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CITY NOTES.

There will be a social gathering and tea-drawing tonight at the Green Ridge library.

The Delaware and Hudson company paid Saturday at the Mill Creek, Delaware and Baltimore shafts at Parsons and Delaware.

The fire department committee of council will meet tomorrow afternoon to inspect the new wagon built for Chief Hickney by Conrad Peil.

Judge H. M. Edwards was on Saturday elected to fill the vacancy on the board of directors of the West Side hospital caused by the death of D. M. Jones.

The Walte Comedy company closed its successful two weeks' engagement at the Academy of Music Saturday night. The house was crowded to the doors.

The Scranton Lodge of Elks will hold a smoker Tuesday evening in the lodge rooms. Prizes will be awarded in euchre and chess. Light refreshments will be served.

Jerome Keogh will give a pool exhibition at the benefit for Ed. McLaughlin, at the Arena, in Philadelphia, Wednesday night. All the champion billiard and pool players are killed to be present.

The match between the Nicholson and Walton Gun clubs which was to have taken place on the latter's grounds Saturday did not occur, owing to the failure of the Nicholson club to put in an appearance.

Scranton Clearing House exchanges last week were: Monday, \$172,186.02; Tuesday, \$180,823.01; Wednesday, \$151,471.22; Thursday, \$132,367.48; Friday, \$106,578.89; Saturday, \$86,644.21; total, \$839,522.82; cleared for the week ended Feb. 8, 1897, were \$729,922, an increase of \$110,536.64.

THE PRISONER OF ZENDA.

That Drama Produced at the Frothingham on Saturday.

The company of players that produced "The Prisoner of Zenda" at the Frothingham Saturday afternoon and night was not all that could be desired. In fact it was rather weak, but there is no gain saying the merit of the drama.

The dramatization of Anthony Hope's striking story was cleverly done by Edward Rose. He has preserved the romantic and poetic qualities of the story and so cleverly welded them into the stirring scene with which the novel abounds that action is never too abundant or forced, yet it never lags for a moment and interest is sustained until the final fall of the hero.

The audience might find fault with the termination of the drama, in fact some did, for after all he had endured it seemed but reasonable that young Rassendyll should possess the Princess Flavia and be happy. This is the conventional way of rounding out the drama, especially one of the romantic school, but in real life rarely come to such a happy conclusion.

The play's finale is more dramatic and moreover is the logical sequence. As Rudolph Rassendyll and the Princess Flavia viewed their duty to themselves and the duty of the Princess to the kingdom of Ruritania they could not have acted otherwise.

In the dual role of the Rassendyll and Rudolf V. Edward E. J. Longshore, excellent and proved a worthy successor to Southern in a role the latter has made famous. Miss Una Abell made a winsome princess and acquitted herself very creditably. The Antoinette de Mariban of Jane Everett was weak and undeveloped. In competent hands it would have been one of the strongest roles of the drama. Emmett Corrigan, Benjamin Hendricks and George C. Robinson are members of the cast whose work entitles them to mention.

CHANGE IN CHORISTERS.

Penn Avenue Baptists and St. Patrick's Have New Organists.

Haydn Evans yesterday took charge of the music at Penn Avenue Baptist church, succeeding C. F. Whittemore. He presided at the organ and directed the singing at both services and also during Sunday school. For the present the church will continue with the solo quartette, but it is the intention to organize a chorus from among the members of the congregation in the near future and have both quartette and chorus music at the principal services.

Mr. Evans was succeeded at St. Patrick's church by Miss Anna Durkin, of the South Side, one of his pupils, who is a highly accomplished young musician. He will continue to drill the choir this week for the special services next Sunday on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Father Mathew society. Miss Durkin's appointment, it is understood, has not as yet been made permanent.

The Scranton Turn Verein thirtieth annual masquerade ball, Monday evening, February 8, at Turner hall. Tickets: admitting lady and gentlemen, \$1.00; single ticket, 50 cents.

GOUSE GIVEN ALMOST THE FULL PENALTY

Judge Edwards Says Mercy Enough Was Shown by the Jury.

TEN YEARS AND THREE MONTHS

Indicates Again That a Second Degree Verdict Would Have Been More Fitting and Declines to Add Anything to the Leniency Exercised by the Jury--Number of Sentences Imposed Saturday--Second Week Term Begins This Morning.

Ten years and three months in the Eastern penitentiary, \$1 fine and the costs of prosecution was the sentence imposed by Judge Edwards, Saturday, on John Gouse, the Archibald parolite. Twelve years and \$1,000 fine is the maximum penalty.

