

SEA FIGHT IN SIGHT

BIG FLEET OF RUSSIAN SHIPS NORTH OF SINGAPORE.

Said to Number Forty-Seven—Japanese Everywhere on the Watch—It Seems Impossible for Russian Ships to Slip by Them.

Singapore, Straits Settlement, advices state that the British steamer Tara reports having sighted forty-seven Russian ships 130 miles north of Singapore.

A dispatch from Durban, Natal, March 29, said that the British steamer Dart, from Rangoon, reported that she passed on March 19 thirty warships and fourteen colliers (probably the Russian fleet) steaming eastward 250 miles north-east of the island of Madagascar.

A dispatch from Singapore to the London Express says that the captain of a steaming steamer reports having sighted twenty-seven warships seventy miles southwest of Penang.

A Batavia dispatch to the same paper says that Chinese junks report that Japanese warships are patrolling all the straits available to Rojstvensky in an attempt to reach China seas.

The Daily Express takes the view that the fleet reported in its Singapore dispatch was Admiral Togo's. Nothing definite has been heard since March 16 from Vice Admiral Rojstvensky's ships, which were recently in French waters off Madagascar.

A Jubail, Gulf of Aden, special says that Vice Admiral Nobogoff's party of the Russian Pacific squadron sailed Friday morning.

FACES BIG STRIKE.

Danger of Another Labor War in Chicago.

Two hundred teamsters employed by the mail order firm of Montgomery Ward & Co., at Chicago, struck Friday in sympathy with the garment workers, who had been in a struggle with the employers for four months.

In the belief of many labor leaders Friday's strike is the beginning of a great contest that may involve 20,000 drivers.

Strike pickets surrounded the Ward building Friday and drivers with consignments of freight, express, coal, etc., for the firm were stopped and turned back.

There were several clashes between the police and crowds during the day.

NEW YORK "RIPPER" MURDER

Young Woman is Stabbed to Death in Hotel.

Elements of mystery, recalling the stories of "Jack the Ripper," lent a sensation to a stabbing Friday in a Thirteenth Street hotel at New York of a young woman named Mamie Wilson. She died a few hours after the stabbing.

James Boyne, whom the police arrested, although admitting he was in the woman's company a short time before she was injured, declared he did not know how she received the wounds.

The woman was stabbed in the abdomen with a very long knife. The character of the cut was similar to that made on the victims of the London "Jack the Ripper."

MURDERED BY A BARBER.

Italian Police Have Evidence in the McCready Tragedy.

At Caserta, Italy, the police have secured what is apparently conclusive evidence that Miss Catherine McCready, of New York, who was found dead from strangulation in her villa near Caserta on Feb. 25, was murdered by a barber, Andrea Innocenti, husband of Catherine Esposito, Miss McCready's servant, who was arrested soon after the finding of the body. Others are incriminated, and more arrests are expected to follow.

Tragedy Follows Divorce.

Despondent over a divorce suit which ended in a decree for his wife, Anthony Bower, a farmer, living west of Lincoln, Neb., shot himself Thursday night. The body was found under the window of his divorced wife's room Friday morning.

Held for Illinois Murder.

A man who closely tallies with the description of an alleged murderer wanted at Strawn, Ill., was arrested at Thomas Maloney's farm, near Farmington, Minn., by Deputy Sheriff Brownell. He gave his name as Charles Cran.

Charged with Embezzlement.

B. H. McDuffie, New York, who is vice president of the defunct bank of Lawton, Okla., was arrested Friday night on a charge of having embezzled \$12,000 of the funds of that institution.

Sioux City Stock Market.

Friday's quotations on the Sioux City stock market follow: Butcher steers, \$4.25@5.75. Top hogs, \$5.35. Top veals, \$6.50.

Loan Heavily Oversubscribed.

The correspondent at Tokio of the London Times says that owing to heavy subscription only 5 per cent of the domestic loan will be allowed at the issue price, and consequently there is much disappointment.

Burned to Death in Car.

At Dubuque, Ia., Friday a tramp, name unknown, was burned to death in a box car on the Milwaukee road at Green Island. His body was burned to a cinder.

