NEWS SECTION.

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE.

PAGES 1 TO 10

ESTABLISHED JUNE 19, 1871. OMAHA, SUNDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 26, 1905—THIRTY-SIX PAGES. SINGLE COPY FIVE CENTS.

FRENCH CHURCH BILL

Proposed Measure is More Liberal Than that Offered by Combes Ministry.

GIVES GREATER OPPORTUNITY FOR WORK

Members of Parishes Are Permitted to Unite for Common Purpose.

COMBES' FOLLOWERS WIN ONE VICTORY

Force Rouvier Cabinet to Grant Concessions in Time of Action.

PECULIAR CONDITION EXISTS AT DIJON

Bishop Must Defy the Pope or Priests of the Parish Will Be Deprived of Their Stipends.

PARIS, Feb. 25.—(Special Cablegram to The Bee.)—In the circles of the republican bloc the separation of church and state is now confidently anticipated, and the prompt performance of its promise to bring that measure before the Chamber has strengthened the position of the ministry. It was apprehended by many members of M. Combes' majority that the Rouvier cabinet would seek for fresh support in the direction of the right. Perhaps M. Rouvier himself thought it would be possible and would have no personal objection to govern with the assistance of less radical elements than those that kept M. Combes in office for two and a half years, but on becoming prime minister he was able to form a more correct estimate of the situation and saw that no safe position could be secured for the new ministry by shifting the majority further toward the right. When once he had ascertained so much it became necessary for him and for those of his colleagues who, like himself, professed but lukewarm attachment to the separation of church and state to accommodate themselves to the necessities of the situation and frankly to accept the measure which before taking office they would willingly have allowed to lapse.

The veteran blocards, as the members of M. Combes' majority were called, are jubilant, as they have imposed the separation bill on those who do not want it. M. Rouvier has another claim on their gratitude. He has relieved them of M. Combes without appreciably modifying his program. M. Combes had incurred unpopularity, even among some of his most faithful supporters, because he had brought the government of which he was the chief into discredit even among stanch republicans. There is yet another reason why the stalwart republicans regard the Rouvier ministry with favor. It is a heterogeneous cabinet, as it includes almost all shades of republicanism, and could, if necessary, be much more easily upset than if it represented but one opinion. It has not been able to found its existence on a majority differing very materially from that of M. Combes, and thus it cannot escape the realization of the identical program which that majority made its own.

Greater Liberality Shown.

The text of the new government bill has been laid upon the table of the Chamber of Deputies. As it is essentially a revision of the two schemes previously submitted to Parliament—namely, that known as the Briand bill and the subsequent measure introduced by the Combes' cabinet—many of its provisions are necessarily familiar. It is distinguished from the preceding schemes by the permission given to the different churches to combine upon a larger scale than was allowed by the other measures, as also in a greater liberality of their treatment so far as the tenancy of places of public worship is concerned. The new bill, however, establishes as complete a severance as was contemplated by the other projects. It provides for the suppression of the budget of public worship and of all departmental and municipal grants for similar purposes from January 1 following the promulgation of the law. Within a year after its promulgation ecclesiastical properties of all kinds will be vested in associations for the maintenance of public worship to be legally formed in accordance with the association law of 1901. Real and personal property derived from the state is to return to the state. As in the former measures, annuities ranging from $65 to $140 are to be granted to clergymen in receipt of state stipends. Provision is made for the gratuitous use of ecclesiastical buildings belonging to the state and the municipalities for two years after the promulgation of the law, and afterward on renewable leases for ten years at a rent not exceeding 10 per cent of the average annual receipts of the parish. The new associations are to be exclusively devoted to the maintenance of public worship, for which purpose they may make collections and impost payments for certain religious ceremonies.

The present bill differs from the two preceding schemes in leaving these associations at liberty to combine for common objects beyond the boundaries of the department—a concession which is doubtless meant to meet the objections of the Protestants and Jews, whose organization would be seriously hampered had the original restriction been maintained. The present government bill provides that unions of these associations extending to more that ten departments are to be subjected to certain legal disabilities. There is no prohibition against forming a larger combination than that of ten departments, but such larger combinations are deprived of the full powers accorded to smaller unions. The courts are to have power, at the instance of those concerned or of the minister for public worship, to dissolve associations and unions of associations. Political meetings are forbidden in places of public worship, and religious processions in public can only be held when authorized by the mayor. The bill further comprises police regulations and punishments for forcing individuals either to attend or to abstain from public worship, as also provisions intended to prevent the interference of the clergy in politics and electioneering.