Mr. Balentine made a plea for clemency, reminding the judge that Gouse was a mere boy; that his former employer in Mahanoy City had written him that the job was waiting him if he should secure his liberty and that during his stay at Mahanoy City he attended night school and learned to speak the English language, and that which went to show that he aspired to better things.

Judge Edwards reiterated his former opinion that the evidence justified a verdict of second degree, and added that the jury had extended to him much more mercy as could be extended in the case.

He also spoke of the terrible crime of which Gouse was guilty and said that the thought of it would undoubtedly ever be a punishment in itself to the perpetrator. He then imposed the sentence.

Edward Hagen was sentenced by Judge Archibald to pay a fine of \$1, costs of prosecution and undergo imprisonment in the county jail for a period of nine months for stealing \$25 and a quantity of clothing from J. E. Fisk, of Wallsville. Judge Edwards added three months more for his embezzlement from Liveryman W. R. Edwards.

ONE YEAR IN COUNTY JAIL.

Edwin Jones, who was found guilty of receiving stolen goods, was given a fine of \$1, costs and one year in the county jail. Jones is the young man who was arrested in Davidow's while trying to dispose of gold and silver articles stolen from the Polish Catholic church on the South side. Two tramps whom he accused of having given him the goods were arrested for the burglary, but the jury discharged them.

George C. Fullerton, returned guilty of wantonly pointing firearms at Peter Lafrance at Elmhurst last Thanksgiving day, was let off with a fine of \$25 and costs.

Mary Burns, convicted of keeping a disorderly house at Rendham, was fined \$1 and given thirty days in the county jail.

John Sammon, the "Terror of State Hill," who was found guilty of assaulting Mrs. Elizabeth Reilly and of breaking windows in her house, was given \$10 fine, costs and thirty days in jail for the first offense and \$1 fine and ten days in jail for the second.

John Lepinski, Joseph Matyschuk, and John Kruplyuk, of Olyphant, were fined \$25 each and the costs for assaulting Andrew Lukatch.

The sentence of John F. Sheridan, who was returned guilty of assault and battery upon John McDonnell, was deferred until to-day.

The jury in the case of Patrick Rathford, charged with assault and battery by Mary Wilhelm, returned a verdict of not guilty, but pay the costs.

Thirty surety cases were disposed of Saturday morning by Judges Archibald and Edwards.

SECOND WEEK OF TERM.

The second week of the February term of criminal court begins this morning. Judge Gunster will preside in court room No. 1, and Judge Edwards in court room No. 2.

The Polya murder case will be called in court room No. 1 the first thing to-day. It will, it is expected, occupy the greater portion of the week, possibly the whole week. Other cases of note that are set down for the week are the libel suits brought against the Polish editors, Joseph A. Lipinski and Daniel Langowski, by Rev. Bruno Iwanowski and his housekeeper, Frances Schuchka; the malpractice charge against Dr. E. J. Longshore, brought by Nora McGlynn, in which Samuel Mahady also figures as a defendant; and the charges of Clara Welchel and Robert Davis, and the embezzlement charge against Arthur Hittchock.

SHE DRANK SODA WATER.

And Alderman Miller Said She Had a Right to Do So.

Because she had been guilty of the serious offense of drinking soda water in a hotel at Lansford, Manager John A. Flynn, of the London Gaiety Girls company, which appeared at Davis' theatre last week, deducted \$5 from the salary of Carrie Montelle, one of the dancers. The girl had the manager arraigned before Alderman Miller Friday on a charge of fraud.

The manager promised to adjust matters, but on returning to the theatre he refused to allow her to remove her effects from the place. She had him re-arrested. When Alderman Miller heard the case Saturday Flynn became bolder and said he'd be bluffed if he'd abide by any decision in the Montelle girl's favor.

The alderman directed Constable Thomas to take the manager to jail to await trial in court. This decision brought the threatened man to his knees, and with tears streaming down his face he begged for a reconsideration, promising to perform whatever restitution the alderman might direct.

The result was that the girl was paid her salary in full, her trunk and effects were delivered to her and she left on the 1:10 night Lackawanna train for New York city.

NEW COAL COMPANY FORMED.

Pittston and Wilkes-Barre Men Interested in It.

The Wyoming and Pond Creek Coal company is the name of a new corporation in which several Pittston gentlemen are actively interested, says the Pittston Item. This company has secured the lease of a large tract of coal land at Pond Creek, near White Haven, and the erection of a modern breaker will soon be begun.

The superintendent of the company is A. J. Lathrop, of West Pittston, who has just completed the plans for the new breaker. The capacity of the proposed breaker will be about 800 tons a day.