ROCKEFELLER NOT DISHONEST

S. C. T. Dodd Defends Head of Standard Oil.

A New York special says: S. C. T. Dodd, general solicitor for the Standard Oil Company, gave out a statement Thursday with reference to the recent discussion of the acceptance of a gift of \$100,000 offered by John D. Rockefeller for missionary work.

Mr. Dodd declares that the statement that Mr. Rockefeller made his money dishonestly "is false, is vile, and being made by ministers in the pretended interest of morality is doubly vile."

Mr. Dodd then says that the Standard Oil Company does not own a share of any railroad company, does not control any railroad company, and since the enactment of the interstate commerce law has not received better rates than other shippers by rebates, arrangements, devices or plans of any character. The testimony of Howard Page, freight agent of the Standard Oil Company before the commission, is quoted in this connection.

With relation to gas and copper companies Mr. Dodd says: "No doubt many have been prejudiced against Mr. Rockefeller by sensational writers whose articles, accompanied by portraits and caricatures, are intended to create the impression that Mr. Rockefeller was principal in the affairs relating to the organization of the gas and copper companies, although no fact showing such connection is stated. The Standard Oil Company has already denied that it had any connection or interest, directly or indirectly, in the organization of these corporations, and on the best authority the same denial is now made for John D. Rockefeller. He had no connection with or interest in, directly or indirectly, the organization of these corporations."

BARKER WILL HANG.

New Trial is Denied the Nebraska Murderer.

A Lincoln, Neb., special says that the supreme court has decided that Frank Barker, aged 23 years, who killed his brother and his brother's wife, shall not have a new trial and that he must hang June 16.

The double murder was committed near Red Cloud, Neb., in February, 1904, Barker slaying his relatives in order that he might have the house and farm which belonged to them, and thus be able to marry a young woman of the neighborhood.

On May 14, 1904, Barker was found guilty and sentenced to hang Sept. 2, but secured a new lease on life, pending an appeal to the supreme court.

SHOT IN A RIOT.

Four Wounded in a West Virginia Election Fight.

In an election riot at Huntington, W. Va., Thursday, Policeman Roy Hill was shot and fatally wounded, and Deputy Sheriff Adkins, Policeman Bert Foster and Deputy Sheriff Emalis Bayless were slightly wounded.

The two deputy sheriffs are in jail. The trouble grew out of a dispute over authority in an attempt to arrest a negro for "repeating."

The feeling is bitter on both sides and further trouble is feared.

San Francisco Mystery.

The headless and legless trunk of a young man was found late Wednesday night on Vallejo Street, San Francisco. The body was wrapped in an old blanket, tied up with fisherman's twine. A man was seen to throw the bundle away by a passerby. No clue to the murdered man or the murderer.

Four Are Asphyxiated.

Four persons were killed by illuminating gas escaping from a defective stove Thursday in a tenement house in the upper east side, New York. The bodies were found by the father of the children, who, with his wife and young son, occupied an adjoining room.

Girls as Firebugs.

Five attempts Saturday and Sunday to burn the Booker hall, the girls' dormitory at Georgetown, Ky., college, and the largest Baptist institution in the south, have just come to light. The authorities believe the girl students started the fires.

Zeigler Mine Explosion.

At Zeigler, Ill., the coroner's jury in its verdict finds that the forty-three men who lost their lives in the Leiter coal mines Monday, April 3, were killed by afterdamp due to an explosion of powder caused by parties unknown.

Lovers' Quarrel Fatal.

At Huntsville, Ala., H. A. Ballard was fatally wounded Thursday by Miss Oma Hardie, his sweetheart, who followed her attack upon him by killing herself. The tragedy resulted from a lovers' quarrel.

Believe Woman Was Drugged.

The fact that \$150 is missing from the body of Mrs. Cynthia Martin, 65 years old, found frozen near Mears, Mich., has led to the suspicion of murder. It is believed she was drugged and left in a snowdrift.

Grace for Mrs. Chadwick.

A Cincinnati, O., dispatch announces that Mrs. Cessie L. Chadwick was Wednesday granted a stay of execution by the United States circuit court of appeals until further order of the court.

Lynch Servian Marauders.

The Mussulmans of Uskub province, Macedonia, are so exasperated at the government's inaction against marauding bands they have taken to lynching prisoners. Nine Servians have been hanged.

Mormon Church Conference.

