central yesterday, until
investigation could be made of a complaint
filed by Ethni Crilling, sevention years old,
2007 North Stillings sevention years old,
2007 North Stillings sevention pears old,
2007 North Stillings sevention years old,
2007 North Stillings sevention years
of having marriage, the said, took place
in Harrisoning and the investigation is beTIME, TODAY; PLACE, EVERYWHERE



Copyright Life Publishing Company. Reprinted by special arrangement. "His sister's and his cousin's and his aunt's."

overdimmed the sky.

gun, the man felt shaken by this latest and

greatest of all the mysteries they had been

Already the verge lay far behind; and now the sense of empty space above and on all sides and there below was overpow-

wided, of course, as you say, that there is one)—or else it's been swallowed up, ages

ago, by whatever catastrophe produced this yawning gulf.

"In either event we've got to try to dis

them, imposed its awe upon their thoughts.

and after the meal was done, by tack understanding they refrained from trying to approach it or to peer over. Too great the risks by night. They spoke but little, and presently—exhausted by the trying events of the day—sought sleep under the vanes of the Paulilac.

But for an hour, tired as he was, the

of trying to find some living members of the

uman race.
Morning found them revived and

And after the meal was done, by tacit

up against !"

BEYOND THE GREAT OBLIVION (Sequel to "The Vacant World")

By GEORGE ALLAN ENGLAND

Coppright, 1916, by Frank A. Munzey THE STORY THUS FAR the sight lost itself in pearly vapors that

Allen Stern and Beatrice Kendrick arrived at the old manusion of Van Amburg, etart to work in earnest to make the house habitable. During the weeks of settling down, they live on the flat that Allan catches with a rule rod, and same. The world's lime man spends a great deal of his time atter that in the construction of a world's eagoing craft, for he plans to applies the world in quest of civilizations. Together they start on their plansactions are the world in quest of civilizations. Together they start on their plansactions are the world in quest flower and thirty miles along the world in great carried flower and three house from the heavily and the finds the boat is being drawn by a territo current feward a great cataract. In some miraculous way he and Heatrice are saved from death in the great planse, but the boat and all their provisions are lost. After a week's eccamingtent in the side of the ma, they recover sufficient strength and supplies in set of again for floaten.

They reach the runs of the preserved as a sould are constituted as their first to Hoston, but encounter a historicane and are carried far out of their course.

CHAPTER XX On the Lip of the Chasm

VERY near, now, was the strange apparition. On, on, swift as a falcon, the plane hurtled. Stern glanced at Beatrice, Never had he seen her more beautiful. About her face, rosy and full of life, the luxuriant loose hair was whipping. Hereyes sparkled with this new excitement, and on her full red lips a smile betrayed her keen enloyment. No trace of fear was there—nothing but confidence and strength and lov in the adventure. TERY near, now, was the strange appa-

there—nothing but confidence and strength and joy in the adventure.

The phenomenon of the world's end—for nothing else describes it adequately—now appeared distinctly as a lagged line, beyond which nothing showed. It differed from the horison line, inasmuch as it was close at hand. Already the adventurers could peer down upon it at an acute angle.

Plainly could they see the outlines of rees growing along the verge. But beyond them, nothing.

It differed essentially from a canyon, be ause there was no other side at all. Strain his eye as he might. Stern could detect no opposite wall. And now, realizing something of the possibilities of such a chaum, he swung the Paulliac southward. Flying parallel to the edge of this tremendous harrier, he sought to solve the mystery of

"If I go higher, perhaps I may be able to get some notion of it." thought he, and swinging upwind, he spiraled till the baro-meter showed he had gained another thou-

But even the additional view profited him nothing. Half a mile to westward the ragged tree-line still showed as before, with vacancy behind it, and as far as Stern could see to north, to south, it stretched w till the dim blue distance swallowed it. Yet straight across the gulf, no land appeared. Only the sky itself was visible there, as calm and as unbroken as in the zenith, yet extending far below where the horizon-line should have been—down, in fact, to where the tree-line cut it off from Stern's vision.

The effect was precisely that of coming o the edge of a vast plain, beyond which nothing lay save space, and peering over.
"The and of the world, indeed," thought the engineer, despite himself. "But what can it mean? What can have happened to the sphere to have changed it like this? Good heavens, what a marvel-what a cataatrophe !"

engineer lay thinking of the chasm, trying in vain to solve its problem or to understand how they were to follow any further the search for the ruins of Chicago, where fuel was to be had, or to carry out the work Determined at all hazards to know more of this titanic break or "fault," or what-soever it might bo, he banked again, and now, on a descending slant, veered down toward the lip of the chasm.

