

OPIUM SMOKERS ARRESTED

West Sixty-fourth Street Resort Raided by the Police.

A LUXURIOUS ESTABLISHMENT

Fitted Up in Oriental Style, with Many
Attractions for Smokers, It Did
a Thriving Business.

Acting on a warrant issued by Deputy Chief Cortright, Roundsmen Grady and Devery, with Detectives Darcy, Brown, Gilday, Ware, and Haughey of the Central Office, and ten patrolmen of the West Sixty-eighth Street Police Station, yesterday morning raided an opium smokers' resort on the top floor of the flat house at 28 West Sixty-fourth Street. After breaking past the lookout they arrested John C. Ellis, the former proprietor of the "White Elephant," and thirty-one inmates, including four women.

The prisoners were taken to the West Sixty-eighth Street Police Station in a patrol wagon, with the exception of Ellis, who was charged with being the proprietor. He was taken to Police Headquarters, where he asked permission to send for Frank Moss, the Mazet committee's counsel. His request was denied. Later he and the other prisoners were arraigned before Magistrate Cornell in the Jefferson Market Court. Ellis was held for examination to-day, and his bail was fixed at \$500, and the other prisoners, with the exception of Joseph Solin, a sixteen-year-old boy, who was discharged, were each held in \$100 bail for trial.

The West Sixty-fourth Street place was known as one of the best-patronized and most luxuriously fitted-up establishments of its kind in the city. Ellis, who, when the raid was made, was found deeply under the influence of the drug, and clad in Oriental costume, was not known to the patrons of the place as the proprietor. An undersized youth, answering to the name of "Joe" Cohen, figured as the manager. He had an assistant known as "Eddie," a tall, thin young man, apparently in the last stages of consumption.

The place was opened only about two weeks ago, and no expense was spared to make it inviting to the smokers. The walls and ceilings were covered with red and gold cloth stamped with fleur-de-lis of gilt, and the corners of the rooms were hung with bright-colored filmy silks. These silk hangings were draped over sets of nails and hooks along the top of the walls for the accommodation of the smokers who cared to disrobe and wear the pajamas that were distributed. Under the silk hangings, and about three feet above the floor, the bunks were ranged. There were wooden tables about five feet in length, extending in an unbroken line all around the sides of the smoking rooms. The wooden tops were covered with matting, and long pads of quilted stuff were handed to the smokers for blankets.

"Joe" Cohen was well known and popular among the opium smokers on the west side, and last week when a place on Broadway, between Sixty-sixth and Sixty-seventh Streets, run by a Chinaman called "Boston," was closed, the known smokers received cards of invitation to the Sixty-fourth Street establishment. The cards bore the name "Harry Hill," and their possession gave the entrée to the bearer whether he was known or not to Cohen. The place, which could accommodate about fifty smokers at one time, was crowded night and day, and the receipts averaged about \$200 every twenty-four hours.

If an inexperienced smoker came well recommended he was admitted, and after paying 50 cents for a card of opium, he received a "lay-out," and one of half a dozen "cooks" anxious to prepare the stuff in return for the privilege of smoking some of it would roll pill after pill for him. The lay-out consisted of a tin tray, a lamp, pipe, and a sponge to clean the bowl of the pipe, and a "yen-hok," or long piece of steel like a knitting needle, on which to cook the opium. The manager was carefully weighed out by the manager in an ante-room and then delivered on the back of a common playing card. One card sufficed for about twenty pills, and perhaps half a dozen cards would be used by a party of three during a smoking séance of about three hours, after which the smokers would retire and go to sleep. The place did also a good business in cigars, cigarettes, and liquors.

The patronage of the place had grown so large that the front flat on the same floor had been engaged, and the rooms there were being partitioned off for private smoking rooms, where select parties of smokers and sightseers could be accommodated. The addition was to have been ready this week, and every Chinatown guide had been apprised of the proposed opening.

It is thought that the closing of the West Sixty-fourth Street place, together with the testimony of the Mazet detective, John R. Wood, at the Mazet investigation yesterday regarding the existence of a similar establishment at 36 and 38 West Sixty-second Street, will have the effect of closing the other places of the same sort on the west side.

PENSION LAW VIOLATED.

A. R. Anderson Accused of Executing

Vouchers Illegally.

Arlington R. Anderson, a Commissioner of Deeds, of 2,993 Fulton Street, Brooklyn, was arrested yesterday charged with executing pension vouchers in the absence of the pensioner and witnesses. His arrest was made on a warrant sworn out by

Special Agent Albert W. Roome. United States Commissioner Benedict held Anderson in \$500 bonds for the Grand Jury.

It is claimed that one Jane M. Graves, a widow and a pensioner, signed her pension voucher, which was also signed by witnesses, and then sent it by messenger to Anderson's office. Anderson, it is alleged, executed the signatures and sent the voucher to the Pension Agency for payment.

MUSIC FOR THE PUBLIC.

The Programmes Arranged at W. H.

Seward and Battery Parks.

There will be music at W. H. Seward

Park to-night at 8 o'clock by Eugene A.

Johnson's Military Band. The programme:

"Hail Columbia."

March, "Folies Bergeres".....Luicke

Overture, "Paragaph III".....Suppé

Waltz, "Phroso".....Furst

A War Scene.....Beyer

Invitation a La Gavotte.....Waldteufel

Selections from the "Merry Wives of Wind-

sor".....Nicolai

Cornet solo, selected.....R. Halle

Mazurka de Concert, "Thalia".....Cook

a. Sextet from "Lucia".....Donizetti

b. A Warming Up in Dixie.....Paull

Wedding March.....Schlesinger

"Star-Spangled Banner."

The programme at 8 o'clock to-night at

Battery Park, by Bayne's Sixty-ninth Regiment

Band, is as follows:

American Anthem, "The Star-Spangled Ban-

ner".....Key

March Militaire, "Up the Street" (by re-

quest).....Morse

Overture, "Zanetta".....Auber

Concerted Terpsichorean Ensemble, "Dein,

Ewig Dein".....Godfrey

Cornet solo, selected.....Frank Martin

Collocation Grandiose, "Attila".....Verdi

Celtic Compilation Serio Comic, "Romance

of Athlone".....Chauncey Olcott

Morceau de Salon, "Royal Love".....Rollinson

Grand selection, "Martha".....Flotow

La Petite Madrigale, "Forget Me Not".....Macbeth

Humoresque Charivari on Themes of the Day.

Grant.

Answer to Correspondent.

E. B.—There is actually no direct connection by trolley between New York and Philadelphia, and owing to the obstacles raised by local jealousies in the townships and villages along the line of route some years probably will elapse before the connection is completed. At present about half the distance can be covered in the trolley cars. By trolley and train the trip from city to city can be made as follows: From New York to Elizabeth via Newark, about 15 miles, 20 cents. From Elizabeth to Plainfield, by trains of the Central Railroad of New Jersey, about 12 miles. From Plainfield to New Brunswick, by three trolley lines via Dunellen and Bound Brook, about 14 miles, fare about 20 cents. From New Brunswick to Croydon, about 39 miles, by trains of the Pennsylvania Railroad. From Croydon to Philadelphia, by connecting trolley lines, about 21 miles, fare about 20 cents. It will be seen by the above that the trolley lines cover about 60 miles and the railroad lines about 51 miles.