# Republican News Item.

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We give spdcial attention to Piping, Steam, Hot Water ' Hot Air Heating. General job work and repairing ln all branches, promptly and skillfully executed

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# Season's Best Dress Goods

There's nothing lacking in our Dress Goods Department, We ran't imagine how you can fail to find what you want here at any paice from 50c to \$2.00. Stocks are large and varied; fabrics are new, many of them are exclusive. The prices are down to the lowest notch. Serges, Htnriettas, Batistes, Wool Taffetas, Panamas, Diagonals, Striped effects, Tussah Royal and neat Fancy Suitings.

# Ladies' Kid Gloves.

In all the wanted styles of Gloves and fashionable new shades for spring wear. Good gloves for \$1,00. The very best for \$1.50

# Ladies' New Suits and Gowns.

From scores of shoppers, ', buyers'' would be more accurate, we hear expressions of delight at the attractive styles we are showing at the low prices they are marked.

# Dress Trimmings.

In the new desirable styles for all sorts of gowns and here in full force. Black, white and colored bands and appliques in rich designs. Gold and silver iffects in bands and all-overs. Fancy yoking, etc.

# Fancy Dress Silks.

And Foulards in all the newest colorings, neat designs in light and dark shades. Cheyney's shower-proof Foulards are the most serviceable made. Beautiful patterns, 23 inches wide for 85c a

# SHOPBELL DRY GOODS

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# PRINTING TO PLEASE



Et the Mews Item Office.

# BANK, ROBBERS KILL TWO

Four Desperadoes Enter Pittsburg Surburban Institution and Begin to Shoot

# CASHIER AND TELLER SLAIN

Thieves After Getting \$5,000 Ride Back and Forth Through Town Shooting at Citizens-Three Men Wounded-Search for Murderers.

Pittsburg. April 12.-Four masked men robbed the Victor Banking Co. at McKees Rocks, a surburb six miles below Pittsburg, at 8.30 o'clock p. m. and got away with \$5.000, after shooting down and killing the manager and the cashier of the bank and wounding three other people, one a woman. The men stepped from the shadows outside the bank as those inside were about to close it for the night, and while two of the men stopped outside with drawn revolvers and warned away all passing pedestrians, the others entered the

building and began to shoot.

The men killed were:

FRIEDMAN, SAMUEL, the manager,
hit by three builets while he was trying to protect \$5,000, which lay on the counters of the bank.

SCHWARTZ, IGNATZ, the cashier, died an hour or so later in the McKees Rocks Hospital.

The injured were:

ENCO, MARY, employee of bank;
slightly injured trying to save
Friedman and Schwartz.

KING, ROBERT, citizen; shot down in

street by robbers as they ran with the plunder; at McKees Rocks Hos-

pital; will live. MILKO, ANDREW, mill workman; hit by stray bullet.

The robbers, jumped on horses just

outside the town and escaped the \$5,000.

McKees Rocks, and Schoenville adjoining, were both terrorized for about thirty minutes during and after the shooting. After mounting their horses the four robbers rode up and down through the town shooting right and left. It was then that King and Milko were shot, while trying to stop the robbers.

The location of the Victor Bank is onesome after nightfall. It is on the dividing line between Schoenville and McKees Rocks, and many of its patrons are the workmen of the plants of those towns. It is a bank for foreign-ers, and also has conducted a steamship agency.

Last Saturday was pay day at most of the works and there was about \$25,000 in the bank this evening. Only 5,000 of it appeared on the co however, the rest being locked in the

# SOCIALISTS ELECT A MAYOR.

#### Party Wins First American Victory In Milwaukee

Milwaukee, Wis., April 11.-Milwaukee is the first large city in the United States to elect a Socialist Mayor and Common Council. Emil Seidel, opposed by strong canditates in both the Republican and Democratic Parties, was chosen Mayor by about 6,500 plur ality in the municipal election. The Social Democrats also elected the six Aldermen-at-Large and carried four-teen wards out of twenty-three, giving

them a large majority in the Council. The Democratic canditate for Mayor, V. G. Schoenecker, Jr., ran second, and was about 8,000 votes ahead of the Republican nominee, Dr. J. Beffel.