"Going out over it?" cried Heatrice.

"It may be miles deep! "You can't get killed any deader falling a hundred miles than you can a hundred feet." he shouted back above the droning racket of the motor.

racket of the motor.

And, with a fresh grip on the wheel, head well forward, every sense alert and keen to meet whatever conditions might arise, to hattle with cross-currents, "air-holes," or any other vortices swirling up out of those unknown depths, he skimmed the Paulilae fair toward the lip of the monstrous va-

Now as they rushed almost above the Now as they runned amount to were he could see conclusively they were not dealing with a canyon like the Yosemite or like any other he had ever seen or heard of in the old days.

There was positively no bottom to the

terrific thing ! Just a shear adge and beyond that-noth-

Nowhere any sign of an opposite bank; nowhere the faintest trace of land. Far far below, even a few faint cloude showed floating there as if in mid-heaven.

The effect was ghastly, nanerving and altogether terrible. Not that Stern feared height. No, it was the unreality of the experience, the inexplicable character of this yawning edge of the world that almost overcame him.

Only by a strong exercise of will power could be hold the biplane to her course. His every instinct was to veer, to retreat back to solid earth and land somewhere and once more, at all hazards, get the contact of reality.

But Stern resisted all these impulses, and now had driven the Pauline right to the lip of the vast nothingness.

Now they were over!

"My God!" he cried, stunned by the real-tantion of this thing. "Shear space! No

bottom anywhere!"
For all at occe they had shot, as it were, out into a void which seemed to hold no connection at all with the earth they now

connection at all with the earth they now were quitting.

Store caught a glimpse of the tail forest growing up to within a hundred yards of the edgo, then of mealier trees, dwindling to bushes and grassa and strange red sand that hordered the gap—sand and rocks, barren as though some up-draft from the void had killed off vegetable growth along the very brink.

Then all slid back and away. The red ribbed wall of the great chams, shattered and broken as by some inconceivable disaster, some Cosmic catachyses, fell away and away, donumered dimmer and store dim entil it faded gradually into a bine hase, then vanished intesty.

And flate below key mathingtons—and polisingness stratched out is freet to where

Going first to make sure no rock should crumble under the girl's tread, no danger threaten. Stern tosted every foot of the way to the very edge of the sheer chasm.

Blowly, now!" he cautiened, taking her hand. "We've got to be careful here. My God, what a drop!"

hand. "We've got to be careful here. My God, what a drop!"

Awed, despite themselves, they stood there on a flat aish of sohist that projected boldly over the void. Seen from this point tha immense nothingness opered out below them even more tarrible than it had seemed from the biplane.

The fact is common knowledge that a

from the biplane.

The fact is common knowledge that a height viewed from a balloon or aeroplane is always far less distying than from a lofty building or a monument. Giddiness vanishes when no solid support lies under the feet. This fact Stern and the girl appreciated to the full as they peered over the edge. Ten times more commons and frightful the vast blue mystery beneath them now appeared than it had seemed before. "Lot's look sheer down," main the girl, "By lying flat and pearing over there can't be any danger."

"All right, but only on condition that I keep tight hold of you."

Beatrice glanced at Stern as the Paulliac sped true as an arrow in its fight, out into this strange and incomprehensible vaculty.

the sun or the moon or stars?"
"Light from above only has to pierce forty or fifty miles of really dense air. Above that height it's excessively rarified. While down below earth level, of course, it Just a shade paler now he seemed. Despite the kven wind, a glister of sweat drops studded his forehead. His daw was set set hard; she could see the powerful maxwould get more and more dense all the ime, till at the bottom of a 500-mile drop he density and pressure would be tremenillary nuscles knotted there where the throat cords met the angle of the bone. And she understood that, for the first time since their tremendous adventure had be-

Beatrice made no answer. The spectacle he was gazing at filled her with solemn houghts. Jagged, rent and riven, the rock extended downward. Here vast and broken ledges ran along its flanks—red, yellow, black, all seared and burned and citrified as by the fire of hell; there huge masses. up-piled, seemed about to fall into the