At first there will be no subterranean mining, as the "strippings" will furnish enough coal to supply the breaker for a long time.

The strippings will be connected with the breaker by the scrapers, which will carry the unprepared coal to the breaker rolls to be crushed. This system of conveyors is practically new to the mining regions, the only arrangement of the kind in this vicinity being that which was recently installed at the Ewen breaker.

Before leasing the Pond Creek tract the members of the company had a thorough test made, by which several workable veins of excellent coal were discovered. Besides Mr. Lathrop, A. W. Dietrich, of West Pittston; A. D. Searfass and D. O. McCollum, of Wilkes-Barre, are among the men interested in the enterprise.

The profits made by the middlemen in the coal trade in the large cities of the east, more especially New York, have attracted the attention of capitalists and speculators, and there is a movement on foot which is strongly backed to organize a company in New York which will handle coal and sell it directly to the consumers.

The capitalists at the back of this proposed company say that they can see their way to obtaining good interest on a large capitalization, and declare that they will be able to sell coal to the very poor at almost one-half what is now being charged by the peddlers and grocers engaged in the business in New York city.

MIDDLEMEN TO GO.

Movement in New York City Coal Circles is Afoot--Small Consumer Will Profit.

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Some idea of the profits reaped by the middlemen in the coal business, all of which have to be paid by the consumer, may be gleaned from the fact that it is estimated that during last year the total amount of money paid for coal in this country, exclusive of retail dealers' profits on the sale of coal in this country, was \$7,000,000.

It is estimated that there are about 1,800 coal peddlers in New York city. Their estimated sales average \$20,000 for each year, or \$100,000 for the whole city. In addition to these peddlers there are about 4,300 grocers engaged in handling coal, whose average sales are from four to five tons each per week.

TOTAL FOR THE YEAR.

This is a total of 21,500 tons per week handled by these small grocers alone, or a total of 537,500 tons for the year; that is to say, for six months of the year. These grocers and peddlers purchase their coal at an average of \$5 per ton; probably as low as \$4.75 per ton, but none go higher than \$5.25 per ton, delivered in their cellars. They sell it at the retail price of \$6.50 per ton, or \$35 per bushel and 10c per bucket.

These buckets average about twenty-one pounds each, and the bushels vary from fifty-two to sixty-one pounds each, averaging about fifty-five pounds.

The standard bushel of anthracite coal should contain about ninety-one pounds, so that in selling by their own measures these grocers practically cheat the poor consumer, who is forced to buy his coal in this way, out of about thirty-six pounds in each bushel.

Under the present laws the poor people have practically no redress. If they complain, the grocer says that he bought his baskets as bushel baskets, and he doesn't know where the bushel is, and he doesn't care.

It is impossible for the poor consumer to take the matter to the courts, and he is compelled to submit to the imposition.

SIZE OF A BUSHEL.

According to United States law, a bushel measure contains 2,150.42 cubic inches, and its dimensions are 8 1/2 inches inner diameter, 2 1/2 inches inner depth and 8 inches deep. The bushel of the average grocer is about half this size. In addition to this, it must be remembered that coal is sold at tide-water at 2,240 pounds to the ton. In Pennsylvania the law requires a ton to contain 2,240 pounds, but in New York there is no fixed legal standard. There is an effort evidently backed by the retail interests, to legalize the present weight of 2,000 pounds at which coal is sold at retail in this state, which, it is claimed, is not a fair weight.

The enormous profits made by retail grocers and peddlers in this city alone may be estimated from the fact that during the six winter months these men handle about 1,000,000 tons of coal, and from it secure a profit of about \$5,000,000. This all comes out of the pockets of the very poor people, who are forced to purchase their coal by the bucket or the bushel. The average man, when he hears of a rise in the price of coal, immediately complains that the grocers are making enormous profits. This is not the case. It is the retailer and the grocer, and the army of middlemen who make the big fortunes out of handling coal. Last year, when the price of New York was paying from \$7 to \$8 per ton for their coal, the men who operated the mines were not receiving on an average more than \$1.30 per ton. Out of that they had to pay their miners, royalties, various interest charges and all the expenses incurred around the mines.

WHAT RAILROADS GET.

The railroads for transportation of the coal, received on an average \$1.55 per ton, the commission man getting the balance, between \$2 and \$4.98, at which figure it was sold to the grocer and peddler.

In regard to the number of middlemen who come between the actual producer and the actual consumer, it may be mentioned that cases are common in which it is known that coal has been bought by a commission man at first hand, sold to another commission man, and again sold by him to a third commission man, who has sold it to the wholesaler, who in turn has sold it to the retailer. Every one of these men has made a profit on the transaction, and the consumer, particularly the very poor consumer, has had to pay.

