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# THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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## MARTIAL LAW ORDER IN SOUTH AFRICA OF DRASTIC CHARACTER

Proclamation of General Strike in Union of South Africa Followed by Declaration of Siege.

ESTABLISH PRESS CENSORSHIP Use of Epithets Toward Workmen Prohibited Under Penalty.

POSITION OF NATIVES PROBLEM If Workers Obey Leaders, Blacks Must Go to Kraals.

GENERAL BOTHA THREATENING Asserts He Will Guarantee that with End of Present Crisis Never Will Be Another Strike for Generation.

CAPETOWN, Union of South Africa, Jan. 14.—The proclamation of martial law throughout the Union of South Africa in response to the declaration of a general strike by the Federation of Trades, is regarded as making the issue a clear one between the state and syndicalists, who have adopted a system of rapidly organized sympathetic strikes.

The origin of the dispute—the railroad men protest against the policy of retrenchment introduced by their employers—has been lost sight of in the great sympathetic labor war which has brought the trade and commerce of the colony to a standstill.

The drastic character of the regulations which call into effect with the proclamation of martial law created considerable surprise. From last evening the use of such epithets as "scab" and "black leg" was prohibited under penalty of severe punishment, while any attempt to intimidate workers was forbidden.

Newspapers are debarred from publishing reports calculated to promote ill-feeling between the disputants.

The strike region is divided into nine areas, each controlled by an officer vested with absolute power as in time of war.

Problem of Native Miners.

CAPETOWN, Union of South Africa, Jan. 13.—A general strike throughout South Africa was proclaimed tonight by the trades federation and the Rand miners by a two-thirds majority vote to join in the movement. Governmental retaliation was expected in the form of the proclamation of martial law.

This was the only step the authorities believed adequate to meet the situation, for the strike of the miners means not only the turning loose of the most turbulent spirits in the Rand, but raises the question of the position of the native workers. If the miners actually obey the strike order the government will take steps to send the natives under escort back to their kraals.

This means that about 200,000 thousand natives must be marched back by road to their homes at enormous cost. It will be most difficult after the end of the strike to recruit them again. In brief, such a step would mean disaster for the Rand for many years.

Leaves Passengers Stranded. Although official reports from Johannesburg show no danger in the train service, reports from other districts are less encouraging. In Natal the situation is of great tension and it is feared that the loyalty of the trainmen will not stand the strain much longer. An instance of the men's temper is shown by the action of an engine driver, who quitted his train on the veldt and left the passengers stranded.

Practically no information is at hand as to conditions in the Orange Free State, but improvement there is not considered probable. From the government's standpoint about the only ray of light today was the assurance from the Indian leader, Gandhi, that the passive resistance movement by the Indians against their grievances would be dropped during the present trouble.

The union government remains firm in its attitude. The premier, General Louis Botha is said to have declared that he would "guarantee that with the end of the present crisis there would not be another workers' strike in South Africa for a generation."

## The Weather

For Omaha, Council Bluffs and Vicinity Fair; Thursday, no important change in temperature.

Table with columns: Hours, Deg., and Precipitation. Shows temperature and precipitation data for various hours of the day.

## Comparative Local Record.

Table with columns: Year, High, Low, and Precipitation. Compares local weather records for various years, including 1914, 1913, 1912, 1911, 1910, 1909, 1908, 1907, 1906, 1905, 1904, 1903, 1902, 1901, 1900, 1899, 1898, 1897, 1896, 1895, 1894, 1893, 1892, 1891, 1890, 1889, 1888, 1887, 1886, 1885, 1884, 1883, 1882, 1881, 1880.

## Fight for Mayor's Office in Nebraska City Takes New Turn

NEBRASKA CITY, Jan. 14.—(Special.)—Paul Topping, who was elected city commissioner to succeed Mayor J. D. Houston, who was recalled and who was allowed a warrant as commissioner, refuses to accept the position and may bring action against the city. He claims he was elected mayor and as such he is entitled to the full salary of mayor. When Mayor Houston was deposed Dr. M. L. Koser, who was secretary of the Board of Health, was also deposed and Dr. William Edmonds appointed in his stead. The city commissioners allowed Dr. Koser his salary up to the time he was deposed, but he refused to accept the warrant for the same, claiming he was not properly discharged and his term runs for the full two years for which he was appointed. This may mean another suit for the city.