One Peculiar Case.

The anomalous state of things in the bishopric of Dijon, which the Vatican regards as being vacant, but which, as far as the French government is concerned, is still occupied by Mgr. Le Nordez, is again attracting attention here. The French government expects the bishop to assert his authority without delay, for the present situation is an impossible one. If the bishop resumes the regular administration of the diocese this will be tantamount to schism with Rome, but if not, the 900 priests dependent on him will necessarily be deprived of their stipends, and the only solution of the question will be through separation. The Matin affirms, in an apparently inspired article, that this ingenious dilemma was carefully created by M. Combes just on the eve of his resignation. By his approval of the dismissal of the

(Continued on Second Page.)

POLITICS IN ALLOTMENTS

Irish Times Accuses Officials of Showing Preference to Followers of Redmond.

DUBLIN, Feb. 25.—(Special Cablegram to The Bee.)—The Irish Times publishes a startling account of the dealings of the estate commissioners with the tenants on a small estate near Mullingar. The property contains 440 acres, mostly grass land, and it is situated in a poor district, where the population supports itself on holdings of not more than ten acres. The estate commissioners entered into negotiations for the purchase of this property from the owner, Mrs. Maher, with the object of dividing it, among the peasant farmers of the district, and thus increasing their present uneconomic holdings.

The story told by the Irish Times is briefly this. The commissioners sent an inspector to Rochfort Bridge to conduct the subdivision of the Maher grass lands. He was presented with a list of desirable claimants which had been prepared by the Roman Catholic priest, the Protestant rector and othes responsible persons. He was also presented with a list of claimants by the officials of the local branch of the United Irish league. This second list contained the names of the president, treasurer and other officials and members of the local branch of the league, and the president and members of the kindred body, called the Labor league. Six of these persons are artisans and seven are laborers. Many of them have little money and no stock, but, thanks to the estates commissioners, they now find themselves in the possession of good farms, ranging up to twenty or thirty acres, while the great majority of the villagers, not being connected with the political organizations named, find themselves no better off than they were, and obliged to continue paying for their small potato plots despite Mrs. Maher's kindly intention. The Irish Times adds particulars of the allotments made by the inspector of the estates commissioners. The president of the local branch of the United Irish league, Thomas Nolan, a working mason, who already holds sixteen acres as subtenant to another landlord, gets about eighteen acres of Mrs. Maher's late property. He lives at Knockerville, six miles from Rochfort Bridge. Luke Boyan, treasurer of the league, a tailor, living in the village with his father, who holds a house and garden, gets over twenty acres. James Lister, a prominent member of the Southwest Meath executive, who lives at Gibbonstown, three miles distant, and who already holds twelve acres on Lord Kilmaine's estate, has been allotted about sixteen acres.

The Irish Times gives the names of thirteen persons, in addition to these, to whom allotments have been made. All of them, it says, are prominent members of the United Irish league or the Labor league. Of the three tenants on the estate William Savane, who holds eight acres, gets no additional land, but, on the contrary, is deprived of his turbary; while the two other tenants, Thomas and John Corrigan, get about sixteen or eighteen acres in addition to their present holdings.

The disappointed villagers have shown their indignation at the action of the inspector by pulling down the fences which were being made to mark off the new farms. A deputation of them waited on the estates commissioners, who said that their arrangements could not be altered.

As a last resource the villagers have now petitioned the lord lieutenant for an inquiry, and they are anxiously awaiting his excellency's reply.

One of the heads of the estates commission, who was interviewed this week, does not challenge the accuracy of the details given by the Irish Times with reference to the names of the new tenants. He entirely repudiates, however, the suggestion that the United Irish league was favored, or that politics had anything to do with the action of the inspector. It appears that this gentleman submitted the parish priest's lists and the league's list of desirable tenants to a representative public meeting of the villagers, that he discussed with them the various claims of these persons, and that nobody at the meeting raised any serious objections to the persons selected. As a matter of fact, said the official, of the nineteen persons to whom allotments were made thirteen were on the list approved by Mrs. Maher and the parish priest, while only three were on the list submitted by the United Irish league. The remaining three were on neither list, and were chosen only because they have small uneconomic holdings in the district. The official added that his board is disposed to object to the selection of Thomas Nolan, not because he is an official of the United Irish league, a matter which the commissioners have no cognizance, but because his residence is so far away from his allotment.

