

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TRIBUNE

IRA L. BARE, Proprietor.
TERMS: \$1.25 IN ADVANCE.
NORTH PLATTE, - NEBRASKA.

THE NEWS IN BRIEF.

It is reported that a new telephone company composed of American capitalists will shortly be granted a charter for operation in Mexico City.

Careful investigation of the reports of the burning of sixty negroes in a turpentine camp fire in Baldwin county, Alabama, shows that there is absolutely no foundation for the report.

The New York Herald says that a letter just received in New York from Sir Edwin Arnold shows that he has been obliged to relinquish much of his active literary work owing to blindness.

The number of suicides in Paris is very large at present and the chief cause is thought to be the general retrenchment following the exposition, which has thrown many people out of work.

Mrs. J. Friend, wife of the oldest clothing merchant in the city, died Sunday morning aged 53. She leaves a husband and five children. The remains will be sent to Des Moines for interment.

Intimate friends of Andrew Carnegie say that it is the intention of the steel master to give at least \$25,000,000 for the erection of buildings and for the endowment of the proposed technical school of Pittsburgh.

A bill before the legislature of Nebraska declares sunflowers and cockleburrs a public menace and makes it the duty of every owner of land to destroy them between August 15 and September 1 of each year.

The Easton, Pa., board of school controllers refuse to increase the tax rate one-half of a mill for the maintenance of a public library, thereby practically refusing the offer of Andrew Carnegie to give the town \$50,000.

Miss Edna Horrick, a handsome young society girl of Canton, Miss., committed suicide at a hotel in Jackson by swallowing the contents of two bottles of laudanum. No motive has yet been assigned for the act.

Mary E. Ford, aged 74, living with her son, Noah, a well known farmer, nine miles north of Logansport, Ind., was burned to death, her clothing taking fire from a lighted lamp which she had just prepared for the night.

A car load of California oranges were sold at New York for the benefit of the Children's Home Society of California. The highest price bid for a single box was \$10. Some of the boxes were resold time and time again.

A. C. Rose, Emma Abbott's first friend and benefactor in New York, and for many years at the head of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad's eastern freight department, died in Yonkers, N. Y., of acute pneumonia, aged 74.

Complete census returns give the population of India as 294,000,000, an increase in the last decade of 7,000,000. Deducing the population of the Baluchistan, Shaastaks, Ghin Hills and Sikkim territory for the first time, a net increase is shown of only 1.4 per cent.

The San Francisco Examiner says outside canneries have declared their independence of the California Fruit Canners' association, and there promises to be a lively trade war during the season which opens in May. This will mean better prices for the fruit growers and possibly lower figures to the consumer.

R. W. Funk, president of the Jacksonville, Ill., Creamery Company, committed suicide.

Miss Jessie Morrison's bond of \$5,000 was approved at Eldorado, Kan., and Miss Morrison was given her freedom again.

The dry goods firm of Gazingan, Parmelee & Whitley, at Cleveland, O., was placed in the hands of a receiver.

The new Bulgarian ministry of the interior has reiterated its order that the Macedonian rifle clubs shall be disarmed and prohibited from drilling.

The Nebraska senate has passed a bill equalizing the practice of osteopathy.

In a message to the legislature Governor Odell recommends a continuation of the work begun several years ago of deepening the New York state canals to nine feet and lengthening the locks. The cost of carrying on this work to 50 per cent completion is estimated at \$25,000,000.

The 1,000 men recently recruited in Ontario province for police service in South Africa will sail from Halifax on the 26th.

The dowager empress of Russia passed through Berlin on a special train for Copenhagen.

The mower and reaper factory of Sieberling & Miller at Doyleston, O., was burned, loss \$50,000, and throwing 100 men out of work.

The wholesale drug house of Leeming, Miles Co., burned at Montreal.

MEMORANDA IS PUBLIC

Government Gives Out Text of Letter to Various Representatives.

ADVOCATES INTEGRITY OF CHINA

State Department Contends That Nothing Has Occurred to Change Status of United States Toward Open Door—The Situation in General.

WASHINGTON, March 27.—The crisis in the Chinese question brought about through the expiration of the period allowed for the signature by China of the Manchurian agreement was the principal topic today. The conviction that the United States had done all that it could to prevent the consummation of this arrangement, and to make clear to the public the complete disapproval which is entertained by the United States government for this sort of secret treaty making, it was deemed proper to give out for publication the following memorandum:

"Chinese correspondence, March 1, 1901.—Telegraphic instructions sent to the representatives of the United States in Berlin, Vienna, Paris, London, Rome, Tokio and St. Petersburg: 'Department of State, Washington, D. C., March 1, 1901.—The following memorandum, which was handed to the Chinese minister on February 19, is transmitted to you for your information and communication to the government to which you are accredited:

"The preservation of the territorial integrity of China having been recognized by all the powers now engaged in joint negotiation concerning the injuries recently inflicted upon their ministers and nationals by certain officials and subjects of the Chinese empire, it is evidently advantageous to China to continue the present international understanding upon this subject. It would be, therefore, unwise and dangerous in the extreme for China to make any arrangement or to consider any proposition of a private nature involving the surrender of territory or financial obligations by convention with any particular power, and the government of the United States, aiming solely at the preservation of China from the danger indicated and the conservation of the largest and most beneficial relations between the empire and other countries, in accordance with the principles set forth in its circular note of July 3, 1900, and in a purely friendly spirit toward the Chinese empire and all the powers now interested in the negotiations, desires to express its sense of the impropriety, inexpediency, and even extreme danger to the interests of China of considering any private territorial or financial arrangements, at least without the full knowledge and approval of all the powers now engaged in negotiation. HAY."

