

BRIGGS IS BEATEN.

A Careful Poll of the Presbytery Shows He Will Be Outvoted by the

CLOSE VOTE OF 69 TO 65.

The Professor's Friends Will Look on This as a Victory, Though.

SUSPENSION FROM THE MINISTRY

Sure to Result if the Vote Is Cast as It Promises to Be.

THE MARGIN CERTAIN TO BE SMALL.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.] NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Within the next two days the vexatious question whether Prof. Briggs is a heretic or not, which has been agitating the whole Presbyterian Church for nearly two years, will be settled as far as the New York Presbytery is concerned.

For nearly three weeks the 130 odd members of the Presbytery have been listening patiently to the evidence and arguments of the prosecution and defense, and to-morrow the court will reconvene at 2 o'clock to vote on the charges brought against the theological professor by the committee of prosecution.

There are many preliminaries that must be arranged before the actual vote is taken, and these will occupy two or possibly three sessions.

When the Presbytery has decided just who are to constitute the court and who are entitled to vote, tickets of admission will be given to the members of the Presbytery entitled to vote, and all others, even Prof. Briggs and the Committee of Prosecution, will be rigidly excluded from the lecture room of the Scotch Presbyterian Church, where the voting is to be done.

A Long Time Needed to Vote.

According to the Book of Discipline of the Church, every member of the court has a right to explain his vote before casting it for or against the accused, and unless some restriction is placed on the speeches with which many members have primed themselves the voting will be prolonged over an indefinite period.

Then, too, there are six charges upon which Prof. Briggs has been tried. One of these charges was split into two by the vote of the Presbytery and another was split into three. It was agreed that a separate vote should be taken on each of these sub-charges, so that every member of the court must vote nine times or on many different charges.

If the roll of the courts is called for each of these charges, and each man is allowed to make a speech as his name is called, the voting of the court may be carried into the middle of January.

Rev. Charles L. Thompson, of the faculty of the Presbyterian Church, has a plan which will be put before the Presbytery to-morrow, which has for its purpose the obviating of this delay.

One Way to Shorten Up Things.

According to his proposed resolution the roll of the Presbytery will be called once, and each member will vote no or yes on all the charges at once. Each member is to have but ten minutes to explain his vote, under Dr. Thompson's resolution.

There has been a deal of speculation in the past two weeks as to what the verdict of Prof. Briggs' jurors will be. Many of the jurors have had their minds made up from the first. Union Theological Seminary, through its faculty and directors, has a large representation in the Presbytery, and these votes will be cast to a man for Prof. Briggs.

There are many members who have been uncompromisingly opposed to Prof. Briggs since ever since his inaugural address was delivered, and they have not been shaken in the least by the long argument of Prof. Briggs. A DISPATCH reporter has made a close examination of the roll of the court, and from votes taken in the past and the views expressed by many, it is possible to estimate very closely what the final vote upon the question of conviction or acquittal will be.

The Presbytery Evenly Divided.

The Presbytery is divided between partisans and opponents of Dr. Briggs so evenly that an almost perfect balance is maintained between the two sides. There are now 135 ministers and elders on the roll of the court, and there are a few more under consideration, which may add to the roll.

There are only three or four men in the court whose position on the great question is uncertain—just enough to leave the final outcome in doubt. A careful canvass of the whole court has been quietly made by a representative of the Committee of Prosecution, but the members of the committee will not disclose the result.

A Close Margin at Any Rate.

As it looks now, Prof. Briggs will be convicted by a vote of about 69 to 65. These figures are the result of very close calculations. A change in two votes would be sufficient to make the result a tie, but in this case the Moderator, Rev. Dr. Bliss, would have the casting vote, and it is said that his vote will be for the prosecution if this contingency comes up.

A conviction would probably result in Prof. Briggs being suspended from the ministry. He would undoubtedly appeal to the Synod, and from there to the General Assembly, but in the meantime he could not properly carry on his duties as Professor of Biblical Theology in Union Seminary, which has just been tried before the Cincinnati Presbytery, was convicted by the close vote of 52 to 30. The margin in Prof. Briggs' case will be fully as close, and his friends say that with the vote as close as this the victory of the prosecution would be but a nominal one.

MURDERED BY MOLLIES.

A Wilkesbarre Mine Boss Probably Fatally Shot on a Highway.

