

TAXI CO. NEVER DUNDED POLICE FOR MONEY OWED

Charge Accounts Permitted Unlimited Use of Yellow Cars by Holders.

TRAFFIC LAWS SHATTERED

Chauffeurs of Concerns Less Liberal with Patronage Arrested, When Favored Ones Went Free.

Books of the Yellow Taxicab Company and police records examined yesterday by Joseph Du Vivier, Assistant District Attorney...

A partial examination of police records shows that the vast majority of chauffeurs arrested for traffic violations in the districts where the police officials were making free use of taxicabs were those of chauffeurs employed by independent concerns.

There is no suggestion that any money was passed. It simply seems to have been a case of "let me ride in your cars and I won't arrest your chauffeurs." It is probable that enough evidence will be obtained to warrant sending it to Headquarters to be acted upon by Commissioner Waldo.

The average monthly "account" of each of the seven policemen is said to be from \$50 to \$100. The figures on the arrests are not complete yet, and the proportion of independent taxicab chauffeurs operating in the districts to which the figures refer, as compared to the number of "combination" chauffeurs, has not been figured out.

Mr. Du Vivier expects to present the matter to the grand jury to-morrow.

A report was agreed upon by the minority members of the aldermanic committee investigating the taxicab situation at a meeting held yesterday afternoon. The report will recommend an ordinance providing for the abolishment of private stands and the establishment of a public stand for one vehicle on each corner which is not passed by a railroad...

It will provide a rate of 60 cents for the first mile and 40 cents for each mile thereafter, regardless of the number of persons carried.

The licensing of public hacks, taxicabs and horse-drawn vehicles, as well as sightseeing cars and chauffeurs, will follow closely the ones laid down by the Mayor's commission.

George W. Whiteside, of No. 27 William street, counsel for the Yellow Taxicab Company, issued a statement yesterday afternoon regarding the position of the company. Concerning the charges that the company has been holding secret conferences with certain members of the aldermanic committee, Mr. Whiteside says H. R. Swartz, vice-president of the company, has personally represented the company in connection with the present aldermanic inquiry and also before the Mayor's commission, and has sought every opportunity to present facts which he has gained from experience for their consideration and action.

The statement says further that when the officers of the company learned that the District Attorney desired to conduct the present investigation they notified their counsel that they would be ready at any time to answer the District Attorney's call. The assistant treasurer and some clerks were the only employees of the company whose attendance had been requested up to this time, according to the statement.

The company learned that a former employe, E. P. Banta, had been to the District Attorney's office, and the officers felt that they owed it to the District Attorney to furnish him reliable information and facts rather than such statements as might be made by a discharged employe.

MOVED TO GROUND FLOOR.

The New York Title Insurance Company, of No. 135 Broadway, has moved from the second floor to the ground floor of its building at that address.

MORE ROBBERIES IN THE PAST YEAR THAN EVER BEFORE

What are you going to do with your house this summer? Take chances, as you have done for years past, or have your house wired by the Holmes System of Electric Protection Offices Everywhere.

HOOPING COUGH OR CROUP

Roche's Herbal Embrocation will also be found very efficacious in cases of BRONCHITIS, LUMBAGO AND RHEUMATISM.

ASTOR HOST OF SENATORS

Takes Committee on Yacht to West Point for Inspection Visit.

The Senate Committee on Military Affairs made an inspection of the United States Military Academy at West Point yesterday afternoon, making the trip upriver on Vincent Astor's yacht, Colonel Townley and his adjutant, Captain Vidmer, met the visitors and conducted a review of cadets on the parade grounds.

The inspection of the Military Academy was made in connection with a plan for increasing the number of cadets.

The Senate committee was represented by Senators Joseph E. Johnson, of Alabama; Duncan U. Fletcher, of Florida; Lee S. Overman, of North Carolina; James K. Vardaman, of Mississippi, and Brady, of Idaho. The party also included, besides Mr. Astor, Mrs. Joseph E. Johnson, Colonel and Mrs. E. M. House, Mr. and Mrs. Buford Lynch and Senator-elect Broussard, of Louisiana.

