THE SUNDAY BEE — A NEWSPAPER AND A MAGAZINE IN ONE.

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

THE SUNDAY BEE—BEST NEWS—BEST PICTURES — BEST STORIES.

ESTABLISHED JUNE 19, 1871. OMAHA, SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 31, 1904—TWELVE PAGES. SINGLE COPY THREE CENTS.

OMAHA BANKERS BALK

Show a Disinclination to Sign Big Bond Required by Treasurer.

AGREE TO MEET AND DISCUSS QUESTION

Mr. Mortensen Sends Them Word They Need Not Do So.

TREASURER DOES NOT OUTLINE COURSE

Document Supposed to Be on File with Governer Today.

RAILROADS BUSY WITH LEGISLATORS

Union Pacific-Northwestern Combination Make Threats and Are Notified They Are Likely to Meet with Retaliation.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

LINCOLN, Dec. 30.—(Special.)—The Omaha bankers with whom State Treasurer Mortensen conferred yesterday afternoon regarding his bond gave him a very chilly reception, which, taken with the fact that Mr. Mortensen has a very sensitive nature and likes not to ask favors, does not set well on him. One banker told the state treasurer that he would call a meeting for today and probably arrangements would be made whereby the banks would give the bond. This morning, however, Mr. Mortensen wrote to this banker to call off the meeting and do nothing further in the matter. He also expressed the hope that his visit to Omaha seeking a bond would not cause a panic among the banks or frighten the depositors. Had the bankers given the bond Mr. Mortensen would have secured them by a guaranty bond.

While Mr. Mortensen would not go into details regarding his conference with the money men of Omaha, his talk regarding the conference shows that he was not received with a very hearty welcome. One banker told him that while his bank had secured much of the state money on deposit this was not the paying investment it had been, and therefore he felt under no obligation to go on the bond, intimating that if there was more money in sight by which he could make a greater profit he might consider the bond proposition.

The bond is still up in the air and Mr. Mortensen does not know what he will do. Those who have watched the course of the state treasurer and who know what he has been doing are advocating that the state could well afford to carry the bond itself, but even this could not be done until after the legislature amends the law. It is safe to say, however, that Mr. Mortensen will not ask any more banks to go on his bond.

The bond must be filed today. Mr. Mortensen had already arranged for a guarantee bond, but in view of the supreme court decision the governor is disinclined to approve it.

Railroads Show Their Hand.

An exchange of compliments occurred between representatives of the Union Pacific Railroad company and a knot of legislators this morning. The message that came from the Union Pacific was to the effect that any slate the South Platte people might make would be smashed to pieces, and that the Union Pacific-Northwestern combination intended to organize the legislature in its own sweet way.

The message that went back was to the effect that if the Union Pacific attempted to carry out its threat a fight would be started that would not down before the end of the session and that incidentally the maximum freight rate law would be revived and a few other pieces of legislation would be carried through that the Union Pacific would not care to have come to the front just at this time, when the people are worked up over the manner in which the railroads are failing to pay their taxes.

The news demonstrated that there is some fight in the legislators already on the ground and unless the railroads submit to lines mapped out by the rank and file of the legislators, there will be a hot time in perfecting the organization. Noses were counted and it was found that notwithstanding the claims made the organization is not yet settled. The few legislators here say they do not want everything and neither do they intend to allow the Union Pacific and Northwestern to get everything.

A great effort has been made to keep the fight for speaker and chief clerk of the house divorced, but it is beginning to look as though this cannot be done. Should the railroad bosses from the north country imagine they have the strength they might try to keep out John Wall and Clyde Barnard, who up to this time had a walkaway for the places. Should the fight be started it will drag in the speaker and an all-round scrap will follow.

Talk of Combination.

Douglas today promised to keep hands off in the fight for chief clerk and a number of Union Pacific officials were told to notify their chiefs that they must also keep hands off in the clerkship fight. What the result will be remains to be seen. Rouse, Perry and Wilson have conferred a number of times and it may be that they will yet form a combination to land one of their number in the speaker's chair.

All day today the air has been full of rumors of combinations and combinations smashed, but the outside candidates need feel no uneasiness because of this, for the reason that there is not now in Lincoln a good sized corporal's guard and consequently they can't do the business yet awhile.

Of the members here all deny that they have entered into any combination or that they have promised any candidate a vote. The big crowd is not expected until Sunday, with a larger one Monday. It may be possible, however, that a sufficient number will show up Sunday to hold some kind of a caucus that night.

The senate could easily organize in open session, as the candidates for president have all expressed themselves as being willing to do away with the caucus, but it is doubtful if it does.

One Board May Be Abolished.