The seventy-fifth annual conference of the Mormon church opened Thursday in the tabernacle at Salt Lake City and will continue several days. Apostle Reed Smoot is not in attendance.

TEN YEARS QUINCE.

The Russian Naval Programme Re-opens True.

The committee appointed at St. Petersburg to investigate the capacity of the Russian shipbuilding industry for carrying out Russia's naval program has reported, showing that the present Baltic yards and machinery shops expanded to their full capacity could deliver in three years eight of the twenty-five big battle-ships and cruisers and eight of the twenty-four smaller cruisers contemplated. Given five years fourteen big battleships and seventeen small craft could be completed, while the whole program can easily be executed under ten years if the haste is not so urgent.

The details of the program have not been officially published, but it is reported that it consists of ten battleships, fifteen 15,000-ton armored cruisers of the Russia type, twelve 9,000-ton cruisers of the Bayan type, twelve cruisers of the 5,000-ton type, exclusive of torpedo-boat destroyers, submarine and mine ships.

"The Russian works are capable of supplying armor for only two and one-half ships yearly, and the committee has not considered armament."

Peace at an early date is regarded as probable by the German embassy at St. Petersburg, the Associated Press is informed, and, in consequence of dispatches received at Berlin from there by the government during the last three days, this opinion circulates in official circles for the first time since the war began.

The Russian emperor, it is true, has not yet decided for peace, but the grand dukes and practically all the members of the court who have access to the emperor are for peace.

Considerations that still delay the czar's decision are personal ones. He is feeling his reign is a failure if Russia does not win the war, and that his prestige as a sovereign will be lost at home and in foreign countries, but he cannot yet bring himself to speak the word that will set peace negotiations in motion.

WOULD KILL GOV. HOCH.

Dangerous Insane Man is Captured at Topeka.

An insane man, who gives his name as J. Evert Worthington, whose former place of residence the police have been unable to learn, was captured within a block of the state capitol at Topeka, Kan., where he said he was going to kill Gov. Hoch. The man was unarmed, but he is of powerful build and undoubtedly would have handled the chief executive roughly had he not been intercepted.

Worthington is now in the county jail and will be sent to an asylum. Communication with him is held by means of written questions and answers, as he pretends to be deaf and dumb.

BURIED IN RUINS.

Heavy Loss of Life in Earthquake in India.

The hill station of Dharmasala, India, was practically razed to the ground by earthquakes. The native quarter was entirely obliterated and many inhabitants buried in the ruins. Most of the houses in the European quarter were wrecked and nine persons killed. The entire population is homeless and is camped on adjoining hillsides. Great distress prevails. A relief party has been dispatched from Lahore to Dharmasala.

Seventy natives were killed and many injured when the native quarter of Lahore was demolished by Tuesday's earthquake. The Mohammedans are parading the streets wailing and praying for deliverance from further visitations.

AGAIN SENTENCED TO HANG

Attorneys Make Desperate Efforts to Save Anna Valentina.

Anna Valentina, who was convicted of the murder of Rosa Salza, at Roda, N. J., a year ago, and whose attorneys have been making every effort to save her from the gallows, has been resentence to be hanged on Friday, May 12. Sentence was passed by Judge Garrettson in the supreme court at Hackensack, N. J. Mrs. Valentina's lawyers will make another appeal to the board of pardons, and should that fail may appeal to the supreme court of the United States on the ground that she was deprived of her constitutional rights.

Victim of an Assassin.

T. C. Lamb, superintendent of the Treasmanio mine, was blown to pieces by an infernal machine while asleep in his house at the edge of Tucson, Ariz. Lamb had been involved in several bitter disputes about mining property, and it is presumed one of his enemies committed the deed.

A Victim of Leprosy.

The Honolulu Star says that Brother Serapion von Koop, of the leper settlement at Molokai, is the victim of leprosy. His case is similar to that of Father Damien. Brother von Koop, who is a native of Holland, went to the settlement in 1895. Eighteen months ago he detected signs of the disease.

Mail Pouch Bilfed.

The northbound midnight mail pouch from Bedford, Ind., was found Thursday in the north part of the city cut to pieces and a part of the contents gone. The sack is said to have contained a large number of drafts, one calling for \$0.00.

Two Breked to Death.