The visitors spend the night at West Point and intend to go to the Astor country estate, at Ferncliffe, this morning. They will return to West Point to-night and will remain there until to-morrow, when they will go to Albany to visit Governor Sulzer. They will probably return to New York in the evening.

BIRD WILL HELP SULZER

Progressive Chairman Indorses Direct Primary Bill.

Spurred on by the activity of Charles H. Duell, Jr., who has organized Progressive support for the campaign of Governor Sulzer for the direct primary bill, Francis W. Bird, chairman of the Progressive County Committee, has come out in favor of the measure. He said yesterday that at the meeting of the county committee a week from to-morrow night he would introduce a resolution indorsing the Sulzer bill.

Friends of Mr. Duell declared last night it was a good thing the chairman had decided to introduce such a resolution, as if he did not somebody else would, and it probably would pass in spite of the county chairman.

Mr. Duell declares when he first went to Mr. Bird with the suggestion that the Progressives take up the Governor's fight for direct primaries he found the county chairman unresponsive, indeed, that he tried to sidetrack the entire movement. "Such statements are false," declared Mr. Bird yesterday. "I have supported the bill from the first. Mr. Duell has been displeased because I would not lend countenance to his efforts to hold a purely Progressive meeting at Carnegie Hall in support of the bill. Such a meeting should be held under non-partisan auspices. For the Progressive party only to hold such a meeting would tend to prejudice the situation. For us to gain partisan advantage at the Governor's expense would be contemptible."

FINERY SEIZED AT PIER

Customs Officials Hold Gowns and Gems of Frisco Woman.

Foreign made gowns and jewelry valued at about \$2,000, and brought to this country yesterday by Mrs. Frederick Tillmann, of San Francisco, who was a passenger on the Hamburg-American liner Amerika, were seized at the Appraiser's Stores by the customs officials soon after the vessel docked.

Mrs. Tillmann was accompanied by her daughter, Miss Agnes Tillmann, and Miss Agnes Mangles, a sister of Mrs. Tillmann. When their baggage was opened the inspector found gowns that had not been listed. The women made no effort to conceal the fact that the articles had been purchased abroad, and they were willing to add them to their declarations and pay duty.

The ten trunks were sent to the Appraiser's Stores, and the women were informed they would have to appear at the Custom House on Monday and explain the delinquency to the Surveyor.

The discovery of undeclared finery caused the deputy surveyors to ask about other purchases, and the interrogation revealed jewels bought on the Continent. In no instance was there any effort to conceal anything, and when the inspectors had finished with the questioning the Tillmann party had handed over gems valued at about \$1,000.

LIGHTS GO OUT IN SUBWAY

Traffic Tied Up 12 Minutes—Women Rescued with Ladders.

The short circuiting of an oil switch of one of the generators in the main power house of the Interborough plant at 15th street and North River shortly before noon yesterday tied up traffic in the subway south as far as the East River and north to the Harlem River. Lights went out simultaneously in the cars, causing the passengers considerable alarm. At the Broadway and 131st street station two passenger elevators were midway between the station and street when the power went off. In the two cars were about a hundred men and women, some of the women having babies in their arms. The emergency side doors in the elevators were finally opened and ladders run from the side stairways of the shaft. By this means the women and children reached the street. Traffic was held up twelve minutes.

HEARING FOR MORALS POLICE

Mayor Will Listen to Argument Tuesday on Other Bills Also.

Mayor Clavin will give a public hearing on Tuesday at 11 a. m. on the various bills passed by the Legislature with the idea of improving the police administration of the city. Among them is the bill creating a special police force to regulate public morals. Another gives the Mayor power to increase the number of police deputies and to give to them the work that is now done by the inspectors.

