ESTABLISHED JUNE

OMAHA, FRIDAY MORNING, MARCH 4, 1904-TWELVE PAGES.

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SMITH A POLYGAMIST

President of Mormon Church Testifies He Has Pive Wives.

ADMISSION SENSATION OF INQUIRY

Rather Take Chances with the Law Than Abandon Plural Families.

SENATOR SMOOT'S RELATION TO CHURCH

Senate Committee Doubtful as to Line of Questioning to Follow.

Interest Over the Investigation Re sults in Drawing Crowds and Entrances Are Thronged by Curious People,

WASHINGTON, March 3.-So great has come the interest in the investigation of the protests against Reed Smoot of Utah retaining his seat in the United States sen- death. ate that it was necessary to decide to post a policeman at the door of the room of the mittee on privileges and elections, where the hearings are progressing. All sons except those directly interested were kept out of the room, though outside the door it was impossible almost to

dor of the capitol. Just before the hearing was begun today, Mr. Smoot received a message from Provo, Utah, stating that his sister, Mrs. George 8. Taylor, is dead, as the result of an operation. He had no previous knowledge of her illness and exhibited plainly the

effects of the sudden shock. When the committee was called to order even senators were present. Senator Burrows gave the ruling on the questions asked of President Joseph F. Smith, relating to the polygamous cohabitation of George F. Teasdale, a Mormon apostia. Objections to such questioning had been made by the defendant. The committee ruled that the testimony bearing upon plural marriages of any members of the twelve apostles, of which Mr. Smoot is one, is competent, so far as it relates to such polygamous cohabitation since September 26, 1900, the date of President Woodruff's manifesto, withdrawing the order of the church commanding plural mar-

Purpose of the Inquiry.

Senator Beveringe stated that there had during the night. been a misunderstanding as to whether Mr. Smoot was being tried on the charges of polygamy and with having taken an oath incompatible with his oath as a United States senator. Now, he said, it is apparent that these charges are pending in this investigation.

Benator Dubois dissented from the statement that there had been such a misunderstanding, and said the real charge is that Mr. Smoot is a member of a Mormon hierarchy which subscribes to vows in conflict with the laws of the country and was bound to support such vows.

For the first time in fifty years," said Mr. Dubois, "the relations of this organization toward the United States are

Senator Pettus made a protest against the debate between members of the committee and Chairman Burrows direted Mr. Taylor to proceed.

Questions were then directed to escertain Mr. Smith's knowledge of the polygamous marriage of Frank Cannon and whether Smith had performed the service uniting Mr. Cannon and Lillian Hamlin.

Mr. Smith said he had seen newspaper reports saying that he had done so, but he wiled the truth of the statements. Then Mr. Taylor asked a number of questions, which brought out a statement from

Smith regarding his own position under the laws covering polygamy. He acknowledged that he had violated them continuously since the manifesto of 1890 and ready now and always had been ready to face the laws of the land. Mr. Taylor "Is cohabitation with a plural wife contrary to the rules of the church?"

Smith Explains His Position. fr. Smith asked and received permission

to make a statement and then answer the question in his way. He spoke with great feeling and directness, just the reverse of his attitude on the stand at yesterday's hearing, saying: "In regard to the status of polygamy

my that after the hearing before the mas- terest, the Wednesday loan being made of chancery I understood that we aid abstain from relations with our plural families, and that rule was observed up to the time the enabling act went into effect admitting Utah as a state. Under that act the only prohibition was that plural marriages should cease. Nothing was said about cohabitation with our

"With the wives you had married previous to the manifesto, you mean?" in-

"That is what I meant," said Mr. Smith. "I understood that plural marriages were to cease and ever since the manifesto until the present time there never has been a plural marriage in the church performed in accordance with its teachings or with the connivance of the church," and he added. with greater emphasis: "I know whereof

Then, in answer to the question whether the church as contrary to the law he

answered: "It was." Polygamist for Many Years

Continuing, he said: "This was the case and is the case now. But I was placed in this position," said Mr. Smith. "I had a family-a plural family, if you please. I married my first wife more than thirtyeight years ago, and my last wife more than twenty years ago. By these wives I have had children and I have preferred to take my own chances with the law and suffer any consequences the law might visit upon me rather than abandon these children and their mothers. The state law in regard to plural marriages has been complied with. No marriages have been performed with the sanction, approval, consent, knowledge or connivar of the church or its officials. But the other law is the one I have presumed to disregard, and which, as I have said, I am ready to face rather than disgrace myself or degrade my family by turning

Mr. Taylor resumed his questioning "You say there is a state law forbidding polygamous cohabitation and you have been tinuing to violate, in utter disregard of the consequences?" he asked. "I think I have," was the answer.

