

CLASH OF BATTLE

INDICATIONS ARE THAT IT IS NEAR AT HAND.

MAY NOW BE IN PROGRESS

General Kouropatkin Assumes Offensive Against Oku and Kuroki is Moving—Belief that the Japanese Fleet Has Suffered Defeat.

ST. PETERSBURG—Dispatches received here from Ta Tche Kiao indicate that both the Russian and Japanese armies are moving into contact for a great battle, which even now may be in progress.

General Kouropatkin Sunday assumed the offensive against General Oku, while General Kuroki, from a position fourteen miles to the eastward, was moving against the Russian flank at Hai Cheng.

Not since the war began has such an air of excitement pervaded the war office and admiralty. The news received during the next few days is expected to largely determine the fate of the present campaign on land and sea. The spirits of the Russians have appreciably risen at the prospect that after all the sortie of the squadron of Rear Admiral Witteff, in command of the naval forces at Port Arthur, while it may have resulted in the loss of some of the Russian ships, has been successful. A dispatch from the Foo Monday states that a Chi-

GERMANY'S TRADE.

Memorial Presented by the Manufacturers' League.

BERLIN—An important memorial on the American customs administration and German trade has been presented by the League of German Manufacturers to Chancellor von Buolow, Baron von Richthofen, secretary of foreign affairs; Herr Moeller, Prussian minister of commerce and industry, and Herr Bueenz, German consul general at New York, who is now in Berlin.

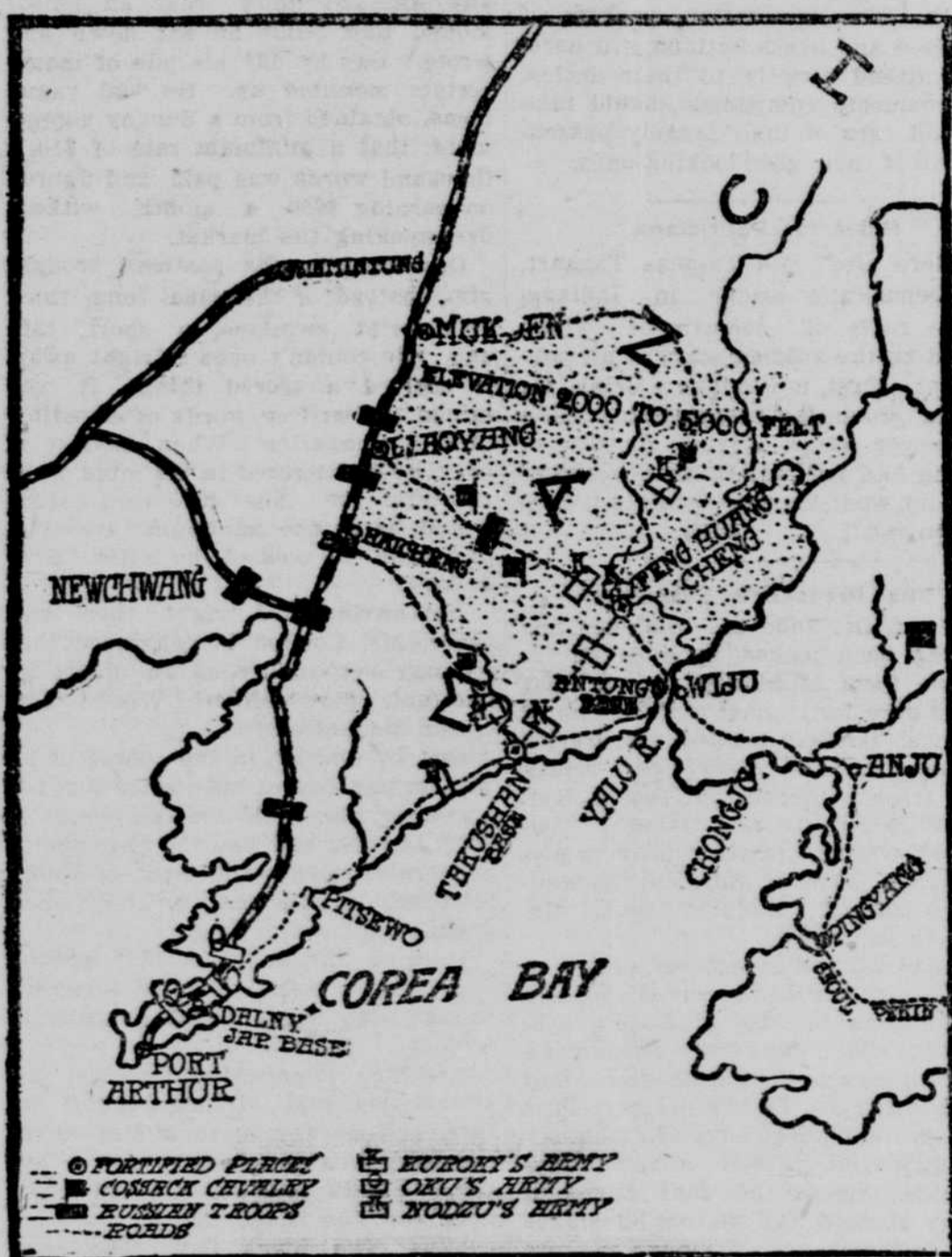
The memorial is based on material which the league collected in accordance with a resolution adopted in 1903 and was written by the Saxon manufacturer, Alfred Petzschow, who was sent to the United States to collect information among importers. The league summarizes its views in the following five points:

First—The American government should be prevailed upon to accept German manufacturers' declarations, sworn to before American consuls, as evidence of value in all cases.

Second—It is necessary to reintroduce the former privilege of appealing directly to the American treasury department because, under the present practice, a decision rendered by the general appraisers cannot be overturned even when the courts find it to be erroneous.

Third—The general appraisers should be required to communicate to the importer sentenced the penalty and duty, and the reasons for the

MAP OF THE THEATER OF WAR.



nese junk reports having seen two big Japanese warships and several torpedo boats damaged on Friday near Port Arthur. This strengthens the belief here that a great sea fight has occurred and that the Japanese, who are able, through wireless telegraphy, to be in constant communication with their base, are withholding the news. If the Vladivostok squadron is at sea with the purpose of effecting a juncture, as is generally believed, with the Port Arthur squadron, its appearance on the scene could easily turn the scale in favor of the Russians.

Some usually well informed persons at the war office are bold enough to see in a report received Monday morning by the Bourse Gazette of the hasty retirement of General Oku, evidence that the Japanese fleet has suffered a reverse and that the communication of this intelligence to General Oku, with the accompanying threat that his base at Pitswo may be attacked, compelled his withdrawal. All direct news from the land side indicates an immense and decisive battle near Ta Tche Kiao. According to the Associated Press advices Sunday night, General Kouropatkin is there, personally in command. The presence of the military attaches and newspaper correspondents is also significant. Kouropatkin's purpose seems to be to try to prevent a juncture of General Oku's and General Kuroki's armies. The outposts are in touch all along the line.

Child Falls Into Well. HUMBOLDT—Cora Hobbs, a 12-year-old daughter of Taylor Hobbs of this city, in attempting to draw a bucket of water, slipped and was precipitated twenty feet to the bottom of the well. Fortunately the fall did not stun her so badly but that she was able to hold the rope until she was rescued.

Oppose Harsh Measures. ST. PETERSBURG—M. Linder, vice president of the Finnish senate in conference with Minister of the Interior Von Plehwe, discussed the policy of the Russian government in Finland in view of the assassination of Governor General Bobrikoff. Minister Von Plehwe expressed himself as averse to harsh measures in consequence of the act of one man whose views were only held by a small portion of the people, but recommends continuation of General Bobrikoff's policy.

Decrease in Fine Silver. WASHINGTON—The quarterly estimate of the value of foreign coins issued by the director of the mint shows that there has been a decrease since April 1, 1904, in the value of silver of .217 cents per fine ounce.

Jap Armies Form a Juncture. LONDON—The Tokio correspondent of the Morning Post says that the Japanese second army has effected a juncture with the first army and that the whole force now has a fighting front of 120 miles.

board's decision, so that the importer can defend himself.

Fourth—The practice of classing German goods sold in the United States as consigned and subject to special legislations merely because the invoices are not made out in dollars and cents should cease.

