

SPIKING GUNS OF FIRST WARD BALL

Responsibility for Failure to Exterminate Graft Banded Among Officials.

SPALDING BLANDLY SMILES

Women of Country Enlisting in Cause of Eliminating White Slave Traffic.

(Special Correspondence.)
Chicago, Dec. 5.—Spiking of all the guns aimed at the infamous First Ward ball, which puts \$50,000 annually into the political coffers of "Hinky Dink" Kenna and "Bathhouse John" Coughlin, was accomplished for the matter of \$1,000 rental which owners of the Coliseum refused to relinquish, pleading that they should not be asked "to judge of the morals of their fellowmen." After the corporation counsel and the chief of police had supplied ammunition for the guns of the reformers and the prevention of the orgy seemed likely, the law and order element suddenly confronted Charles F. Gunther, capitalist, and Stewart Spalding, society man, the president and manager respectively of the big auditorium. When informed that it was up to them to prevent the ball, Mr. Spalding is reported to have blandly smiled and remarked: "Let us not judge our fellowmen. Persons come to us and pay money in good faith for the use of our property, and it is not for us to say in advance that this affair is not all right. We have said that we could not stand for such a crowd as they had last year, but we can't revoke their license now, or they could sue us for damages." President Gunther promptly shirked responsibility upon Mayor Busse, but then Mayor Busse had ducked in favor of Chief of Police Steward. Protests have been made for a month to city officials against permitting this ball, which has been a harvest time for procurers of girls for the white slave traffic and an event which has disgraced Chicago.

ENLISTING IN CAUSE.
Woman's interest in protecting wom-

anhood against the white slave traffic proves to be increasing, judging by letters received by the Woman's World committee on legislation in Chicago, and now the women of Michigan are enlisted in the cause as already they have been in Ohio and several other states. One such letter from a woman in Ann Arbor follows: "Last March I read the article on white slavery and a few days ago I found the booklet, 'Smashing the White Slave Trade,' which aroused all my ambition to help in this fight. It is a cause to call for extra sessions of legislatures. It is enough to resurrect Lincoln. If we have no man in this day who will become the emancipator of the white slave, I shall never be satisfied if I do not do something to help; never in history was there a greater call for a strong systematic war of extermination on an evil close to the home. I am ready to give all my time working in this cause, will go from door to door, or from church to church to talk and collect money to build homes for the white slaves after they shall be liberated."

O'LEARY COW DISCUSSION.
The flare-up over the O'Leary cow and whether she did, as believed these many years, "kick Chicago over" by starting the great fire by a kick, has made this historical idol totter. Old Mrs. O'Leary's son, no other than "Big Jim" O'Leary, of gambling fame at the stock yards, declared this late that he had been forced to unseat his lips, arise to the defense of his parents, their live stock, and the honor of the O'Learys, past, present and future in order to denounce the new version of the fire's cause. O'Leary claims spontaneous combustion of green hay. But Rev. J. D. Leek has sprung a new one, based, he says, on the words of Andrew Bird, an 82-year-old inmate of the Methodist old people's home and formerly a teacher in the Maxwell street Sunday school. "Sam and Christopher O'Neill were boys in my Sunday school class," Mr. Bird has said. "They came to me in great fear and said they had taken a bottle of whisky and a lamp into the O'Leary's barn, and were going to milk one of the cows so as to get milk to make whisky punch. The cow got frightened at their rough handling and kicked over the lamp. I never told this before because I was afraid it might hurt the boys." To all of this Mr. O'Leary brings the countercharge that "the cow yarn" is the most monumental fake of the past century. He says: "Nobody was in the barn that night at all. The old man had laid in a stock of 'green hay' a few days before and it was spontaneous combustion, that's all." Between the two disputants stands the Chicago Historical society which merely raises its eyebrows with a request to "show me," while the prohibitionists claim they have here still another "duly qualified blow against the whisky trust."