You have caused your plural wives bear you new children in violation of

aw you knew to exist?" "That is correct." said Mr. Smith

"Do you consider it an abandonment (Continued on Fifth Page.)

h Wind and know Sweeps D sy States-Cold Wave

KANSA 1 March 3-A cold wave in western Missouri, prevails throughout ... ansas and in northern Oklahoma, the temperature over this part of the southwest having dropped over fifty degrees within six hours. The low temperature was accompanied by a gale that in some points in Kansas crippled tele-

Southwest.

graph wires and damaged buildings. At Great Bend a half dozen small houses were unroofed; at Clay Center part of an unused hotel was blown down, and at property. No one was seriously hurt, as far as known. In western Kansas, in the COMMITTEE ROOM BLOCKED BY POLICE prairie fires prevailed and, fanned by the strong wind, caused more or less damage to farm property.

Injury to Man and Property.

BALINA, Kan., March 3.-Reports of high wind, in this section and west of here, are coming in. At Hill City, in the extreme northwestern part of the city, the court house, jail, a lumber yard and fifty residences are reported destroyed, and one woman is said to have been burned to

Wires are down to Hill City and details are lacking. Instances of farmers being caught with

their teams in prairie fires and many persons seriously burned are numerous. No names are given.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., March 3 .- The tem maintain a passageway through the corriperature here has fallen from 69 to 32 in eleven hours and a heavy rain has been followed by snow flurries. The maximum velocity of the wind during the night was forty-six miles. No serious damage has been reported.

Hotel Wrecked. WASHINGTON,, Ind., March 3 .- During terrific wind storm today a wall of the Wilson block was blown out, destroying Odd Fellows' hall. The Neal & Eskridge Mercantile company was heavily damaged. Half the roof of the Hyatt hotel was torn off and thirty windows blown out. The guests rushed to the street, fearing the building would collapse, .

Cloudburst Does Damage.

STEUBENVILLE, O., March 3 .- A cloudburst today in the Yellow Creek valley, near Irondale, caused great damage. Scores of houses were flooded and it is reported that at least one life was lost. LA CROSSE, Wis., March 3.-A blizzard

raged all night, the wind attaining a velocity here which broke many windows. The temperature dropped forty-five degrees

RAND CALLS THE DEAL OFF Has Paid Thirty-Two Thousand Interest on Lonn of Four Thousand,

CHICAGO, March 3.-After paying Major William Bell more than \$32,000 as interest on a loan of \$4,000 for four years, Charles E. Rand, a real estate dealer, wanted to "call the deal off." To his surprise he found that Major Bell still held his checks for \$7,950, none of which had been presented to the bank. Judge Kavhas ordered that a decree be entered, compelling the return of the security and checks, but has denied the petition for the return of excess interest.

On the last day of December, 1895, Charles E. Rand borrowed \$1,000 from Major William W. Bell, father of Lillian Bell, the author, and gave his check for \$1,000 and took Major Bell's for \$967. The former check was not to be presented at the bank | Lawton lost all of his property, a herd of until the expiration of one week. Before that time elapsed he found he would be unable to pay the check and told Major

Bell so. The latter loaned him another check for \$967. With the \$967, and \$43 from his own pocket, he paid his first check for \$1,000. As the days, weeks, months and years went along, Mr. Rand still found himself unable to close up the deal.

The amount of interest rated at \$43 each week for each \$1,000, ran up so rapidly that soon he was borrowing more than \$4,000, and he swore in court that this was about the average during the four years his dealings with Mr. Bell lasted.

In 1898 Mr. Rand made a new arrangement with Major Bell whereby his check for \$1,000 each were to be discounted by Major Bell at the rate of \$3 a day interest for each \$1,000. As time went on Rand would borrow on Mondays. Wednesdays the time of the manifesto, I want to and Saturdays to keep down the tnto take up the loan of Monday and the Saturday check being given to cover the

loan of Wednesday, and so on. Early in January, 1800, Mr. Rand alleged he was informed that Major Bell held checks signed by him which had not yet been presented to the bank, amounting to 37,950, and that Major Bell also held notes signed by Rand and his father for \$8,000. He immediately petitioned the court to issue an injunction restraining Major Bell from collecting the notes or from disposing of the checks.

