

LOUIS WINDMULLER'S SANITY QUESTIONED

Son Asks for Committee of Person and Estate of Mayor Gaynor's Old Friend.

Louis Windmüller, for years a distinguished figure in New York affairs, will be brought before Supreme Court Justice Kelby in Long Island City to-day for inquiry into his mental condition. Very quietly yesterday representatives of the law firm of Peale & McLaughlin of 64 Wall Street, Manhattan, initiated the proceedings to determine whether a committee should be appointed to take charge of the person and property of Mr. Windmüller, who has been a notably successful merchant in this city for more than half a century, and whose high posts of responsibility have included the Treasurership of the Title Guarantee and Trust Company, which he helped to found, and the Treasurership of the Legal Aid Society, a philanthropic organization in which he was always deeply interested.

Mr. Windmüller is now in his seventy-ninth year, and, according to the affidavit submitted by Dr. Herman Bosch of 25 East Sixty-fifth Street, he has been suffering for three weeks from an incurable form of senile paresis, marked by loss of memory and understanding.

The petition for the order which Justice Kelby signed was made by Mr. Windmüller's only son, Adolph C. E. Windmüller of 52 East Sixty-sixth Street, but that the action was not his work alone is attested to by the presence of affidavits of waiver from Mrs. Louis Windmüller and her daughter, Mrs. Clara Louise Heynen of 203 West 108th Street.

In the son's affidavit it is set forth that the father is possessed of personal property worth not less than \$25,000—he is reputedly the possessor of very large means—and that his bank account with the Title Guarantee and Trust Company is not less than \$2,000. No value is set upon the partnership in the commission house of Windmüller & Roelker of 20 Reade Street.

Mr. Windmüller's unmarried daughter, May, died in the Spring of 1912. The tragic nature of her death, which he witnessed, was a shock from which the father probably has never thoroughly recovered. Her gown caught on fire in the kitchen of the Windmüller home in Woodside Heights, Queens, and, though her father sought to smother the flames with a rug, they gained such headway that she died of her burns.

But since that time he has been out and active in affairs. Only last Summer he accepted from the hands of the late Mayor Gaynor the charge of the funds for the safe and sane Fourth of July celebration in Queens, and earlier in the year his fame as a pedestrian brought him to public attention as the man who had suggested the "most exclusive, distinguished, and enthusiastic" walking club in America, a whimsically organized association of veteran hikers that included among its charter members such men as Mayor Gaynor, Joseph H. Choate, William B. Hornblower, and John E. Parsons. Louis Windmüller was called the noblest walker of them all, for he always tramped the long way to and from his office, to say nothing of an hour every morning before breakfast and an hour every night after dinner.

"To enjoy walking," so his reflections have run, "a man must use his eyes and his brain as much as he does his legs. I prefer looking at the faces of people to looking at the buildings and into shop windows. A good rule to make your tramp a really enjoyable pastime is to be careful and not walk too fast. My speed is about a mile every twenty-five minutes, or a bit more than two miles to the hour. You should see what is about you as you go. Don't let the automobiles frighten you: Learn to dodge like I have. They nearly got me once, but they can't any more, and I am 78 years old."

It was in February last that Mr. Windmüller said that.

6 HURT IN TROLLEY SMASH.

Ralph Avenue Car Hits Hamburg Avenue Car on Bridge Plaza.

Six persons were injured and traffic over the Williamsburg Bridge was tied up for half an hour at 8:40 o'clock last night when a New York-bound trolley car on the Ralph-Rockaway Avenue line jumped the track on the Williamsburg Plaza switch and ran into the front end of a Hamburg Avenue car. The injured:

- BLOCUP, MINNIE, 24 years old, 224 South Bird Street, Brooklyn; contusions of the back; sent to her home.
- BROWN, LEONARD, motorman of the Rockaway Avenue car, 9,235 Foster Avenue, Brooklyn; cut about face, arms, and head.
- GOLDINGER, Mrs. SARAH, 28 years old, 430 Meriden Street, Boston, Mass.; contusions of forehead and lacerated arm.
- HAHN, MAX, 25 years old, 118 McKibbin Street, Brooklyn; fractured knee cap; Williamsburg Hospital.
- KRAMER, Mrs. BENJAMIN, 30 years old, 433 Hamburg Avenue, Brooklyn; cut on the forehead and wrist; sent home.
- SALZMAR, Mrs. SARAH, 35 years old, 387 Marcy Avenue; contusions on forehead, cuts on arm and shoulder; sent home.

The Ralph-Rockaway Avenue line car, which was in charge of Motorman Brown and Conductor Leo Foley, 588 Ridgewood Avenue, had nearly completed the turn at the switch at Broadway and Havemeyer Street when its rear truck left the track and hit the Hamburg Avenue car. The motorman of this car, Thomas Murta, 332 Snyder Avenue, escaped injury, but Brown of the other car was hurled through his window to the pavement. The conductor of the Hamburg Avenue car was Patrick Matthews of 3,544 St. Nicholas Avenue.

The passengers of both cars were jostled, but only those in the Rockaway car were injured. They were hurt by being thrown from seats and falling upon each other.

Reserves from the Bedford Avenue Station dispersed a large crowd, and permitted traffic over the bridge to move.