GERMANS CHECK EMIGRANTS

Russians Seeking to Come to America Via Austria to Be Turned Back.

BERLIN, Feb. 25.—(Special Cablegram to The Bee.)—A further check is to be put on Russian emigrants to America by English and American lines. The German companies have central stations on the Russo-German frontier, where emigrants who have not booked by the German lines are turned back.

It has been found out that many emigrants evaded the watchfulness of the companies by traveling through Austria and via Munich or Dresden to Antwerp, where they got into touch with the Anglo-Continental emigrant office. The German companies have, in consequence, entered into a combination with the Austro-American company to extend the control stations all along the Austro-German frontier. In a statement issued recently they naively admit that hitherto their plans have been to some extent frustrated.

FRANCE FINDS NEW DISEASE

"Submarine Rheumatism" is Now Officially Recognized by the Government at Paris.

PARIS, Feb. 25.—(Special Cablegram to The Bee.)—The latest malady in France is submarine rheumatism, and its existence has just been officially certified by the council of state. A widow whose husband had been a lieutenant on board a submarine applied for a pension on account of her husband's death, asserting that he had died a martyr to his country.

He had for two years commanded the submarines Morse and Gymnote, and the widow claims that in consequence of his prolonged sojourn in the narrow quarters of the submarine he had fallen a victim to one of the affections peculiar to these craft and died of rheumatism contracted in the discharge of his duty. The minister of marine declined to recognize the widow's claim, but she appealed to the council of state, and won her case and pension.

Sir Henry Irving Better.

WOLVERHAMPTON, England, Feb. 25.—Sir Henry Irving passed a good night, the bulletin of his physicians says, and his condition today is markedly improved.

GERMANY IS ACTIVE

Teutonic Forces Are Working in China for Power While War Lasts.

INTERFERE IN MATTER OF GOVERNMENT

Now Claim Right to Pass on Chinese Governors of a Province.

MAY CLOSE SHAN TUNG TO ALL OTHERS

Efforts Said to Be Made to Hold Trade for Germans.

SOME ACTS RECALL RUSSIAN CLAIMS

Great Britain is Said to Be Acquiescent in the Matter, Although Its Interests Must Suffer.

PEKING, Feb. 24.—(Special Cablegram to The Bee.)—Germany, apparently realizing that Russia's position is hopeless and knowing that after the war opportunities of aggression in China will be less favorable than they have hitherto been, is seizing every opportunity to tighten its grip on Shantung. Hitherto it has used its influence to preserve a monopoly in Shantung and keep the door of Shantung shut against all but Germans. Now it is extending its interference to purely domestic affairs. It insists that China shall, before appointing a governor of the province submit his name to the German legation for approval. When Hu Ting-kan was appointed in October as acting governor Germany protested against the appointment because it had not been consulted. Now, in the case of the appointment of Yang Shih-hsiang as acting governor, Germany again protests, professing anger at his being appointed without its previous approval. It is following exactly the procedure adopted in Manchuria by Russia, which compelled China to obtain Russian approval before nominating a new governor general or governors. In the well known case of Chosapu, the Tartar general of Hei-lung-kiang, when this procedure was not followed, Russia vetoed the appointment.

Recognition of German Interest.

To Germany, China has replied that Hu Ting-kan and Yang Shih-hsiang were appointed acting governors only, not substantive governors, its explanation implying a recognition of the right of German interference in the case of substantive appointments. Just as Count von Buelow declared, even when meddling with the Thibet question, that Germany has no interest in Thibet, so, while practically shutting Shantung against all foreign enterprise except German and enforcing its right to interference with the appointment of a Chinese governor, Germany will profess adherence to the policy of the open door and disclaim any intention of interfering with the domestic affairs of China. Baron Mumm, the German minister, moreover, insisted that before proceeding to his post Yang Shih-hsiang must come to Peking and see him. Yang Shih-hsiang declined and asked Baron Mumm to go to Tien Tsin. Baron Mumm refused, and, China weakly giving way, Yang Shih-hsiang this week came to a temple near Peking and had a prolonged interview with Baron Mumm after a luncheon given in the temple by a Chinese official.