When the case was heard by Master in Chancery Victor Enting, Major Bell testified that he loaned to people at the same approximate rate as that charged Mr

INSTRUCT FOR ROOSEVELT polygamous cohabitation was regarded by Republican Congressional Convention Meets at St. Charles and Efects

Delegates and Alternates. ST. CHARLES, Mo., March 3 .- The re publican congressional convention of the Ninth district was held here too. Anton Kromolowsky of Franklin county and Taylor Freyer of Pike county were selected are meager. It tells of many narrow esas delegates to the national representative convention and A. W. Lafferty of Mont-

of Warren county as alternates. President Roosevelt was indersed for bridge of St. Louis was indorsed for the nomination of vice president and the delegates were so instructed.

MAYOR'S MEN CALLED TO BAR Carter Harrison's Strategists Cited

for Contempt for Recovering Cook County Democracy.

CHICAGO, March 3.-State Senator John kept chained to a telegraph pole for an Powers, William J. Roach, Miles Q. Devine and State Senator Thomas J. Dawson have been cited to appear before Judge Brentano and show why they should no be held in contempt of court as a result of the coup of the Powers faction in getting possession of the Cook County Dam cracy headquarters here. Judge Brentano having issued an injuction against interference with possession of the headquarters of the so-called Burke faction,

Prairie Fires Driven by Gales Through Two Counties.

TRAIL OF RUINED HOMES AND DEAD BODIES

Hundreds of People Along the Black Trail Are Left Destitute and Suffer from Burns and Cold.

LAWTON, Okl., March 3.-Five persons were burned to death and 3,000 square Greensburg slight damage was done to miles of territory in Klowa and Comanche countles were swept by prairie fires yesterday. Hundreds of people are homeless vicinity of Salina and Ellsworth, several and it is impossible to estimate accurately the financial loss, owing to the wide extent of country affected.

At Hobart, the county seat of Klowa ounty, the fire approached from the east, destroying the stables and fifteen race many serious prairie fires, aided by the horses, fifteen residences, two business houses and various small buildings. Spreading to the southwest the fire swept 75,000 acres of government, military and timber reserve and Indian school reserve, destroying several Indians' houses and forty head of government cattle.

Spreading westward the flames covered niles of the homestead district, destroying houses, barns and stock. In this district five persons are reported to have perished in attempting to protect their property They are Dr. and John Harmon, brothers, and a man named Fischer. The other two were women and their names have not yet been learned.

Trying to Save the Town. Late at night the fire began moving southward toward this city. At 12 o'clock midnight, 5,000 people of this city were battling with the approaching wall of flame. The advance line of the fire was fully two miles in length and came in a

semi-circular form. A thousand men turned their efforts to checking the grass borders of the reservation at the city limits. Water from every ource, carried in every conceivable way, was distributed along this line and carried all around the city limits. This served the purpose of checking the advance line of the fire, but was of little avail in hindering the continued rolling of the fire brands into the streets of the city.

In more than 100 places flames arose from dwellings, barns and outhouses, but wherever a blaze grew men were present to quench it with water. As a result of the cool judgment of the fighters the city's loss was only \$10,000.

Stories are coming in tonight, of how families layed out on the barren prairie price had fallen to 95%c, as against \$1.00% through the freezing night after the fire torm had passed with only the thin clothes of their backs as reminders of once prosperus homes. Hundreds of people are destitute and are suffering intensely in the cold and with the excruciating pains caused by their burns.

Clothes, medicine and physicians are being sent out from all the cities and towns of the district to relieve the suffering. Cavalry from Fort Sill and officers from this city are searching for missing men, women and children

Some of the Losses. The names of six persons dangerously

burned have been learned and reports persistently continue from various districts to number of person were injured in fighting the flames I. C. Strickland, the sexton of the Lawton cemetery and his wife and two children

were seriously burned. The mother and one little daughter may die. J. Denny, a farmer was seriously in jured. R. E. Trosper, living three miles out of

cattle and was burned seriously, but with his entire family in night clothing escaped to plowed ground and remained in the cold night air until dawn. A report has been received at Fort Sill

that an entire Apache Indian village was swept clean. The report has not yet been verified. The soldiers at Fort Sill were ordered

out to fight the flames and rendered as-At Anadarko many farm buildings were burned. No lives are reported lost but there were numerous narrow escapes. Women and children, scantily clad fled to plowed ground while the men remained to fight the flames in an endeavor to save property.