WILKESBARRE, Dec. 27.—At an early hour this morning Thomas Ford, a mine boss, while on his way home, met three men and a woman who were acting quite strangely. One of the number stepped up to Ford, whipped out a revolver and pointed the weapon at him.

Ford was found later on and removed to his home. Up to noon to-day there is no knowledge of the identity of the man who did the shooting or his companions, but they are believed to be a gang of ruffians of the Molly Maguire order, who are still in existence in the coal fields. Ford's wound will probably prove fatal.

The Old Man Blew Out the Gas.

TEMPERED WITH MERCY.

Comparatively Light Sentences for the Members of the Cooley Gang—Judge Ewing Gives the Prisoners Some Good Advice—End of the Cases.

UNIONTOWN, Dec. 27.—[Special.]—The "Cooley cases" were brought to a close this afternoon when Judge Ewing sentenced Lida Pastorius and Sam Yeager and suspended sentence on John H. Pastorius, Mrs. Cooley and her children, Lida, Hattie and Little Russell. Lida Pastorius was first called for sentence.

At the request of Judge Ewing Lida stepped before him. When asked what she had to say she said: "Your Honor, I would like if you would put the sentence for my father and myself all on me. My father is innocent." At this point she broke down, and, hiding her face in her hands, wept and, bidding addressing herself to the fair judge, said: "I am sorry you cannot say of yourself that you are innocent. You have been Frank Cooley's consort through all his escapades. You stood by him, although you knew that he was guilty and that the officers of the law were seeking him. I hope that you will reform and live an upright life. There are two special reasons why you can do that now. The first is that the cause for your transgression has been removed by death, and second that your punishment will teach you that you have been doing wrong." He then sentenced her to pay the costs of prosecution, a fine of 6 cents and 18 months in the Allegheny county workhouse.

Sam Yeager, formerly a member of the Cooley gang, and through whose betrayal the outlaws were brought to their death and justice, was called up for sentence. Yeager pleaded guilty to the charge of carrying concealed weapons. When he was called for sentence Judge Ewing said: "You have pleaded guilty to the charge of carrying concealed weapons. You were lucky and not being charged with the other members of the gang with the deprecations charged up against them. If the reports are true you could easily have been convicted along with them. You are wanted in another State for a similar offense and will be taken there when the sentence I impose has expired. In order that we may the sooner see if you are guilty of these charges I will make your sentence for this offense as light as possible. I therefore sentence you to pay the costs of prosecution, a fine of 6 cents and imprisonment in the Allegheny county workhouse for six months."

When the boys were called for sentence, Downs, Esq., one of their attorneys, was absent, and Colonel Searight was called upon to speak for them. At the conclusion of Colonel Searight's speech Judge Ewing stated that he had given the case the consideration it had and concluded to suspend sentence.

HUNGRY ON CHRISTMAS.

Secretary Dorente Finds a Family at the Point of Starvation—A Sad Holiday Season—Prompt Reformation of a Father—Starting a New Life.

Secretary Dorente, of the Anti-Cruelty Society, yesterday investigated the case of the family of Thomas Westwood, No. 71 Hamlin street, Allegheny. The family live in two rooms, containing a few chairs, a table and two mattresses. Mrs. Westwood, who is in poor health, has been supporting the family by washing. She is just recovering from an attack of diphtheria.

When Secretary Dorente visited the place yesterday the mother and her children were crouching around a few smoldering sparks in the grate. The children had neither shoes nor stockings, and but few garments of any kind. The mother was in even a worse plight. Her cheeks were hollow and her eyes sunken, while her whole body had an extremely emaciated appearance. In a basket hanging over the fire was a little chopped cabbage. This the woman explained was all the food in the house, and with a despairing laugh she said she supposed they would starve when that was done.

Mrs. Westwood said that since she had been sick she had not been able to earn any money, and that on Christmas Day she and her children had gone without a bite to eat since she had been in bed.

Mr. Dorente gave the woman some money to buy food and clothing for herself and children. He then started out to find the husband. He found him nearly in an intoxicated condition. Mr. Dorente spoke very plainly to the man and told him that if he did not let drink alone and attend to his family that he would have him sent up to the workhouse. This completely sobered the man and he begged his wife and children to forgive him, after which he started out to hunt work.

