

FIGHTING THE GREAT WHITE PLAGUE

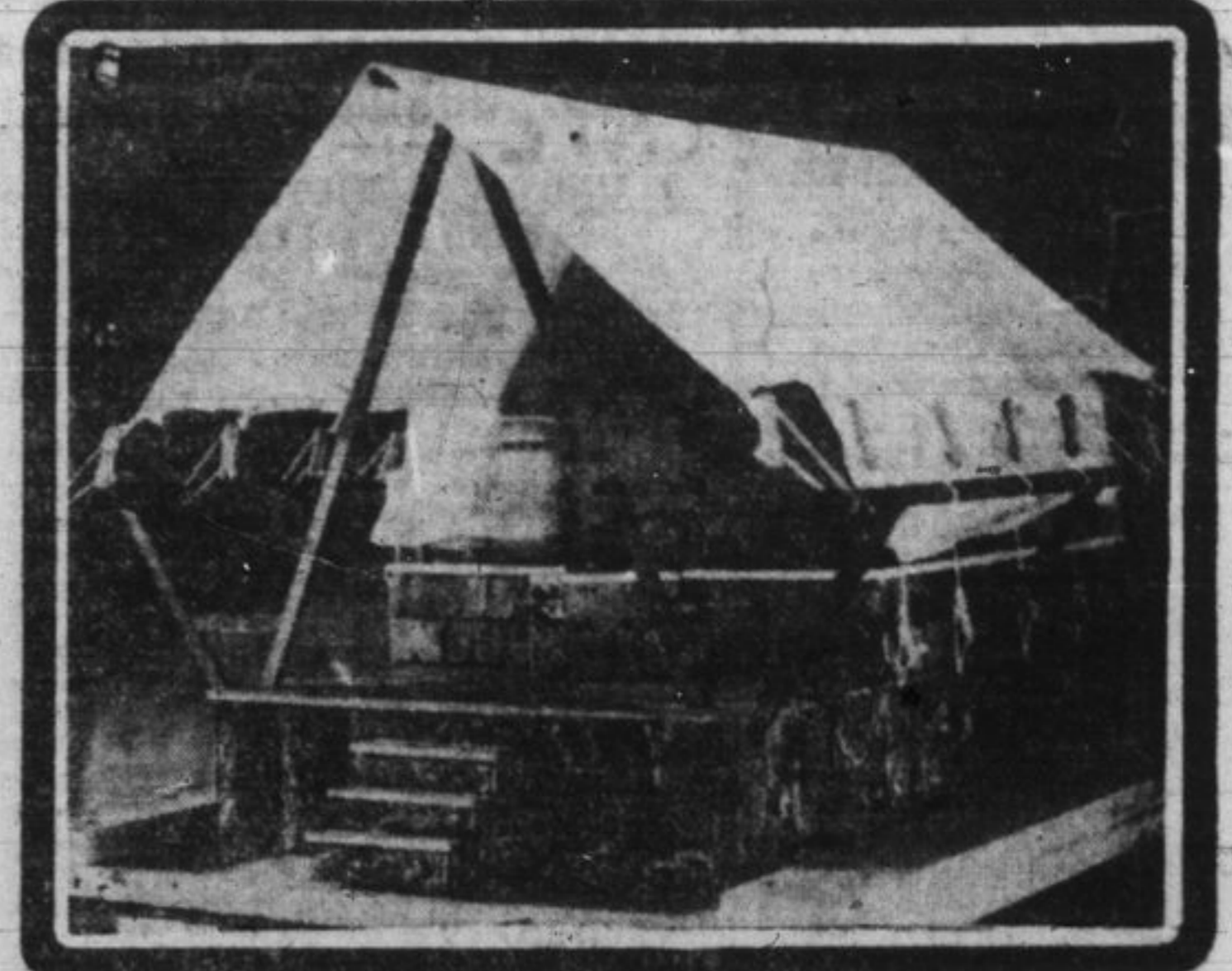
By JAYUEL W. HERRICK



NEW YORK TUBERCULOSIS EXHIBIT



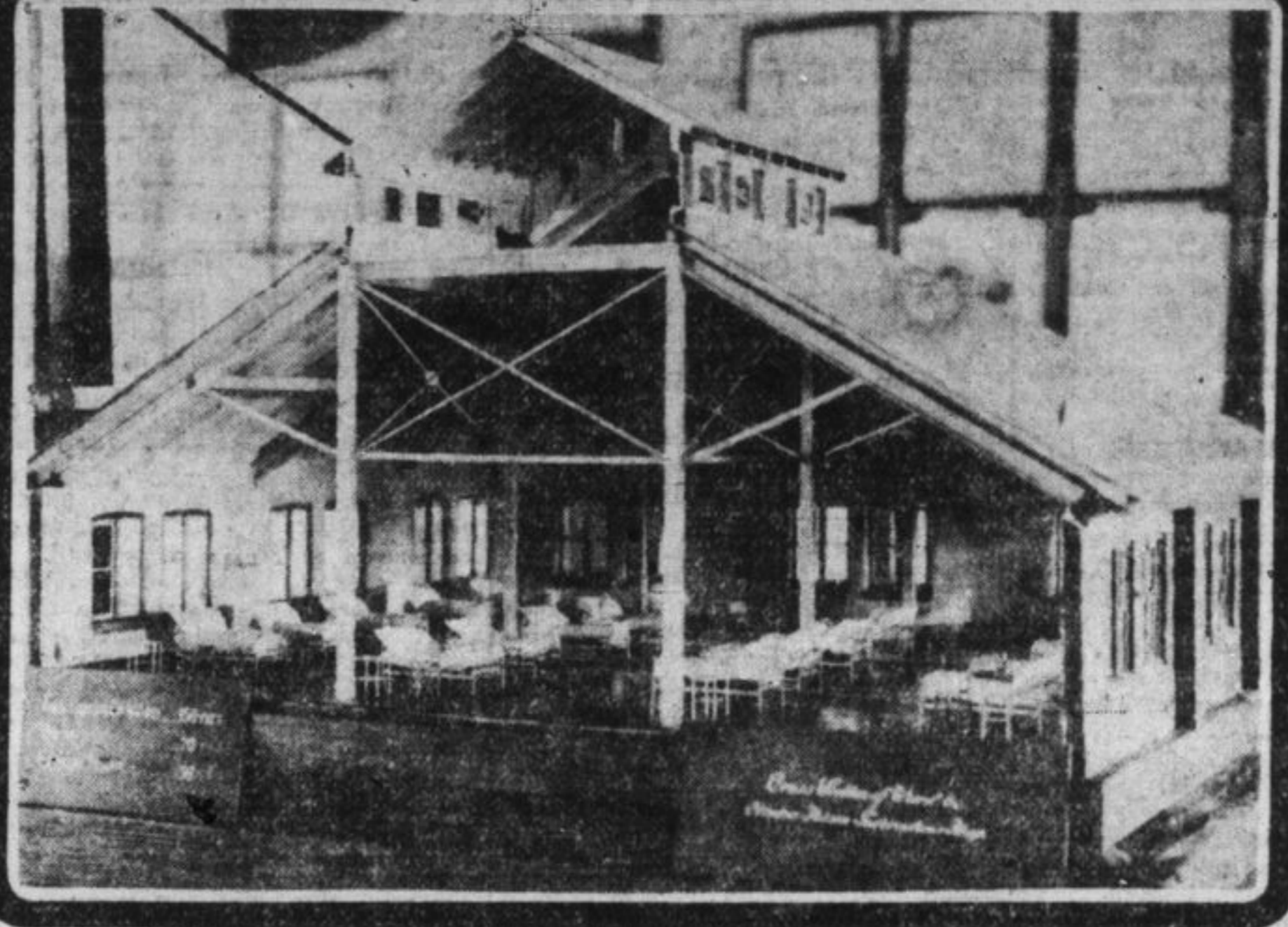
BRIGHT AND AIRY LIVING ROOM



MODEL OF BUILDING USED BY N. Y. STATE HOSPITAL FOR TUBERCULOSIS



A CONSUMPTIVE TREAT IN THE DISPENSARY



A CONSUMPTIVE WARD IN CLINTON HOSPITAL, PART OF NEW YORK TUBERCULOSIS EXHIBIT

Fifty states and territories in the United States of America have combined to fight the great white plague, consumption, and forty-seven of these commonwealths have already chosen delegates to the International Congress on Tuberculosis, which will be held at Washington, D.C., from September 21st to October 12th, inclusive. At this International Congress there will be represented Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Cuba, Denmark, Egypt, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Holland, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Norway, Persia, Peru, the Philippines, Portugal, Roumania, Russia, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, and most of the South American countries. Each of these states, territories and countries will send its greatest experts in the study, treatment and prevention of lung disease, and thus there will be seen that America has joined hands with the world in an effort to dam the stream of death and suffering that flows in the bed of the stream hollowed out by the great white plague.