An effort will be made at this session of the legislature to do away with the Soldiers' Home Visiting board and a number of old soldiers are at the head of the movement. The fight hinges on an effort on the part of the visiting board to oust Commandant Penn of the Milford home. The Visiting board has let it out that it will recommend that Penn be ousted and the members will recommend someone else for the place. In retaliation a number of old soldiers who are friendly to Penn will request that the board be abolished. The board costs the state between $900 and $1,000 a year and it is alleged accomplishes nothing and it is not improbable that the effort to abolish it will meet with a hearty response.

(Continued on Third Page.)

GREAT BRITAIN STORMSWEPT

Fierce Gale Drives Ships on Rocks and Demolishes Telegraph Lines on Land.

LONDON, Dec. 30.—A fierce gale from the Atlantic swept over the United Kingdom today. Mountainous seas were reported along the coasts.

At Stornsaway, Outer Hebrides, the Danish steamer Alabama dragged its anchors and stranded on Peninsula Point. Its engine room and the stokehold sections are flooded. It is leaking forward and has listed to starboard.

A small vessel with a crew of ten men foundered off Flamboroughhead, Yorkshire, on the North sea.

Several minor shipping accidents have also been reported. Much damage has been done inland. Telegraph and telephone wires are down. A number of accidents in London, due to flying debris, have been reported.

ARREST ALLEGED FORGERS

London Police Capture Two Men Said to Operate on Two Continents.

LONDON, Dec. 30.—The city police today arrested two important members of an international gang which for two or three years is alleged to have been conducting extensive forgeries in £5 Bank of England notes. Large quantities of the notes, it is said, have been circulated in America and on the continent.

One of the men arrested is an engraver. He is charged with being the manufacturer of notes. The police are shadowing a number of foreigners who are believed to be in London with the object of obtaining fresh supplies of the counterfeits.

RUSSIAN PUBLIC IS AGITATED

War Takes Second Place When Compared with Proposed Reforms.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 30.—The agitated state of the public opinion throughout the country over the reforms apparently continues unabated. The war has distinctly taken a second place. While the understanding is that the committee of ministers intends in considering the various reforms outlined in the imperial manifesto to consult with the classes interested the fear is quite openly expressed that the proposed measures may be smothered by the cumbrous bureaucratic machinery before they are eventually crystallized into laws, thus sharing the fate of many former beneficient intentions of the monarch.

As a means of avoiding such a catastrophe the papers press more or less openly the advisability of the committee of ministers securing the direct co-operation of legally elected representatives of the various classes. The zemstvos, under the threat contained in the government note, seem to be acting with considerable circumspection and no more have followed the example of the Moscow zemstvo in adjourning sine die. Neither have there been recurrences of the disturbances.

The revolutionary organization, it is said, in addition to Grand Duke Sergius and M. Trepoff, police chief of Moscow, have condemned Procurer General Pobedonostzeff of the holy synod and Minister of Justice Muravieff.

CHINA DEMANDS A MURDERER

Unless He is Surrendered No Protection Will Be Given Russian Ships.

SHANGHAI, Dec. 30.—The taotai has been instructed by the foreign board at Pekin to insist upon a reply from the Russian consul to his demand for the surrender of the sailor belonging to the Russian cruiser Askold, who on December 15 murdered a Chinaman on the Bund here as the result of a dispute over payment for the hire of a jinkrisha.

Should the consul decline to comply with this demand, the Chinese authorities here say, it will be apparent that Russia contemplates a serious breach of the neutrality of China, and that henceforth China cannot undertake to protect Russians in Chinese harbors against actions of the Japanese.

The total has taken strict precautions to prevent the escape of the Russian cruiser Askold and the torpedo boat destroyer Grosovoi, which vessel, it has been reported, contemplated making an effort to join the Russian second Pacific squadron.

SCANDAL IN RUSSIAN RED CROSS

Investigation to Be Made of Loss of Goods in Transit.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 30.—S. A. Alexandrovsky, formerly in charge of the Russian Red Cross work in the far east, who has been succeeded by Prince Vassilitchkoff, has accepted General Kouropatkin's offer to act as chief of the sanitary departments of one of the armies.

The old Red Cross scandals are now receiving a thorough ventilation in the papers. Vast quantities of supplies went astray during the summer and early autumn. One hundred out of 130 bales from Moscow alone disappeared, and the demand is made for the punishment of those responsible.

The precautions now taken effectually prevent recurrence of the disappearance of supplies. The emperor has sent a personal aide-de-camp to see that their transportation is not interfered with.

CZAR WOULD TALK TO ADMIRAL

Brief Dispatch to Paris Recalls Member of the North Sea Commission.