Fifth—Shipments of goods and samples should not be detained in public stores as hitherto until the buyers refuse to take the goods because too late delivery and the samples are no longer available for the approaching season.

The memorial complains that such detention now occurs even when bond or security is offered. It concludes with reference to the importance of the German market to American exporters as being much greater than that of the American market to Germany and argues, therefore, that it is only a question of how the German government acts in the matter which will decide the response of the American government to the wishes of the German manufacturers.

CLAIM CAPTURE THREE PORTS. Unconfirmed Report Alleges Japanese Success Near Port Arthur.

TOKIO—It is unofficially reported that the Chik Wan Shan, Chitan Shan and So Cho Shan forts, southeast of that part of the Port Arthur defenses, were captured on Sunday after an all day fight, beginning with an artillery duel. So Cho Shan, it is added, was first captured and the other forts fell soon afterward. The Russians retreated west, leaving forty dead, and the number of wounded has not been ascertained. The Japanese force consisted of all branches of the service. The Japanese lost three officers and 100 men killed or wounded and captured two guns and a quantity of ammunition. The officials here do not confirm the report.

Brigham Dies Suddenly. WASHINGTON—News has been received here of the death at Delta, O., of Colonel Joseph B. Brigham, assistant secretary of agriculture. Colonel Brigham was chairman of the government board at the St. Louis exposition. He had left here Tuesday evening for St. Louis to attend a meeting of the board and had stopped off at Delta for a short visit. For many years he has been prominent in Ohio politics and has occupied his present position for a number of years.

Pardon for Chinese Reformers. PEKIN—An imperial edict has just been issued which pardons all who were connected with the reform movement in 1898, with the exception of Kang Yu Wei, Liang Che Chu and Sun Wen.

Tangler Settles Down to Quiet. LONDON—The Tangier correspondent of the Daily Telegraph says that the city of Tangier has resumed life as nothing had happened. The Perdicaris affair is over, he says, and no developments are expected.

AS TO MEDIATION

JAPAN NOT IN POSITION TO LISTEN TO IT JUST NOW.

WANTS TO WIN HER VICTORY

She Must First Secure Strategic Point, But Even Then Former Terms Would Not Be Acceptable—England Ready to Mediate.

LONDON—The news from Washington that steps were believed to have been taken looking to the mediation between Russia and Japan creates great surprise here. The British government not only has taken no part in such measures, but apparently is ignorant that they are in progress. Official opinion here from Premier Balfour down is that the time is not yet ripe for any offer of mediation, but to quote a person in Mr. Balfour's confidence:

"Great Britain has kept the door open for any such contingency. It is not likely that this government would be acceptable in the role of arbitrator, but it would at the right time use all of its influence to urge the belligerents to accept the offer from a suitable mediator. There seems to be no reason for thinking that the government would not fill that role suitably, but Russian opinion is always a rather unknown factor."

From the highest official sources here and from the Japanese legation comes the positive statement that nothing whatever has resulted from the interviews between King Edward and Emperor William at Kiel in any way connected with the Russo-Japanese war. There seems to be no doubt that responsible ministers seriously warned King Edward that he must not initiate any step in that direction with his imperial nephew.

The Japanese legation, it appears, made discreet inquiries as to whether or not this advice was carried out, and it was stated there tonight that there was every reason to believe the war was not discussed at Kiel, except in the most informal and conversational way.

It was also pointed out at the Japanese legation, which was entirely ignorant of any news concerning a movement toward mediation, that the present moment would be the most inopportune, so far as the Japanese are concerned, for any such step. Japan, it was maintained at the legation, must first secure some strategic point as Liao Yang before she is in a position to maintain such advantages as she has already won in Manchuria. Without a commanding strategic base, Japanese officials here believe their forces would be unable either to rest on the present laurels or to push forward.

Whether this is accomplished by a decisive battle or by the retirement of the Russians, the Japanese here say mediation cannot be dreamed of until that phase of the struggle is settled one way or the other. Subsequent to the Japanese achieving or falling in this objective, it was thought that mediation might be possible, but Baron Hayashi, the Japanese minister, reiterates that the terms Japan was willing to accept prior to the hostilities cannot possibly be considered now.