Already the battle is on in America. At many points along the line the hosts of ignorance and wilful negligence have been attacked by propaganda and crusades, and some of the ablest physicians in many states have enlisted themselves in a cause that has for its ultimate object the control if not the entire elimination of that dread scourge of the poor—consumption.

The fight against consumption must of very necessity be an educational one, and whether the International Congress will accomplish more than an interchange of ideas remains to be seen. Prizes of as high as \$1,000 each will be offered for the best exhibits in various lines that will be of benefit to the delegates, and it is likely that some scheme of an effective quarantine that will prevent the consumptive of one country from going to another may be talked over, though, of course, the congress will have the power only to advise and not to take action on such matters affecting the conduct of their individual governments.

In most of the Eastern states of the United States the state health department, assisted by the health commissioners in their respective cities and the regular appointed officers of organized charity work, are carrying on active campaigns, which consist largely of educational exhibits and lectures held in all of the important centres of the states. In N. Y. state, for instance, exhibits include maps and charts showing the spread of the disease, models of tents for the outdoor treatment, photographs of consumptive-looking tenements and of healthy quarters, and stereoscopic pictures, all explaining tuberculosis, its causes, the methods of its transmission and its cure. The exhibit was prepared by the state at great expense, and it must be admitted that it attracted a great deal of attention in the cities of the state. All the municipal authorities were active in co-operation with the state department, and the local trained nurses and school teach-

ers and others who influence for good in the spreading of the knowledge was desired were urged to attend the exhibits and the lectures, and to their credit it must be said that they did so in great numbers. At New York city and Brooklyn hundreds of exhibits were held, while in smaller cities of the size of Rochester and Buffalo, exhibits were held in three or four different parts of the city. As to the lectures and their nature some idea of the scope can be gained by glancing at the list of those given in Buffalo:

"The Dissemination and Control of Tuberculosis, as Illustrated in the Bovine Species."

"The Early Diagnosis and Treatment of Tuberculosis."

"The Social Aspects of Tuberculosis."

"Address to school teachers, 'The Prevention of Tuberculosis in School Children.'"

"Special address to members of labor unions and their friends."

In Boston, Mass., originated the idea of consumptive class work. It is the conception of Dr. Joseph H. Pratt, of that city, who began to put it into operation in 1905. By this means those who have consumption are not only given light outdoor employment, but they are required to attend classes at regular intervals, where the various needs of the diseased and the importance of preventing its spread are impressed upon them. In addition class nurses visit their homes and do what they can to make them comfortable, seeing that they have properly ventilated sleeping quarters and that, above all things, they sleep alone.

In each and every state where the fight is being waged special attention is being paid to the cleanliness of the source of the milk supply, because it is known that milk from poorly nurtured and uncleanly kept cows is one of the greatest agencies for the generating of tuberculosis. Health departments—federal, state and local—are rapidly waking up to this fact, and big forces of the inspectors in many states are paying regular visits to all farms where cows are kept. A great

deal of attention, too, is being paid to the eliminating of the crowded tenement evil, for statistics prove that closely crowded, ill-ventilated, poorly ventilated, germ-breeding tenements, where seven are often huddled in the space that one should occupy, are the greatest spreaders of consumption in the world. A health inspector in a large city recently investigated a tenement in which seven people—three of them children—had been removed suffering with consumption. The cause was finally traced to a ragpicker, who in his ramblings had bought up the old clothing of a consumptive, and made them over for his children, thus condemning the little ones to unnecessary suffering and untimely death. Hundreds of such examples could be given, but it is as well, perhaps, to eliminate the too gruesome details.