# INVALID BUILT UP ESTATE.

#### Leaves by Her Will \$800,000 to Bene ficent Institutions.

Boston, April 8.-In connection with the announcement of public requests totalling \$800,000 by the will of Mar-March 15, there was disclosed also the remarkable feat of an invalid woman remarkable leat of an invalid working confined to her home for forty years, in increasing a legacy left her by her father in 1866 fourfold through wise father in 1866 fourfold through wise investments. The estate is valued at over \$900,000, and represents Miss Hunt's careful oversight of some 200,-000 to which she originally fell heir.

# KILL BLACKHAND INFORMER.

# Lured Into St. Louis Clubroom and As-

sassinated.
St. Louis, April 11.—Peter Cordone, a Sicilian, was murdered in the St. Louis headquarters of the Mafla for giving information about the Black Hand operations of some of its members, it is said. Cordone was lured to the clubroom with an invitation to attend a celebration. His body was found riddled with bullets in the deserted clubroom. A score of Sicilians were arrested.

Washington, April 8.—The House passed a bill authorizing the free transportation through the mails of books and periodicals printed in raised characters for the use of the blind.

# INDICT F. N. HOFFSTOT AS THE BRIBE-GIVER

Steel Maker Charged with Conspiracy Also in Connection with \$52, 500 Pittsburg Graft Fund.

Prayers for Pittsburg Are Urged by Bishop.

Stirred by revelations of graft in Pittsburg, Bishop Cortland Whitehead, of the Pittsburg diocese of the Protestant Episcopal Church, appointed Sunday as a day to be observed throughout Allegheny County "with special prayers and sermons on cylor right countys" or the protection of mons on civic righteousness, corporate repentance and confes sion, intemperance and political sion, intemperance and fraud—on chicanery, graft and fraud—on any topic, indeed, which bears on the present deplorable situation in Pittsburg."

Pittsburg April 12.—The promised sensation in the graft crusade came, and even Pittsburg, accustomed as it is to revelations of moral turpitude on the part of its leading citizens, is as tonished. The Grand Jury indicted the

following:
Frank N. Hoffstot, president of the German National Bank of Allegheny, and president of the Pressed Steel

Car Company. Emil Winter, President of the Workingmen's Savings Bank & Trust Co.,

of Allegheny.

Another sensation followed. In open court President Winter acknowledged the truth of the charge that he had given \$20,000 to bribe former Councilman Morris Einstein, by saying that he had no defense to offer. Sentence was

The indictments against Hoffstot include two counts of bribery and one of conspiracy to defraud the city. The presentment reads that Hoffstot shall be ordered to appear as witness, "and in case he does not do so immediately that the District-Attorney of Alle-gheny County proceed forthwith to extradict him.

Hoffstot is accused of paying \$52,500 to Charles A. Stewart, a former Councilman, to adopt an ordinance naming three banks in which Hoffstot was in-terested, as the depositories of city

# DRIVEN OUT BY ROCKEFELLER.

#### Town on Franklin County Estate Reduced from 1200 People to 20.

Albany, N. Y., April 11.—Consent was asked of the Public Service Commission by Vice President Albert H. Harris of the New York Central to the abandonment of the station of the New York & Ottawa Railroad Compar r at Brandon, Franklin County, in the heart of the William Rockefeller preserve. Mr. Harris said that while there was a population of 1,200 there in 1890, at present there are but four inhabited houses and a population of twenty persons.

Chairman Stevens called attention to the fact that there was but a single public highway leading out of Brandon to Bay Pond, the next station, the only road being a private one and the public being forbidden to use

The residents of Brandon could not get to the railroad station without trespassing on the Rockefeller pre-

# ADMITS SPRINGFIELD MURDER.

## Spencer Confesses That He Killed Miss Blackstone. Springfield, Mass., April 11.—Ber-

tram G. Spencer, the young man who was arested confessed that he was the murderer of Miss Martha B. Blackstone as well as the masked burglar who terrorized the women of Spring-

Spencer declared to the police that was utterly devoid of conscience, and that he never felt the least com-

He made the further assertion that he had pursued his career of crime simply as a pastime and not because of a desire for profit from his rob-

The prisoner said he had always stolen, and that he attributed the mania to steal to a "hole" in the back of his head. He declared that his father caused this injury when he was a small boy in Lebanon, Conn.