PARIS, Dec. 30.—Admiral Kaznakoff (who was Russia's representative on the international commission of inquiry into the North sea incident, but who has been recalled and will be succeeded by Vice Admiral Doubassoff, starts for St. Petersburg tomorrow after receiving a laconic dispatch saying Emperor Nicholas desired to converse with him. The admiral's health, which is said to have been the cause of his recall, is excellent. Members of his staff say the renewed naval preparations are doubtless the cause of the conversation.

Fatal Wreck in Manitoba.

WINNIPEG, Manitoba, Dec. 30.—In the wreck of a Canadian Northern train carrying a snow plow, at Orizona, B. Linklater was killed and a dozen persons were injured. The caboose overturned and burned. Twenty persons were imprisoned in the caboose and they were rescued with difficulty.

Roumania Cabinet Resigns.

BUCHAREST, Roumania, Dec. 30.—At today's session of the senate Premier Gurdza announced that the whole cabinet had resigned, in consequence of the resignations of the ministers of finance and of domains.

Final Cotton Figures.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—The final bulletin of the census bureau on cotton ginned in the United States up to December 13, issued today, places the number of bales at 11,971,477, counting round bales as half bales.

OPENS ALL BALLOT BOXES

Supreme Court of Colorado Orders a Full Investigation of Late Election.

REGISTRATION LISTS TO BE EXAMINED

Governor Peabody is Well Pleased—He Says Recount Will Show Who is Actually Choice of the People.

DENVER, Dec. 30.—Stretching its hand so as to cast a shadow over every man and woman in any way implicated in election frauds of the city and county of Denver on or before or after November 8, the supreme court today ordered an investigation so sweeping in its scope that every phase of the election may be scrutinized and everything that bears in any way upon the election may be made known by judicial inquiry.

Alva Adams, democratic candidate for governor, who appeared from the returns to have been elected, but who has declared that he does not want the office tainted with fraud, asked the court to open every Denver ballot box, but the order of the court goes beyond the mere examination of the ballots and provides for an investigation of the registration lists, the campaign expenditures, and, in brief, all election matters.

Attorney Samuel W. Bedford, for Adams, and Attorney Henry J. Hersey, for the republicans, asked the court to make its order of such breadth that the court need not stop at anything in the investigation. The court said that was what it meant to do and instructed the lawyers to agree upon the wording of the order and present it to the court for approval next Tuesday morning.

Will Take Several Months.

As there are 204 ballot boxes, it is evident that several months will be consumed in the examination of their contents by the two handwriting experts to be appointed for this work.

It is expected that the supreme court will be asked to make an order placing special watchers at the court house to guard the registration books until such time as the investigation is made.

"There are probably 20,000 fraudulent registrations on the books of the city and county of Denver," said Attorney James H. Brown, adviser for the republican committee, today.

F. A. Williams, chairman of the republican committee, has published the following statement over his own signature:

Our investigation into the conduct of the recent election in Denver has developed the fact that approximately 20,000 fraudulent votes were cast or counted for Alva Adams in this city. There is now no reasonable doubt that Governor Peabody and the entire republican state ticket was fairly elected on November 8 by a large majority of the legal voters of this state.

What effect, if any, the court's action today will have upon the course of the legislature in respect to canvassing the vote for governor and determining whether Peabody or Adams is entitled to the seat has not become apparent. Chief Justice Gabbert particularly stated the court's investigation will not be permitted in any way to interfere with any investigation that may be set on foot by the general assembly.

Republicans as well as democrats admit that the opening of all the Denver ballots complicates the political situation in Colorado, but believe that it means that there will be no "rough house," as predicted.

Peabody is Pleased.

Governor Peabody expressed himself as follows regarding the court's decision:

I am more than pleased that the supreme court has decided to open every ballot box in Denver, and my only regret is that not every box in the state is opened. A point in favor of the opening of the boxes by the supreme court is that it takes the matter away from politics.

There is confidence among the public in what the supreme court does, and when the highest tribunal in the state is through counting the votes in Denver, it will settle beyond question who is elected. I consider the decision of the court an eminently wise and just one.

"It is a good thing," said Attorney General Miller, when he heard of the decision. "The entire matter is now out of politics."

It was announced late today that the republican plan to unseat democratic senators had been modified and that possibly only Senators Born and Healey, who were seated by the democratic majority on contests two years ago, would be turned out.

It also was reported that on the advice of influential republicans the proposition to memorialize the United States senate to unseat Senator Teller would be abandoned.

Standing of the Legislature.