The body of Herbert T. Sherwood, who died from injuries received while operating a piece of machinery at his home at Tyrone, Mo., was brought to this city for interment. He was 45 years of age, and for many years was a resident of this city, and one of his sons and a daughter still reside here. One daughter is dangerously ill at the family home in Missouri and is not expected to live. He leaves a widow, two sons and two daughters.

Fred Gunn, a young farmer residing south of the city, severely hurt his right foot yesterday while chopping wood. The young man had moved on the farm but a short time from this city, where he was conducting a livery barn.

Ceser Fowlkes, a farmer residing south of the city, aged about 40 years, was arrested last evening for statutory assault. His step-daughter, aged 14, May Weathrhog, Sunday gave birth to a child, and stated her step-father was the father of the same. The county attorney filed a complaint and the man was arrested and brought to this city. He was released on a \$1,500 bond and will have his preliminary hearing on February 12. The girl has been living with her mother and step-father on a farm south of here.

## Witness in Fuel Case Tells of an Attempt to Close His Mouth

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 14.—Edwin Powers, former assistant superintendent for the Western Fuel company, gave testimony in the trial of eight officers, directors and employees of the company for alleged coal-weighting frauds against the government that an attempt had been made to close his mouth after the accused men were indicted.

While he was a witness before the federal grand jury, Powers testified, David C. Norcross, secretary of the Western Fuel company, took him to the office of one of the attorneys of the company and on the way suggested that the company was ready to take him handsomely.

"I'll like to tell you what J. B. Smith said to me," he said, "but I can't say it now. I'll tell you later." Powers told Norcross as having said to him in the elevator. J. B. Smith is manager of the company, and one of the defendants in the present fraud cases.

When he got to the attorney's office Powers testified he found an array of lawyers seated in a circle, with a chair for him in the center. Norcross rose, said, "Eddie and I were afraid federal secret service men were following us."

Powers was not asked what the lawyers said to him.

Norcross had been very friendly with him ever since the present trial began, Powers said. On one occasion, he said, Norcross told him: "After the trial is over we'll take care of you."

"I believe that the government's contention that it was cheated on coal bought from the Western Fuel company for the army transport service, Powers testified that when he had charge of loading coal at the telephone docks, Superintendent Mills, one of the defendants, instructed him to unload the coal tubs that are not weighed.

## Grand Jury is Not Ready to Report on Moyer Deportation

HOUGHTON, Mich., Jan. 14.—Mass meetings of miners addressed by William Davidson, the British Columbia member of the executive board of the Western Federation of Miners, formed the only outward and visible signs of strike activity in the copper country today. Mr. Davidson arrived shortly before noon and at once made arrangements to appear before the Hancock local a few hours later. Another meeting was announced for South Range.

So far as could be learned there were only a few additional desertions from the union in the north end of the strike zone.

About thirty-five of the militiamen who were released from service in Keweenaw county on January 12 are expected to return later in the week to enlist with the companies as special police.

Several arrests were made as a sequel to the skirmish of last night between deputies and strikers at Alimeek village. One deputy claimed that he had been made the target of stones and bricks.

The special grand jury repeated its tactics of yesterday by deliberating in the forenoon, but several witnesses were under subpoena to appear later. A positive statement was made that the investigators would not report the results of their inquiry before tomorrow and perhaps not for several days.

## ALL HANDS TAKEN OFF STRANDED SHIP

Wireless Message Says Rescue Steamers Have Removed Them from Cobequid.

BEING CONVEYED TO YARMOUTH Two Steamers with Saved Already Arrived at that Point.

WIND AND SEA MODERATING Furr of Call from Boat Heard Earlier in the Day.

TEMPESTUOUS NIGHT SURVIVED Canadian Liner Royal George Catches Cry of Distress and Hears Lady Laurier Reply.