In an article of this kind it is not possible to describe at length the detail of the work in each and every state. Several carefully chosen examples must suffice. Pennsylvania, for instance, is conducting an unusually active campaign. Already the death rate from this dread, scourge in the Keystone state has been decreased, and the government has made an appropriation of \$1,000,000, of which \$800,000 is to be used for the establishment of sanatoria and camps and \$200,000 for the creation of dispensaries throughout the commonwealth. In this connection it may be added that New York and Colorado already have state sanitoriums, in—active operation, where many cases are annually treated with marked success.

Pennsylvania is to have a dispensary in each county of the state under the supervision of a competent physician, and attached to these will be trained nurses, who will not only take care of the patients who are confined there, but will visit the homes of all known consumptives, to see that their surroundings are healthful and that they are taking the proper precautions against the spread of the disease. All cases will be registered and a complete record of each case will be kept on file. Illinois is one of the latest states to

enter actively into the fight against consumption, the killer. A new line of attack has been started in Chicago, where special departments for the treatment of tuberculosis have been opened at the free dispensaries conducted by the Rush, Northwestern, Polyclinic and Hahnemann medical schools, and at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, and at the United Hebrew Charities' Dispensaries. This has been brought about through the activity of the Chicago Tuberculosis Institute under its new superintendent Alexander Wilson. The institute supplies a trained nurse to each dispensary, who assists the doctors, and who, as in the case of Philadelphia and Boston, visits and instructs the patients in their homes, even in the vital element that makes the special tuberculosis dispensary so effective in its work in any city is the nurse. She is with the patient when the physician gives his instruction for the treatment of the disease, and goes to the patient's home and shows him how that home can be transformed into a tuberculosis sanatorium. The treatment of the disease is, after all, largely a matter of right living, and essentially an abundance of good food, rest and open air. These conditions can be secured even in the congested parts of any city, and it is here that the nurse becomes invaluable, suggesting ways and means and helping to carry out the instructions of the physician.

"It is within the power of man to cause all germ diseases to disappear from the earth," says Pasteur—the noted expert, and it is in pursuance of this theory that the fight is being waged so bitterly against this worst of all germ diseases. Those conducting the fight are, in a measure, handicapped by the fact that most of those suffering from tuberculosis are bread-winners, and cannot be hurried off to sanitoriums, there to rest for months. To meet this exigency small second-story balconies, large enough to accommodate a cot, and even first-floor verandas and back yards, where the air is good, have been converted into sleeping rooms, and it is no uncommon thing to notice these little im-

proved hospitals in all parts of any big city. As in all fights of this kind, some of the most important and telling points against the common enemy are made by statistics. Figures cannot lie, and those who are at all liable to the disease are usually appalled by the glaring brutality of a few statistics, where they are not at all affected by the eloquence of learned men. In a city of 400,000, not so many hundreds of miles from here, for instance, the health department, got out the following table for 1906:

Died from typhoid fever, 90 people.
Died from scarlet fever, 21 people.
Died from diphtheria, 73 people.
Died from measles, 33 people.
Died from consumption, 496 people.

In other words, more than twice as many people died of consumption in that one year than died from typhoid diphtheria, measles and scarlet fever combined. Of the 496 who died from consumption, 345 were between the ages of twenty and fifty—which is said to be the most deadly period.

To give just a few more figures: There are 90,000 consumptives in the state of Pennsylvania alone, more than 11,000 of them being in the city of Philadelphia. The 1906 consumptive death rate in the city of Philadelphia was 3.647, and in 1907 there were gains. In 1906 there were ten deaths every day from consumption in one big city, and conditions as appalling were found in many other cities.

With the work in the various states and the international congress, however, there should soon be a change in these conditions—a decided change for the better.

During the cold spell many customers do their shopping by telephone. Gibson's Red Cross Drug Store, has a prompt delivery service. Inordinate love of fine clothes has many times made trouble for the tailor. Every man's wife ought to come pretty near being the only ally for him. "Coldsfoot Expectorant" Cough Syrup is sold at Gibson's Red Cross Drug Store.

DEATH OF ALFRED B. SCOTT.

Member of Scott & Bowne, Proprietors of "Scott's Emulsion," Mercantile and Financial Times.