Announcemeents of the managers of the republican post-election campaign indicate their confidence that the legislature, in which at the outset on joint ballot there would be sixty-six republicans to thirty-three democrats, will throw out enough democratic precincts of Denver to overcome Alva Adams' 10,000 plurality for governor and declare Governor James H. Peabody re-elected. These republican leaders justify such action on the claim that in all democratic precincts frauds as extensive as those shown in five precincts, whose ballot boxes were opened in contempt proceedings before the supreme court, were perpetrated. This is strenuously denied by the democratic leaders, who assert that the ballot boxes opened in court may have been stuffed since the election in support of a corporation conspiracy to steal the governorship and senate and pack the supreme court, which is to be increased from three justices to seven on April 4 next.

On the day after election, according to the returns, the incoming senate consisted of twenty-one democrats and fourteen republicans. Soon thereafter Senator Buckley died, McCarthy, republican, obtained a majority of four votes over Martin, democrat, who had been reported elected. Finally contests were made before the state canvassing board against Senator-elect Ward of Boulder and Senator-elect Beshoar of Las Animas county, and the board threw out sufficient returns to overcome the majorities for these candidates and awarded the certificates of election to the republican contestants.

Lower Courts Controlled.

The supreme court refused to issue a mandamus requiring the board to accept the returns as received and forbade the lower courts to take any action in the matter. Now the republican managers announce that the senate probably will unseat six more democratic members, including those seated by the democratic majority two years ago in reprisal for the unseating of democratic representatives by the republican majority in the house, in a futile endeavor to obtain a majority on joint ballot and defeat the election of United States Senator Teller.

It is said the three democratic senators elected in this county two years ago will be expelled on the ground that their election was accomplished by means of the same frauds whose exposure in the con-

(Continued on Second Page.)

THE BEE'S LEAD ADMITTED

What could be more conclusive and convincing than a self-confession?

At last the World-Herald has, indirectly, admitted that it does not print as many paid want ads as The Bee. Emblazoned in black type, on its front page, that newspaper states that during the year 1904 it published a total of 45,780 want ads and that The Bee published 28,489.

As the World-Herald in every issue of its paper publishes the statement that a certain proportion of its want ads are printed free of charge, there can be no discussion or question about this free business.

As the World-Herald and the public knows, The Bee has not given away its space, and therefore The Bee, as is generally known, had no free want ads in 1904.

Striking the lowest possible average from the World-Herald's own daily figures, that paper prints fifty free want ads each day in the year, making a total for the 365 days of 18,250. Subtracting this number from the total of 45,780 want ads, free and otherwise, it is plainly seen that the World-Herald, according to its own figures, prints 27,530 paid want ads a year, or at least did that much business in the year just closing. The World-Herald in this printed statement gives The Bee credit for 28,486 paid want ads, thus acknowledging that The Bee in 1904 printed 956 more paid want ads in this year than did the World-Herald.

Of course it would be too much to expect the World-Herald to admit the whole truth and inform its readers that The Bee during 1904 published over 35,000 paid want ads, giving it a lead over the World-Herald, according to that paper's own figures, of more than 7,000.

TURNER MAY BE MURDERER

Man Under Arrest at Aberdeen is Said to Be a Desperate Character.

ABERDEEN, S. D., Dec. 30.—(Special.)—The authorities of Brown county think that in the capture of George Turner for horse stealing they may have lighted upon the murderer of Todd and Johnson, the two Hand county farmers who were murdered last summer. Turner answers the description of a man who was in the vicinity at the time the men were killed and who afterward disappeared. He has also been identified as a man who worked near Oakes, N. D., a year ago last summer, going under the name of Jack Miller, and he answers the description of a man wanted at Worthington, Minn., for horse stealing. Worthington and Hand county officers have both been sent for to identify the man if possible. At Oakes he claimed to be from Nebraska and sold a farmer a team of horses nearly black in color. Shortly after he left Oakes the horses turned spotted, indicating that they had been dyed black to conceal their original color. Turner is a large, well built young fellow with an appearance of being very reckless. He appears to be of a sullen disposition, but after his arrest gave way to furious anger during which time he made many bloodthirsty threats against Sheriff Cole and Detective McGuire of Canada, who arrested him at Hecla after McGuire had chased him from Canada through North Dakota for stealing twenty-two horses in Manitoba.

Turner has been photographed by order of the county authorities. He strenuously resisted and had to be handcuffed and chained before he would submit to being placed before the camera. During the process he persisted in yelling like a madman and kept his face so distorted that it was difficult for the photographer to secure a passably fair likeness. Detective McNair of St. Paul, who is here to identify Turner for the authorities at Worthington, Minn., is positive that he has seen Turner before and that he is an exceedingly tough character, but he is not yet certain that he is the man wanted at Worthington. No one has yet reached Aberdeen from Hand county to identify the prisoner as the possible murderer of Todd and Johnson.

Cattlemen Going to Cuba.