While Germany is acting in this high-handed way in China, more than ever exciting the distrust of the Chinese, it causes increased amazement that British policy in Peking should be so closely identified with that of Germany. Notwithstanding the energy with which Germany is opposing every British interest in China, even opposing China's right to purchase gold in the open market because it might give an advantage to the powerful British Hong Kong and Shanghai bank, the British not only condone its opposition, but on the strength of an agreement dating back to 1895, are even at the present moment rendering assistance to improve its financial position in China, although that position will inevitably be used to Britain's detriment.

ALEXANDER TALKS OF WORK

American Revivalist in London Says that Simple Methods Win in Religion.

LONDON, Feb. 25.—(Special Cablegram to The Bee.)—Charles M. Alexander, talking this week of the present big religious revival in this city, said:

Dr. Torrey and myself have come to London with one aim and view, and that is the definite salvation of souls. Every word that is uttered and every song that is sung we want to count in that direction. Our methods are as simple as we know how to make them, in order to deal with such a large mass of people.

If we were only conducting services in a church or chapel, with 1,000 people a night, we should not need many things that we need in such a great campaign as that which we are holding. I do not believe that any other committee could have run so large an organization as this mission in London at less expense. The entire fund gathered by the committee will be used for the necessary expenses of advertising, rental of the Royal Albert hall, erection of the hall in Brixton and the work in Islington. It is quite a fallacy to suppose that the mission is in any way a money-making one for Dr. Torrey and myself. We are after souls and not after purses.

If this mission had been organized on any smaller scale than it has been all London would not be speaking of religious subjects as it is today. Is it not worth many times £17,000 to get the greatest city in the world to make religion the foremost topic of the hour?

If, I say again, the mission had been organized on any smaller scale the press would not have thought it worth while to fill their columns, as they have done of late, with religious news. The millions who see the London papers are bound to be impressed by the magnitude of the work, and I have not the faintest doubt that thousands will be led to Jesus Christ simply through reading the reports of our meetings. I have known of thousands at different times who have been converted by reading reports who were never at our meetings. Moreover, hundreds and thousands of people who never get inside will be told about it by those who will come.

In regard to the character of songs we use I would say that they are just as simple as I could get, for I find that the simple gospel song reaches the heart better than more complicated music. Some of the songs that have been criticised most severely by musicians have been the songs that have sent the people into the kingdom. I have tried to get words that have a picture in every line, easy to speak, with a melody that carries them without a hitch. People sing them as they go about their work and soon have the words and tunes so thoroughly fixed in their memory that a hymn book is no longer necessary.

People ask me why I do not use classical music for the higher class of people, and I reply that I will adopt classical music when I see that it leads people to forsake sin and accept Christ. The simple heart music which I use fuses the audience and puts them all on the same level—the business man, the society woman, the laboring man, the outcast woman—and they find in it a touch that makes them all kin and leads them all along a common path to their Creator.

The eyes of Christendom are on London, and thousands of people are praying daily for blessings on our efforts at this time.

DISCUSSES THE "EMPIRE" IDEA

British Member of Parliament Points Out Difficulties in Way of Chamberlain.

LONDON, Feb. 25.—(Special Cablegram to The Bee.)—Mr. Holdame, M. P., spoke at Chertsey this week at a meeting of liberals held at the Liberal club in support of the candidature of Mr. Francis J. Marnham for the Chertsey division of Surry. Mr. Haldame said no one doubted the genuineness of Mr. Chamberlain's convictions that the empire was in peril unless preference was adopted. The question, however, was not the genuineness of Mr. Chamberlain's convictions, but the rightness of his convictions. For a year or more the controversy had raged, and his view was that the public mind was more against Mr. Chamberlain's proposals at the present moment than it was at the commencement of his campaign. This, he considered, was a moderate statement of the result of the controversy. No doubt protection would be a very beneficial thing to some people. As to the empire, there were two classes. One class of people could not let the empire alone. But it must be remembered that if Great Britain tried to put the colonies into bondage it would cause a scene of friction. A second class of people got fidgity about the empire and thought it should never be talked about at all. He did not think that some of his liberal friends were expressing their real opinion when talking in this way. Britain did not want any more of the world's territory. The only justification for holding so much of the surface of the globe was that it administered it on the generous principles of free trade, whereby it had opened it wherever it could to the competition of the world. He wanted to see the liberal party, if only in power for a short time, put on the statute book really valuable measures. He believed that the party had such a chance as no party had had for twenty years past. They must turn their attention more to domestic affairs and less to external affairs.

