

'OLD BETHEL' REOPENED**NEW SECT TAKES CHARGE.**

"Pastor" Russell, "Jellyfish" Man, Buys Beecher Mission.

"Pastor" Charles Page Russell, the "Jellyfish" man, reopened yesterday afternoon "Old Bethel," the mission at No. 17 Hicks street, Brooklyn, which was originally established by Henry Ward Beecher and which was closed two years ago. It is said that Russell has purchased the place, which has seats for 500 persons, and will make it his headquarters for the future. It has been renamed the "Brooklyn Tabernacle."

Pastor Russell is the leader of a religious body which has members all over the country, and is held together by "The Watcher Tower," a periodical. The members call each other "brother" or "sister." They claim no particular creed. The organization depends on voluntary contributions. Russell has about twenty assistants "ministers" at the tabernacle.

"Pastor" Russell comes from Pennsylvania, where he has been conducting a similar work. He acquired his peculiar name in 1906, when his wife divorced him. According to the testimony of the woman, Mrs. Maria Frances Russell, the "Pastor" held the view that a man's heart is so big that he can love a dozen women, while a woman's heart is so small that she can love only one man."

She charged him with kissing his ward, Rosa Bush, who was employed at the Russell home, then in Allegheny. It was testified that she said to Rosa:

"I am like a jellyfish. I float all around and touch this one and that, and, if they respond, I embrace them."

His chief theory is that no hell exists—at least in the hereafter. The hall was packed yesterday afternoon by a class of people greatly resembling the followers of Alexander Dowde, when he invaded New York City a few years ago. The "pastor" told them they were being shamed, like the stones of Solomon's Temple, and when they were ready for it they would go to sleep to await the millennium, when the temple of God would be erected, with Christ at its head. Harmony and co-operation would be the characteristics of the temple, he explained.

"You are a favored people," he declared, "in that you understand what others do not. You are in harmony with God."

When the millennium comes, he explained, the people will be privileged to apply directly to God through Christ. Those who will be chosen by God will not be the rich and the intellectual, but the lowly.

"If I were to choose my followers," he said, "I would pick out men like Roosevelt and John D. Rockefeller, some Senators and a few good lawyers, and I would have a good manager, like the Harriman, but I would be making a great mistake. God doesn't want that kind. Perhaps he would not refuse a few good lawyers and financiers, as there is some good in them, but he prefers the lowly."

After the talk, which lasted an hour and a quarter, meal tickets were distributed in honor of the occasion.

WOULD ABOLISH KISSING.

The Rev. Mr. Scudder Calls Custom an Assailant—Advises War on Spitters

The Rev. John L. Scudder delivered an address last night in the Congregational Church, Jersey City, in the interest of the Anti-Spitting League, saying: "The twentieth century commandment is, 'Thou shalt not spit'."

He said that, as Christ was a healer as well as a preacher, his Church should be interested in the annihilation of disease and be in the forefront of the crusade against tuberculosis, the butcher who killed people in the United States at the rate of one every three minutes. Consumption, he said, was a spit disease, and if all consumptives would instantly destroy their spit, the disease would be stamped out in a generation. The villainous, unhygienic custom of kissing the lips should be abolished, he said. He declared that many people had been killed to death. All citizens should operate in checking the spitting habit and in having arrested all those who expectorate in cars and public places.

SHOOTING IN LOUISVILLE THEATRE.

Vaudville Actor in Sketch Entitled "In the Subway" Shoots Employer.

(By Telegraph to The Tribune.)

Louisville, Jan. 31.—Cameron Clemens, playing at a Louisville vaudville theatre, was shot and severely wounded to-day by Wills Brown, a member of his company. They were presenting a sketch called "In the Subway." The shooting occurred in Clemens's dressing room. Brown when arrested declared that Clemens was the cause of his losing his place with a vaudville company to which both belonged. The audience, watching another act, did not hear the shot.

Clemens had both bones broken in the left leg between the knee and ankle, and received another serious wound in the hip. Brown says that New York is his home, while Clemens comes from Paterson, N. J.

ENTRY FOR AIRSHIP RACE TO ALBANY.

Boston-New York Aerial Navigation Company to Start Dirigible.