# \$322,000 FOR NEW CHURCH.

# Half from Rockefeller, Half from

Other Members.

New York, N. Y., April 12.—Within a half hour the members of the Fifth Avenue Baptist Church, of whom John D. Rockefeller is one, pledged \$323,000 for building a new church at Forty-sixth street and Fifth avenue, where the present edifice stands. Dr. Chas. F. Aked, the pastor, made an unexpected appeal for funds from the pulpit because, he said afterward, he wanted to see how much he could raise from unpremediated gifts. One-half of the sum was given by Mr. Rockefeller. Rockefeller.

# RELIGIOUS FANATIC **MURDERS PREACHER**

Frank Skala, Editor of a Pittsburg Periodical, Is Shot Down by a Russian

### ELDER ALSO MORTALLY HURT

Holds Congregation at Bay with Two Pistols and Escapes by Selzing Farmer's Horse and Buggy Under Threat of Death.

Pittsburg, Pa., April 12.—The Rev. Frank Skala, editor of the Christian Journal, a Belgian religious publication, after preaching a sermon in the Second Presbyterian Church Mission at Woods Run, North Side, was shot dead as he stepped outside the church, by Michael Rewdicz, a Russian religious fanatic, who also tried to kill Elder John Gay of the church mission.
Gay is in a hospital with three bullets in his body. The murderer es-

Mr. Skala has been considered the leader of his people in Western Pennsylvania. Last Sunday Pastor Andrew Kovac announced that Editor Skala would occupy the pulpit in the pas-tor's absence. The little mission was tor's absence. crowded. Rewdicz, who is understood to belong to many Russian societies, attended the services. He took exception to Skala's sermon, and rising, de-manded in a loud voice that he be heard.

"I will answer your questions after church and outside the church," said Mr. Skala. Rewdicz sat down, and Skala appeared to forget all about the incident, for when the service was over he left the building with Elder Gay. Both had been invited to take dinner with one of the parishioners. They were passing among about 150 members of the congregation who had stopped to chat when Rewdicz came to meet them.
"What can I do for you, my good

friend," said Mr. Skala, attempting to seize Rewdicz by the hand. The Russian was excited and continued to gesticulate and planting himself in front of Mr. Skala, he pulled a revolver from his pocket and shot him through the breast.

Mr. Skala dropped dead. As Gay

started to run he was shot through the back. Gay lay apparently dead but Rewdicz shot him twice more.

Many persons were trampled in their haste to get away when the crazed man began shooting. A few remained near and some threw stones at Redwicz, who waved his revolver threateningly as he backed up the steps into the little church. A crowd of 500 soon collected, but the murderer held them all at a safe distance with his revolver. At the end of half an hour, with a revolver in each hand, ne stepped out of the church doors drove the crowd away and started for the street car line. The crowd chased him for a few blocks and he turned and fired several shots. He soon came up with a farmer in a buggy and or-dering him to alight he took the vehicle and fled into the country. Late in the afternoon the horse was found wandering five miles from North Pitts-

Redwicz came to America two years ago and in March came to Pitts-burg. He is thought to have become demented over religion and Russian secret societies.

# KILLS HUSBAND IN BEDROOM.

# Wife Says He Had Treatened to Kill

Her in Quarrel. Pittsburg, Kan., April 12.—Walter Caldwell was shot and instantly killed by his wife. Mary Caldwell, in their edroom. Immediately after the shooting she went to police headquarters and surrendered. She is in jail.

with another woman during the evening, for which she upbraided him, that he quarrelled with her about the affair and finally began pulling her out of bed, saying he would kill her, and that as he did so she got a revolver from under her pillow and shot him twice in self-defence.

# ROOSEVELT CALLS ROOT.

#### Wants Senator to Meet Him In Europe -Latter is Reluctant.

Washington, April 11.—It is understood here that ex-President Roosevelt has invited Senator Elihu Root to go to Europe and meet him. But the Sen-ator, it appears, is reluctant to accept the invitation, fearing that the object of the meeting might be misunder-

Loses Life from a Canoe.

Pittsburg, Pa., April 12.—William Knipe, 17 years old, of Wilkinsburg, was drowned when he and his brother-in-law, Ernest M. Johnson, opened the canoeing season in the Allegheny River. The men of whom they rented a canoe had argued that it was pressing the season, and had tried to persuade them to take a skiff.