POSTAL SAVINGS BANKS.
The increasing heat of controversy concerning the postal savings bank bill which will be a leading issue during this session of Congress has developed a sharp tilt in Chicago be-

tween the Record-Herald and a correspondent who signs himself merely "A City Banker," in which the lack of exact knowledge by bankers of the terms of the Carter bill as now amended has been strikingly displayed. "No state of prosperity can be secured unless the banking institutions are on a safe basis," the banker declared. And he raised a number of specific objections and opposed the postal savings bank in principle. The Record-Herald, which with most of the leading papers of the country not under banking influence and some which are, has been a stalwart champion of postal banks for years, retorted: "Could a postal savings bank be well managed in this country? Is it true, as 'A City Banker' says, that foreign governments invest the deposits largely in their own bonds, and that we do not have federal bonds available for that purpose. But we have other available investments, and what is more, certain of our state governments have already shown that they can select such investments with admirable wisdom. Massachusetts leads the way in this respect by providing standards to which the savings banks of the state must conform. Those standards are known all over the country and are often referred to when prime investments are sought. If the government can help the banks to safety, could it not equally well declare this late that he had been forced to unseat his lips, arise to the defense of his parents, their live stock, and the honor of the O'Learys, past, present and future in order to denounce the new version of the fire's cause. O'Leary claims spontaneous combustion of green hay. But Rev. J. D. Leek has sprung a new one, based, he says, on the words of Andrew Bird, an 82-year-old inmate of the Methodist old people's home and formerly a teacher in the Maxwell street Sunday school. "Sam and Christopher O'Neill were boys in my Sunday school class," Mr. Bird has said. "They came to me in great fear and said they had taken a bottle of whisky and a lamp into the O'Leary's barn, and were going to milk one of the cows so as to get milk to make whisky punch. The cow got frightened at their rough handling and kicked over the lamp. I never told this before because I was afraid it might hurt the boys." To all of this Mr. O'Leary brings the countercharge that "the cow yarn" is the most monumental fake of the past century. He says: "Nobody was in the barn that night at all. The old man had laid in a stock of 'green hay' a few days before and it was spontaneous combustion, that's all." Between the two disputants stands the Chicago Historical society which merely raises its eyebrows with a request to "show me," while the prohibitionists claim they have here still another "duly qualified blow against the whisky trust."

SCOPE OF ERDMAN ACT.
The scope of the Erdman act, invoked by the railway managers and the switchmen prior to the strike order of the union, was developed in Chicago when the car employes threatened to tie up the traction lines a year ago. There was no authority in the United States commissioner of labor or any other federal official to do so under the act, which covers common carriers entering more than one state, but he offered his aid. Only one other time since the act was passed at the request of labor organizations in June, 1898, has it been invoked, that being when the big strike on the Southern railways looked formidable and President Roosevelt acted. The act was endorsed and urged by the brotherhoods of railway conductors, engineers, firemen and telegraphers. The act provides that upon request the chairman of the interstate commerce commission and the United States commissioner of labor shall, upon request, offer their service as mediators in the case of threatened strike and if unsuccessful may seek to have the matter arbitrated. The act recites: "The award being filed in the clerk's office of a circuit court of the United States, it shall go into practical operation, and judgment shall be entered thereon accordingly at the expiration of ten days from such filing." At the expiration of ten days from the decision of the circuit court upon the application, said award, as aforesaid, judgment shall be entered in accordance with

such decision, unless during said ten days either party shall appeal therefrom to the circuit court of appeals."

NEW WHEAT AND ALFALFA

A new grain for feeding purposes and an improved alfalfa that will add \$200,000,000 to Uncle Sam's crop values will be submitted at the meeting of the American Breeders' association in Omaha next week, and later to the American Association for the Advancement of Science, in Boston, by Prof. B. C. Buffum, for 15 years head of the agricultural department of the University of Wyoming, who left Chicago to exhibit the results of a series of experiments in grasses and grains secured at the experiment farm under his supervision at Worland, Wyo. The feeding grain is a new variety of summer, a hybrid wheat, which is superior to corn in bone nourishment and flesh producing power, and yields from 10 to 12 bushels per acre, or about double the best Russian speltz. It is a beardless wheat of large size and fixed hull, especially fitted to production in the arid, semi-arid or irrigated country west of the 100th meridian, including all the elevated plateau of the Rocky mountains and the valleys of the mountain ranges. This region, from the Gulf of Mexico to the Canadian boundary, has an average elevation too great for the maturing of corn. Stock raising of all kinds is still the dominant interest throughout the whole of it, and the discovery of this new feed-grain promises to relieve the stockmen from the cost and trouble of importing corn from the middle western states for use in fattening or finishing their animals for market. This will mean an almost incalculable economy in all branches of animal husbandry, and a corresponding increase in profits.
As supplementing it, Prof. Buffum has succeeded in producing a new variety of alfalfa, possessing the quality of the best known alfalfa as a balanced ration, but having an increased rapidity and weight of growth that will give a yield of one to two and a half tons an acre. This new alfalfa has reached a height of nine feet in a single season, and will easily enable four cuttings a year. Instead of the present practice of three, alfalfa has a minimum ton value of about \$5, and there are millions of acres of it in the part of the west described, so that the addition of only one ton per acre, if this new variety were widely grown, would mean five times as many millions of dollars as there are acres, earned by the farmers every year.