BULLETIN. ST. JOHN, N. B., Jan. 14.—A wireless message from the steamer Rappahannock says all hands have been taken from the Cobequid safely by rescue steamers and are being conveyed to Yarmouth.

BULLETIN. YARMOUTH, N. B., Jan. 14.—Two steamers with survivors from the Cobequid have arrived here.

HALIFAX, Jan. 14.—Sixty persons have been taken off the Cobequid. One of the rescue steamers succeeded in launching boats and getting them alongside the stranded vessel. This steamer with sixty of the passengers and crew on board has started for Yarmouth.

A telephone message from Chebogue, the nearest point to the wreck of the steamer Cobequid, says that there is good hope of saving all on board the wrecked vessel. The wind and sea are moderating and the rescue work is being expedited with all possible speed. Other rescue steamers sent boats alongside the Cobequid as soon as the first steamer got away with the sixty survivors. A second steamer is on the way to Yarmouth, bearing survivors of the Cobequid, according to a message received here by Pickford & Black, local agents of the line.

## Statement by Judge Reese

Chief Justice Tells Why He Voted in Capital National Case.

ON MERE MATTER PROCEDURE Court Stood Tie and His Vote Was to Open Up Case for Rehearing.—Consulted with Judge Deemer.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

LINCOLN, Jan. 14.—(Special.)—That he was justified in casting the deciding vote on the application for a rehearing in the old Capital National bank controversy is set out in a statement made by Chief Justice Reese this afternoon.

The case came up on an application for rehearing and with all seven judges sitting. The vote stood as follows: Judges Letton, Fawcett and Sedgwick favored the rehearing, and Judges Barnes, Hamer and Rose were against it. Chief Justice Reese then cast the deciding vote in favor of the rehearing.

The criticism of the chief justice is that he had at one time appeared as counsel for one of the parties in the suit and had at different times refused to sit in the case. When the matter had seemed to be settled the case was revived and an application made for a rehearing.

In an affidavit filed with the court, Attorney F. E. Bishop, appearing for two of the directors of the bank, says he is convinced that with the chief justice sitting in the case the appellants cannot have a fair and impartial trial.

Explanation of Judge. Following is the statement of the chief justice:

"In view of the controversy with reference to my action in voting to allow a rehearing in this case, I deem it but just to all concerned that I make this statement to go upon record.

"First, when the case was called I did say that I had been consulted by one of the plaintiffs and felt that I ought not to take any part in the decision of the case, and, on each occasion when the case came up for consideration in any form, if in court I withdrew, if in the consultation room I kept silent. I was acting in entire good faith and believed that I should take no part in the decision.

"When the matter of allowing an argument on the motion for rehearing came up, I found the judges divided, and, as allowing the argument would have no necessary bearing upon the merits of the case, I felt free to vote as to allow a full investigation of the case, and voted to allow the argument. In this I believed then and still believe that I discharged a plain duty. I took no further action in the case."

## The National Capital

Wednesday, January 14, 1914.

The Senate. Democrats of the interstate commerce committee went to the White House to discuss the trust question with President Wilson.

Met at noon. Representative Mondell introduced a bill for leasing of coal lands in Alaska, the general subject of Alaskan legislation was debated.

Subcommittee of the judiciary committee debated what should be done in the case of Representative McDermott, who figured in the disclosures of the lobby investigation.

## Water Versus Golf



Draws for The Bee by Powell.

## Mexican Bonds Take Slump on Bourses of Berlin and Paris

BERLIN, Jan. 14.—The suspension of interest payments on the national debt by the Mexican government caused a heavy drop in Mexican bonds on the Bourse here today. Four per cent led with a decline of 5/8 points.

Several bankers called to the Mexican government asking for an explanation, but received no reply. The newspapers express the opinion that the situation calls for intervention by the European powers.

Nearly all the Mexican bonds are listed in Germany, where the holdings are very large, especially in the south, but there has been much unloading since the beginning of the revolution.

Mexico tried to place a new loan in Germany in June, but the Prussian minister of finance prohibited it from being listed on the Bourse and the banks concerned dropped the negotiations.