STURGIS, S. D., Dec. 30.—(Special.)—John D. Hale of this city has departed on a proposed trip to Cuba. A number of stockmen from Rapid City who will accompany Mr. Hale expect to leave some time next week and meet him at New Orleans. These men have in view the purchasing of a 22,000-acre tract of grazing land situated in the interior of the island and which it is said can be had for less than $1 per acre. The tract is capable of sustaining 80,000 head of cattle. If the land is as represented as to quality and price these men will form a company to acquire possession and to provide a sufficient number of cattle to stock it.

Aerie of Eagles for Pierre.

SIOUX FALLS, S. D., Dec. 30.—(Special.)—T. J. Bushnell of this city, district deputy grand worthy president, Fraternal Order of Eagles, announces that he has selected January 18 next as the date for instituting a new aerie of the order at Pierre. It is thought the new aerie will start out with a membership of at least 100. Mr. Bushnell has selected the Sioux Falls working team to go to Pierre and assist him in instituting the new lodge. It is probable a number of other local Eagles will accompany the party for the purpose of being present and witnessing the work of instituting the new aerie.

FIGHT AT INDIANA HARBOR

Four Men Shot in a Dispute About Working Overtime—All Will Recover.

CHICAGO, Dec. 30.—Four men were tonight shot and slightly injured in a fight at Indiana Harbor, thirty miles from this city. The shooting was done by Frederick Kroner, an employe of the American Steel and Wire company, the injured men being his fellow workmen.

Kroner, who is an expert workman, has been of late doing extra work, and his fellow workmen demanded that he perform no more than the rest of them. He refused to do as they wished and tonight when a number of the employes were standing on the depot platform in Indiana Harbor some of them attacked Kroner. He drew a revolver and commenced firing indiscriminately. John Jaeger and M. Willetts were slightly wounded in the leg and two other men, whose names were not known, sustained trifling injuries. Kroner was arrested.

OPERATIONS OF TREASURY

Deficit for the Year 1904 is Twenty-Two Million Dollars.

DUE TO PANAMA CANAL PAYMENTS

Receipts Show a Falling Off of Eight Million Dollars—Decrease of Twenty Millions in Dutiable Imports.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—The Treasury department today issued a review of treasury operations for the calendar year 1904. The treasury receipts for the calendar year 1904 were $540,000,000 and the expenditures (including the Panama payment) $562,000,000, a deficit for the year of $22,000,000. As compared with the previous calendar year the receipts show a falling off of $8,000,000 and the expenditures an increase of $50,000,000. The decrease in customs receipts was $9,000,000. Civil and miscellaneous expenditures increased $15,000,000, War department $9,000,000, Navy department $23,000,000, pensions $2,000,000 and interest $1,000,000.

The increase in interest is due to the fact that a portion of the interest of 1903 was anticipated in 1902. The figures do not include the postal receipts and expenditures, except that the postal deficit is included in the civil and miscellaneous expenditures.

Increase in Imports.

Imports for the first eleven months of 1904 were $939,000,000, an increase over the corresponding period of 1903 of $22,000,000.

Imports free of duty for the same period increased $42,000,000, while dutiable imports decreased $20,000,000.

In 1903 42½ per cent of the imports were free of duty, while in 1904 47 per cent were free of duty. Practically the entire increase in free imports was in three articles—coffee, india rubber and raw silk. Although dutiable imports decreased $20,000,000, raw sugar and wool show increases aggregating $28,000,000. All other dutiable imports decreased nearly $50,000,000. Of this decrease $20,000,000 was in iron and steel.

Panama Canal Payments.

Other noteworthy features of the treasury transactions in 1904 were the payment out of accumulated surplus of $50,000,000 for the right-of-way for the Panama canal, the redemption of the outstanding 5 per cent bonds, due February 1, 1904, and the various calls on the national bank depositories for the return of a portion of their public deposits. The redemption of 5s during the calendar year was approximately $6,000,000. Public funds on deposit with the banks were reduced from $166,000,000 January 1, 1904, to $113,000,000 at the close of the year. The calls on the banks to mature early in 1905 will further reduce these deposits and replenish the cash in the general fund of the treasury to the extent of $23,000,000.

The cash in the treasury, exclusive of the gold reserve and gold and silver coin held against outstanding certificates, was $320,000,000 on January 1, 1904. At the close of the year it was $240,000,000—a decrease of $80,000,000 for the year.

Panama Employes Not Dissatisfied.

Replying to newspaper statements to the effect that the Panama employes are dissatisfied with conditions on the Isthmus, Admiral Walker said today that he knew nothing of such complaints except what he had read in the papers. He said:

I cannot believe that there is any foundation for the reports. There are 300 or 400 Americans employed there. They receive about 25 per cent more pay than men employed in like positions in the United States and are supplied quarters or are allowed 8 per cent of their salaries with which to pay rent. The extra allowance is intended as compensation for privations which we tell all before they go they may expect to encounter. So far we have not been able to supply quarters for all, owing to the fact that we have not succeeded in securing sites for buildings, but we are exerting ourselves in that direction and will do the best we can.