HOMELESS AND FATALLY ILL.

John Crowley Turned Out of His Boarding House Falls Through a Trestle.

John Crowley is lying in a cell in the Fourteenth ward station and, according to the opinion of Police Surgeon Meyer, the chances are that he will die from exposure and injuries received from falling through the Baltimore and Ohio trestle at Second avenue and Murphy street. Crowley is a millworker and boarded on Second avenue, near Brady street. He was employed as an extra hand at the Keystone mill, but for some time has not had steady work, consequently he has got in arrears for board.

For a couple of days past he has been ill, but notwithstanding this fact, he was turned out from his boarding house yesterday morning. Weak and almost delirious, he undertook to walk the Baltimore and Ohio track. At the Murphy street trestle his foot slipped and he fell to the street below a distance of about 20 feet. He was badly injured about the stomach, hips and back.

Dr. Meyer visited the man last night and pronounced him dangerously ill of pneumonia, and stated that his recovery was very doubtful. Crowley is utterly alone in the world so far as he knows, and has no means of support. The Department of Charities will be notified to-day, and will probably take charge of the case.

THE CHAMPION BRUTE.

One Little Victim of His Fury Found Dead With 250 Bites and Burns.

CITY OF MEXICO, Dec. 27.—The authors of a fendish scheme, of which the first indication was discovered the other day, when the body of a boy 5 years old was found with 257 bites and burns, have been discovered. The boy was the uncle of the child and his wife. The father of the boy was transported some years ago to Yucatan, the mother remaining in Mexico in charge of the children. She died some months ago, and the orphans were left in charge of an uncle, who chastised them with the utmost barbarity and almost starved them to death.

On being arrested he confessed to having punished the child, but denies having done so with the intention of killing him. Three other orphans left in his charge are not forthcoming, and he is supposed to have made away with them also. The man exonerates his wife of any share in the child's maltreatment, but says that at his directions she carried the corpse away from the house and flung it into the vacant lot where it was found by the police.

33 MILES OF MINES AND OVENS.

The Probable Result of a Huge Deal Nearly Complete in West Virginia.

PARKERSBURG, Dec. 27.—The mining expert who has been examining the 6,000-acre tract of coal land lying chiefly along Dent's Run, in Monongalia county, which E. L. Parker & Co. are offering to a New York syndicate, has reported favorably to his principals. The big sale will be closed at once.

DAKINOVICH IN LUCK.

A Deceased Kansas City Doctor Wins a \$200,000 Estate to the College.

HANOVER, N. H., Dec. 27.—Dartmouth College has just received the largest individual bequest, with one exception, in its history. It comes from the late Ralph Butterfield, M. D., of Kansas City.

BUSINESS IS MEANT

By the Promoters of the International Navigation Plans.

IT'S A PRIVATE ENTERPRISE, And There Is No Danger of Uncle Sam Blinding It.

DISADVANTAGES OF A RIVAL SURVEY

SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.

OTTAWA, Ont., Dec. 27.—One of the promoters of the International Navigation syndicate was interviewed to-day by THE DISPATCH correspondent in reference to telegrams from Washington credited to the State Department to the effect that the United States authorities are not informed as to plans for "International Navigation." The promoter, who is here negotiating with the Canadian Government for the necessary charter powers, says there was no necessity to take counsel with the State Department, as the proposition is a commercial and not a diplomatic one, and has no political function, being designed solely to provide the cheapest possible transportation between the people who produce and those who consume.

When asked if the "International Navigation" could pay dividends if vessels using it were denied the privilege of going to New York City, as foreshadowed by the State Department, he replied: "Yes, the sale will not be denied the right of going to New York City. New York wants to bring commerce in, not to shut it out. The Departmental clerks who uttered the sentiments in question are not the arbiters of the question."

Remembering his wife's argument against his going west, he decided she was not satisfied to go. Then he began to figure. Under the terms of the contract he could not recover his money, yet if he missed a paying market for the farm, he would not stay and work the farm he couldn't pay. It was either give up his wife or the farm. He decided to give up the farm. A short time ago he came home, still hoping his wife would be satisfied, but she had left with Charles Powell, from whom he had bought the farm, and had an agreement by which Powell was to look after the cow.