Klown County Also Visited. OKLAHOMA CITY, O. T., March 3. Driven by a terrific gale from the north which at times reached a velocky of ninety miles an hour, a prairie fire swept over 75,-000 acres in Comanche county last night, inflicting damage estimated at \$200,000. Klowa county was also visited by a prairie fire during the storm, while damage is reported from all over the southwest. The losses from wind and fire reported to date, foi-

wton 5,000 and country towns aggregate...... 100,000 Lawton Farm property ... Persistent reports of loss of life come SHEEP from rural districts but owing to difficulties of communication they have not

yet been confirmed. Some of the Fatalities. GUTHRIE, Okl., March 3 .- A dispatch from Lawton gives a partial list of those who lost their lives in the prairie fire and

those injured as follows: D. HARMOND, living six miles northeast of Lawton; burned to a crisp. JOHN HARMOND, cannot live. A. N. Crawford, near Lawton; seriously

Mrs. Henderson, widow, living three miles from Lawton, and two daughters, seriously burned; one cannot live

expected, as the reports from some districts capes, of whole families in their night nes fleeing from their burning homes gomery county and George Bartholomaeus and leaving their stock and property to go up in smoke.

presidential nominee and Cyrus P. Wall- MILITARY NOT RESPONSIBLE Deputy Sheriff Causes Miner to Chained to a Telegraph Pole.

DENVER, March & Governor Peabody said today that although Telluride is still under martial law the military officers were not responsible for the pillorying of Harry Maki, a striking union miner who hour and a half because he refused to work in the chain gang after having been convicted of vagrancy. Willard Runnels deputy shertff, is said to have chaine Maki to the pole. W. D. Haywood, secretary of the West

ern Federation of Miners, today sent the

following telegram to the Telluride union

STORM OF WINTER OKLAHOMA SWEPT BY FLAMES THREATEN LAWTON ABLE TO COAL FLEET AT SEA NEBRASKA WEATHER FORECAST ADVANCING ON Prairie Fire Sweeps with Great Fe-

rocity, Laying Waste to Life and Property.

LAWTON, Okl., March 3 - (Special Telegram.)-Two men, a large number of cattle and numerous farm houses have been burned in a great prairie fire which is sweeping the entire county from the Wichits mountains to beyond Lawton, Lawton, Fort Sill and the Indian schools barely escaped destruction. Fully 2,000 people worked to save Lawton. The fire is still raging, but has passed the points where the greatest amount of destruction was possible. The unusually dry condition of the grazing land made the fire burn with great rapidity. town people fought the flames with plow and other ways and managed to save the place.

READY TO START FOR ORIENT Colonel Crowder and Other United States Officers Go to Accompany

Mikado's Troops,

Japanese army, has arrived from Washington. The other attaches, who will ac-Enoch H. Crowder, judge advocate, Captain John F. Morrison, Twentieth infantry, now stationed at Manila, and

also stationed at Manila. These appointments were made by General Adna R. Chaffee. Colonel Crowder and Captain March will sail for Tokio on the next steamer leaving for the Orient.

FOLLOW THE ARMOUR LEAD Chicago Bulls Let Go of May Wheat and Prices Slump Four

Cents.

CHICAGO, March 3.-Wholesale dumping of May wheat by tired holders caused a break of 4 cents in the price of that delivery today. Just before the close the earlier in the day. The heavy selling was due to the conviction in the minds of many traders that the Armour interest had finally disposed of all holdings of wheat for that delivery. Coarse grains and provisions shared in the general liquidation.

ROCK ISLAND IN THE FOLD Admitted to Full Membership in the

Western Passenger Association

at Yesterday's Meeting. CHICAGO, March 2-The Rock Island railroad was today admitted to full membership in the Western Passenger association and Traffic Manager Sebastian of that line was elected a member of the executive committee. A committée was appointed to report on three propositions: To abolish homescekers' rates; to extend the territory to which they apply and to raise the pres

ent rates for such excursions. NEGRO ELIMINATES Maryland Passes Amendment

Constitution Regulating Suffrage

in that State. ANNAPOLIS, Md., March 3.-The demo cratic organization measure being a proposed amendment to the state constitu tion to regulate the suffrage and admittedly for the purpose of eliminating the negro vote was passed in the state senate today. No speeches were made for or against the bill, which received 17 votes, all demo cratic, while the eight republican senators were solidly against it.