JAPS TELL OF VICTORY.

Details of Fight at Fen Shui Pass Sent Out from Tokio.

TOKIO—Detailed reports of the capture of Fen Shui pass on June 27 show that the Russians were driven from an exceedingly strong position dominating the Shi Muehen road. In this engagement the Russian losses were again heavier than those of the Japanese. The Japanese outmaneuvered the Russians by working around the enemy's right flank and attacking him in the rear.

The Japanese advanced in three columns. One was assigned to deliver a frontal attack and the others to strike the enemy on the flanks. The column which advanced upon the Russian right flank fought a separate action.

It encountered three battalions of infantry, six guns and two machine guns on Sunday morning. This engagement lasted until sunset of Sunday. At this hour the Japanese bivouacked and renewed the assault at midnight, when they succeeded in defeating the Russians.

Kiel Meeting Little Discussed. BERLIN—Few of the newspapers here have discussed the political importance of the meeting at Kiel between King Edward and Emperor William, and those who have discussed it confined themselves to general terms. When they particularized at all it was in connection with the relations between Great Britain and Germany, the editors looking upon the meeting as a "normally cordial."

Minister to Santo Domingo. WASHINGTON—Thomas C. Dawson, the newly appointed minister to Santo Domingo, called the state department on Wednesday notice of his arrival at Puerto Plata. Instead of proceeding directly to the capital of Santo Domingo to present himself to President Morales in his capacity of minister to succeed Mr. Powell, the new minister will be taken aboard the Newark, or if that vessel is occupied, then on the Bancroft or Scorpion, and will visit the principal ports of Santo Domingo.

Are Fighting in Uruguay. NEW YORK—Dispatches from Bage, a Brazilian town near the Uruguayan frontier, report, says a Herald dispatch from Buenos Ayres, that a courier sent by Saravia has arrived there with a report of the battle of Tupamoa, Uruguay. The fight began on Wednesday of last week and continued the entire day. The government forces had 600 killed and 800 wounded, while the revolutionists suffered 100 killed and 600 wounded. The revolutionists captured a big quantity of war supplies.

Wife Slashes Husband. KANSAS CITY—Temporarily insane and resisting an attempt to send her to an asylum, Mrs. Margaret Morris fatally cut her husband, Isaac E. Morris, a packing house employe, at their home here Wednesday with a razor. Morris fought desperately with his wife for fifteen minutes in an attempt to escape. The woman barred the door and slashed him in a fearful manner, cutting gashes in his throat, arms and on several parts of his body. Morris only escaped by jumping through a window.

TRAINS WILL SUE FOR LAND.

Heirs of George Francis Contemplate Action to Recover Vast Property.

OMAHA—A suit to obtain possession of 500 acres of valuable city property in Omaha, covered by streets, homes and buildings of various kinds, is to be started in the federal court by heirs of the late George Francis Train. The property involved is estimated to be worth from \$20,000,000 to \$30,000,000, and is bounded, roughly, by the Union Pacific tracks, Twentieth street, Vinton street and the Missouri river. It is an immense section of the most thickly populated of the south side.

The property was bought in 1865 by George Francis Train, then in the zenith of his career as a financier of the Union Pacific railroad and boomer of Omaha and the west. It passed out of his hands on mortgage foreclosure proceedings, and now the heirs propose to recover the value of the land or its equivalent in money on the ground that George Francis Train was declared a lunatic by the New York courts, and no provision made for the protection of his property rights.

RUSSIANS NOW WANTING COREA.

No News Taken to Indicate That Battle Is Imminent.

ST. PETERSBURG.—No further word has come from General Kouropatkin later than June 27 and not a single newspaper dispatch has been received from the front during the last twenty hours. This silence in the theater of war is regarded as a sign of the coming storm.

The Bourse Gazette this morning says:

"We are on the eve of a battle which may settle the fate of Manchuria and Korea. Both must become Russian—the former because Russian blood was shed there, the latter because it is essential to the safety of our commercial interests between Vladivostok and Port Arthur."

JAPS CARING FOR RUSSIANS.

Wounded Are Treated by the Mikado's Nurses.