Alfred B. Scott has been an all too frequent visitor of late among prominent business men; in the present instance we refer to the despatch received from Geneva, Switzerland, telling of the sudden death of Alfred B. Scott, who with Samuel W. Bowne, organized the firm of Scott & Bowne, owners and promoters of "Scott's Emulsion," which has enjoyed a period of public service since 1874. The deceased enjoyed a creditable and successful career, and the product which bears his name has become recognized as "the standard in cod liver oil preparations." It is announced that the business of Scott & Bowne will be continued by the surviving partner, Samuel W. Bowne, upon whom the actual guidance of the concern has practically devolved for many years. In view of the continually increasing demand and recognition of the merits and efficacy of "Scott's Emulsion," the announcement of its continuation will be received with gratification by the interested trade and public.

If something in your house is "just gathering dust," try a For Sale advertisement and turn the article into cash.

COMMERCIAL MATTERS.

What is Going on in the Business World—The Markets.

During the past six years the Pennsylvania railroad has abolished 727 grade crossings.

Detroit-United is to spend \$200,000 on the companies' tracks and foundations by June 30th, 1909, at the city's direction.

The Grand Trunk railway traffic earnings from January 22nd to 31st: 1908, \$873,557; 1907, \$909,917, decrease \$36,360.

January fire loss estimated at \$20,582,000, against \$24,064,500 in 1907. January was one of the most disastrous months on record for fire loss.

Hamilton has a rumor that the New Ontario Dock and Coal company, the Hamilton and Port William Navigation company, the Union, Winona, Rosedale, Dundee and Dunedin companies will be merged.

The two companies operating under the name of the Canadian Packing company, with branches in London and Port Huron, have been incorporated into one company—capitalized at \$500,000.

The London Statist estimates that the total gold production of the world for 1907 is valued at \$211,000,000, of which the Transvaal contributed \$137,000,000, and Rhodesia \$11,000,000. This makes \$148,000,000 from these two sources.

The Pullman Palace Car company has distributed \$174,550 among 3,770 employees in its car service department. The bonus amounts to one month's salary for every conductor and porter who continued on the payroll of the company throughout 1907 and escaped demerits.

J. R. Rockefeller just prior to the panic in October loaned \$100,000 in bonds to the National Bank of North America, which suspended last week and his attorneys are now seeking to recover the securities. The paper was pledged with the Washington authorities against public deposits.

The fact that the great cotton mill interests throughout New England have unanimously voted to curtail production 25 per cent. until March 1st, has aroused speculation as to what the future policy of the cotton mill companies in Canada will be. At the present moment all Canadian mills are spinning as usual and there has been no talk of a let up. The Canadian manufacturers, however, are all disposed to prophesy that the season of 1908 will be a record breaker. It is explained that the reason why the New England people have decided to curtail production is not so much because the market is glutted, as because wholesalers and dealers who have ordered goods are now holding them up because they have no money with which to pay for them.

Have You Winter Dysentery?

In summer, when abundance of green or unripe fruit is eaten, bowel troubles are exceedingly common. Almost as prevalent is dysentery in the winter, the cause being congestion due to cold. Physicians say it is not a difficult matter to cure dysentery and bowel disorders if a suitable remedy is employed. Probably nothing affords such quick relief as small doses of Nerviline, repeated every hour or two. If there is pain, relief is immediate—stomach is strengthened, warmed, comforted. The cause of the distressing condition is removed, and the patient feels at once the benefit of Nerviline. Those who know, say there isn't an ache or pain inside or outside, that Nerviline won't cure. This explains why hundreds of thousands of bottles are sold every year—it does good.

TELL EVERYBODY

AND COME YOURSELF TO THE GREAT SALE OF THE

Thomas Mills & Co., 174 Princess St., Stock of Furs, Hats and Furnishing Goods, Etc., which Starts To-Morrow Morning at 9 A.M.

The entire stock must and will be sold in the next 10 days regardless of cost of Raw Material. By order of NEW YORK BROKERAGE CO. H. G. DELAFE & CO., Managers.

Make No Mistake. Do Not Enter Unless You See

Thomas Mills & Co's. Name Over Door.

Look for the Red, White and Blue Flags.