No persuasion of his could induce his wife to change her mind. He would not pay the freight on the trunk. As no answer came he wrote again, telling Powell to keep the cow, keep the farm, but send the trunk at once without preparing. As yet the trunk has not come. Ever since the Mayor of Albany brought no response, so Seifert has now appealed to the police to get his trunk. They say they will try to do so. In the meantime Seifert is happy with his little wife in a flat on Ninewidde street.

OIL OPERATORS IDLE.

Not a Walking Beam Moving in Several Districts Owing to Water Lines Being Frozen Up—Wells Due This Week—New Ones Located.

Every well in the Willow Grove, Nobles-ton and Oakdale districts was reported yesterday to be shut down on account of the water lines being frozen up, and no water could be had to run the boilers. Not even the many pumping wells could be kept going, and everything was at a standstill.

The People's Gas Company's No. 159 Wallace and their two wells on the Dixon farm, which were expected in the Gordon sand, were shut down. The Forest Oil Company is rigging up its No. 5 and 4 on the Striving farm below Oakdale and its No. 1 on the W. E. Edmundson farm. The No. 3 on the W. E. Green farm, located northeast of Noble, is being drilled.

This company's No. 6 on the A. P. Clevor farm in the eastern McCurdy field is through the 100-foot and is about to be put on this week. It is located opposite to their No. 6 on the D. K. Clevor farm. Their No. 5 on the Charles Baker mine is about to go. The stock in the field was 47,000 barrels.

The National Transit runs were 15,018; shipments, 48,751. Buckeye runs of Mackinac bay oil, 794; shipments, not in. Buckeye runs of oil, 2,400; shipments, 2,400. New York Transit shipments, 73,850. Southern Pipe Line shipments, 73,850.

The runs of the Tidewater Pipe Line Company on Saturday and Sunday were 4,014; total, 105,092; average, 4,260; shipments none, 2,187,976; average, 5,739 barrels.

The runs of the Western Atlantic Pipe Line on Saturday and Sunday were 4,211 and the shipments 4,279 barrels. Runs on Monday, 15,865; shipments, 15,077. Buckeye runs of oil, 2,400; shipments, 2,400. Southern Pipe Line shipments Monday were 2,383; shipments Sunday were 2,383; on Monday, 2,441.

The runs of the W. L. Mellon lines for Saturday, Sunday and Monday were 11,422; shipments, 11,422. The runs of the National Transit Company on Sunday were 1,174; shipments, 1,555; runs on Monday, 18,565; shipments, 15,077. Buckeye runs of oil, 2,400; shipments, 2,400. Southern Pipe Line shipments Monday were 2,383; shipments Sunday were 2,383; on Monday, 2,441.

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A FARM FOR A WIFE.

She Wouldn't Go to Oregon, So Her Husband Forfeits His Farm and a \$17 Cow and Returns to Her—Now He Wants the Police to Recover His Trunk.

It is not often the tender sentiment is so well illustrated as it was in a case brought to the attention of the police officials yesterday. Jacob Seifert and his wife called to secure assistance in recovering his trunk, which is in Albany, Oregon. The couple are young, he is a German and she of German extraction, but a native of the South.

That he loves her dearly is shown by the fact that in September he went to Oregon, bought a 20-acre farm, paid \$700 on it, and then, because his wife would not go to him, he threw up his claim to the property, including the \$700 and a \$17 cow, and came back to her.

Seifert is a slate roofer, and has lived in this city for several years. His brother lives in Oregon. Letters from his brother induced Jacob to visit him. Before he started Jacob told his wife that if he got an opportunity to do as well as his brother had done he would buy a farm and settle there. She did not relish the idea of leaving all her relatives here, and endeavored to dissuade him, using the argument that if a man couldn't get along in Pittsburgh he couldn't get along anywhere. The young husband was made up however, and before he started he sold a couple of lots he owned up the Valley Railroad.

After visiting his brother he went to Albany, Lin county, which he described by the name of the river. He bought a 20-acre farm for \$1,400, paying \$700 down and giving an installment note for the balance. Then he wrote to his wife. While waiting for her to come he bought a cow for \$17, and furnished the cottage on the farm to make it comfortable. No answer came to his letter, and he wrote again. Still there was no reply. Finally Seifert became desperate.