TEN MEN KILLED, SEVENTEEN MISSING

Two Gas Tanks Explode at Hamburg Resulting in Big Fire And Loss of Many Lives.

THE HEAT WAS VERY INTENSE

Firemen Compelled to Withdraw—New Gasometer Was Largest In the World.

Hamburg, Germany, Dec. 7.—The explosion of two gas tanks in the so-called "Kleines Grasbrock," on the Elbe front this forenoon was followed by an extensive fire and the loss of many lives.

The explosion was due to a leak in a new gasometer. Escaping gas entered the retort house, where it came in contact with the fires, causing a terrible explosion. A large number of workmen were engaged in rebuilding and enlarging the plant. Twenty-five men were working near the gasometer. They disappeared in a mass of flames which shot up to a great height. Firemen appeared quickly, but were unable to approach in large force because of the isolated position of the establishment.

Late tonight 10 men are reported dead and 17 missing. It is almost certain that all these are dead.

Forty men were dangerously injured, several perhaps fatally.

The fire spread rapidly and threatened the old gasometer, containing 60,000 cubic meters. So intense was the heat and so dangerous their position that the firemen were compelled to withdraw. A terrific explosion soon occurred, and the tower became a mass of flames which leaped hundreds of feet in the air, sending fragments of glowing coke far over the city and harbor. After strenuous efforts the fire was gotten under control and rescue work begun. There is little hope of finding the bodies of the missing, as they would undoubtedly have been incinerated.

The new gasometer which exploded was the largest in the world, having a capacity of 200,000 cubic meters. The city appropriated 14,000,000 marks (\$3,500,000) for its construction.

SCRATCH PAPER.

Don't Use Your Letter Heads. Scratch paper for sale cheap at the Deseret News.

PREST. TAFT RE-ELECTED PRESIDENT OF RED CROSS

Washington, Dec. 7.—President Taft was re-elected president of the American Red Cross today and presided for a time over the fifth annual meeting of the association.

The president made a brief address, in which he expressed the hope that some one might present the Red Cross with an endowment fund of \$5,000,000, to place its beneficent work on a more permanent basis. Mr. Taft also presented in person a gold medal voted by the Red Cross to Lloyd C. Griscom, former American ambassador to Italy, for his work at the Messina earthquake, and silver medals to Miss Katherine B. Davis and Samuel L. Parrish, who assisted in the Italian relief work.

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FOR IMPROVEMENT OF PUBLIC HIGHWAYS

Chicago, Dec. 8.—"Improvement of the highways to keep pace with deep waterway development," will be the slogan of the national good roads convention next Tuesday and Wednesday at Topeka, Kan. The federal and state governments will be urged to join in the good roads movement.

Arthur C. Jackson, president of the National Good Roads association, expressed the hope yesterday that the Topeka convention would serve as an impetus to road construction by Congress and by state legislatures, in accordance with the declaration of both the Republican and Democratic parties in the last national platforms.

"I anticipate that we shall make a show of the hope yesterday that the convention which will go a long way toward convincing the states and the na-

tion of the importance of our movement," said Mr. Jackson. "Kansas and its surrounding states are particularly interested in the gathering and delegates will be present from all parts of the country."

CANADIAN NAVAL POLICY TRIUMPHANT

Ottawa, Ont., Dec. 8.—At a census of the Liberal members of parliament yesterday, the naval policy of the government was endorsed. This means that the Laurier government will have the votes to put through its naval proposals for the construction of a small number of protected cruisers and torpedo boats and the subsidizing of certain ship yards and drydocks plants.

It means that the agitation started for a money contribution to the imperial defense and for the presentation of Dreadnoughts to the royal navy has not swayed the government from its purpose to build only a small fleet and to make that absolutely responsible to the Dominion parliament instead of the British admiralty.

ORIGIN OF THE REORGANIZED CHURCH AND SUCCESSION.

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This book is invaluable and indispensable to missionaries and all other students of Church history. It deals thoroughly with the origin of the Reorganized church and conclusively proves it to be of apostate sources, also that that church has departed from the doctrines of the Prophet Joseph Smith and now attacks them vindictively, denying many of the principles of the gospel. The book also treats the Succession in the Presidency and shows that PRESIDENT BRIGHAM YOUNG WAS PROPERLY ORDAINED TO LEAD THE CHURCH.

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