

using the furnace. The defense bases its claim on non-interference.

Attorneys George H. Christy and Thomas and William Bakewell represent the defense, and E. N. Dickerson, the New York attorney of the Bell Telephone Company, and C. M. Vorce, of Cleveland, are counsel for the plaintiff.

The Carborundum Company is a Pittsburg concern. It was started at Monongahela City several years ago, but the business grew so rapidly that a larger plant was built last year at Niagara Falls and use was made of the cataract power. Pittsburg capital controls the business, and Andrew W. Mellon and R. B. Mellon, of that city, are principal directors.

ONE CENT'S WORTH OF ANGUISH.

The general rule of law that an action for damages may not be maintained for mental pain and anguish unconnected with or that do not cause physical injury, was followed by Judge Morris in the United States District Court, in Baltimore, on Monday. The action of John R. Treganowan, an artist, against the Western Union Telegraph Company for \$5,000 for the "great mental pain and anguish" he was caused to suffer for the failure of the company to deliver a telegram some days before his wife's death, that she was dangerously ill, was taken from the jury, which rendered a verdict, by direction of the Court, for Mr. Treganowan for 1 cent.

TROLLEY CAR SPEED.—APPELLATE DIVISION SUSTAINS AN ORDINANCE OF THE BROOKLYN ALDERMEN.

The Appellate Division of the New York Supreme Court has rendered a decision upholding the validity of the trolley speed ordinance adopted a couple of years ago by the Brooklyn Board of Aldermen. In a test case Civil Justice Neu held one of the trolley companies responsible for violating the ordinance, and imposed a fine of \$25, but County Judge Aspinall reversed his decision. The Appellate Court has now sustained Justice Neu.

The ordinance provides for the running of the cars at various rates of speed within the city limits, and it is the intention of the authorities strictly to enforce it. The case will now probably be carried to the Court of Appeals.

ADMISSION OF X-RAY EVIDENCE IN A DENVER MEDICAL SUIT.

In a suit at Denver, for medical malpractice, Judge Le Fevre ruled for the admission of X-ray photographs, and said: "During the last decade, at least, no science has made such mighty strides forward as surgery. It is eminently a scientific profession, alike interesting to the learned and unlearned. It makes use of all science and learning. It has thus been of inestimable service to mankind. It must not be said of the law that it is so wedded to precedent that it will not lend a helping hand. Rather let the courts throw open the door to all well-considered scientific discoveries. Modern science has made it possible to look beneath the tissues of the human body, and has aided surgery in telling of the hidden mysteries. We believe it to be our duty in this case to be the first, if you please to so consider it, in admitting in evidence a process known and acknowledged as a determinate science. It may solve a present condition. The exhibits will be admitted in evidence."

FIGHTING THREE-CENT CAR FARES IN CHICAGO.

An ordinance calling for a four-cent fare on all the street car lines in Chicago has passed the City Council. The vote was overwhelmingly in favor of the ordinance. In case the Mayor vetoes the ordinance it is said it will be passed over it by the Council. There were many who favored a three-cent fare. The street car companies will fight the ordinance, and their lawyers are already working to that end.

DUTIES OF STREET CAR CONDUCTORS.

The Superior Court, at New Haven, Conn., on Nov. 10, in a suit for damages, gave a decision, holding that except in exceptional conditions of danger a conductor is not bound to assist a passenger in alighting from a street car.

RAILWAY LINE DETAIL LITIGATION.

The General Electric Company has just brought five suits against the Fiberite Company, of Mechanicville, N. Y., manufacturers of the Medbery Insulation and Overhead trolley equipment, for alleged infringement of patents owned by them, on "suspension devices and ears" for trolley roads. These suits will be watched with much interest, by all electric roads not using G. E. equipment, and by all manufacturers of over-

head devices. The Fiberite Company propose to defend this suit vigorously.

NEWS AND NOTES.

MOTOR NAME PLATES.

It is worth pointing out that according to Rule 8, Section F, of the New York City Fire Department, motors must have the speed, voltage, and amperes, or the normal capacity in horsepower, stamped in plain figures, on the iron work of each motor, where they can be readily seen. This would seem to bar out name plates, the object being to prevent deception which might lead to overheating a motor.

MR. TESLA ON THERMO ELECTRICITY.

In a letter to the editor of the Buffalo Enquirer, Mr. Nikola Tesla replies as follows in regard to an inquiry on the subject of the future of electricity:

"The transmission of power has interested me not only as a technical problem, but far more in its bearing upon the welfare of mankind. In this sense I have expressed myself in a lecture, delivered some time ago.

"Since electrical transmission of energy is a process much more economical than any other we know of, it necessarily must play an important part in the future, no matter how the primary energy is derived from the sun. Of all the ways the utilization of a waterfall seems to be the simplest and least wasteful. Even if we could, by combining carbon in a battery, convert the work of the chemical combination into electrical energy with very high economy, such mode of obtaining power would, in my opinion, be no more than a mere makeshift, bound to be replaced sooner or later by a more perfect method, which implies no consumption of any material whatever.

NEW RAILS FOR THE B. & O. S. W.

The Baltimore and Ohio Southwestern Railroad has made a contract with Carnegie & Co. for 7000 tons of steel rails, 75 pounds to the yard, for immediate delivery. The rails will cost somewhere in the neighborhood of \$200,000 and will be delivered about the first of December.

X-RAYS HELP TO RELIEVE SUFFERING.

Many people have applied recently to Supt. Meadowcroft, of the Edison Lamp Works, Harrison, N. J., to locate splinters, needles, etc., in their hands and feet. On two occasions he has done so by means of the X-rays, having a plant of that kind in the factory. Mrs. Margaret Englemeyer, a dressmaker, had a broken needle in her left thumb, and went to the works recently. The position of the needle was located by the X-rays, and it was removed.

THE NEW PLAY "THE ELECTRICIAN."

We are in receipt of the subpoenaed item as to the new play of Mr. C. E. Blaney, called "The Electrician":

"Rehearsals for 'The Electrician' will be called about January 1, and Chas. E. Blaney and Manager Crossley are busy arranging for this mammoth production. The scenic and electrical effects are the most elaborate that have been attempted in years. The first act, showing a banking house in Denver during the busy hours, is the most complete as to scenery and details that has ever been put on any stage. Act second, with its large dynamos actually running by steam and generating electricity and lighting the stage and city in the distance, is one of, if not the most, realistic scenes ever offered the public in a dramatic production. The killing of the inventor by the villain pushing him upon a live wire, and the fall of a lineman from the top of a pole, after receiving a shock, are realistic and perfectly consistent with the natural action of the piece. The Palace Hotel, Cripple Creek, scene in act third, introduces an entirely new type of characters and surroundings. Rough miners, gamblers and typical Westerners, are all making merrily on Christmas Eve, with the tenderfeet from the East, while Nell, the belle of Cripple Creek, sings and dances for their amusement. Act fourth shows the ball room and parlors of the ———— Hotel, Denver, during a reception given by Edwin Palmer, the Gold King, to his friends. The finish of this act, contrary to the usual fourth act finish, is one of unusual interest, as the villains are discovered dead behind a screen, where they were scheming for the destruction of the hero—the victims of their own plot."