Remembering his wife's argument against his going west, he decided she was not satisfied to go. Then he began to figure. Under the terms of the contract he could not recover his money, yet if he missed a paying market for the farm, he would not stay and work the farm he couldn't pay. It was either give up his wife or the farm. He decided to give up the farm. A short time ago he came home, still hoping his wife would be satisfied, but she had left with Charles Powell, from whom he had bought the farm, and had an agreement by which Powell was to look after the cow.

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SWEET APPLE JUICE.

A Farmer Charges Another With Selling Hard Cider, but the Jury

WOULDN'T HAVE IT THAT WAY.

Rev. W. E. Covert Is Formally Declared Fane by the Court.

BUYING TYPEWRITERS WITHOUT CASH

In the Criminal Court, yesterday, Jacob Solomon, tried for selling liquor without license on Sunday and to minors, was found not guilty and the costs placed on George Carpenter, the prosecutor. The case was one of cider. The parties are farmers living in Penn township. Carpenter charged Solomon with selling hard cider, an alleged intoxicating drink. Solomon denied the hardness, admitting that he sold cider, but not on Sunday, and that it was sweet cider and produced no intoxication. The jury by its verdict decided that the beverage in question does not come within the provision of the Brooks law.

Bridget Gallagher pleaded guilty to illegal liquor sold at Jack's Run. "Castle Blarney," alias Ed McElvaine, was convicted of furnishing liquor to minors and was fined \$50 and sent 30 days to the workhouse. He was found not guilty of selling liquor without license, but ordered to pay the costs.

Julia Yates was acquitted of illegal liquor selling at McDonald. George Burton pleaded guilty to assault and battery on M. O. Frank, of the Thirtieth ward. He was fined \$25 and costs. Samuel Crawford was acquitted of the larceny by bailee of some lumber from N. Welch, of the Eighth ward, Allegheny.

Thomas Marr and William Roach were convicted of malicious mischief in stoning the house of J. W. E. Schellman, of the Eleventh ward, Allegheny. Fred Schleitner, for assault and battery on Catherine Schlichting, was fined \$10 and costs.

Other sentences imposed were: Sloan Nauder, illegal liquor selling, \$500 fine and three months to the workhouse; John Garvin, assault and battery, four months to the workhouse; John J. Gorman, illegal liquor selling, \$500 fine and three months to the workhouse; Valeria Kapusenski, alias Marie Ser, bigamy, six months to the workhouse.

A SWINDLER'S CUTE TRICKS.

E. W. Robertson was given a hearing before United States Commissioner Gamble yesterday on a charge of using the postoffice in a scheme to defraud. The information was made by Postoffice Inspector McCallmont. At the hearing it was testified that Robertson had succeeded in obtaining by fraud a number of typewriters and watches of various firms and business men in different places. Then under the letter head he would write a letter ordering a typewriter or a watch as advertised for sale, sign the name of the firm whose paper he was using, and the letter would be shipped to him and he would receive it, but when the check would be presented for payment the swindle would be developed.

The number of checks going to protest in this way led to complaints and the post-office authorities were notified. They ran down Robertson, and he was arrested in Ohio and brought to Pittsburgh, where the information was made against him. It was made here because some of the letters were mailed in Erie county, which belongs to this district of the court.

At the conclusion of the hearing yesterday he was committed to jail in default of \$1,000 bail to await trial in the United States District Court.

FOLLOWED THE NEW YORK COURT.

A Modified Injunction Issued Upon the Westinghouse Company.

An argument was heard by Judges Acheson and Buffington in the United States Circuit Court yesterday on the motion made by Attorney Fish, of New York, representing the Edison Company, to restrain the Westinghouse Company from manufacturing the old form of incandescent lamp.

The Westinghouse Company was represented by Attorney Curtis, of New York. He said the defense would not oppose the injunction, provided the same restrictions be held by the court as in the order made by the New York court in the Sawyer-Mann case, on which this proceeding was based.

Charges of bad faith were denied, and after a brief hearing the court granted the restraining order with the reservations asked by the defense.

COVERT DECLARED FANE.

He Insisted Upon a Public Declaration, and He Got It.

The hearing in the habeas corpus proceedings to secure the release of the Rev. W. E. Covert from the St. Francis Hospital came up yesterday in the United States Court. The physicians at the hospital had pronounced Mr. Covert recovered and sound in both mind and body and directed his discharge from the hospital. Mr. Covert, however, did