

The Great Musical Fad

Mandolin and Guitar Clubs are being organized now in greater numbers than ever. The clubs formed in past seasons have afforded such a vast amount of musical pleasure to all their members...

FINN & PHILLIPS 138 WYOMING AVENUE.

DR. H. B. WARE, SPECIALIST. Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat

Office Hours—9 a. m. to 12.30 p. m.; 2 to 4. Williams Building, Opp. Postoffice.



CITY NOTES

THE SHORTEST DAY.—Yesterday was the shortest day of the year.

PAY-DAYS.—The Lackawanna Iron and Steel company paid yesterday at the Pine Brook colliery and the day before at the Capouse colliery.

COUNTRY DANCE.—Century House company will give a "country dance" next Monday afternoon at the Washington hall on the South Side.

HANDSOME CALENDARS.—W. J. Tripp, district agent of the Washington Life Insurance company, is distributing the handsome 1899 calendar sent out by his company.

COUSIN COMMITTEES.—The streets and bridges committee of common council will meet this evening, first previous to the session of the council, and the high and water committee of select council will meet this afternoon.

BIBLE READING.—On account of the absence of Professor H. S. Miller, the meeting at 509 Jefferson avenue this evening is adjourned until next Thursday evening, at which time Professor Miller expects to be present.

TO ATTEND FUNERAL.—The members of Crystal House, company, of the honor and honorary, are requested to meet at the citizens lounge tomorrow afternoon at 1.30, in citizens' dress and with cap and white gloves, to attend the funeral of our late member, Robert Robinson.

WILL BLESS A BELL.—The new bell recently placed in the tower of the Sacred Heart church at Jerome, will be blessed this morning with imposing ceremonies. Rev. Bishop Urban will officiate. This new bell replaces the one presented the church by Mr. and Mrs. W. Walker, which cracked last October.

LICENSES GRANTED.—Marriage licenses were granted yesterday to Patrick J. Hannan, of Ransom, and Grace Lowry, of Taylor; Arthur Jenkins, of 12 Van Buren avenue, and Lizzie R. Thomas, of 305 South Main avenue; Harry A. Shugart and Nellie McHale, Scranton; Frank Down and Frances Jones, Spring Brook.

RULE MADE ABSOLUTE.—In the rule for B. fa. in the case of E. H. Clemons, sheriff, assigned to William M. Silkman, plaintiff, W. P. W. C. M. Flacey and Charles M. Carr, Judge Archbald yesterday handed down an opinion. The rule in the case is made absolute and execution awarded for \$96.82 and the costs of this suit on payment of which the judgment is to be marked satisfied.

NEW POLICE CAR.—A supply of a new style of winter caps has been received at police headquarters and will soon be distributed among the patrolmen. The cap is of cloth but its shape is preserved and it is given stability by a spring crown. It has a leather visor and an adjustable flap which may be pulled down over the ears and back of the head. The cap for officers has a visor that is straight.

KICKED BY A HORSE.—Thomas Kennedy, of South Scranton, a young man employed at the dry goods house and Connelly & Wallace, was injured severely yesterday by a kick from a horse of one of the delivery wagons of the firm. Kennedy was seated on the wagon leaning forward, when the animal kicked one hoof striking the young man on the right shin. A deep gash was made. The injury was given attention by Dr. O'Malley. The stitches were inserted to close the wound.

COMMON COUNCIL TONIGHT. Bond Ordinance Will Be Called for Third Reading.

A regular meeting of common council will be held this evening. The principal business of the session will be the consideration, on third reading, of the bond ordinance. It is quite probable that the measure will provoke much debate. Many of the more conservative members realize that in its present amended form and carrying nearly \$1,000,000 the ordinance would never be accepted by select council, and these members, who honestly hope for its final passage on a practical basis, favor re-amending the ordinance by taking off several hundred thousand dollars of the local ward amendments.

It is considered certain that if the ordinance goes to select council in its present shape it will be sent back amended beyond recognition, and too late for final passage. It is expected that the ordinance will be amended on Jan. 21. On that day, or before then, it must be approved in order to permit advertisement 30 days before election as required by law.

Even though the ordinance went to select council in a form satisfactory to that branch, to say nothing of purely select council amendments that will certainly be made, it could scarcely be advertised before that date without special meetings.

BORN. DONALD.—At Long Island City, L. I., Dec. 16, 1898, to Mr. and Mrs. George McDonald, a daughter.