LONDON.—The correspondent of the Standard at Matsuyama, Japan, cabling under date of June 30, says:

"Today I visited the Russian prisoners here. Five hundred and eight of them were admitted to the army hospital, practically all of whom suffered from wounds inflicted by small arms. Two hundred and nine have been discharged as completely cured. At present there are twelve officers, thirty-seven non-commissioned officers and 245 privates under treatment here, and all of them are likely to recover, with the exception of one who has been paralyzed.

"There are five temporary hospitals in Matsuyama, in which Japanese ladies, women missionaries and members of the Red Cross assist in the nursing."

FOR LIFE IN THE PEN.

Supreme Court Passes on the Case of Mrs. Lillie.

LINCOLN, Neb.—Mrs. Lena Margaret Lillie must serve a life sentence in the penitentiary. So decrees the Nebraska supreme court in an opinion handed down on Thursday.

The decision was a surprise to a number of the jurists who have defended the David City woman, charged with the murder of her husband, Harvey Lillie. They expected that a new trial would be granted, and the decision, coming as it does at the last summer session of the judges, caused deep gloom among the prisoner's friends.

An attempt will be made to get a re-hearing, but in the meantime the prisoner will be brought to the penitentiary to begin the sentence.

Money for the Militia.

WASHINGTON—Acting Secretary Oliver of the war department has made the usual annual allotment of the \$1,000,000 appropriation providing arms and equipments for the organized militia for the United States. Of the money apportioned Arkansas will receive \$17,952; California, \$19,947; Colorado, \$9,973; Idaho, \$5,984; Illinois, \$55,558; Iowa, \$25,932; Kansas, \$19,947; Missouri, \$35,905; Montana, \$5,984; Nebraska, \$15,958; Nevada, \$5,984; North Dakota, \$7,979; Oregon, \$7,979; South Dakota, \$7,979; Texas, \$35,905; Utah, \$5,984; Washington, \$9,973; Wyoming, \$5,984; Arizona, \$5,984; New Mexico, \$5,234; Oklahoma, \$13,104; Hawaii, \$7,500.

Convicts California Lyncher.

BAKERSFIELD, Cal.—James Cowan, a Mojave miner, charged with the murder of James Cummings, a negro, who was lynched at Mojave on March 19, was, on Thursday, convicted of manslaughter. The jury recommended the prisoner to the mercy of the court. One juror stood out all night for murder in the first degree, with the death penalty. The other members of the mob who went to the jail with the intention of tarring and feathering the negro may now be prosecuted.

Claim Capture of Three Forts. TOKIO—It is unofficially reported that the Chik Wan Shan, Chitan Shan and So Cho Shan forts, southeast of that part of the Port Arthur defenses, were captured on Sunday after an all day fight, beginning with an artillery duel. So Cho Shan, it is added, was first captured and the other forts fell soon afterward. The Russians retreated west, leaving forty dead, and the number of wounded has not been ascertained. The Japanese force consisted of all branches of the service. The Japanese lost three officers.

Hulk of the Slocum Towed in. NEW YORK—Crowds, with heads bowed and uncovered, lined both sides of East river Sunday as the hulk of the General Slocum was towed to a dock in Erie basin, where it is to be inspected by the federal authorities. The flags on the tugs having the wreck in tow were at half-mast, and when passing Zarratt's Point, where the Slocum sank and so many lives were lost, the flags were dipped. All the craft in the harbor dipped their flags as the flotilla passed.

RUSH TO GET LAND

THOUSANDS OF MEN AND WOMEN FILE ON TRACTS.

ORDER PREVAILS EVERYWHERE

Crowds at the Land Office Stand in Line All Night in Order to Be on Hand in the Morning—Miss Pitts Gets First Chance.

SIDNEY, Neb.—The streets packed with people from everywhere, anywhere and all other directions characterized the opening here of the land to settlement under the new Kinkaid homestead bill. The gradual gathering of people for several days past preparatory to the opening steadily grew until with last evening's gorgeous setting of the Western Nebraska sun there had assembled in Sidney an approximation of 1,000 land locators. As dusk fell the shades of the Sidney night, so also closed grew the ranks and lines of the Cheyenne homesteaders.