PARIS, Jan. 14.—Mexican National bank shares, which closed yesterday at 433 francs, fell on the Bourse today to 410 francs on news of the suspension of interest payments by the Mexican government. The shares then recovered, closing at 433 francs. There were no transactions in Mexican 4 per cent.

The suspension by Provisional President Huerta of the interest payments on the bonds of the internal and foreign debts of Mexico," says Le Temps today, "was the result of Washington's policy of refusing to recognize Huerta. This resulted in ruining Mexico's credit in Europe and forced the default."

The newspaper expresses the hope that the United States and European governments can arrange a common policy for the establishment of peace in Mexico.

## Henry Clews Names Omaha

Old Financial House Declares This City Regional Center.

CHIEF CLAIM TO SELECTION IDENTICAL TO THAT WHICH MAKES CHICAGO A LOGICAL POINT—LIMITS NUMBER TO EIGHT.

The banking house of Henry Clews & Co. says Omaha is one of eight cities that ought to be selected as a location of a regional reserve bank.

The other seven named by this old and leading financial authority are New York, Boston, Baltimore, New Orleans, Chicago, St. Louis and San Francisco.

This firm thinks the minimum number of banks provided under the new currency law—eight—should be decided on, saying: "The greater the number of regional banks the weaker some of them must be and the greater the opportunity for friction and local jealousies. Concentration will strengthen the national banks for meeting emergencies and facilitate prompt action."

In stating the reasons that make Omaha a logical location for one of these banks Henry Clews refers to his reasons why Chicago ought to have one:

"Chicago should certainly possess large banking facilities for the reason that the handling of the crops, to a very large extent, falls upon that point."

Then as to Omaha, together with St. Louis:

"St. Louis and Omaha are worth naming as regional centers for similar reasons as Chicago."

## Syndicate Will Import Meats in Large Quantities

NEW YORK, Jan. 14.—Arrangements for the importation into this country of thousands of tons of beef and other meat products from the Argentine Republic, Australia and New Zealand have been just completed by a syndicate of American capitalists whose identity has not been disclosed.

It became known yesterday that the syndicate has leased or temporarily acquired for the purpose of recovery suits against the railroads in order to give the railroads a chance to win.

Judge McPherson in his reply said: "Common fairness of both you and the railroad attorneys should call for acquiescence of both sides that I be given all next week to file my own opinion and enter my decree. There will be no delays. In the meantime both sides should allow all matters to remain as they were last Saturday, and such was my thought when I issued the restraining order last Saturday, and if I can make such intention more effective, send me an order for consideration."

## Judge McPherson Replies to Attorney General Barker

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Jan. 14.—Attorney General Barker today received from Judge Smith McPherson of the federal district court a reply to the telegram which Mr. Barker sent the judge yesterday asking if the latter issued a temporary injunction against the prosecution of recovery suits against the railroads in order to give the railroads a chance to win.

Judge McPherson in his reply said: "Common fairness of both you and the railroad attorneys should call for acquiescence of both sides that I be given all next week to file my own opinion and enter my decree. There will be no delays. In the meantime both sides should allow all matters to remain as they were last Saturday, and such was my thought when I issued the restraining order last Saturday, and if I can make such intention more effective, send me an order for consideration."

## Kills Woman Business Partner and Himself

LONG BEACH, Cal., Jan. 14.—Belief that his infatuation for Mrs. Viola A. Kerr, his business partner, had become known to his wife, his parents, his intimate friends and business associates, coupled with the fact that Mrs. Kerr had refused to desert her husband and two children to elope with him, was given by the police today as the reason why Arthur P. Cunningham, a realty man of this city, shot and killed Mrs. Kerr last night and then took his own life. The bodies were found in a lonely portion of the city. Both had been shot through the head and in the man's hand was the revolver.

## Mme. Nordica is Reported Improving

NEW YORK, Jan. 14.—George W. Young, husband of Mme. Lillian Nordica, the American singer who is ill of pneumonia in Thursday Island, Australia, received a cable dispatch late last night confirming press reports that his wife's condition showed some improvement.