At Cripple Creek, Colo., a fire Wednesday morning in the Paul Wilson building resulted in the death of William Davis and another man called "Dig" Walsh. Several others had narrow escapes.

Killed in Auto Accident.

Frank Stevens, one of the two Americans injured in an automobile accident near Monte Carlo, Monday, is dead. Stevens' companion, Louis Hay, is recovering.

STATE OF NEBRASKA

NEWS OF THE WEEK IN A CONDENSED FORM.

Shoots Wife in Church—E. D. Novak Then Kills Himself at His Home in Howells—Woman Not Badly Hurt, but Worshipers Were Scared.

After shooting his wife as she sat in her pew in the church at Howells, cov- ing the other worshippers by brandish- ing the smoking revolver in their faces, and threatening anyone who interfered, E. D. Novak coolly walked out of the sacred edifice, marched up the main street of the town and finally shot him- self in a summer kitchen in the rear of his home, dying instantly.

Novak and his wife have had trouble for several years. Without giving any hint of his murderous intentions, Novak entered the church during service and walked straight up the aisle to where his wife sat. Drawing a revolver he pointed it directly at her face and fired.

With a mocking laugh Novak turned and walked slowly down the aisle, brandishing the revolver in the air and threatening to shoot anyone who made a move to stop him.

Leaving the church Novak walked de- liberately through the main part of the town, still swinging his revolver.

His only daughter, Rose, was alone in the house, and when the girl saw her father coming up the street flourishing the weapon she hastened to lock the doors. Unable to enter the house, No- vak went round to the rear and into a summer kitchen, and immediately shot himself in the head, dying instantly.

PREFERS DEATH TO SCHOOL

Young Boy at Lincoln Commits Suicide.

Merle O'Brien, the 14-year-old son of William O'Brien, of 1128 Washington Street, Lincoln, shot himself Monday and physicians declare he cannot recover. The boy had been worrying about the next month of school and did not want to go. While the members of the family were at breakfast he went into an ad- joining room and shot himself with a re- volver. The bullet entered the right temple and penetrated the brain.

Exeter is Booming.

Exeter village is having a boom this spring in the way of new buildings and other improvements. Last year the vil- lage board proposed to furnish brick for sidewalk purposes to all parties who would use them, at actual cost, on track, Exeter. During the season about 100,000 were distributed over the town in new walks and crossings. The same proposi- tion is held out this spring and about 32,000 have already been distributed and orders for as many more have been placed with the street commissioner.

Death of an Aged Woman.

Mrs. Elizabeth Huffman, widow of Ja- cob Huffman and mother of Mayor Huff- man, of Neligh, died Thursday morning of heart failure, aged 75 years. The de- ceased with her husband removed from Ohio to this place in 1878, and have been among the most respectable and enterprising citizens. Mrs. Huffman will be greatly missed by our people to whom she was greatly endeared by her kindly and useful life. She will be bur- ied in the Laurel Hill cemetery.

House to Get His Chair.

Speaker Rouse will get that chair which the house of representatives voted to him and over which the employees of the house held an indignation meeting. The chair is now in the possession of the secretary of state and will be sent to the home of Mr. Rouse. The board of public lands and buildings, in checking up legislative supplies turned back to the state, decided upon this Thursday.

Small Verdict in Libel Suit.

The libel suit which has been before Judge Sears in the district court at Blair for fourteen days, in which George H. Fisher sues A. L. Williams for damages to the amount of \$75,000, arising from ar- ticles published in the Blair Pilot, was given to the jury Thursday, and after being out eleven hours returned a verdict giving the plaintiff \$1 damages.

Barker Still Has a Chance.

Frank Barker, whom the supreme court said must hang June 16 for mur- dering his brother and the latter's wife, may yet cheat the gallows. Warden Beener is of the opinion Barker is in- sane and he will be examined by the Lancaster County insanity board, and if it is proven that he is insane the asylum instead of the gallows will be his finish.

Carnegie's Offer Rejected.

At Pawnee City, at the municipal elec- tion Thursday, a proposition was sub- mitted to the voters to levy a 2-mill tax on city property to maintain a free public library and to accept a donation of \$7,000 from Andrew Carnegie to build the library. The proposition was defeated by three votes.

Murder Case at Geneva.