Stern gasped with a peculiar choking sound. Then all at once, throwing the front steering plane at an angle, he brought the machine about and headed for the distant A quarter-mile to southward a had found its way over a projecting ledge. Spraying and silvery it fell, till, dissipated by the up-draft from the abyss, it dissolved quarter-mile to southward a rivulet

He spoke no word, nor did she; but they The ledge on which they were lying exboth swept the edge of the chasm with anxious eyes seeking a place to light. It was with tremendous relief that they both saw the solid earth once more below tended downward perhaps 300 yards, then sloped backward, leaving sheer empty space beneath them. They seemed to be poised in mid-heaven. It was totally unlike the senthem. And when five minutes later, having chosen a clear and sand-barren on the verge, some two miles southward along the abyss. Stern brought the machine to earth. sation on a mountain top, or even floating among the clouds; for a moment it seemed to Stern that he was looking up toward an unfathomable, infinite dome above him. He shuddered, despite his cool and scienthey felt a gratitude and a relief not to be

"Some chemical action going on some-where down there." said he, haif to divert his own attention from his thoughts. "Smell that sulphur? If this place wasn't "By Jove" exclaimed the man, lifting Beatrice from the seat, "if that isn't enough Beatrics from the same and same and same all his ideas, geological and otherwise, I'd like to know what is!" ce the scene of volcanic activities, I'm no judge!

to know what is:

"Coing to try to cross it?" she asked anxiously: "that is, if there is any other side? I know, of course, that if there is you'll find out, some way or other:"

"You overestimate me," he replied, "All I can do, for now, is to camp down here and try to figure the problem out—with your help. Whatever this thing is, it's evident it stands between us and our plan. Either Chicago lies on the other side—tprovided, of course, as you way, that there is A moderate yet very steady wind blew pward from the chasm, freighted with a cent of sulphur and some other substance new to Stern. Beatrice, all at once overcome by sudden

giddiness, drew back and hid her face in both hands. "No bottom to it—no end!" she said in a scared tone. "Here's the end of the world, right here, and beyond this very rock-

nothing!"
Stern, puzzled, shook his head.

cover the truth, and act accordingly. But for now, there's nothing we can do. It's getting fate already. We've had enough for one day, little girl. Come on, let's make

the machine ready for the night, and camp down here and have a hite to eat. Perhaps by tomorrow we may know just what we're "If a whole side of the earth had split off, and what we see down below there were with spectral light, before the two adventurors had finished their meal. All during it they had kept an unusual silence. The presence of that terrible guif, there not two hundred feet away to westward of them, imposed its awe upon their thoughts.

"I shall have to make some close scientific tests here, lasting a day or two, before I'm positive; but my impression is that this, after all, is only a canyon—a split in the surface—rather than an actual end of the

(CONTINUED TOMORROW)

What's Doing Tonight

Meeting. Delawers River Penn Memorial Bridge Committee, Hotel Adelphia, 8 o'cheek. Franksation of Zionist Society, Young Men's Hebrew Association, 1613 Master street, 8 o'cheek. Salvation Army Christmas celebration for children, Musical Fund Hall. The Sheic Cluk, Aldine Hotel. Benedicks' Ball, Horticultural Hall.

strengthened. Even before they made their fire or premared their breakfast they were exploring the edge of the gigantic cleft.

BEST SHOW EVER

'Philly Follies," It Has Been Dubbed, and It Will Star Them All

SPECIAL TRAINS COMING

Philadelphia is now getting ready for its own big jubilation—the mummers' pa-syant, which will extend the glad hand to

You are assured in advance that it will be worth going miles to see. The rath-roads are aware of this fact, and have ar-ranged for dozens and dozens of special trains from the big cities of the east and

The state of the sast bile mystery beneath them now appeared than it had seemed before.

"Let's look shear down," said the girl, "By lying flat and peering over there can't be any danger."

"All right, but only an condition that I keep tight hold of you!"

Cautously they hay down and worked their way to the edge. The engineer circled Beta's cuppis walst with his arm.

"Steady, now "he warned. "When you feel siddy let me know and we'll go back."

The effect of the chasm, from the very edge of the rock, was terrifying. It was like nothing ever seen by human eyes. Peering down into the Grand Canon of the Colorado would have been child's play beside it. For this was no question of looking down a half-mile, a mile or even five, to some solid bottom.