NO AGREEMENT ON MINE SCALE Indications, However, that Some Concessions Will Soon Be

Offered. INDIANAPOLIS, March 3.-The joint subcommittee of the miners and operators met today and adjourned several hours later without reaching any agreement. It is said today that the operators will make oncessions to the point of signing a scale

based on a 5 per cent reduction. Thus far the miners' officers and committeemen have insisted that the times do not warrant a reduction.

HERDER'S Shoots Man and Wife in Lodging House Because Parties Were

After Him. BILLINGS, Mont., March 3.-Will Schwink was almost instantly killed and his wife, Mary, probably fatally shot by John White, a sheep herder, here today, White says nothing regarding his motive

for the shooting except that "those parties were after him." He came here from Emmett, Mo. The shooting occurred in lodging house, The report says that more fatalities are ALL GIVEN FAMOUS NAMES

Quadruplets in Kentucky Home Named for Cleveland, Roosevelt, Hanna and Bryan. CHICAGO, March 3 .- A dispatch to the

hronicle from Louisville, Ky., says that Mrs. Laura Wyman, wife of one of the largest land owners in central Kentucky, has given birth to quadruplets. Mr. Wyman immediately named them Grover Cleveland Wyman, Marcus Hanna Wyman, Theodore Roosevelt Wyman and Wille Bryan Wyman. The last is a girl.

DEWEY'S DEFENSE IS willianstre Ranchman and Cowbox Rest Case and Soon Will Ruow Their Pate.

NORTON, Kan., March 1.-Rebuttal testimony took up the time today in the trial of Chauncey Dewey, William Mc Bride and Clyde Wilson for the Berry murder, the defense having rested its side of the case last night. Argumenta Suffer no more abuses. If you cannot get relief through the courts, you still have left the power of self defense. probably will begin tomorrow and the case may go to the jury some time Saturday.

Russian Navy Utilizes American Invention

on Baltic Fleet.

ALLOWS TAKING SHIPS TO FAR EAST

Will Not Be Under Necessity of Stopping for Coal at Any of the Neutral Ports Enroute.

(Copyright by New York Herald Co., 1904.) NEW YORK, March 3-(New York Her-It is not known in what way the prairie ald Service-Special Telegram to The Bee.) grass became ignited, but it is supposed to -Principally because the neutrality laws have been from the campfire of some peo- will not permit it to obtain coal, a conple passing near the mountain range. The traband of war, at the various ports along strong breeze carried the fire over all bar- the route from the Baltic to the far east, riers and the loss in cattle will be very Russia has been obliged to hold back a heavy. The names of the two unfortunate fleet of forty-five warships until June, victims has not been learned. They were when, it is believed, they will be ready to surrounded while trying to save their make the trip without having to stop homes and could not escape. It was feared at any port for coal, for then they will be that Lawton would be burned, but the better equipped than any other navy for to be taken within sixty days. coaling ships at sea by means of the marine cableway, similar to that installed on the United States battleship Illinois; when t was put in commission.

In a dispatch to the Herald from St. Petersburg recently it was stated that eight battleships, three protected cruisers, two armored cruisers, thirty torpedo boats reached that port about the same time. and two coal transports would sail for Japanese waters in June. According to Spencer Miller, the inventor of the ma-SAN FRANCISCO, March 3.-Captain rine cableway, who left this city tonight P. C. March, of the general staff, one of for the south, one of the transports, the the United States military attaches to the Kamschatka, which carries 7,000 tons of coal, will be equipped with the largest of these devices ever constructed. Its sister empany the mikado's troops, are Colonel transport also have a similar equipment o that thee two ships will carry sufficient U. S. A., and member of the general staff; to supply all the vessels in the Russian fleet without having to stip at any port. The battleship Retvizan, now lying crip-Captain Joseph E. Kuhn, engineer corps, pled at the entrance to Port Arthur harbor, was the first of the Russian battleships to carry and to utilize the marine cableway which was so successfully used off Sandy Hook in 1990 in supplying the United apparatus, which is operated by two elecby its commander and in the presence of spectively south of Mukden. a trial board. The trials were as successful there as here and machines of greater capacity were recently ordered by the Rus- Arthur is to stand a siege if necessary. sian government. They were completed and shipped only a short time ago. The large army with artillery, commissary first one is to go on the Kamschatka, which will then be able to handle one- force could do would be to seize a landing ton loads of coal at a speed of 3,000 feet place, entrench and hold its position under a minute with a distance of 1,000 feet between the ships. This long distance is made necessary in a rough sea, for the safety of the tow line. Loads of one ton ice is out of the Liao river. will be delivered 1,000 feet away at the rate of forty tons an hour. When the sea larger loads are handled.