Court is in session at Geneva and a jury for the case of the State of Nebras- ka against Henry Proor for manslaughter was impaneled Thursday. Dr. Sar- gal, of Bruniug, was the only witness called thus far.

Robbery at Kearney.

The harness store of J. H. Haney & Co. at Kearney, Frank M. Leake, man- ager, was entered by burglars and tools valued at \$100 stolen.

Teacher Hung in Eddy.

The friends of Prof. Joseph R. Fulk were incensed when they observed an ed- ify bearing his name suspended from the ropes on the 80-foot flag pole on the school house grounds at Randolph. The school board ordered the edify removed.

Y. M. C. A. Robbed.

Someone broke into the Young Men's Christian Association rooms at Fremont and stole all the electric light bulbs in the rooms and bath rooms. Nothing else was taken. There is no clue to the thieves.

NEBRASKA TOWN ELECTIONS

Question of Granting Saloon Licenses the Main Issue.

Large numbers of women voted at North Platte on Tuesday for members of the school board, there being as high as eighty female votes in one ward. On the whole the regular Republican ticket nominated at the city convention and primaries won out.

Stromsburg voted dry by an over- whelming majority.

At Loup City the election passed off quietly. The question of license was sub- mitted and the license ticket won by 8 votes, which insures at least two saloons for the ensuing year.

The Pullerton election resulted in the election of the entire license ticket with an exception of one councilman.

At Fairfield, Dr. A. R. Ray, repre- senting the people's or progressive par- ty, favoring public improvements, etc., was re-elected mayor over Joseph Kyne, conservative. On the question of license the "wets" were victorious by a major- ity of 14. The proposition to issue wa- vor works bonds was defeated by 40 votes.

During the city election at Plattsmouth policies were practically ignored and the city will go "wet" another year.

The municipal election resulted in a victory for the highlicense party at Fair- bury.

At the Emerson election it was decided to issue bonds to the amount of \$20,000 for building and furnishing a school house.

At the city election held in Oakland the license party elected Charles Sam- son mayor.

The election at Central City was a landslide for the prohibitionists. The license question was voted on direct.

At Fairmont the election passed off very quietly, there being but one ticket in the field. For license, 96; against license, 92.

A Democratic landslide elected the en- tire ticket at Norfolk with the exception of two councilmen and two members of the board of education.

TOO MUCH LATIN.

More English and German Recommen- ded for High Schools.

By declaring that Latin, in its value as a mental developer, has been greatly overestimated, and that by eliminating this branch and substituting more Eng- lish and more German better results would be accomplished, Miss Maggie McLenn, principal of the high school at Randolph, provoked the most heated discussion of the three days' session of the Northern Nebraska Teachers' Asso- ciation just held in Norfolk. Like a bombshell her theory landed in the au- dience and instantly she had finished it was vigorously taken up by dozens of eager speakers. After a battle royal over the question the points in favor of Latin seemed to have won the day.

This session was the most largely at- tended of any in the history of the as- sociation, 400 outside teachers being pres- ent.

BANKS ARE PROSPEROUS.

An increase of over \$2,000,000 in deposits during quarter.

In the quarterly and yearly bank state- ments Secretary Royce, of the state banking board, Monday declared that conditions were the most flattering in the history of the state. Eight new banks have been organized and notwith- standing the heavy demands for money the deposits have increased more than \$2,000,000 during the last quarter. The increase in depositors exceeds 11,000.

Railroad Bonds Destroyed.

Last Tuesday R. D. Pollard, tax com- missioner of the Burlington Railroad Company, appeared before the county commissioners at Pawnee City, and in the presence of the board and himself, presented and authorized the cancellation and destruction by fire of \$20,000 in bonds with interest-bearing coupons ag- gregating \$80,000. These bonds were voted by Table Rock precinct in 1871, in aid of the Atchison, Lincoln and Col- umbus Railroad. After the bonds were issued the precinct resisted payment and a long legal contest ensued. A decision was finally rendered by the supreme court in favor of the precinct.

Burn Struck by Lightning.

Monday night lightning struck a large barn belonging to Ed Munson, a farmer living twelve miles west of Columbus, just over the line in Nance County. A horse had all the hair burned off his tail and hind legs, but his flesh seems not to have suffered any. When repairs were started on the corral the work- men took out about a bushel of dead bees and nearly 150 pounds of honey was found in the box of the cornice be- tween the rafters.