Boston, Jan. 31.—An entry for the race of airships from New York to Albany next autumn, on the occasion of the Hudson-Fulton memorial celebration, was made to-night by the Boston-New York Aerial Navigation Company. Charles Gilders, who recently organized the Aerial Navigation Company, placed the entry in the hands of Augustus Post, secretary of the Aero Club of America, under whose auspices the race is to be run.

The Boston company has already given an order for a dirigible to be used on the proposed New York line, which is to be delivered on May 1. This dirigible, it is understood, is the first to be entered in the race.

CALL AIRSHIP BLOWN TO PIECES.

It Was Reposing Peacefully in Its Shed When Kansas Storm Struck It.

(By Telegraph to The Tribune.)

Girard, Kan., Jan. 31.—The Call airship was torn to pieces and scattered over a forty-acre field by the gale last night. After the tests were made of the machine in November a pavilion was built over and around it and it was allowed to stand in a large field where the tests were made. It was the plan of Henry Laurens Call, its inventor, and the other members of the Aerial Navigation Company of America, to make more tests in the spring.

DR. BULL'S CONDITION GOOD.

Savannah, Jan. 31.—Apparently Dr. William T. Bull, the cardiac specialist, has felt no ill effects from his trip from New York to Savannah. The following statement was issued by his physicians to-night:

"Dr. Bull passed a comfortable night and to-day is enjoying the sunshine. Temperature and pulse normal. He is in good spirits and is much pleased with his surroundings."

ROCKMEN TO DEMAND NEW WAGE SCALE.

In a report made yesterday, Vincenzo Vecchio, business agent of the Rockmen and Excavators' Union, said that demands were now being prepared on behalf of twelve thousand excavators and fifteen hundred rockmen for a new wage scale, and would be submitted to the employers in a few weeks. In case the demands are refused a strike is to follow, he said, but he believed such a step would be unnecessary. In case of a strike, he believed the rock drillers, iron workers, bluestone cutters and pipe cutters would walk out in sympathy.

The demands are for 20 cents an hour for the excavators and 25 cents an hour for the rockmen. He said the wages had been cut in the business depression.

RECEPTION FOR EX-MAYOR WHITNEY.

Daniel D. Whitney, a former Mayor of Brooklyn, was the guest Saturday night at a public reception in the Sandie Street Methodist Episcopal Church, Clark and Henry streets, Brooklyn, in celebration of his ninetieth birthday. Borough President Ober spoke, and addresses were made also by other borough officials and Brooklyn men in public life for the last half-century.

SEEK MORSE'S RELEASE**Friends Prepare Petition to Judges of the U. S. Circuit Court.**

Friends of Charles W. Morse, the convicted banker, are preparing a petition to the United States Circuit Court of Appeals asking them to admit Mr. Morse to bail pending his appeal from Judge Hough's sentence of fifteen years in the federal prison at Atlanta for violation of the national banking laws. Scores of merchants and bankers have already signed the petition. Mr. Morse is at present in the Tombs. Seth M. Milliken, ex-president of the Mercantile National Bank, and James Talcott are heading the movement, and others working in behalf of Mr. Morse include Charles M. Schwab, Edward J. Berwind and ex-Governor William T. Cobb of Maine.

Mr. Milliken, who, like Mr. Morse, is a State of Maine man, was associated with Mr. Morse for many years on the directorate of the Mercantile National Bank. "It has given me much pleasure," said Mr. Milliken last night, "to sign the petition to admit Charles W. Morse to bail. It is my opinion that his imprisonment in the Tombs pending the appeal to which he is legally entitled is a grave injustice."

"I have at various times had large dealings with Mr. Morse, as far back as 1902, and in all of these transactions he was strictly punctilious."

"His undertakings were too extended to permit success, owing to the financial crisis under which he went down. He is a man of resource of courage and ability, and I have never believed that it was his intention to defraud. Were he to have the opportunity, I believe he could and would pay his debts dollar for dollar."

Mr. Talcott, who is an elder in the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, where Mr. Morse worships, believes that Mr. Morse never intended to do wrong or to injure any one. Mr. Morse was a generous contributor to the charitable work of the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, and many of the church members are signing the petition.