The most delicate situation which would have to be dealt with in the colonial office was likely to be that of Canada, in those questions which affected itself and the United States. What would be the relations between the United States and Canada if Great Britain adopted a preferential system? The United States would reply to our preference by offering Canada special terms and Canada would be free to make a choice between Great Britain and the United States. That was just the kind of situation which he believed would be fatal to the imperial bond. He did not think that Great Britain' expenditures could be cut down by the enormous extent some people imagined. Great Britain could get a big bit off the bill so far as concerned its navy, but a strong navy was essential. He was, however, glad to think that there was a prospect of a substantial reduction being made in providing an efficient navy. The liberal party must put the army on a business like footing consistent with due restriction of expenditure.

NORWAY WANTS TO BE FREE

Hint of Possible War in Deadlock Over Division of Consular Force.

STOCKHOLM, Feb. 25.—(Special Cablegram to The Bee.)—The intended departure of the king for Norway has been postponed on account of the political situation. The press here generally urges that every effort should be made to preserve the union between Sweden and Norway, deprecating the speculation of the Norwegian press regarding eventual separation and the substitution of a permanent alliance or confederation for the present union.

At the mixed council, held recently, in which the discontinuation of negotiations was decided upon, the Norwegian ministers showed no disposition to respond to the king's appeal to both peoples in favor of union.

In the year 1892 the Norwegian Storthing passed a resolution in favor of creating foreign consulates of its own, at present ambassadors and consuls representing both Sweden and Norway.

Indeed the king and the Foreign office are the only joint constituents of the two parts of the king's dominions. In 1815, Norway, which for four centuries had been united to Denwark, was joined to Sweden as the result of a treaty signed at Kiel the year previous. Each country retained its own government, Parliament, army, navy and customs, and in 1897 Norway obtained the right to fly its own national flag. The agitation, begun thirteen years ago, for separate consular representative, was obviously a matter of great difficulty and delicacy, and though King Oscar and the Swedes have tacitly accepted the principle, the negotiations have fallen through, and the Norwegian minister of state recently announced that a deadlock existed, proposals and counter proposals being rejected by the two governments. It is not impossible that the result may be a war of independence, the Norwegians demanding an entirely independent international existence. Norway is essentially a land of freedom. Its people have ever since the union been impatient of monarchical indifference and eager for democratic reforms.

Owing, perhaps, to this spirit of independence, the country has thriven commercially, while in literature Norway has given a new lead to general thought, the great European influences of the last quarter of a century being found in Ibsen, Jornsen and Lie.

FINDING GOLD IN SCOTLAND

Experienced Miners Report Vein of Pay Dirt in Mountains of Kintail.

GLASGOW, Feb. 25.—(Special Cablegram to The Bee.)—"Gold lies in at least one of the mountains of Kintail," says the Scotsman, "and the ore is now being worked by two experienced miners, who have followed the vein to a distance of ninety feet into the hillside, and who report that the deeper it goes the richer it grows.

"There is ground for the belief that certain tests have proved that in the rock from which our specimens came there is no less than 3 per cent of gold. If this be so there remains no doubt that the mine may be worked to yield a handsome profit."

DYING MAN KILLS A PRIEST

Spanish Atheist Strangles Man Who Insists Upon Administering Rites of Church.

MADRID, Feb. 25.—(Special Cablegram to The Bee.)—A priest was killed by a dying man named Oces Pampana this week.

Oces, who was a well known atheist, had declined to receive the last sacrament, but the priest insisted upon entering his room and proceeded to administer extreme unction.

The dying man thereupon seized the aged and infirm priest by the throat and strangled him before he could be released. Oces then fell back dead upon his pillow.

FIRE AT HOT SPRINGS

Southern Portion of City Destroyed, with Loss Exceeding a Million.

THREE PERSONS BURN TO DEATH

Several Are Reported Missing and Death List May Be Increased.

SQUARE MILE OF BUILDINGS GONE

Several Hotels, Two Churches, Jail and County Court House Consumed.

BLAZE STARTS IN GRAND CENTRAL HOUSE

It is Fanned by a Stiff Breeze and Spreads Rapidly—Several Hurt by Jumping from Upper Windows.

HOT SPRINGS, Ark., Feb. 25.—Fire swept the southern portion of this city early today doing immense damage and causing the known death of three persons. The losses are variously estimated at from $1,000,000 to $2,000,000. Three charred corpses have been found among the ruins and as several persons are reported missing, the death list may be increased. The identity of the victims has not been established. One of the bodies is supposed to be that of a female guest of the Grand Central hotel.