If the men there are dissatisfied, they are not compelled to remain; nobody will hold them; they can come away when they are ready, and there will be others to take their places, as may be judged from the fact that we have on hand 7,000 or 8,000 applications for their places.

Will Entertain Doctors at Panama.

Acting on the suggestion of Secretary Taft Secretary Hay has cabled Minister Barrett at Panama requesting him to unite with the representatives of the Isthmian canal commission in entertaining the delegates to the Pan-American Medical congress, which will be held in Panama January 3 next, and in also presenting to the congress the facts as to the healthfulness of the Isthmus of Panama. Mistaken impressions on this point have proven to be an obstacle to the work on the canal and Secretary Taft is anxious that the congress should get at the truth.

Grand Jury Favors Whipping Post.

The local grand jury, in making its final report for the present term of the supreme court for the District of Columbia, today recommended the establishment of the whipping post in the district. The question has been considerably agitated ever since the president in his last annual message recommended corporal punishment for wife beaters in the District of Columbia. The recommendation of the grand jury is as follows:

The desirability of establishing the whipping post as a means of punishing wife beaters and petty larceny offenses has been investigated by this body and the majority of the members are of the opinion that it would prove very effective in decreasing the number of these crimes.

A recommendation that persons about to be married produce evidence of freedom from certain diseases also is made.

WESTERN MATTERS AT CAPITAL

Changes in Stations of Army Officers Ordered by War Department.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—(Special Telegram.)—First Lieutenant Joseph H. Siler, assistant surgeon, is relieved from duty at Fort Logan and will proceed to Fort Meade for duty, relieving First Lieutenant John R. Devere, assistant surgeon, who has been ordered to Fort Logan for duty.

Captain George W. Kirkman of the Twenty-fifth infantry, now at Fort Jay, New York, will proceed to Fort Niobrara, reporting to the commander in charge of that post for duty.

Rural carriers appointed for Nebraska routes: Kearney, route No. 4, George E. Smith carrier, Charles A. Smith substitute; Republican City, route No. 3, James F. Thomas carrier, W. D. Scott substitute.

Iowa postmasters appointed: Anderson, Fremont county, Thomas J. Thompson, vice Edward Strait, resigned; Bingham, Page county, James P. York, vice F. Bowen, resigned; Hawthorne, Montgomery county, G. E. Anderson, vice H. C. Hascall, resigned; Roseihill, Mahaska county, Ed Jones, vice J. W. Dosk, resigned.

The application of John W. Foster, T. J. Foster, Carl S. Foster, O. D. Williams and F. R. Jones to organize the Citizens National bank of Guthrie Center, Ia., with $25,000 capital, has been approved by the comptroller of the currency.

NEBRASKA WEATHER FORECAST

Fair Saturday and Sunday.

Temperature at Omaha Yesterday:

Hour.	Deg.	Hour.	Deg.
5 a. m.	32	1 p. m.	46
6 a. m.	34	2 p. m.	49
7 a. m.	36	3 p. m.	49
8 a. m.	35	4 p. m.	52
9 a. m.	35	5 p. m.	50
10 a. m.	36	6 p. m.	48
11 a. m.	38	7 p. m.	47
12 m.	43	8 p. m.	46
		9 p. m.	45

PRICE OF BEEF IS EXPLAINED

Federal Expert Says Demand is Increasing Faster Than the Supply.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 30.—The members of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, in convention here today, listened to an interesting paper, read by Frederick C. Croxton of the United States Bureau of Labor, in which he accounted for the advance in the price of beef during the last ten years. He presented statistics in support of his theory giving the ratio of the supply to the demand during the period covered by his paper. He said in part:

The retail price of fresh beef at the present time is about 10 per cent above the average for the period from 1890 to 1896. The margin between beef at wholesale and at retail is usually rather close.

The most difficult question encountered in the study of beef prices is that of supply. The estimates of the bureau of statistics of the Department of Agriculture show an increase from 1890 to 1894 of 15.6 per cent in the number of cattle in the United States, while in the same time the population increased about 20 per cent and the exports of fresh beef increased 72.9 per cent.

It is possible that combinations of packers exist which would doubtless exert a steadying influence on declining prices, or a combination might be strong enough to control to some extent the prices of cattle bought for slaughtering or the supply of beef which would seriously affect the price to the consumer.

Nearly all of the sections and societies affiliated with the main organization held final sessions today. Before the section of chemistry Dr. Leon L. Walters, who has made investigation of food supply in New York, spoke on food adulteration.