The plan proposed now, of which no details are at present available, is to handle the coal at first hand, and, by establishing a large central retail yard, deliveries will be made directly to the consumer. Thus the enormous profits reaped by the army of middlemen will be cut off.

TO MODIFY THE INJUNCTION.

New Move on the Part of the Old Forge School District.

The Old Forge school district on Saturday through Attorney H. M. Hannah petitioned Judge Gunster to so modify his decree of the previous Saturday that the district may issue bonds to the amount of \$7,248, which is the difference between 2 per cent. of the assessed valuation and the present district debt, \$8,200, the sum still owing on the high school contract.

A rule was at present issued, as to why the injunction shall not be modified as prayed for, the hearing to take place Tuesday next at 9 o'clock.

ANTI-SEWERITES WAIT ON THE MAYOR

Tell Him Why They Object to the Signing of the Ordinance.

ARGUMENTS THEY PRESENTED

Say That Thirty Per Cent of the Property Owners of the Twelfth and Upper Part of the Nineteenth Wards Are Opposed to the Construction of the Proposed Sewer--Using the Agitation for Political Purposes.

A deputation of South Siders representing the element opposed to the Seventeenth district sewer was received by Mayor Bailey Saturday night at his office in the city hall. The party presented in detail and at length arguments against the building of the sewer. They left without receiving any hint of the mayor's views, but had the satisfaction of having made good use of their good words of ammunition.

Speeches were made by Select Councilman Manley, Common Councilman Sweeney, Mr. Kelly, who organized the citizens' opposition movement, James O'Boyle and others. Mr. O'Boyle made the most interesting statement, in which he wanted any favor from the three wards affected, he should favor the anti-sewer movement. The mayor with some feeling replied that personal motives would not control his consideration of the ordinance.

The burden of the arguments were: That 90 per cent. of the property owners in the Twelfth and the upper part of the Nineteenth wards were opposed to the sewer; that a very small number would be able to pay assessments. Councilmen Manley and Sweeney seemed positive in their opinion that the assessments levied against non-abutting properties would not be collectable, and that the city would be involved in a great expense if the sewer system is constructed.

Mayor Bailey remarked that the wishes of anti-sewerites would be given careful consideration and the delegation left satisfied with the result of this mission. Besides those mentioned there were in the party: Martin Roche, William Thies, William Coleman, Philip Nealon, John Nealon, Hugh Caffrey, Patrick Weir, Henry Jordan and Mr. Frentz.

The opposition of the proposed sewer is exciting a great deal of attention because of the political phase of the matter. Men who care not a fig whether the sewer is built or not are figuring conspicuously in the agitation because they hope to make political capital out of it.

The defeat of George Wirth, who is a candidate to succeed himself as common councilman in the Nineteenth ward, Mr. Wirth is a progressive citizen and a true representative of the best interests of his ward voted for the passage of the sewer ordinance, and thereupon the howl of a number of Democratic politicians ascended with a view to creating a public sentiment unfavorable to Mr. Wirth.

It is also hoped by these agitators that they will be able to stir up some political capital for themselves which will last for a year hence. Mayor Bailey has until next Monday to sign or veto the ordinance, and it is strongly hinted that he will take every hour allowed him, as the election occurs on the day succeeding the one on which he must act on the ordinance or allow it to become a law by default.

AMUSEMENTS.

Tonight and tomorrow night "The Real Widow Brown" will be produced at the Academy of Music by one of A. Q. Scammon's companies. "The Real Widow Brown" created a great sensation when first produced abroad in London, and met with unprecedented success. In New York city at the Standard theater it sprang into instantaneous popularity. "The Real Widow Brown" is a charming impersonation of her. The mistakes and complications which arise from another endeavoring to fill her position, are ludicrous in the extreme.

What is everywhere considered the strongest dramatic company on the road this season at popular prices is the one which surrounds Play Crowell, the popular favorite who will open a week's engagement at the Frothingham this evening. Included in the company, which comprises sixteen people, are some well known theatrical stars. A pleasing feature of each evening's entertainment is the introduction of clever specialties by Miss Grayson, Ed Emory, the popular comedian; Mack Bennett, late of Cleveland's minstrels, and Baby Spencer, the most phenomenal of child singers and dancers. Sydney Grundy's merry comedy, "The Circus Girl," will be the opening bill tonight, prices for the week being 10, 20 and 30 cents. Matinees will begin daily, commencing tomorrow, at which 10 cents will admit to all parts of the house except Saturday when the prices are 10 and 20 cents. The repertoire for the night performances is as follows: Monday, "The Circus Girl"; Tuesday, "La Belle Russe"; Wednesday, "Molly Hawn"; Thursday, "Temptation of Money"; Friday, "A Fatal Error"; Saturday, "Dangers of a Great City." The bills for the matinees will be announced tomorrow.