# ORGIES TO BE PROBED BY ANGRY GOVERNOR

Denunciation of Jersey Assemblymen Who Danced Hoochee-Coochee

### with Women in Capitol.

Trenton, N. J., April 12.—From nearly every pulpit in Trenton and other cities and towns in New Jersey there has burst a storm of denunciation of the astounding drunken orgy that marked the closing session of the lower House of the one hundred and

thirty-fourth Legislature of the State.
Clergymen of Trenton, headed by Clergymen of Trenton, headed by the Rev. George W. Ridout of the Methodist Church, director of the Anti-Saloon League of New Jersey; the Rev. Hugh B. MacCauley of the Pres-byterian Church, the Rev. Judson Conlin, the Rev. J. K. Manning, the Rev. H. Collins Minton and the Rev. Hamilton Schuyler, are organizing to demand that Gov. Fort call an extra session of the Legislature to investisession of the Legislature to investi-gate what the Governor himself described as "an affair that is a disgrace to the State."

It was after dawn when the revelry, horseplay and worse were over, the legislators went to or were delivered at their hotels and the women, with day-light making a ghastly show of their rouged faces, decamped. It will be declared that a group of

notoriously dissolute women of Tren-ton were brought to the Assembly and got a whole section of seats in the gallery, where they conducted them-selves so shockingly by yelling to members below, hurling confetti at them and singing to them that decent women were forced to withdraw. Among them were many young gill students from the State Normal School who attend sessions of the Legislature to study government.

Afterward, in a room off the gallery. the disreputable women with members of the Legislature and attaches of the Capitol, indulged in wild revelry, with high kicking and hoochee-coochee and Apache dances. All decency and re-straint were abandoned, it is said.

Foul phrases were flung across the floor of the House and echoed from the galleries. When the confetti gave out the women took to throwing books. Legislators staggered on the floor or slept at the desks in undisguisable insiept at the desks in undisguisable in-toxication. Drinks were served at the desks of members. The coarsest and most undignified acts of horse-play and "rough house" were enacted, and all in all, the dignity of the State and the decency of the companity, it is asserted, were flonted in a way unparalleled.

The church folks' anger is increased by the fact that the Legislature defeated the local option bill, by which it was hoped to make much of Ne./ Jersey "dry," and voted for Sunday baseball and full license of all Sunday

# ORDERS PULLMAN RATES CUT.

#### Upper Berths to Be About 25 Per Cent. Cheaper.

Washington, April 12.—After an inquiry extending for more than a year the Interstate Commerce Commission has reached the conclusion by a divided vote that Pullman car rates are ed vote that Pullman car rates are too high and has ordered the Pullman Company and the Great Northern Railway Company, which operates its own sleeping cars, to reduce the rates from Chicago to St. Paul and St. Paul to Seattle and other Western points. On upper berths the commission orders a raduction of approvision orders a reduction of approxi-mately 25 per cent.

# PAPER MAN'S BRIBE CHARGE.

# President Carey Tells of \$25,000 Offer to End the Strike. Watertown, N. Y., April 12.—Presi-

dent J. T. Carey of the International Brotherhood of Pulp and Paper Makers, in a statement, asserts that a representative of the International Paper Company repeatedly has offered him a bribe of \$25,000 to use his back to work not as union men, but as individuals, and to accept a 5 per cent. increase in wages.

Citizen Kills Burglar.
Philadelphia, April 12. — Caught breaking into the house of Samuel Jeanguenin, Reddy Gallagher, who has a police record as a burgler, was killed in a struggle with Jeanguenin.

Sunday Rest for Rallroad Men. Chicago, April 7 .- The Chicago and Northwestern Railroad has determin-ed to make Sunday a day of rest as far as possible. Work in all departments of the road other than in those actually necessary to operate the system will be suspended, and the employees will have the day to themselves. A similar plan was announced last week by the United States Steel Corpor-

Seven States for the Income Tax.
Washing'on, April 8.—Seven States have ratified the income tax amendment to the Constitution, Maryland being the last State to act favorably. The States that have ratified are Alabama, Illinois, South Carolina, Cklahoma, Mississippi, Kentucky and