Bottom there was none—nothing save dull purple hare, shifting vapors and an unearthy dim light which seemed to radiate upward as though the sun's rays, reflected, were striving to beat up again.

"There must be miles and miles of air below us," said Stern. "to account for this curious light effect. Air, of course, will eventually cut off the vision. Given a sufficiently thick layer, say a few hundred miles, it couldn't be seen through. So if there is a bottom to this place, be it 150 or even 50g miles down, of course, we couldn't see it. All we could see would be the air, which side of American life. Many of these will be side of American life. Many of these will select a first who shops, and in fact all the girls in their very girliest gevgaws will, be on view. As special prizes have been reading about will also be in line. There will be more than half a hundred floats depicting the political, industrial and characteristic side of American life. Many of these will

eventually cut off the vision. Given a sufficiently thick layer, say a few hundred miles, it couldn't be seen through. So if there is a bottom to this place, be it 100 or even 500 miles down, of course, we couldn't see it. All we could see would be the air, which would give this nort of blue effect."

"Yes; but in that case how can we see the sun or the moon or stars?"

"Light from above only has to plerce forty or fifty miles of really dense air. Above that height it's excessively rarified.

Above that height it's excessively rarified.

mittee, expects the big jubilation to be a record-breaker, and H. Bart McHugh, organizer of the whole show, says there's no doubt about it. In view of the big plans for your enjoy-ment, you can have no better engagement the morn of January 1, 1917, than watching the Philly follies.

TROUBADOUR SINGS AGAIN

Philadelphia Opera Company Repeats Verdi Work in Fine Fashion

The Philadelphia Grand Opera Company entered the second week of its enterprise of furnishing our music-lovers with an oper-atic season marked by performances dra-matically, vocally and instrumentally adematically, vocally and instrumentally adequate with a repetition of the ever favorite Verdian metodies of "II Trovatore." There was scheduled a Christmas matines performance of "Lucia," but on account of the great competition of new attractions in the playhouses the Yuletide celebration of the opera organisation was confined to the illitated love of the Troubadour and his Leonora, a love complicated by the evil passion and mailes of the Count di Luna and the tragic career of the gypay Asucepa.

and the tragic career of the gypay Asucena It is not out of place to set on record here the fact that the audience was not of the sisable and financially gratifying pro-portions which encourage impresarios and enable the settlement of bills with real money. The performances given by this organisation have been exceedingly good organization have been exceedingly good and deserve the recognition of the full-paid houses aside from the support due to local pride. The city should rally to the com-

pride. The city should rally to the company's support.

The cast was very capable. Forrest Lamont, the young American tenor, of opulent and golden voice, sang the impassioned melodies of the Troubadour hero with gusto and ringing quality. The Latin ferver and convincing histrionism of Eather Ferrablis made Leonora seem far from a phonographic puppet. The Azucena of Margaret Jarman was intense and the diabolic Court of Manrico Aleto was sinister in action and graceful in vocalism. Maestro Ettore Martini conducted the score with full appreciation of its marvels of tune and Stern, puzzled, shook his head.

"That's really impossible, ghaurd and ridiculous, of course." he answered. "There must be something beyond. The way this stone falls proves that."

He pitched a two-pound lump of granite far out into the air. It fell vertically, whiring, and vanished with the speed of a meteor.

Ferrabibli made Leonora seem far from a phonographic puppet. The Azucena of Marrico Court of Manrico Aleto was sinister in action and graceful in vocalism. Maestro Ettore Martini conducted the score with full appreciation of its marvels of tune and meteor.

105, SHE TRIES NEW DANCES

Brooklyn Woman Finds Modern Steps a Bit Difficult

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Mrs. Alice Bennett celebrated hor 105th birthday anniversary at her home, 152 Webster avenue, Brooklyn, where she has lived more than fifty years. She was greeted by a throng of children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, who found her busily making plans for trimming the Christmas troe and cooking Christmas dinner. In the evening there was a dance at the house, and Mrs. Bennett tried out a few steps. She found the modern dances a bit difficult to master at her age, however.

Mrs. Bennett is in excellent health. She

Mrs. Bennett is in excellent health. She was born in Dublin and came to this country eighty-five years ago. She is the widow of Thomas Bennett, a Flatbush farmer. She has a daughter, Mrs. Nell C. Kerswell, in Philadelphia.