Beds were an utter impossibility, and the future settlers coalesced into long and serried columns, which occupied city streets and sidewalks, these columns reaching from suburbs to the night-closed doors of the centrally located land office in the Oberfelder block. The night hours passed rapidly with the jollity of agreeable discourse and comradeship and the jubilation of the next day's assurance of the ownership of wide and rich acres.

The dawn broadened to the daylight and the daylight burst into the sunlight. With the rising of the sun the long line of waiting homesteaders steadied themselves anew, and with the opening of the land office doors at 9 o'clock were apparently as fresh as if they had counted no long and weary periods of the waiting night.

During the lagging hours of the dark watches Miss Nettie Pitts had been a bright particular star, shedding a cheerful and constant radiance from one end of the waiting line to the other, and when at last the doors of the land office were open, she and her venerable father were, by a unanimous and hearty vote, given, irrespective of any rotation in the line of land locators, the first two land filings in Cheyenne county under the new Kinkaid homestead law, Miss Pitts quickly filing on a superb 480-acre homestead and her father at once following her with a 480-acre location. These two locations started the rush, and from thence to 4 p. m. the filings fell thick and fast, running at times as high as one per minute, with 400 locations registered for the day and a cash land office aggregate of \$5,000.

The locations of today will aggregate 200,000 acres, while tomorrow will see the filing on of at least 150,000 acres additional. The third day will be handsomely represented, and it is expected that these three days of initial location under the Kinkaid homestead act will bring a total settlement approximating 500,000 acres in the Sidney land district.

The Sidney land office officials express the confident opinion that the work of locations of the first three days will be continued on a sufficient scale to practically exhaust the entire \$50,000 acres available under the Kinkaid land act in this district within the next three months.

NATIONAL PROHIBITION TICKET.

An Eastern Candidate Named for Standard Bearer.

INDIANAPOLIS.—The prohibition party, in national convention here, nominated Silas C. Swallow of Pennsylvania for president and George W. Carroll of Texas for vice president.

The platform presented by the resolutions committee denounces the legalized sale of liquor, and expresses the view that it is ruinous to individual and national interests. It denounces the two leading parties for lack of statesmanship on the part of their leaders, for their lack of interest in the liquor question, and promises not only that the traffic shall not exist in any form, but that the party will enact laws to abolish the manufacture and sale of liquor.

It also asserts that the issues of the two leading parties are a subterfuge for the spoils of office, and that the prohibition party is really the only party which can run the government along correct lines and for the best interests of the public.

Bryan May Not Bolt Parker.

PITTSBURGH.—William J. Bryan will not bolt his party ticket if Judge Parker is nominated for president. Of this I am confident," declared ex-Senator J. K. Jones, national democratic chairman, while in this city en route to the St. Louis convention. "As to what Mr. Bryan might do if Mr. Cleveland is nominated, I could not say, but I regard the nomination of Cleveland as little short of an impossible contingency. Outside of Judge Parker, Mr. Hearst will have the greatest number of instructed delegates."

Missouri Wants Cockrell.

JOPLIN, Mo.—Missouri democrats will meet in convention here Wednesday to elect thirty-six delegates to the national convention at St. Louis. They will likely be instructed unanimously to work for the nomination of Senator Francis M. Cockrell for president. United States Senator William J. Stone, Gov. A. M. Dockery and Congressman Champ Clark and D. A. De Armond are in the lead for delegate-at-large, although there is a movement to make ex-Senator George G. Vest one of the big four.

Nine new residence buildings are in course of construction in Greeley, some of them almost completed, costing from \$1,000 to \$2,500 each, and several more will be added to this number in the near future.

NEBRASKA STATE NEWS

NEBRASKA IN BRIEF.

Lightning struck the farm residence of George McFarland, just north of Alma, burning it to the ground. Nothing was saved. It was partially insured.

John E. Carlson, a single man, aged 20, residing near Malmo, was adjudged insane by the examining board and was taken to the hospital for the insane at Lincoln.

The assessor's returns show that the assessed valuation of Adams county property, exclusive of railroad, this year is \$4,012,582, as against \$2,101,823, the valuation last year. This is a gain of 99 per cent. While the valuation given has not yet been equalized, it is not expected that the figures will be materially changed.