The fire, which started at 4:30 o'clock this morning, was the worst this state has ever experienced and in five hours had burned over an area of one square mile. Block after block of residences, business houses, hotels and other buildings were swept away and the entire town was panic stricken, although the fire was confined to the southern part of the city. Street car wires and telegraph and telephone poles were destroyed and communication was temporarily demoralized.

A fire swept area includes every house on Chapel, all of Market street from Central avenue west; Orange street to Grand avenue and a portion of Oak street.

Among the buildings destroyed are the Grand Central hotel, the Lee house, Moody hotel, Plateau hotel, Columbia hotel, the county court house, jail, First Methodist church, the Jewish church and a large number of residences and stores, conservatively estimated to number from 200 to 250.

Fire Starts in Grand Central Hotel.

The fire started in the Grand Central hotel and its origin is a mystery. All of the guests had retired for the night and only the night clerk and watchman were on duty when the flames were discovered.

A strong north wind was blowing and before the fire department could reach the scene the flames spread rapidly to adjoining buildings. A general alarm was sounded and every engine in the city responded. Guests in the big hotels were awakened and hundreds of these hastily dressed and repaired to the scene of the conflagration.

The firemen and police worked valiantly, but their efforts could not check the onward march of the flames, and to add to their difficulties the water pressure gave out at 5 o'clock.

Bucket brigades were then formed, citizens and visitors alike volunteering their services. Excitement was general when the flames got beyond control.

Many Jump from Windows.

Many lodging houses and cheap restaurants were in the path of the fire and the occupants were hurriedly apprised of their danger. Many in their anxiety jumped from windows and sustained severe bruises and shock.

At daybreak the wind increased in force and fanned the flames into a seething glare, which lit up the country for miles around. The fire swept along Central avenue south, eating up building after building before the occupants could recover their valuables and many of whom barely escaped with their lives.

On the west side of Central avenue a strip of woods, covering about ten acres, arrested the progress of the fire to the west.

The Park hotel through a favorabale shift in the wind escaped destruction. The guests were hurriedly summoned from their rooms and many of them packed trunks and valises and made their way to the streets.

After the fire had gained full headway the streets became choked with people. Hundreds of those who had been driven from their houses were running frantically about, some carrying clothing, valises and other property, looking for a place of safety. The police and citizens rendered these unfortunates every aid.

Mayor George Belding took personal charge of the fire and police forces and directed their efforts with the assistance of Sheriff Williams. Patrols were established and the crowds kept back to the danger lines.

Three Bodies Are Found.

At 9 o'clock the fire had practically burned itself out and the work of rescue was begun. In the ruins of the Grand Central hotel a charred female body was found. The remains could not be identified and as the hotel register and other records were burned the name may never be known. In a lodging house two unknown male corpses were discovered.

Mayor Belding issued a proclamation calling upon the citizens to open their houses to the destitute and the appeal was responded to on every side. The large hotels took in hundreds who had lost their belongings and fed hundreds more.

A mass meeting called by the mayor met this afternoon. Mayor Belding asked for contributions to assist the destitute, and generous donations were made. Many turfmen subscribed liberally to the fund. Mayor Belding said at the meeting that it was his opinion that the city can take care of the situation without an appeal for outside aid.

The telegraph offices tonight have been flooded with telegrams from all parts of the country asking if friends and relatives of the senders are safe. A number of those messages were probably occasioned by sensational reports sent out from here that the loss of life was great. Four or five persons are unaccounted for, but the only victims that are known to have perished are the three persons whose bodies have been found.

Partial List of Places Destroyed.

Among the places destroyed are the residence of H. Williams, the Williams hardware store, the Tennessee stables, Valley stables and all of Market street from Central avenue west; the Blumenstell block, Gus Berlan store, Spear Dry Goods company, Evans' hardware store, the Laugheran block of buildings, residences of John O'Brien, Fred Sammons, Thomas Golden, F. Parker, Mrs. Laughton, Mrs. Connelly, J. O. Bear, Judge Teague, M. Sigler, J. Marks, W. Swearingen; West cottages, Grand View hotel, Alhambra hotel, Alhambra bathhouse, Palmyra hotel, residences of Mrs. Looney and S. A. Simmons. On Central street the houses of Dr. A. F.