Mr. Young said he thought yesterday of starting to join his wife but found that if he made all connections from here it would take him seven weeks to reach Thursday Island.

## Layer of Lava and Ashes Covers Dead in Islands of Japan

Number of Victims of Sakura Buried Many Feet Will Probably Never Be Known.

KAGOSHIMA LIES IN RUINS Heavy Rainfall Clearing Atmosphere and Aids Rescue Work.

WORST BELIEVED TO BE OVER Problem of Feeding and Housing Sufferers Big One.

FAMINE IS STILL THREATENING Continues to Give Government Much Alarm and Relief Measures on Tremendous Scale Necessary.

TOKIO, Jan. 14.—Official reports tonight of the disaster in Southern Japan brought out the following general features: The small islands of Sakura is covered with a layer of lava and ashes in places several feet deep. Beneath this lie many dead, the number of which will probably never be known.

Any estimate of the dead must include a large number of refugees who were drowned while trying to swim from Sakura to the city of Kagoshima.

Kagoshima, last week a prosperous town of 60,000, is in ruins. Even stone buildings collapsed under the weight of the hot ashes.

Simultaneously with the eruption of the volcano of Sakura-Jima there occurred an eruption of Yariyagata, which threw a cloud of ashes over Matsumoto, but did no serious damage.

The eruption of Sakura-Jima is gradually subsiding, a heavy rainfall is clearing the atmosphere and thereby assisting the work of relief.

The entire island of Kishuu, an area of 3,000 square miles, is covered with volcanic ash in varying depths.

Worst is Over. Prominent scientists declared authoritatively tonight that the worst is over and added the calming assurance that the breaking out of the volcano had served as a vent for an acute subterranean activity and had probably saved the country from even more disastrous earthquakes.

At Kumamoto, north of Kagoshima, over 1,000 refugees have arrived and the authorities are faced with the difficulty of housing and feeding the sufferers from the disaster, the whole tragedy of which has not yet been told.

The city of Tokio and surrounding territory, although 600 miles from the volcanic disturbances, has been swept for the last twenty-four hours by miniature cyclones, filling the city with clouds of dust and sand and creating the belief that the capital was feeling some of the effects of the distant eruptions. A feeling of relief prevailed tonight when the wind died down.

Dispatches showed that animals and birds to the south of Matsushima were suffering from abnormal uneasiness for several days prior to the disturbance at Kagoshima.

The famine in the northern part of Japan continues to give the government much alarm and relief measures on a tremendous scale will be necessary.

Three Hundred Rescued. NAGASAKI, Japan, Jan. 14.—A vivid description of the awe-inspiring scene on the island of Sakura during the eruption and tidal wave of Monday was given today by the captain of a Japanese steamer which arrived here from Kagoshima. The captain rescued 300 persons.

"It was perilous to approach the land," he said, "as columns of water burst up continually from the gulf, while on the land pillars of fire rose into the air from the acres of blazing sugar cane. At the same time people and cattle ran pell-mell toward the beach in a wild effort to escape."

"The steamers in the gulf lowered row-boats to pick up the hundreds of people who were drifting helplessly on rafts or swimming while holding planks and pieces of timber. All were uttering piteous cries."

"Hundreds stood along the shore, unable to find any means of escape. Some of them waved towels and clothing attached to bamboo poles in order to attract attention. Many of the people were..."

(Continued on Page Two.)

What About Your Bed Covers? "And plenty of covers warm and light. Make a cosy bed for sleeping tight." So runs the end of an old jingle and there is more sense in it than appears at first. Few people realize that heavy bed clothes do not necessarily mean warm ones, and that light bed clothes, if they are of the proper kind, make you sleep not only more warmly, but more comfortably. There are many fluffy, warm blankets and comforters to be had and every housekeeper should have a good supply. If your supply is insufficient, look at the advertisements in The Bee and see where you can buy more. There is nothing like being forehanded because you can't count on the weather. Go to the reliable merchants who advertise in this newspaper and make your selections intelligently and assure warm sleeping for yourself and everyone in your home.