An Ogallala dispatch says: Mat Daugherty came in on the train from the west yesterday and was shaking hands with his many friends. He was met here by his brother, and they went to their ranch in the North river country for a vacation. Mat is living at Salt Lake, and the western country seems to agree with him, as he is looking fine.

Roy Osborn and Dan Banup are the names of two youths, 19 and 18 years old, respectively, who are making their way from Denver to the World's fair in a sixteen-foot boat, five feet wide, passing Grand Island last week. The lads expect to reach the Missouri before the water falls materially and within two days. They have been on the way three weeks.

At the urgent request of the city board of Pappillon, R. F. Barton, city clerk, has resigned his position. This request followed upon the examination of the books and the discovery of a shortage in the accounts. There were two warrants, amounting to about \$25, which, it is alleged, had been forged by Barton, also another warrant that had been raised several dollars above the original figures.

The acceptance by Paul Morton second vice president of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe railway, of the position of secretary of the navy, was a complete surprise to his many friends in Nebraska City, where he was born and reared. He has repeatedly stated to them that he did not want nor would not accept any public office, and desired to be left out of all political combinations.

Dallas Fortner, an insane man captured near Fairmont Decoration day, was brought to Geneva and placed in jail. It was found that he had been in the asylum in Iowa, from which he had been paroled some time ago. Sheriff Page will take Fortner to Omaha, where he will meet an officer from Jackson county, Iowa, who will take charge of the man and return him to the Iowa asylum.

The Ministerial association of the United Evangelical church, Lincoln district, which closed a three days session at the church in Dawson, selected officers as follows for the coming year: President, Rev. S. J. Shupp of Lincoln; vice president, Rev. W. L. Dillow, Dawson; secretary, Rev. G. P. Netherly, Beaver Crossing. Immediately after the adjournment of the Ministerial association the K. L. C. E. convention opened and held an interesting session.

New Haven, Conn., dispatch: Announcement will be made tomorrow at Yale university of the senior appointments, and the list will include thirteen for philosophical orations, twenty-five for orations, twenty-nine for dissertations, fifteen for disputations, thirty for second disputations, twenty-nine for first colloquies and thirty-five second colloquies. Among the winners in philosophical orations is Guy B. Morrison, Lincoln, Neb.

Sheriff Bauman of Dodge county took Gottlieb Zinder to Lincoln. He was before the board of insanity and found a fit subject to receive attention at the state hospital.

A man who gave his name and residence as John Dunkley, Mankato, Minn., was found lying about 150 feet east of the stock yards chutes with both legs crushed between the knees and the body. The accident probably occurred shortly before midnight. He was trying to beat his way east on extra 1881, which registered out at 11:45 p. m. No one, so far as can be ascertained, knows anything about the occurrence. He died from his wounds.

The residents of the vicinity of Ott's pond, near Grand Island, were awakened the other night by a deep roar as of a cannon. They knew not what it meant, but there was no recurrence of the shot nothing more was thought of it until, on the next morning, dead fish by the scores were found upon the shores of the lake, containing about seven acres of water. It is presumed to be the work of some one for whom the sport of fishing with the hook, though even this was forbidden on the private grounds, was too slow.

The 3-year-old child of John Ogle, a farmer a few miles east of Humboldt, was severely and perhaps fatally scalded as the result of pulling a plug from a washing machine operated by its mother, completely drenching the little one with boiling water.

Word has been received in Nebraska City of the death of S. H. Howard at the home of his son-in-law at Atlantic, Ia. He was an old resident there and one of the pioneers. He left Nebraska City about eighteen months ago, hoping that the change would benefit his falling health.

Nine new residence buildings are in course of construction in Greeley, some of them almost completed, costing from \$1,000 to \$2,500 each, and several more will be added to this number in the near future.

The infant child of George Gillis was seriously injured in a runaway accident at South Alliance. The mother and three children were driving to a neighbor's, when the horses became unmanageable and all were thrown out at intervals along the way, the baby falling upon the track at the railway crossing.

SUGAR BEET BOUNTIES.

Judge Cornish Declares that They Are Unconstitutional.