WILEY.—Dec. 9, 1898, to Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Wiley a son.

DIED. COLLINS.—In Scranton, Pa., Dec. 22, 1898, Miss Mary Collins, of 28 South Irving avenue, age 25 years, of typhoid pneumonia. Funeral announcement later.

Men's Romeo Slippers. Don't be out of slippers. Romeo is the most popular and you cannot afford not to have a good pair. Men's Black Kid Romeo \$1.50. Men's Black Vici Kid Romeo 2.00. Men's Russel Kid Romeo 2.00. Men's Russel Vici Kid Romeo 2.50. All the latest shapes. All sizes. If not right your money refunded. Open evenings.

Schank & Spencer, 410 Spruce Street.

B. H. PRATT DIES FROM PNEUMONIA. BEST KNOWN NEWSPAPERMAN HEREABOUTS.

At the Time of His Death He Held an Editorial Position in the School of Mines—Mr. Pratt Was Born in Taunton, Mass., August 10, 1834, and Came from Sturdy Old Puritan Stock—Many Important Positions Were Filled by Him During His Busy Useful Life.

B. H. Pratt, one of the best known newspaper men in this part of the state, died last evening at 7 o'clock at his home, 911 Mulberry street, of pneumonia.

Seldom has the community been so shocked by the removal from its midst of a well known citizen as at the death of Mr. Pratt, who has held an important editorial position at the School of Mines. He returned from his office last Friday night and immediately was seized with a chill. It was soon evident that he was a very sick man, and when Dr. H. C. Logan was called he at once pronounced it pneumonia, a disease which Mr. Pratt had reason to fear, as his father, brother and a sister have died from its effects after a brief illness. His condition became more alarming on Tuesday, and last night, after several hours unconsciousness, he passed away, just before his sister, Mrs. Albert Pratt, had reason to fear, as his father, brother and a sister have died from its effects after a brief illness.

Mr. Pratt was born in Taunton, Mass., August 10, 1834, and was therefore sixty-four years old. He came from good old Puritan stock, being a direct descendant of a ancestor, Pilgrim family. He was a graduate of Lafayette college, and for some time practiced dentistry in Danville, Pa., where he was at one time principal of the high school.

ENGAGED IN BUSINESS HERE. After taking up his residence in Elmira he married Miss Fannie Taylor in Syracuse, and in 1850 came to this city, where with his brother-in-law, Robert Hall, he was engaged in the stationary business on Lackawanna avenue, afterwards merged into the firm of Pryor and Thompson.

In 1874 he began a career which made him probably the best known newspaper man in this region, and his own peculiar style, his keen, good natured sarcasm and humorous quotations of ideas gave his words a welcome in thousands of homes, where, perhaps, his name had never been heard.

His first work was as local editor, chief of staff and general writer on the Scranton Times. Soon afterward he was engaged on the Scranton Republican and from occupying the position of city editor went to Wilkes-Barre, where he assumed charge of that department of the paper. While there his "America Roundup" column made him a favorite throughout Lackawanna and Luzerne counties. Its terse, classic style, its unique way of dealing with local topics, and certain inclination on the right side of all questions caused it to be an important feature whenever it appeared.

Mr. Pratt remained on the Republican, having been transferred to this city, until about eighteen months ago. He then began special work on the Scranton Truth, which he relinquished to take charge of the editorial work at the School of Mines, upon which he was engaged at the time of his death. For a time he was postmaster and also held a position in the revenue office for many years.

A TRUE GENTLEMAN. Perhaps, most of all, Mr. Pratt, impressed those who knew him with being a gentleman in the truest sense of the term. His beautiful, gentle courtesy was unflinching and most charming at all times.

Possessing an exceptionally pure and unselfish nature his modest reserve of manner and elegant appearance always appealed to his acquaintances as well as to his close friends. Scholarly and quiet in his tastes with a lofty standard, which he unswervingly followed, his life was one that held much in its unassuming grace which could be greatly admired.

It is said that a multitude of friends will be saddened today to learn of his sudden end in to express but faintly the emotion that will be felt.

Mr. Pratt leaves his wife, an only son, Willis, who is now in Antwerp, Belgium, engaged in an important position upon an electrical device for treating the water-course across Russia, and two daughters, Frances and Katherine, a sister, Mrs. J. L. Fordham, wife of Dr. Fordham, died only a few months ago. The funeral announcement will be made later.