(Continued on Second Page.)

THE BEE BULLETIN.

Forecast for Nebraska—Fair Sunday and Monday.

Temperature at Omaha Yesterday:

Hour.	Deg.	Hour.	Deg.
5 a. m.	36	1 p. m.	50
6 a. m.	34	2 p. m.	51
7 a. m.	33	3 p. m.	54
8 a. m.	33	4 p. m.	56
9 a. m.	37	5 p. m.	56
10 a. m.	39	6 p. m.	52
11 a. m.	41	7 p. m.	50
12 m.	47		

RIOTING AT CALUMET, MICH.

Striking Traction Employes Destroy Two Cars and Beat Motorman Who Fired Into a Crowd.

CALUMET, Mich., Feb. 25.—A strike of the employes of the Houghton County Street Railway company was inaugurated here today. Seventy-five employes, including motormen, conductors and switchmen, refused to go to work until the company removes new men recently employed. A week ago the employes organized a union and claim since them the company has been importing and employing nonunion men. At Laurium tonight an interurban car was mobbed by strike sympathizers and two men were probably fatally injured. James Cummings of Chicago, the motorman, fired into the crowd. He hit a man named Blackwood in the arm and the bullet passed on and entered the stomach of James Rowe. Cummings was then pulled from his car and given an unmerciful beating. Both Cummings and Rowe were taken to a hospital, where it is feared they will die. The mob demolished two cars.

REWARD FOR ALLEGED BRIBER

Indiana Legislature Will Be Asked to Appropriate $5,000 to Secure Arrest of O. A. Baker.

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 25.—The special investigating committee appointed by Speaker Cantwell to inquire into the charges of bribery made by Representative Baker against former Senator O. A. Baker, finished its work today. The result is that the Marion county grand jury will be called Monday. It was decided to recommend that $5,000 be appropriated to be used under the direction of the governor to obtain O. A. Baker's arrest and to pursue the inquiry further.

The contents of several telegrams, addressed to O. A. Baker, who is wanted on the charge of attempting to bribe Representative Ananias Baker, have become known to the detective department. The wording of one of the telegrams is: "Be sure to win." There were other telegrams in cipher.

Thus far there has been no trace of Baker.

OIL PRODUCERS ORGANIZE

Independent Men of Kansas, Ohio, Illinois and Indiana Will Get Together.

CHICAGO, Feb. 25.—Independent crude oil producers and refiners from Kansas, Ohio, Illinois and Indiana joined in the formation here today of an organization of defense against the alleged eradicating pressure of the Standard Oil company. The new organization is to be known as the National Crude Oil Producers' association. Headquarters will be in Chicago. One of the chief objects of the organization is to prevent discrimination in freight rates. R. H. Heap, president of the Ohio Standard Oil company, was the prime mover in the establishment of the organization.

Movements of Ocean Vessels Feb. 25.

At New York—Arrived: Philadelphia, from Southampton; Etruria, from Liverpool; Carpathia, from Trieste. Sailed: Weimar, for Naples; St. Louis, for Southampton; Campania, for Liverpool; Graf Waldersee, for Hamburg; Republic, for Naples; Furnessia, for Glasgow; Prinz Adalbert, for Naples.

At Queenstown—Arrived: Umbria, from New York.

At Plymouth—Arrived: New York, from New York.

At Cherbourg—Sailed: St. Paul, for New York.

At Dover—Sailed: Zeeland, for New York.

At Antwerp—Sailed: Zeeland, for New York.

At Boulogne—Arrived: Statendam, from New York.

At Manchester—Sailed: Caledonian, for Boston.

At Liverpool—Sailed: Cevic, for New York.

At Glasgow—Sailed: Hungarian, for Portland; Mongolian, for New York.

At Havre—Sailed: La Lorraine, for New York.

At Naples—Arrived: Citta di Napoli, from New York.

RUSSIA IS TO BLAME

Majority of North Sea Court Says Rojestvensky Should Not Have Fired.

NO TORPEDO BOATS AMONG TRAWLERS

Fishermen Committed No Hostile Act and Bombardment is Unjustifiable.

VERDICT IS A COMPROMISE ONE

Incident Due to Confusion Following Breakdown of the Kamchatka.

RUSSIAN COMMISSIONER DOES NOT CONCUR

Members Are Sorry Admiral Did Not Inform Maritime Nations of Act but Do Not Blame Him.