Can Keep Bunkers Full.

At this rate the Russian warships will be able to keep their bunkers full up to the time of their arrival in the China seas. provided, of course, that the colliers have not been captured by the enemy. This, however, is hardly likely, for they will be convoyed by the fleet of battleships and cruisers the entire distance. This is the only real drawback, for the fighting ships that of the slowest vessels, which will surely be the colliers.

There never has been any question about the success of marine cableway for the transportation of coal at sea. After the trials off Sandy Hook the commander of the Massachusetts, Captain C. T. Train. said, with great emphasis: "There was no time during the Cuban blockade when this system could not have been used. I consider it a great success. It proves the system capable of supplying coal in almost any weather that is fit to coal a ship in." In other words, this device permits a fighting vessel to stay in the fighting line It permits a fleet of war vessels to arrive off the coast of an enemy with its bunkers filled, instead of empty, as were those of three of our ships when the Spanish fleet came out of Santiago. Since the Massa chusetts' tests an important improvement has been made in the delivering of the coal to the deck of the warship. Instead of a pair of shears and chute used at that time the ropes of the cableway are all pulled down by a "niggerhead" on the quarter deck winch at the time it is de sired to dump the load. The load starts out from the collier on a downhill route, continuing so for more than half the distance. When the load is just clear of th center of the span and in its lowest position the man on the quarter deck of the warship begins to pull down the block. By the time the bags reach the haul-down block they will be trailing on the deck The operator will stop for an instant, the lowering will continue for a foot or more the load will be unhooked from the carriage, the empty bags put on and the whole allowed to raise to its normal position. At the same time the operator or the after bridge will send the empty carriage back to the collier for another load. The Illinois is equipped to take coal from any masted vessel it may meet in any quarter of the world. In time of warships Novoe Vremya, have been seriously which may be purchased, chartered or captured may deliver their cargo at sea without any previous addition to their equipment.

EGYPTIAN REVENUE OUTTER SUNK. Collides with Russian Torpedo Boa in Sucz Canal.

PORT SAID, Egypt, March 3 .- As a result of a collision between a Russian torpedo boat and an Egyptian revenue cutter a welcome here, where all along pained at Kantara, in the canal, the cutter was surprise was expressed at the extreme sunk. There were no casualties. The Russians stood by and saved the crew. The istration, which was not considered to recanal will be blocked at least twenty-four hours. Three of the four Russian torpedo States, which Russia holds must naturally boats which returned here yesterday after having sailed ostensibly for Algiers, were considerably weather-beaten. They were refused an additional supply of coal and ordered to leave port. The Russian ships from there their march has begun. at Port Said and Suez repeatedly overstay their time limit, in spite of the protests of the government.

COREANS BIDING IN MOUNTAINS Panic Seizes Them with First Little

Engagement (Copyrighted by the N. Y. Herald Co., SEOUL, March 3 .- (New York Herald Cablegram-Special Telegram to The Hoe.)-The Corean officials and also the soldiers at Ping Yang fied terrified when a small conflict between Japanese and Russian scouts occurred on Sunday. All those outside the city gate are now hiding in the

There is great satisfaction through the country at the orderly conduct of the Japanese troops, who pay good prices for labor and supplies, totally to the contrary to what the Coreans expected,

Pair and Warmer Friday; Saturday

Temperature at Omaha Yesterdayt

Temperature at Uman. Deg. Hour. Deg. 5 a. m. . . . 7 1 p. m. . . . 25 2 p. m. . . . 28 3 p. m 32 8 n. m 9 a. m 10 5 p. m 10 a. m..... 13 11 a. m 18 7 p. m 8 p. m..... 31 0 p. m..... 30 12 m..... 22

JAP CAPTURES ARE UPHELD PROBABLY HEADED FOR NEW CHWANG Russian Merchant Steamers Taken a

Prizes at Beginning of the War. NAGASAKI, March 3.-The naval prize ourt, in session at Sasebo yesterday, up held the legality of the capture by Jap

nese cruisers of the merchant steamers Argun, Mukden, Michael and Russia and the whalers Micolal and Alexander. Other cases are pending. An appeal was allowed The Argun, belongin to the Chines Eastern Railway company, was captured by the cruiser Sai Yen Hai Yien in the

neighborhood of Fusan, Corea, at the outbreak of the war. It was taken to Sasebo on February 1. The other prizes named SUMMARY OF WAR SITUATION.