Hoey's "A Midnight Bell" is generally considered by press and public to be the masterpiece of all his comedies, and the cast that has been specially engaged for its presentation in this city, is undoubtedly an ideal one. The favorite comedian, Dirty Bell, at his charming wife, Laura Joyce-Bell, the eminent contralto, will be seen in the stellar roles of "Deacon Tidd" and the "Spinster." They will be supported by an exceptionally fine cast. The new music has been arranged for the presentation by the famous conductor of Gilmore's band, Victor Herbert, author of "Prince Ananias" and "The Wizard of the Nile." Complete new scenery and accessories have been painted by the celebrated artist, Augustin, and his assistants, Laura Joyce-Bell and the quartette of the company will be heard in a number of new and catchy melodies. The production will be under the personal direction and management of Duncan E. Harrison and will be the attraction at the Academy of Music Thursday, Feb. 11.

Al Reeves and his big burlesque company, now playing to crowded houses everywhere, will be the attraction at Davis' theater the first half of this week, opening this afternoon. It is without a doubt one of the grandest organizations of its kind ever witnessed on any American stage. Mr. Reeves has gone under an enormous expense to make his show a success, which so far has proven so. The ideas are original.

SERIOUS CHARGE AGAINST HIM.

Bar Room Comedian Had Enticed Two Young Boys.

A dissipated looking young man, 23 or 24 years old, claiming to be an actor, and giving his name as James Byrne, one of the Brothers Byrne, of "Eight Bells" fame, is locked in the central police station under a revolting charge.

Byrne, in company with two boys, Harry Kresge, son of Eugene H. Kresge, of 312 Tenth street, and Patrick Carlin, of Scranton street, was found in Railroad alley at 12:15 o'clock.



THE PRISONER.

Saturday night by Patrolman Hart. Their actions seemed compromising, and Byrne was put under arrest. The Kresge boy ran away.

In yesterday morning's police court Byrne admitted the charge. He said he was drunk. Young Kresge was not present, on account of which the hearing was continued until this morning. The Carlin boy says they met Byrne in a saloon and he enticed them with promises of money which he showed them.

Byrne has been in Scranton several weeks, during which time he has figured as a comedian in North End saloons. He claims to have separated from his brothers in Cortland, N. Y., last September.

THE HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULUM.

It Receives a Very Nice Compliment from Supt. Schaeffer.

The new high school at Williamsport has adopted the course of studies presented for our high school. When the task of arranging a curriculum was at hand the city superintendent of Williamsport wrote Dr. N. C. Schaeffer, state superintendent of public instruction, calling for suggestions. His reply was a recommendation that the curriculum of the Scranton high school be adopted.

It cannot help but be a source of gratification to Scrantonians who take pride in our high school, and is no mean compliment to Superintendent George Howell, who arranged the curriculum.

Unwilling to Cripple Corporations. Columbia, S. C., Feb. 7.—The legislature has killed bills putting telegraph and express companies under the control of the railroad commission, providing for a labor commission, regulating hours of labor on electric roads, and several others tending to bind the management of corporations.

Anti-Trust Bill Passed. Montgomery, Ala., Feb. 7.—The Alabama legislature has passed an anti-trust law identical with the Georgia law. It renders

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BEST SETS OF TEETH, \$8. Including the painless extracting of teeth by an entirely new process.

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RUG BARGAINS.

Black Fur Rugs \$1.75, former price \$2.25.

Javanese Rugs, 26x54 inches, to close \$1.00, worth \$1.50.

9x12 ft. Japanese Rugs, \$6.50.

3x3 ft. Japanese Rugs, 60c.

Brussels Mire Rugs Half Price.

Smyrna Rugs--30x60 inch \$1.50. Mat size 50c.

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(LARGE WINDOW.)

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Great Reductions in All These Goods. Watches and Clocks Repaired on short notice.

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PRICES EXTRAORDINARILY LOW to facilitate a speedy wind-up of our business.

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STERLING SILVER...

Is a new addition to our stock at bottom prices. Opened another new line of

White China For Decorating

Prices and styles talk, as we are selling lots of it.

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Look at our \$10 Gold Watches, Warranted 15 Years.