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Does Your Head Ache? Are your nerves weak? Can't you sleep well? Pain in your back? Headache? Dizziness? Ringing in your ears? These are but some of the results of constipation. If the contents of the bowels are not removed from the body each day, as nature intended, poisonous substances are sure to be absorbed into the blood, always causing suffering and frequently causing severe disease. There is a common-sense cure.

Ayer's PILLS

They daily insure an easy and natural movement of the bowels. Price, 25c a box. All druggists. Ayer's Sarsaparilla with the pills will hasten recovery. Write the doctor just how you are suffering. You will receive the best medical advice. Dr. J. C. Ayer, Lowell, Mass.

ELEVEN CASES HEARD.

Judgment in a Number of Certiorari Cases Reserved—Poor Board Case Has Been Put Over for a Day.

Eleven cases were up for consideration in argument court yesterday. In the matter of the city of Scranton against Mary A. Scanlon, the rule to strike off the lien was discharged without prejudice. The judgment for want of a sufficient affidavit of defense was stricken off.

Attorney H. S. Alworth was appointed a trustee in bankruptcy in the case of Peck Lumber company against S. P. Mitchell and others, rule to stay attachments proceedings. F. B. Mitchell was allowed to intervene and be made a party defendant.

A writ of certiorari was not pressed in the case of Beroy Miodolska against Mike Mochel and others. Judgment was reversed in the certiorari cases of John McDonough, et al., against Mrs. Nellie Stanton; Frank Moran against Ellen Lewis; Fred Kling against A. K. Adams; Thomas McDonald against Peter Sawyer.

Other cases argued were: Thomas Mason against Michael Flynn, rule for a new trial; Wolfard Warren executors, against Bonta Plate Glass company, W. G. Dond and others against the Bonta Glass Pipe and Conduit company, rule to set aside sale.

The available cases were disposed of early in the day and the judges wanted to take up the poor board case warrants case. Attorneys I. H. Burns and John F. Stragg were sent for and asked if they were ready to proceed.

Mr. Burns was, but Mr. Stragg pleaded that he was not then ready to make his argument. After some discussion of the matter, the case, which was set down for a hearing today, was put over until Friday.

ISSUE AWARDED IS RECALLED.

Opinion of Judge Archbald in the Nettleton-Caryl Case.

In the case of F. E. Nettleton against Josiah D. Caryl, a reargument of a rule to open judgment, Judge Archbald yesterday rendered an opinion which sets forth that the rule to open judgment heretofore made absolute is now, upon further consideration, discharged and the issue awarded is recalled.

"We are convinced by the reargument," said the judge, "that interest is due from the defendant, and that the rule to open the judgment so as to allow of a defense against it, should be discharged."

GENERAL BOOTH TONIGHT.

He Will Be Heard in the Penn Avenue Baptist Church.

General Ballington Booth, commander-in-chief of the Volunteers of America, is to visit this city this evening and will conduct a service in the Penn Avenue Baptist church.

The pastor, Rev. Mr. Pierce, will introduce the general.

Diamonds at Half Their Value.

Most of our Diamonds have been left here as pledges, therefore we can sell them at these prices.

Don't Forget the Auction. Sale of parlor suites, couches, easy chairs, etc., at 221-223 Penn avenue, Sale this afternoon and evening.

RETIREMENT OF PRESIDENT SLOAN

IS THE CHIEF TOPIC IN NEW YORK RAILROAD CIRCLES.

What the New York Herald Has to Say About the Possibility of Mr. Halstead Succeeding Him—An Effort Was Made to Interview President Sloan Yesterday by an Evening Post Man, But He Refused to Make a Statement of Any Kind.

The announcement in The Tribune of Monday of the early retirement of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western, and the probable election of Second Vice President Halstead, of this city, as his successor, has caused a great commotion in the railroad world. It is one of the very interesting topics discussed in Wall street, and has called forth the voluminous comment in the New York dailies. The New York Herald of yesterday said:

It became known yesterday that Mr. Halstead has for a number of weeks spent a large part of his time in New York in connection with the management of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western, and the probable election of Second Vice President Halstead, of this city, as his successor, has caused a great commotion in the railroad world.

China Mail. Millar & Peck, 134 Wyoming Av. "Walk in and Look Around." OPEN EVENINGS.

GRANTED A DIVORCE.

Mrs. Houseman Legally Separated from Her Fugitive Husband.

Judge Purdy, in the Pike county courts, has granted a divorce to Mrs. Mary Houseman, wife of Christian Houseman, on the ground of desertion. Judge Purdy's action recalls one of the most deliberate murders ever committed in Pike county, says the Stroudsburg Times.