Movements of Troops Under Cover of the Japanese Fleet. (Copyright by New York Herald Co., 1904.) From Che Foo a Herald special cable announces that ten transports, convoyed by for Liao Tung gulf. The vicinity of Saddle bay is said to be the destination of the miles from Yin Kow, the port of New Chwang. That the Russian strategists are the Japanese is indicated by the announced States battleship Massachusetts with coal intention to abandon Yin Kow and New from the collier Marcellus. The Retvigan's Chwang and concentrate on the railroad at Liao Yang and Hai Cheu. These points the Liao Tung peninsula. tric winches, was tested in the Baltic sea are about forty and seventy-five miles re-

The Thaitan Ho is a small river which crosses the railroad at Liao Yang. Port tory near Dainy, Ten transports would not carry a very stores and baggage and the best such : the guns of the fleet. New Chwang will be at the mercy of

the Japanese squadron as soon as the Bennett Burleigh announces that Japan has lost a cruiser and had a battleship is smooth the tow line is shortened and disabled. It was stated the other day that six wounded engineers from the Shikishima had reached Nagasaki. Mr. Burleigh expects a landing near Dainy, the control of the Yalu by the Japanese and a Chinese rising following the first Japa-

nese victory on land. That Japanese troops are moving through northeastern Corea seems well established. The force is small; about 2,500 men, and its' objective is doubtful. Such a detachment could not be seriously designed to threaten

Vladivostok or Kirin. MINES IN HARBOR OF NEW CHWANG

Foreign Gunbonts Now There to Be Piloted Out. (Copyrighted by New York Herald Co., 1904. YIN KOW, March 3 .- (New York Herald Cablegram-Special Telegram to The Bee. -The Russians are sawing off the masta of the Sivooch, intending to use it as a floating fort. They are going to place mines at the river mouth. The British and Amer

ican gunboats now in New Chwang will be piloted out between the mines. Prices of all commodities at Port Arthur are now fixed by the authorities and are not high. All shops are open plays on the boulevard every Sunday. The public sale of alcoholis liquors has been forbidden to any person. An officer or a civilian found intoxicated is condemned to monthst hard labor on the forts. A Russian merchant found selling drink lately was condemned to fifty lashes. The theater and cafes chantants are closed. There is a rations to leave the dry dock in a week's

A Scotchman named Gilchrist has been employed to raise the Retvigan. He is always aboard and is treated with great concabin on the side of the ship likely to be struck by the next torpedo. Russian soldiers are robbing the Chinese

by the wohlesale along the railway, and

throughout Manchuria. HAY PINALLY PLEASES RUSSIANS. Begin to Realize Attitude of Wash-

ington is Not Unfriendly. Copyrighted by the N. Y. Herald Co., ST. PETERSBURG, March 3.-(New York Herald Cablegram-Special Telegram to The Bee.)-In connection with Count Benkendorff's recent departure for London, newspapers here, and especially the warned against the harmful and bitter anti-English articles which they have been

in the habit of publishing. Mr. Hay's assurances that he is annoyed by the anti-Russian tone of the American press comes as a pleasant surprise. He has personally been regarded as an arch enemy of Russia, even so far as to pushing the English on to appointing consule be withdrawn on account of the exposure at an inopportune moment. All the more of the railroad at these points. now does Mr. Hay's change of tone meet action adopted by the Washington adminflect the tone of sentiment in the United

be friendly to it. It is accepted here as an established fact that the Japanese have effected a landing a hundred miles north of Gensan and that

CZAR NOT TO DEFEND NEW CHWANG

Will Place Mines at Mouth of the

NEW YORK, March 3.-Russians sa they intend, to place mines at the mouth of the river at New Chwang and use the Sivouch as a floating fort, but there are no indications, according to a Herald dispatch from Tien Tain, that they mean to defend New Chwang.

Anti-Russian proclamations in Chinese, posted in New Chwang, have been torn NEW YORK, March 3.-Port Arthur

Vladtvostok and the region traversed by the East Chinese railroad and the Blago vestchensk and transbalkal and Amur territories have, cables the St. Petersburg correspondent of the Herald, been formally declared in a state of sings

Plan of Japanese Appears to Be to Strike in

the Rear of Port Arthur-SAME MOVE MENACES VLADIVOSTOK

Ten Transports, Conveyed by Warship: Sighted in Line Tung Gulf.

Russians Prepare to Abandon the Place, as Its Defenses Are Weak.