Ex-Governor Cobb of Maine, who was in college with Mr. Morse, wrote to him before the election of Mr. Morse as Governor as follows: "Your friends are indignant, and all of us are hoping that you will win on an appeal."

Ex-Governor Cobb recently came to New York for the express purpose of visiting Mr. Morse in the Tombs. Before leaving for his home in Rockland, Me., he said: "I do not believe and cannot believe that Mr. Morse ever intended to do any one an injury or break any law. In all my personal dealings I always found him as straight as a string. Mr. Morse was a good friend to me in the days of his prosperity, and I want the world to know that I am loyal to him now in his adversity."

Charles M. Schwab, who has had business dealings with Mr. Morse amounting to millions of dollars, was paying the following tribute to his friend:

"In my business transactions with Mr. Morse, extending over several years and involving large sums, I have always found him upright and straightforward. I am satisfied, and have no reason to complain. It was unfortunate for Mr. Morse that public sentiment was much against him by reason of the bad financial conditions at the time. For this I do not think he was to blame. It was bound to come, at any rate. I have always found Mr. Morse generous, big hearted and loyal to his friends."

Edward J. Berwind, coal magnate and capitalist, whose friendship for and business dealings with Mr. Morse have been of the closest, says of him: "Mr. Morse's relations with me were always direct, and he always carried out the understanding except in so much as the money conditions prevailing during the panic interfered with it. It seems to me that the very unusual conditions of the panic had much to do with bringing Mr. Morse into the unfavorable position in which he found himself."

LOW PRICES REDUCED EXPORT TRADE.**Quantity of Foreign Business Kept Up Last Year, but Value Fell Off.**

Washington, Jan. 31.—Reduced prices were largely the cause of the fall of \$307,000,000 in value of imports and \$167,000,000 in exports in the foreign trade of the United States, last year, according to an analysis of the year's trade made by the bureau of statistics of the Department of Commerce and Labor. The decrease in value, it is said, does not mean a large reduction in quantity, but lower prices.

It is shown, for instance, that while the value of cotton exported in 1908 was \$439,000,000 as against \$400,000,000 in 1907, there was an increase of \$30,000,000 in quantity. Raw silk imports fell from \$16,000,000 in the preceding year, yet the quantity increased by \$6,000,000. Wool imports fell 40 per cent in value, but only 24 per cent in quantity.

CHARGED WITH A NEW YORK MURDER.

George Nadar, Ex-Animal Trainer, Arrested in Baltimore for Killing Louis Pra.

(By Telegraph to The Tribune.)

Baltimore, Jan. 31.—George Nadar, a former animal trainer, was arrested to-day at his boarding house, and is held by the police for the action of the New York authorities on the charge of stabbing and killing Louis Pra in New York City in January, 1905.

The accused man is a Frenchman, as was also the man he is charged with murdering. Both were employees of a New York hotel. When asked by Justice Grannan if he was ever an animal trainer Nadar admitted that he had been in that business. He denied being in New York when the murder was committed.

NEW LAWS STRENGTHEN BANKING INSTITUTIONS

ONE HUNDRED AND THREE MILLION DOLLARS ADDED TO THEIR STORE OF CASH.

Albany, Jan. 31.—Increased strength of the general banking institutions of the state under the new reserve laws, which go into effect to-morrow, will be shown in a statement issued to-day by Clark Williams, State Superintendent of Banks.

"It should be appreciated," says Superintendent Williams, "that the strength of the general banking institutions of the state has been augmented by the addition of \$100,000,000 to the store of cash in their own vaults and \$15,000,000 to that held on deposit with other banks."

"The reserves of our state banks and trust companies are now sufficient to meet any demands that might be made on them, for which a proper reserve would be adequate protection."

"The reserve of money carried in our banking institutions is of the utmost importance to commercial and financial interests, underlying it as follows:

RESERVE OF STATE BANKS.

Location of Bank.

In Manhattan, In Borough of Brooklyn without branches in Manhattan, In Borough of Greater New York, In Bronx, Queens and Richmond without branches in Manhattan, Elsewhere.

*Cash in vault. *Deposited with reserve agents.

RESERVE OF TRUST COMPANIES.

Location of Trust Company.