The Mayor will hold hearings on other bills on Tuesday, including the amended dance hall bill, which gives the Mayor greater control over public dances through his Bureau of Licenses.

MARTIN PARTNER SUSPENDED

Cotton Firm Failed After Disappearance of President.

Memphis, May 10.—The board of directors of the Memphis Cotton Exchange ordered the suspension to-day of Will Phillips, junior member of the Martin-Phillips cotton firm, which failed after the mysterious disappearance of its president, Joseph W. Martin, in London. J. A. Ely, junior member of the Lesser-Ely cotton firm, was expelled from the exchange. Leo Lesser, the firm's president, recently disappeared.

TALENT FOR CONCERTS.

Are you entertaining? A list of high class singers, pianists, trios and quartets will be found on the musical part, Part IV, Page 8, of to-day's issue.

WINNERS DECLARED IN BABY CONTEST FINALS

Two Boys and a Girl Carry Off Highest Honors in "Perfection" Class.

SEVEN IN CLOSE FINISH

Committee's Medical Director Calls James Freeley, Leader in Two-Year-Old Division, Finest Infant in Show.

In awarding \$25 prizes to three perfect babies yesterday afternoon at the Lenox Hill House, at No. 46 East 73d street, Dr. Godfrey R. Plsek, medical director of the New York Milk Committee, who decided the finals, said the contest was so close that it had to be decided like a horse show.

"It reminds me of a story of a horse race," he declared, "wherein the horse that won beat the others only by sticking out his tongue at the wire."

There were seven babies out of the large number that have been examined in the last few days in the New York Milk Committee's contest that developed such startling indications of perfection that they were all competitors in the finals for the highest honors. The three "perfection" or 100 per cent. prizes went to the following children:

Class A, six months to one year—Lawrence Beinbucker, eight months old, of No. 24 East 73d street.

Class B, one to two years—Dorothy Skeete, sixteen months old.

Class C, two to three years—James Freeley, two years old, of No. 20 West 61st street.

Dr. Plsek said the last named infant was the finest baby he had ever seen, and the child's mother, Mrs. Michael Freeley, blushed with pride. The father of the youngster is a bricklayer and was born in Ireland. James, who is a milk station infant and weighed 21 pounds and 14 ounces, chuckled happily when the blue ribbon was placed around his chubby neck.

Lawrence Beinbucker weighed 22 pounds 5 ounces. Mrs. Arthur Beinbucker, his mother, said her husband was in the butcher business and was a teetotaler and seldom smoked. Dorothy Skeete weighed 24 pounds 15 ounces. Her mother is an English woman and her father a West Indian. James Freeley only "noosed out" one of his competitors by a few minor points, for it was explained by Dr. Plsek that a child named Burckley lost only after the closest of comparisons.

The babies in the finals had all been brought back to the Lenox Hill House early in the afternoon, and remained there until the final judgment was rendered. As Dr. Plsek faced the thirty or more mothers and infants to declare the winners he was greeted with cooing, grunts, gurles and strange calls of every sort by the youthful audience. As he warmed to his subject the youngsters warmed to their salutations, and finally the physician had almost to shout. The mothers of the three prize winners were advised to keep their children in good condition, so they could be entered in the interborough and interstate contests next fall.

Three perfect babies were found at the University Settlement yesterday. They were Francis Motto, four months old, the seventh child in his family; Solomon Goodman, seven months old, and James Korn, eight months old.

WANTS ONE LAW FOR ALL

John Kirby Urges Veto of Bill Favoring Labor and Farmers.

John Kirby, president of the National Association of Manufacturers, issued a statement yesterday afternoon denouncing the restriction in the sundry civil bill which prevents the use of public funds to prosecute violations of the Sherman act by labor or agricultural organizations.