May Contest Election.

The "wets" elected their entire ticket at the village election at Gordon by ma- jorities ranging from one to nine. The election was the most exciting and hotly contested in the history of the town. It is claimed that several illegal votes were cast by the wets and a contest will likely result.

Barred from Nebraska.

The Bankers' Union of the World, a fraternal order, of which Dr. Spinney is the head, has no license to do business in Nebraska. Deputy Auditor Pierce Wednesday refused the company permis- sion to do business in the state.

Shooting at Nebraska City.

Spence Minor and Eli Walker, colored men, got into a quarrel at Nebraska City and Minor shot Walker in the left leg, inflicting a serious, but not dangerous wound.

Accidentally Shot.

At West Point, while handling a re- volver in his buggy, Frank Priedknov was accidentally shot through the upper part of his right leg. No danger is ap- prehended.

Bound Over to Court.

Orvil Woodward and Emery Baldwin, the young men arrested some days ago for breaking into a school house near Albion and taking some property there- from, were bound over by the court judge for their appearance at the next term of the district court.

Frost at Linwood.

There was frost and it froze some at Linwood Wednesday night, but the fruit trees were not injured. Winter wheat looks fine and there is no sign of the Russian fly in that immediate vicinity.



Accompanied by his wife and little child, Edward Morgan, of Seventeenth and Clark Streets, Omaha, who was brutally assaulted in Omaha some weeks ago by one Craig, a paroled convict of the state penitentiary, called upon Gov. Mickey Friday morning and to him re- lated the circumstances through which he has passed from a strong, robust at- tache to a confirmed invalid, being par- tially paralyzed from the blows dealt him by his assailant. Senator Saunders and Representative Anderson, of Omaha, presented Mr. Morgan to the governor and assisted in setting before the chief executive the details of this rather pa- thetic case. The purpose was to impress upon the governor's mind the fact that the attack was unwarranted and cold- blooded and should prove that Craig mer- ited the entire fifteen years for which he was sentenced at the penitentiary. The governor now says he will recommend that the convict serve out that term. Craig had been paroled after four years of service.

The aggregate appropriations, general and special fund, and the \$200,000 au- thorized in bonds for the binding wind- mill which the legislature just closed made, come to \$3,837,841. This does not include the temporary school fund dis- tribution. The estimated receipts for this fund for the ensuing biennium are \$1,234,175.21. Of this total \$3,463,341 is appropriated against the general fund. This, of course, does not include the bond proposition. The total appropria- tions in 1903 were \$3,749,280.70, of which \$2,855,243.70 was against the gen- eral fund. The special appropriations are \$170,000 for the Morrill agricultural, educational and university fund and \$4,500 for the state normal school library. Deducting the aggregate of temporary university and other special funds the li- ability for the biennium may be obtained on an estimated basis and that less the estimated general fund receipts, \$2,819,574.71, will give a net increase in the state debt, which is now \$2,550,000.

No state printing for Nebraska just now. Succinctly stated, this is the report of the special committee on this subject appointed in the house. Gen. Geo. C. Richardson, was chairman of the com- mittee. His report states that the com- mittee found after some investigation that the state could not do its own printing as cheaply as it could hire it done and that therefore it would not be the best business stroke to appropriate money or take steps toward the estab- lishment of this plant. The committee stated, however, that it did not have time to investigate the matter to the extent of looking into the results achieved by those states having state printing plants. The report was adopted.

The twenty-ninth session of the Ne- braska legislature adjourned sine die Sat- urday—the sixty-fourth for the house and sixty-fourth for the senate. Merely a handful of members were present in each house to witness the finish. The end came without ceremony or ostentation, as comes the close of a natural day when the sun winks out its sleepy existence and hides for the night behind the hori- zon. The night previous the house ob- served the customary period of felicity and fun, adding this time, however, a highly delectable feature in the form of a premeditated castigation of the press of the state which at times had dared com- ment unfavorably upon the deliberations of the session.

There is joy in Platte, doubtless, and Representative Zindow is the cause of it, having succeeded in doing what many of his predecessors have failed in doing— passing the bill which provides that the state shall pay for the construction of one bridge over 500 feet in length, where needed, in each county in the state. The bill went through the senate last week, only touching the high