

THE CITY IN BRIEF.

Police began work as sanitary yesterday.

Workmen are busy clearing the Ninth street theatre wreck.

The First Christian church will give regular dinner this evening.

The Builder's and Trader's exchange will give its annual reception this evening.

The justices and constables are turning in their reports to the county clerk.

The German Educational institute will give an entertainment next Saturday evening.

The Circuit courts are turning out the way from four to eight divorced couples daily.

The local sports are all on tiptoe of expectancy at the coming of Championbett next week.

The closing of the St. James hotel made business exceedingly good in the Centropolis.

Annie Wright began a suit for divorce this morning against Harry B. Wright. She alleges desertion.

Business on the railroads is picking up.

All the trains come in and go out of the city loaded to their capacity.

W. C. Grötte, of this city, received telegram yesterday announcing the death of his aged father at Nice, Italy.

The Kansas City Dental college will give its annual banquet and graduating exercises at the Coates house tomorrow evening.

The ex-Students' association of the University held a largely attended meeting in the New York Life building last evening.

W. Green of 2100 Vine has applied to the humane society to send his little year old boy to his grandmother at nearpoint, Mo.

It is now thought the grand jury will make its final report to-morrow morning. The jurors were examining the county jail today.

A. W. Tippin of 910 Jefferson street, was caught under a cable car at Ninth and Penn streets last evening. His hat was badly crushed.

The county court has ordered all constables and justices to make a report at once of the fees collected by them since the last report.

A. M. Lawrence, a horse shoer at seventeenth and Bell streets, and Dickover, colored, had a fight last evening which both were badly scarred.

The British-American club held a meeting last evening in its club room at Wall street. It was decided to admit members of all nationalities to the club.

George Washington, colored, was seized with a mania for impersonating a police officer yesterday and will go to the workhouse today in default of a \$100 fine.

Chief Hale and eight firemen secured permission from the city council last evening to make a trip to Europe to attend the International Fire congress at London.

Frank M. O'Dell of the Adams Express company wishes that THE MAIL would pay for him that he is not the Frank M. O'Dell who was reported drunk the other day.

Judge Gibson set aside the verdict of \$1,395 and granted a new trial yesterday.

NO NEGRO NAMED.

The City's Cash Account All Right—Treasurer Eveland's New Plan—Scarcity of Fruit—New Western Union Officers—Real Estate Outlook—Encyclopedia Fakirs—Missouri River Boats—Vicious Youth—Personals and Brief City News.

NOT EXACTLY RIGHT.

Colored Citizens Grievd at the Fact That They Do Not Serve as Jurors.

There is a disposition upon the part of the colored citizens of Kansas City to protest at the way they are treated when it comes to serving as jurors at the circuit court. An intelligent colored man who owns property in the city, and who fought in the civil war, said this morning: "Do you know that in two years there has not a single colored man, good, bad or indifferent, appeared before a single judge in the four courts in this city as a juror? Well, it is a fact, and we are inclined to object. Not that we care about serving on juries, but it is a right guaranteed to us by the statutes, and we think there should be something done about it."

Judge Murphy is authority for the statement that the names of 500 colored men were put in the wheel, and it really seems a little strange that in two years not a single colored citizen has been drawn. The county judges and the county clerk insist that the drawings are made in a fair and legal manner and the sheriff says he serves all the names given over to him. It is apparent, however, that somewhere and somehow, the names of colored men get lost in the shuffle and they do not appear before the courts as jurors.

Judge Gibson said that it was a fact that not a colored man had been in his court, as a juror, in two years, or perhaps longer, but that as far as he was concerned he considered that the drawings were fairly made and he could not account for the strange fact. It was suggested by some one this morning that some of the deputy sheriffs might not serve the names of colored men, when they were handed to them, but the deputies stoutly affirm that they serve all names impartially.

The fact, however remains, and as colored men are frequently drawn and serve on the criminal court panels, drawn from the same box, there seems to be a little sculduggery somewhere.

COUNTED THE CASH.

The City Treasurer's Office is "O. Ked" by Councilmen.

The joint finance committee of the council has investigated the accounts of the auditor and treasurer, counted the cash and found everything in business-like shape as will be seen by the following report:

The report of the joint finance committee on a condition of the auditor's and treasurer's offices is as follows: To the Hon. Common Council:

GENTLEMEN: We have examined the books of the auditor and find that the treasurer has on hand from all sources at close of business on February 28th, 1893, \$658,715.02. We have also examined the books of the treasurer at the close of business on the same date and find the following items to balance above amount:

Cash on hand in vault, \$778.10; in National Bank of Commerce, \$438,757.54; in Union National Bank, \$218,179.38.

RUSHING BUSINESS.

Encyclopedia Agents Become Entirely Too Progressive.

The Encyclopedia Britannica sentence contest is being used in inducing people to subscribe for the encyclopedia against their will. The solicitor for the publishing firm in delivering a volume, as per agreement, to those who were successful in the sentence contest, has been in the habit of getting the successful contestants to sign an agreement to take the whole set under pretense that it was a receipt for the volume received.

Following this solicitor comes another who has armed himself with the signed contract which he produces and endeavors to bulldoze the helpless victim, who is generally a woman, into accepting and paying for a complete set of the books. One of the solicitors secured the signature of Mrs. Small, wife of Attorney Small, of the firm of Gago, Ladd & Small, to a contract which was represented to her to be a receipt, which she did not have time to read and question before she was induced to sign it. Soon another solicitor appeared with twenty-five volumes for which he demanded pay and when Mrs. Small protested produced her signed contract. Mrs. Small had enough presence of mind to telephone to her husband who soon gave Mr. Solicitor the grand bounce.

Miss May Russell, aged about 13 years, who lives at 124 Brooklyn avenue, was made the victim of a solicitor who persisted in delivering a set of encyclopedias which he claimed was contracted for. All over the city can be heard murmurs to the effect that the sentence contest is being used as a means of selling the books.

A FRUIT SCARCITY.

The Extreme Cold Winter Sends Vegetables Skyward.

Owing principally to the numerous cold waves which have swept over the south with astonishing severity the past winter, the receipt of new vegetables has been lighter and later than for several years past. About the only southern product in the vegetable line, so far, offered for sale on the market is lettuce, which is being shipped here from Texas, and that is bringing the exorbitant price of \$1.50@1.75 per bushel. It is a vegetable to be found only on the tables of a few and a very select few just now. Besides the Texas product there is a quantity of hot house lettuce which is of very poor quality. A few hot house beets and radishes are to be found on sale by the "dago" stall-keepers at the fancy price of \$1.00 per dozen bunches of two or three. Washington, Naval and Mexican oranges are beginning to arrive and in very small consignments, they being all the way from \$3.25@4.50 per box. The necessaries of life in the way of eggs, butter and potatoes are experiencing a marked decline in prices. Eggs have been declining

Prices of various commodities are also showing a downward trend. The market for wheat is particularly weak, with prices at a low ebb. Corn and other grain products are also selling at a discount. The overall economic outlook is pessimistic, with many businesses reporting a sharp decline in sales and profits.