ANXIOUS TO KNOW WHERE THE FLEET IS Since Latest Bombardment of Port

Arthur Russians Have Seen Nothing of it and Hope it is Disabled.

(Copyright, by New York Herald Co., 1904.) CHE FOO, March 3 .- (New York Herald Cablegram-Special Telegram to The Bec.)-The position at present is briefly as follows: Although Japan has lost a small cruiser and had the machinery of a battleship and another vessel damaged, these latter are probably now fully repaired. In any case it possesses complete command at NEW YORK, March 8 .- (New York Her- sea, and will anon through its sea power ald Service-Special Telegram to The Bee.) effectually blockade and isolate Port Arthur. In the meantime the Japanese three cruisers, have been sighted bound seem to have decided to make an advance in strength along the Peking roadway from squadron. This bay is about forty-five Seoul. Its forces have already advanced from the Corean capital and having secured prepared for such a move on the part of the Yalu river, they will threaten Kirin. cutting the railway and menacing Vladivostok, while still another force deals with

When the rigor of the winter has moderated I anticipate an occupation of terri-

The first big land victory for Japan, which is more than likely, as it keeps its troops in rough country, where the Cossack cavalry is of little value, will mean an unauthorized rising of Chinese, who will lend a great helping hand, for their Manchurian horsemen are bigger, better and braves

than the Cossacks. Cruisers Escort Transports.

(Copyrighted by New York Herald Co., 1904.) CHE FOO, March 3 .- (New York Herald Cablegram-Special Telegram to The Bee.) Six Japanese cruisers, escorting ten transports, have been sighted steaming in the direction of the gulf of Liao Tung. This movement is connected with the reported intention to effect a landing north of Sad-

dle bay. engagement yesterday in the vicinity of the Yalu river between small parties of

scouts, who exchanged shots and retired. Japanese forces have been approaching to within three days' march of the Russian encampment, the latter retiring to await reinforcements. Owing to the heavy weather it is difficult to proceed. A big battle is

Russians Prepare to Leave.

YIN KOW, March 3 .- The Russo-Chinese

bank is closing preparatory to moving to Mukden. Women are preparing to leave Yin Kow, in anticipation of the arrival of the Japanese fleet, which is expected when the river opens, probably a fortnight

hence. The United States gunboat Helena

and the British cruiser are making prep-

expected shortly.

The mainmast of the Russian gunboat Sivoutch has been cut off. This would indicate that she is being dismantled, but sideration. He has been given a sumptous otherwise she would appear to be clearing for action. On account of the impossibility of defending the coast at Yin Kow until such a

time as a thaw permits the erection of entrenchments and forts the Russians as a result the Chinese are desperate. Several strong bandit bands have been formed have prepared to retire up the main rail-There are practically no defenses here, and although the shifting and reshifting of troops and artillery to the small forts at the mouth of the Liao river has the appearance of an intention to defend Yin Kow, the military authorities depend on

an inland engagement to put a stop to the Inpanese advance. As far as yet known the only plans decided on are that General Kourapatkin's headquarters are to be at Mukden. roy Alexieff proposes to remain at Mukden indefinitely, as that city is the center of the Chinese administration and has a viceroyal bureau. Second, that the plain west of Tashihiao, which is almost impossible of defense, will be held if possible on account of the railroad connecting with Port Arthur. Third, Hai Ching and Lio Yang are the extreme limits to which troops will

That the Japanese will arrive before a thaw permits the construction of defences is thought to be practically certain. It would appear that the authorities expect Port Arthur to be besieged.

Sir Robert Hart, director of Chinese in perial maritime customs, after sounding Russian opinion in the matter, has ordered the Chinese customs lightship and the channel huoy to be placed at the river mouth, as usual. This step, however, has no effect upon the neutralization of New

Flects Whereabouts a Mystery. ST. PETERSBURG, March 3 .- Since the

disappearance of the Japanese fleet from before Port Arthur the Russian authorities have been waiting anxiously for the next move of the Japanese on the sea. There s an inclination here to believe that the Japanese have been discouraged by the fallure of their attacks and perhaps by losses they have not announced. It is evident even from the information

regarding the Russian dispositions in northern Corea that the plan for checking the Japanese land advance is perfected and the army is being brought up to the Yalu river. Every energy of the authorities is now directed to prevent a blockade on the Siberian railroad. Twenty new sidings, each of 2,290 feet, are being built Owing to the heavy movement of rolling stock carrying reinforcements, war must