Among other things he said:

I think I am justified in saying that the pernicious habit is on the increase, and the brazen effrontery with which it is carried on indicates the indulgence of the American public. Labels have come to mean nothing. I doubt if pure olive oil is to be found on the market. Cottonseed oil is almost universally sold under that name.

I am prepared to tell any one that nearly all the flavoring extracts sold in New York City are composed of synthetic ethers, combined with aniline dyes.

BOSTON'S SUBWAY IS OPEN

Bed of Boston Harbor is Mined at Cost of Three Million Dollars.

BOSTON, Dec. 30.—The submarine tunnel connecting Boston and East Boston was opened for public travel today. The dedication of the tunnel to public use was carried out without any formality. The tunnel is double-tracked, 1.4 miles long, 2,700 feet of which is under the harbor water. The cost of construction was $3,000,000. The tunnel was built by the city of Boston, which has leased it for a term of twenty-five years, dating from 1897, to the Boston Elevated Railway company, which will use the tunnel exclusively for the passage of its electric cars between Boston and East Boston. About four and one-half years have been consumed in constructing the tunnel, in the accomplishment of which many difficult engineering problems had to be solved, chiefly on account of the maze of underground pipes, sewers and wires located on the Boston side of the harbor, and also because of the perilous nature of the work of digging the large passageway underneath the bed of Boston harbor. The tunnel is built entirely of concrete and is the only tunnel of that kind in the world. It is declared by experts to be absolutely fireproof and practically safe against leakage.

In arranging for the stations the builders made use of historic ground, for the entrance near Washington street is directly underneath the old Massachusetts state house, while the Scollay square terminal lies underneath the old Boston court house. It is estimated that between 6,000,000 and 8,000,000 people will use the tube annually.

MR. PLATT WILL NOT RETIRE

Senior New York Member Says He Will Remain in Senate as Long as He Can.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—"I never retire when other people try to force me to retire," said Senator Platt today, when informed that there was a rumor that former Governor Black is to succeed him in the senate.

"I probably shall remain in the United States senate as long as I can. I had entertained the thought of resigning if Mr. Bleak had been elected in Senator Depew's place. I was as much interested in the return of Mr. Depew as if I myself had been the candidate."

When asked what effect the return of Senator Depew would have on the state organization Senator Platt said:

"I don't see that it will have any particular effect."

"Your friends are saying that you will now resume active leadership of the organization?" it was suggested.

"It is useless to discuss a matter of that character at this time," said the senator.

"Do you expect to confer with Governor Odell over organization matters?"

"I don't know what I should confer with him about," said Mr. Platt. "I may see him. I suppose he will send for me. I expect to see Speaker Nixon before the organization of the legislature.

"Will you have any recommendations with reference to committee places?" he was asked.

"I'm always interested in good government. I've got a little list of recommendations that I shall make to Mr. Nixon and the governor."

TWO TRAINMEN ARE KILLED

Passenger Train on Rock Island Road Collides with Freight with Fatal Results.

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okl., Dec. 30.—A westbound passenger train on the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific railroad collided head-on with an eastbound freight train three miles west of here early today.

Both engines were demolished and the cars were piled up. Frank Curry, engineer, and Fireman Butts of the passenger train, both of Shawnee, Okl., were killed. Several passengers were injured, none fatally.

Scientists End Meeting.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 30.—The convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Science practically ended with today's sessions. The general organization met this morning in the chapel of the University of Pennsylvania and after a brief business session the various sections and affiliated societies began their meetings.

ADMIRALS AT TOKIO

Togo and Kamimura Are Given an Ovation at Japanese Capital.

PICTURE OF CONDITIONS IN PORT ARTHUR

Gloomy Letter Written by Russian Says Fortress Must Soon Fall.

GETTING READY FOR ROJESTVENSKY

Mariners at Vladivostok Make Preparation for Second Pacific Squadron.

HARBOR WILL SOON BE CLOSED BY ICE

Channel Will Have to Be Cut for Ships if They Are to Join Rojestvensky's Fleet.

TOKIO, Dec. 30.—(11 a. m.)—Admiral Togo and Vice Admiral Kamimura, with their staffs, arrived at the Shimoassi station at 9:20 o'clock today. Their journey from Kure to Tokio was a continuous ovation. At an early hour today the streets were filled and the city was gaily decorated with flags, lanterns and New Year's decorations. Representatives of the emperor and empress, Prince Fushi, jr., elder statesmen, ministers, prominent Japanese and thousands of school children, greeted the arrival of the naval heroes at the station. The presidents of both houses of the Diet presented them with the resolutions of commendation passed by their respective branches of Parliament.