In Manhattan, Other boroughs in Greater New York, Other boroughs in Greater New York having branches in Manhattan, Elsewhere.

*Cash in vault. *Deposited with reserve agents.

The requirements of these laws on the basis of the present net deposits of state banks and trust companies operate to increase the amount of reserve over that required under the old law, as follows:

Banks in Manhattan.

Banks in Brooklyn.

Banks elsewhere.

State banks increase.

Trust companies in Manhattan.

Trust companies in Brooklyn.

Trust companies elsewhere.

Trust companies increase.

So that on the basis of the present net deposits of state banks and trust companies combined the increase is:

Manhattan.

Brooklyn.

Elsewhere.

Entire state totals.

Combined total reserve increase.

ARMY AND NAVY NOTES**Armor and Armament for Next Huge Battleships.**

(From The Tribune Bureau.)

Washington, January 31.

GREATEST OFFENCE AND DEFENCE.—The naval ordnance officers have completed the tentative plans for the armor and armament of the 26,000-ton battleship, two of which ships are to be built if the Senate approves the provision for increase of the navy as it passed the House in the naval appropriation bill. In the estimates which have been drawn in the bureau of ordnance it is proposed to have three additional guns to meet emergencies. The armament includes twenty-two 5-inch guns as a secondary battery of the 26,000-ton ship. In other respects the armament, including rapid fire guns to be used in attack and torpedo outfit, will be the same as in the case of the Florida and the Utah. Provision is also made for the 26,000-ton battleship for the installation of the fire control system which has been under practical test on the Mississippi and the Idaho. It is estimated that the armor will amount to nearly seven thousand tons, and it is desired to have Congress at this session appropriate enough money to furnish two-thirds of the armor and three-fourths of the armament. The decision to have 14-inch guns instead of 16-inch guns simplifies the problem in a substantial measure for the ordnance experts. A design has been made of the 14-inch gun, but there will be some delay in constructing a gun of this calibre, inasmuch as one would have to be built for trial. No apprehension is entertained by the ordnance experts concerning the gun, but special provision would have to be made for its assembling, one of the details being the raising of the roof of the gun factory at the Washington navy yard.

WEST POINT IMPROVEMENT.—The authorities at the Military Academy have been seeking some means by which the West Shore Railroad may be compelled to move certain of its tracks so as to permit an extension of the target range at West Point. The railroad has refused to accede to the demand, and it has been found that under the contract existing between the government and the railroad, it is not possible for the Secretary of War to require the removal without involving the government in much expense. Negotiations have been begun by Colonel H. L. Scott, the superintendent of the Military Academy, with a view to coming to terms, and he has been informed that the cost of the work proposed would be not less than \$300,000, according to the estimate of the railroad engineers. Colonel Scott, on the other hand, has informed the railroad authorities that he regards \$25,000 as sufficient to cover the expense involved. There is little hope, according to reports received at the War Department from West Point, of the officials of the academy coming to an agreement with the railroad. It has been found that the transfer of the tracks offers the only means of extending the target range and surrounding ordnance practice with all the necessary precautions of the Chester, and it will also be necessary to have the public sentiment was much against him by reason of the bad financial conditions at the time. For this I do not think he was to blame. It was bound to come, at any rate. I have always found Mr. Morse generous, big hearted and loyal to his friends."

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MINUS MILITARY MILEAGE.—The War Department authorities are much exercised over the prospect that Congress will not increase the allotment to be made this year for mileage. A recommendation has been made by the paymaster general of the army increasing the sum of last year—\$900,000—by \$25,000 to meet the increasing travel which is performed by officers under orders and for which they are entitled to the allowance for mileage. Great difficulty has been encountered by the War Department in keeping the official travel of the commissioners within the limit which is prescribed by the appropriation for mileage, and every year there has been a deficiency estimate. There would have been one this year had it not been that the House Appropriations Committee signified its intention to allow no deficiency appropriation on account of mileage. It has been indicated that the military administration could keep the official travel of army officers within the allotment. Those in charge of the funds say there is constant friction in the resistance of encroachments upon the mileage fund, which will exhaust the appropriation long before the end of the fiscal year. The War Department is periodically engaged in adjusting this troublesome matter, and now it seems to have assumed grave proportions in requiring the exercise of special economy.