PARIS, Feb. 25.—(3:30 p. m.)—The decision of the international commission into inquiry of the North sea incident was publicly announced at the closing session today. The decision lengthily sets forth the circumstances and incidents and gives the opinion of the admirals on the various important points involved. The decision says the delay of the Russian transport Kamschatka, following the breakdown of its machinery, was perhaps the cause of the incident. The commander of the Kamschatka signaled to Admiral Rojestvensky during the evening that he had been attacked by torpedo boats. The admiral therefore had reason to believe he was attacked and gave orders for strict vigilance against the possible approach of torpedo boats. The majority of the commission considers that Admiral Rojestvensky's orders were not excessive in time of war, particularly under the circumstances, and that he had every reason to consider the situation very alarming.

"The commission," the decision says, "recognize unanimously that the fishing fleet committed no hostile act, and, the majority of the commissioners being of the opinion that there were not, either among the fishing boats nor in their vicinity, any torpedo boats, the opening of fire by Admiral Rojestvensky was not justified."

Russian Commissioner Disagrees.

The decision further says the Russian commissioner did not share in the latter opinion.

"In any event," the decision continues, "the commissioners are glad to recognize unanimously that Admiral Rojestvensky personally did all he could from the commencement to the end to prevent the trawlers from being the object of fire by the Russian squadron."

Concerning the squadron proceeding without assisting the damaged trawlers' the decision says:

"The commissioners are unanimous that under the circumstances preceding and following the incident that there was such uncertainty concerning the danger to the squadron as to warrant Admiral Rojestvensky in continuing his route.

"However, the majority regrets that the admiral did not inform the neighboring maritime powers of what had occurred."

The decision concludes as follows:

"The commissioners declare that their views as formulated are not of a nature to cast any disrespect upon the military valor nor upon the sentiments of humanity of Admiral Rojestvensky and the personnel of his squadron."

The closing session of the commission presented a brilliant scene. The spacious salon of the Foreign office was crowded with prominent officials, members of the diplomatic corps, including the Russian, British and American ambassadors, members of the Japanese legation, officers of the army and navy, judges of the highest French courts and the wives and other relatives of members of the commission. Contrary to expectation, the admirals forming the commission did not wear full uniforms, but appeared in ordinary civilian dress.

Decision a Compromise.

Admiral Fournier, president of the commission, read the decision amid an impressive silence, the spectators following it minutely. The general impression among the audience was that the decision was in the nature of a compromise, as the majority approved the British contention that no torpedo boats attacked Admiral Rojestvensky's squadron and that therefore his opening fire was not justified, and as the majority also approved the Russian contention that Admiral Rojestvensky acted according to his belief, even though mistaken, and that therefore his action did not reflect upon his military valor or sentiments of humanity.

Admiral Fournier closed the commission with a speech of thanks to its members. He said that each of them would return to his country bearing as a recompense for his labors the legitimate satisfaction of duty well accomplished. They left behind them a profound impression of esteem for the devotion in which the difficult task had been performed.

A significant exchange of remarks was made by Sir Edward Frick, representing Great Britain, and Baron Taube, representing Russia. Both spoke in the most amicable spirit and eulogized the arbitration. Sir Edward said:

"This is one of the most important events ever brought before an international court. All should feel grateful with the satisfactory results attained."

The speaker closed with the quotation:

"Peace hath her victories no less renowned than war."

Rear Admiral Charles H. Davis (United States) said concerning the decision:

"The conclusions seem to me to be equitable. They are formulated in a manner to satisfy the legitimate desire of the two parties and mark an important step in the Pacific solution of international conflicts."

Great Britain is Pleased.

LONDON, Feb. 25.—The Foreign office received the findings of the North sea commission with apparent equanimity, but declined to give out any official expression of opinion thereon. An official said to the Associated Press:

"The findings of the commission are final. We therefore must be satisfied and it would be bad taste for us to express dissatisfaction."

The Associated Press understands, unofficially, however, that the Foreign office is well pleased with the findings.

The findings were received in London, with every sign of gratification, which was all the more marked because of the premature reports that the decision of the admirals had been of an anti-British character. The whole report is regarded here as discrediting the Russian case; even the phrase that the firing was not unduly prolonged, which seems to afford a certain justification for opening the firing, is at the same time taken as implying that the Russians continued to fire after they had discovered their mistake. The definite