LINCOLN—Sugar beet bounties are unconstitutional. So declared Judge Cornish in the district court, and he sustained the demurrer of the attorney general, who argued that the suits of the Oxnard Sugar company and the Norfolk Sugar company ought to be dismissed. The two concerns asked for more than \$50,000.

The claims of the companies have been before successive legislatures and permission was given at the last session for the sugar manufacturers to sue the state and establish the validity of their claims.

The companies claim that the state promised a bounty of 1 cent a pound in 1885. Between the years of 1889 and 1890, the companies claim, \$1,000,000 was invested, with the understanding that bounties would be paid. The act was repealed in 1889, but the companies claim that three-quarters of a cent was voted to foreign companies in 1895. After the bills were audited the attorneys for the companies state that the officials refused to pay, asserting that the state lacked funds. They argue that legislatures have endorsed the claims and the last one directed that suit be brought.

Attorney General Prou argued that sugar beet raising was not a public undertaking and that the legislature had no right to appropriate public money for such a purpose. The court upheld his contention. The case may be appealed.

SECURES AN ANCIENT RELIC.

Morton History Gets Picture of the First Nebraska Mission.

LINCOLN—C. S. Paine, manager of the Morton History of Nebraska, has secured a picture of the old Bellevue mission, the first mission established in Nebraska for the conversion of the Indians. The picture is in water colors and was secured from Mrs. J. T. Allan of Omaha. Mr. Allan had come west about 1848 to seek his fortune, and had this picture painted to send back to his sweetheart in the east in order to give her an idea of her future home.

The old mission was located in almost the very spot where Bellevue college now stands. It was built for the purpose of dealing with the Omaha and Oto Indians, and was the center of civilization and trade until Omaha was founded in 1854. It was built of hewn cottonwood logs faced on the outside and inside and was two stories high. Later the mission was converted into a hotel, and as the "Bellevue house" was used for that purpose for many years.

Official Harvest Opening. LINCOLN—Don C. Despain, president of the Western Association of Free Employment bureaus, says that the yield of wheat in the southern counties of Nebraska will be exceedingly heavy. The wheat harvest will begin July 7.

Sale of Land Ordered. The sale of several thousand acres of valuable hay and grazing land in McPherson county, owned by the Valley Land and Cattle company, was ordered by Judge Munger in federal court at Omaha.

Sarpy County Farmer Robbed. PAPPILLION—Thieves stole a team of mules and a buggy from the barn of L. Heacock, between Springfield and Gretna, in Sarpy county. The property at this writing has not been recovered.

Dillon in Pathetic Plight. LINCOLN—William Dillon, formerly a well known Lincoln grain dealer, spent the other night in the city jail. He was found asleep in a hallway and later taken to the station. His home is in Chicago, but he has come to Lincoln to try to collect some bills which have long been outlawed. He seems to be laboring under the delusion that many people owe him money and that he must collect it. He has a son and other relatives in Chicago.

Bought Nance County Bonds. LINCOLN—State Treasurer Mortensen purchased \$15,000 of Nance county bonds and the permanent school fund was reduced to \$308,000. County collections are slow at present, but the state treasurer expects a lively movement in court house and refunding bonds.

Easter Killed by Lightning. HASTINGS—During a thunder storm lightning struck and instantly killed Frank Easter, a farmer living north of Ayr. He was cultivating corn in his field.

Search for Boy's Body. NORFOLK—After persistently searching for two days and two nights divers have failed to locate the body of Willie Stahl, the 14-year-old lad who was drowned in the Elkhorn river here Sunday afternoon. Dynamiting the river did not, as had been hoped, bring the body to the surface, and the swollen channel still retains the lifeless form of the lad who swam into a whirlpool. His mother, a widow who lives here, has been in a very serious condition since the shock and has been kept under chloroform constantly.

Found Dead in Dooryard. LINCOLN—Mrs. Josie Wagstaff was found dead in front of her house on the Tiffany farm, four miles north of Lincoln. A neighbor, Mrs. Anna Kimball, saw the woman lying face downward as she passed the house about 6 o'clock the previous evening, she thought Mrs. Wagstaff was merely resting. But next morning when Mrs. Kimball noted the figure lying in the same spot she hastily called some other neighbors, who summoned the coroner. The woman died of heart trouble.