Mr. Kirby declared that more than three hundred commercial and industrial organizations, representing 200,000 business men throughout the country, would unite in urging the President to veto the bill, which, he said, "violates every principle of American government, destroys equality before the law and brings the law itself into contempt." "Never before," he adds, "has Congress directed that the executive department shall not enforce the law with respect to any class of individuals who may violate it. This is not a proposal to amend the law so as to exempt labor or agricultural combinations from its provisions nor to modify it so as to define their activities thereunder."

"It is worse than that; it declares that the law, unmodified, shall not be enforced, and that while every person who enters into an agreement or conspiracy to restrain trade is a criminal, the Department of Justice shall prosecute some of these criminals, but not all."

J. B. DUKE IN NEW FIELD

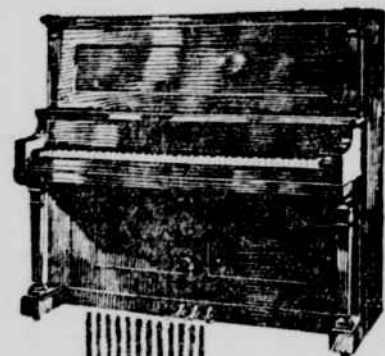
Gets Interest in Liggett Drug Co.—May Start Tobacco War.

Announcement was made yesterday that James B. Duke, president of the British-American Tobacco Company and formerly president of the American Tobacco Company, had bought a large interest in the Liggett Drug Company, which is closely allied with the United Drug Company. In connection with this purchase rumors have been circulated that Mr. Duke will use the Liggett concern as an opening wedge for competition with the American Tobacco Company and other tobacco companies of this country.

A large part of the stock of the United Drug Company is the property of some 5,500 druggists scattered throughout the United States. This fact has been used as the basis of a report that Mr. Duke hopes to use the Liggett company's connection as a means of ultimately featuring the output of the British-American Tobacco Company by a retail campaign.

SUNSHINE SOCIETY TO MEET.

The Universal Sunshine Society, Mrs. Clarence Burns, president, will hold its annual meeting and luncheon at the Hotel Manhattan, Madison avenue and 42d street, on Wednesday. The business session will begin at 10 a. m., comprising the reports of various branches of work done in Sunshine's name. After luncheon there will be a musical programme, in which Miss Gertrude Beeks, Victorine Hayes and Percy Walling will take part. Applications for luncheon tickets may be sent to the general secretary, Mrs. Jane Pierce, Room 1, 72, Tribune Building.



This is the opportunity for which so many wait—the opportunity to buy at Aeolian Hall one of the high-grade, little-used pianos which have been exchanged by wealthy customers of the Aeolian Company for the PIANOLA Piano.

Great Spring Sale of Used Pianos at Aeolian Hall

Beginning Monday Morning, May 12th

Sales of Used Pianos at Aeolian Hall are different—radically different from second-hand piano sales held elsewhere. Each year these events attract an unusual class of purchasers—music teachers, musicians and discriminating people who appreciate a saving in price, but would never consider a piano in which musical quality was sacrificed for mere cheapness.

Many styles of the PIANOLA Piano, such as the Steinway, Weber or Steck Grand PIANOLA Pianos, are magnificent and costly instruments. The homes to which they go are homes of wealth and refinement, and the pianos which they displace are splendid, high-grade makes in keeping with their surroundings.

These are the pianos offered in this Sale. To call them "used" pianos is actually misleading, as the majority of them are here because their owners could not use them and wanted in their place the PIANOLA Piano, the piano which everyone can play.

We invite you to look at the specimen values shown here. Whatever may be your piano need, whether you desire a famous grand for your drawing-room, an upright for your children's nursery or a piano for your summer home, you will find an instrument eminently suited for your purpose—an instrument with a name that stands for quality and integrity—an instrument in beautiful condition which you may purchase at but a part of its usual price.