On Oct. 2, 1895, Christian Houseman shot down well-known Squire Newberger, of Tipton, Pike county. Houseman purchased a worthless farm in Pike county in 1891. This is believed to have upset him. He was frequently in court, and Squire Newberger generally had something to do with his troubles. It was while a case was being tried before Justice Newberger in which Houseman was interested that he killed Newberger and shot a court constable.

He made his escape, and is believed to be still roaming in the woods of Pike county. Mrs. Houseman since the fatal shooting has supported by hard work, at butchering a family of seven children, the oldest fourteen years.

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HOUSE TOTALLY DESTROYED

Owing to the absence of a fire hydrant, a one and a half story frame house owned and occupied by Stanislaus Drosodskil and family at 901 Fig street was totally destroyed by fire and neighboring dwellings threatened yesterday afternoon. The house was located about two blocks northeast of Conell Park.

The flames started from a defective flue. Box No. 57 was sounded, but the hydrant nearest the house was five blocks away. The firemen confined their efforts to razing the burning

They Caused a Fire at 333 Breck Court.

The alarm of fire sounded from Box 24, at 5.12 o'clock last evening, was occasioned by a blaze at the home of D. M. Cohen, 333 Breck court. Mrs. Cohen went into the dining room about 5 o'clock and lighted the gas. Thoughtlessly she threw the match on the sofa in the room, on which were a pair of newly-ironed lace curtains.

Mrs. Cohen then went to another room, and presently smoke was seen issuing from the room. The damage done was comparatively slight.

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Economical Christmas Buying. To those who are looking for Christmas Presents that are useful, and within the means of a modest purse, we mention a few articles, which may be of value:

100 Piece Dinner Sets, best semi-vitreous porcelain, (tasty decorations), all colors, \$7.50. More elaborate decorations, not better goods, however, \$9.00, \$11.00, \$14.00.

LAMPS.—To give light, not mere ornaments. We combine both when buying. Best center draught, neat decorations, with shades or globes, \$2.50 and \$3.00. Low Lamps, hand-painted, with 10-inch globes, exact copies of \$25.00 lamps for \$5.00. Hand-painted Princess Lamps, with globes, 50c.

TOILET SETS.—We won't take time to enumerate them all, as the list is too large. We will simply say we have them from \$1.95 to \$60.00. If you want a Toilet Set, we can suit you as to style and price.

SILVERWARE.—Tea Sets, \$5.00. All other pieces proportionately low in price. Cake and Fruit Baskets, Crumb and Brush Trays, Knives, Spoons, Child's Sets, Etc. All Silver sold by us has our personal guarantee.

China Mail. Millar & Peck, 134 Wyoming Av. "Walk in and Look Around." OPEN EVENINGS.

structure in order to save a house fifteen feet away and possibly other buildings. The only water available was brought in buckets. The contents of the house were saved.

Drosodskil is employed in the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western shops.

Mr. Hardin Norris, clerk of the drug store of R. Shoemaker, Perry, Ill., says: "A man came into our store the other day and said: 'I want a bottle of that stuff that saves children's lives. I read in the News about it. The children may get sick when we can't get the doctor quick enough. It is the medicine you sell for croup.'" He alluded to Chamberlain's Cough Remedy and bought a bottle before he left the store. For sale by all druggists, Matthews Bros., wholesale and retail agents.

Imported Cigars. The old reliable Metropolitan Cigar store, 207 Wyoming avenue, has received a fine lot of imported cigars. They are the agents for a fine imported strictly all-Havana cigar called "Little Ella" also the reliable "Marcello."

We Have All Grades and brands of whiskeys, Scranton Wine and Liquor company, 129 Penn avenue. Telephone 5612.

Auction Sale at 221-223 Penn Ave. 100 parlor suites, 200 couches, Turkish rockers, chairs and odd pieces. Sale afternoon and evening.

Bargains in gold and silver-mounted pipes at Garney, Brown & Co.'s.

Don't Forget F. L. Crane, For reliable Fur Goods call and examine our stock.

Handsome Seal Garments from \$140.00 to \$225.00. Electric Seal Jackets for \$35.00 and Battle Seal for \$25.00. Persian Lamb Jackets from \$125.00 to \$185.00. Also a full line of Ladies' and Misses Cloth Garments.

FUR REPAIRING A SPECIALTY. 324 Lackawanna Ave.