The quiet, gray-bearded Admiral Togo, in a blue service uniform, seemed embarrassed at the noisy ovation. Read Admiral Shimamura, chief of staff, laughingly elbowed forward Vice Admiral Kamimura. The junior officers tried to clear the way, but the crowd closed in on Admiral Togo and they were frequently forced to push the crowd backward in an endeavor to clear the reaching hands.

Finally Admiral Togo and Vice Admiral Kamimumra were freed from their enthusiastic admirers and, surrounded by officers, they reached the carriage sent by the emperor to the station to convey the distinguished party to the palace.

As Admiral Togo appeared a great shout arose, hats were thrown in the air, arms were raised and "banzai" followed "banzai."

Preceded by gendarmes the party drove under triumphal arches, waving flags and discharging fireworks through the cheering crowds to the Navy department, where a brief stop was made, during which the congratulations of the ministers were received and future victories were toasted.

Admiral Togo and Vice Admiral Kamimura then proceeded to the palace to report to the emperor. They will probably remain in Tokio about one week for the purpose of consulting with the general staff and perfecting plans for future operations.

Russian Letter is Found.

The Navy department published tonight a letter written by a man on the battleship Sevastopol, which had fallen into the hands of the Japanese. The writer despairs of the relief of the fortress, and tells of the destruction wrought by Japanese shells. He says the Russians are resigned to their fate and are determined to fight to a finish rather than suffer the shame of surrender owing to starvation. Following is the text of the letter:

The fortress cannot resist after December. The progress of the enemy in reducing our principal line of outer defense is not fully known, but it is irresistible.

We are sadly disappointed over the non-arrival of the second Pacific squadron and are daily nearing our miserable end.

General Stoessel's so-called impregnable line of outer defense is now a myth. With 203-Metre hill lost, the fall of Port Arthur cannot be avoided. Its capture by the Japanese means the fall of the town, however strong the other defenses.

The new town is at the mercy of the enemy's fire. The old town alone is defended and here alone may resistance be prolonged.

Two-thirds or the defenders of 203-Metre hill were lost.

Crew is Reduced.

The Sevastopol, which was exposed to the enemy's fire in the night time on the night of December 8, without being towed, left the harbor with only 111 instead of its complement of 660 souls. When it went out it had its nets down, but was struck twice by the enemy's torpedoes and was beached, irreparably damaged. General Stoessel highly praised the officers and crew of the ship.

Fuel is almost unobtainable and it is impossible to keep our bodies warm.

We no longer have a wireless telegraph system and have no means of communicating with the outside world. Our isolation is complete. There is no news and we have had no information for a long time.

It is impossible to smuggle ammunition. The captain of King Arthur brought only a small quantity.

(The King Arthur, a British steamer, was captured December 19, while attempting to leave Port Arthur, by the Japanese guardship Asagasi. It had on board Russian naval officers who were attempting to join the Russian Pacific squadron. It is now at Sasebo undergoing trial).

Damage to the Ship.

There is a large hole in the hull of the Sevastopol and it is completely disabled. All that remains for those on board is to do their utmost in repulsing the enemy's attacks.

The enemy's torpedo boats came close to the Sevastopol and attacked it as if they were going through ordinary maneuvers. Should the Sevastopol sink we are to land at a place already decided upon. All are, however, prepared to fight to the very last. On us of the Sevastopol depends the duty of retaining the honor of the navy and avoiding the shame and humiliation of threatened starvation. We would rather die than be thus shamed.

From December 1 the enemy's 10-inch shells began to fall on the deck of the Sevastopol and some of them pierced through the decks to the bottom of the ship.

Who is responsible for the fate we face? It is he who did not give instructions for the prevention of a Japanese landing on the Liao Tung peninsula.

Among our officers there are very few who dare to brave death, the majority having no other desire than to save their own lives, but we are determined to die fighting.

Activity at Vladivostok.

CHE FOO, Dec. 30.—(6 p. m.)—The British steamer Canton, just arrived from Vladivostok, reports great activity there in naval circles, every effort being made to complete the dry dock before the arrival of the second division of the Pacific squadron. Many mines have been removed, because the harbor will soon be closed with ice. The cruisers now in port never leave the harbor. A passage through the ice will have to be freshly made when Admiral Skrydloff attempts to join Admiral Rojestvensky.

How Fort Was Taken.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE THIRD JAPANESE ARMY BEFORE PORT ARTHUR, via Fusan, Dec. 30.—Rihlung fort, captured yesterday, is the largest and strongest of the eastern fort ridge. Tunnels for miles were cut through solid rock and two tons of dynamite were used to blow up the walls. The spectacle was magnificent and the work of the assaulters was splendid. Half the garrison was killed by the explosion of the first charge.