Specimen Piano Values

Table with 3 columns: GROUP 1 (\$90 to \$175), GROUP 2 (\$180 to \$275), GROUP 3 (\$280 and Up). Lists piano models like Wissner, Weser, Bent, Lauter, Chase, Milton, Webster, Jacob, Burdette, Lohman, Krakauer, Wheelock, Gabler, Stuyvesant, Haines, Mehlin, Pease, Hallet & Davis, Sterling, Estey, Steinway, Weber, Steck, Chickering, Sohmer, Knabe, H. F. Miller, Decker, Hazelton, Hardman.

A Limited Number of Used Pianola Player-pianos at Great Reductions

In addition to the pianos in this Sale, we have a number of genuine Pianola Player-pianos which have been exchanged for higher priced instruments and which we will sell at prices far below their actual value.

The introduction of the Grand PIANOLA Piano has brought to us a large number of PIANOLA Pianos in the upright model which have been exchanged for these costlier instruments.

We quote herewith a few specimen values to be obtained in these famous Player-pianos. Every instrument which we offer is guaranteed. Every one is in excellent condition and we advise all who are contemplating the immediate or future purchase of a Player-piano to inspect these genuine PIANOLA Player-pianos, recognized throughout the world as the standard instruments of their type.

Many Player-pianos of other makes are also offered, together with a number of exchanged PIANOLAS—the most highly perfected, detachable piano-player. Specimen values indicate the exceptionally low prices.

25 Genuine Pianola Player-pianos, Used, from \$310 Original Prices up to \$1150

19 Player-pianos of Other Makes, from \$270 Original Prices up to \$750

27 Pianolas (the standard detachable piano-player) from \$125 Original Prices up to \$450.

Payments as low as \$1.25 per week on pianos, or \$2.00 per week on player-pianos—smaller, probably, than most would care to pay. They simply show that practically any terms which suit your convenience may be arranged. If for any reason you do not wish to have the instrument you purchase delivered now, we will hold it for later delivery.

THE AEOLIAN COMPANY

The Largest Manufacturers of Musical Instruments in the World 29-31-33 West 42nd St., Between 5th and 6th Aves.



THE SURPRISE SURPRISED

Man Who Took Family to See New Home Finds it Burned.

Arlington, N. J., May 10.—George Plank, a New York business man, was sufficiently startled to faint when a surprise of his own making turned on him to-day and gave him a thrill which was not on the programme. Mr. Plank, who lives on Edlshemus avenue, took his wife and his two children that if they would go for a ride in his automobile he would give them a surprise. He had built a new house in

North Arlington, for which he had paid \$7,500, and he had kept the new home a secret. His wife and children begged him to tell them what he had in store, but Plank only smiled in answer.

As the car rounded a corner at Kearny and Sunset avenues, he said, in accordance with the old formula: "Open your mouth and shut your eyes, and I'll give you something to make you wise." The party complied, but no sooner did Plank look at the spot where the house had stood than he, too, opened his mouth and shut his eyes. The house was only a mass of charred embers. It had burned to the ground during the night.

DROWNS IN HELL GATE

Sailor Falls from Yacht Viking, Belonging to G. F. Baker, Jr.

Brainard Bray, a deckhand on the yacht Viking, belonging to George F. Baker, Jr., vice-president of the First National Bank and vice-commander of the New York Yacht Club, fell overboard as the vessel was passing through Hell Gate yesterday afternoon and was drowned. Boats were lowered and for over two hours a search for the body was made, but it was not recovered.

When search was abandoned the yacht was run back to the 23d street landing and the accident reported to the police of the East 23d street station.

FREE EXHIBITION OF FLOWERS.

A free exhibition of flowers and plants, under the auspices of the Horticultural Society of New York, at the New York Botanical Gardens was opened yesterday afternoon. Many persons visited the exhibit, which will be open to-day from 10 a. m. until 5 p. m. Among the prize winners are T. A. Havemeyer, of Long Island, and Mrs. S. A. Constable, of Manhattan. N. Y. Louis C. Tiffany is one of the exhibitors.