Assuming that the arrangement is to be carried out, it is still the contention of the State department that nothing has occurred to change the status of the United States toward the open door as applied to any part of China, including Manchuria. As far as written pledges can commit a power, Russia stands pledged to accord to the United States the open door if she takes control of Manchuria, either directly by annexation or indirectly, but quite as effectually, by the means as shown in this Russo-Chinese agreement. That is the view of the State department, and that view is endorsed by the entire cabinet.

GOULD FATHERS BIG SCHEME.

Newest Railroad Merger Rivals Its Predecessors in Magnitude.

NEW YORK, March 27.—George Gould's plan to become the head of a combination of railroads capitalized at \$300,000,000 is progressing favorably, says the World. His plan, the World adds, meets with the approval and the co-operation of J. Pierpont Morgan, the Rockefellers and the Harriman syndicate.

Continuing, the World says: The unification of the Gould system of railroads, under the control of the Missouri Pacific, will include the Missouri Pacific, St. Louis & Iron Mountain, St. Louis Southwestern, Texas & Pacific, International & Great Northern, and the Denver & Rio Grand. George Gould has just bought a controlling interest in this latter railroad, and it is as an important factor in the construction of the greater Missouri Pacific system of which he will be the head.

Oregon Short Line Signs.

NEW YORK, March 27.—Confirmation was had today of the report that papers had been signed between the Oregon Short Line company, which is a part of the Union Pacific company, and the White Knob Copper company, limited, consummating a contract for the construction of about 100 miles of railroad. This road will run from a point near Blackfoot on the Short Line to Houston, located in the central part of Idaho.

AT LEAST EIGHTEEN DEAD.

Complete Casualty List of Southern Tornado Not Obtainable.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., March 27.—Much more horrible than the first reports of the tornado yesterday are the realities which have thus far come out this morning. It is still impossible to compile the full list of the dead and wounded, but it is now certain that eighteen persons were killed and that thirty to forty were more or less injured. The path of the storm was wide. It covered practically every hamlet in Jefferson county.

Every effort is being made today in the storm-stricken section of Birmingham to give all possible relief to those who lost their all by the fury of the winds. Troops guarded the devastated district last night and firemen and policemen searched the ruins, but no more dead bodies were found, and up to 10 o'clock today, no additional deaths had occurred. Mayor Drennen, who is directing the relief work, estimates that \$10,000 will relieve the immediate wants of the sufferers. The larger part of this has already been raised among citizens and a citizens' meeting will be held at noon to raise the remainder and to more perfectly organize the distribution of the relief funds.

CZAR IS GREATLY EXCITED.

Ruler of Russia Said to Be on the Verge of a Nervous Collapse.

LONDON, March 27.—A dispatch from St. Petersburg to Reuter's Telegram says that in consonance with what is believed to be the czar's expressed wish, the minister of the interior has published instructions for the authorities of the towns and provinces, recommending preventive measures against disturbances, as being effective than severe repression after disturbances have broken out.

The Birmingham Post, which is closely in touch with Joseph Chamberlain, says news received in high quarters in London indicates that the czar is in a very nervous state, owing to the condition of the political horizon. It is said that he fears the result of the policy of his ministers in the far east, while the student troubles and threats against his life, of which there are more than have been published, have completely unnerved his majesty. His medical advisers have strongly counseled a yachting cruise, but the czar has refused to follow their advice. Those behind the scenes in Russia take a very grave view of the present agitation and think it is the beginning of more serious trouble.

HUNDREDS OF HOMESTEADERS.

They Leave Chicago in a Party for North Dakota.

CHICAGO, March 27.—Possessed of homestead rights, household effects and requirements of land development, between 1,700 and 1,800 persons left Chicago today for the agricultural regions of North Dakota. Six special trains were required to carry the party and belongings.

The prospective settlers gathered in Chicago from Ohio, Indiana, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Maryland, Illinois and other states, and among them were between 300 and 400 members of the German Baptist church, commonly known as Dunkards. All but a few of the landhunters will settle in the Devil's lake, Mouse river and Turtle mountain regions.

Iowa Must Head Him Over.

SPRINGFIELD, March 27.—Governor Yates issued a requisition on Governor Shaw of Iowa for the extradition of Charles K. Kurzenzeder, who is wanted at Chester, Randolph county, Ill., on a charge of embezzlement. Kurzenzeder, it is alleged, while employed in the southern Illinois penitentiary embezzled a large sum of money from that institution. He escaped July 21, and is now under arrest in Iowa.

Missouri Rules for War.

ST. JOSEPH, March 27.—The British government has contracted for 500 cavalry horses here for service in South Africa. No price limit is placed for these animals. Agents for the British government are also making large purchases of mules.

Year Twenty-Eight Deaths.

MELBOURNE, March 27.—Wreckage which has gone ashore on Gabo Island, near Cape Howe, the most southeastern part of Australia, causes a fear that the Coastal steamer Federal from Melbourne has foundered with a loss of twenty-eight lives.

May Not Sign the Treaty.

Melbourne ALCagvbj AJR,KW shrdlu cv LONDON, March 27.—In an interview published this morning with a representative of a news agency Baron Hayashi, the Japanese minister in London, is quoted as saying he did not believe China would assent to the Russo-Manchurian agreement, the time for the signing of which expires today, although he thought there was little doubt but that China would ultimately accept it.

KEPT ON DOUBLE-QUICK

Volunteers Are Keeping Filipino Insurgents Constantly Jumping.

GUERRILLA BANDS ARE WEAKENING

General Catlin Writes That Rebels Now Understand Hopelessness of Their Fight and Will Give In—All Will Soon Be Quiet.

WASHINGTON, March 26.—Adjutant General Corbin has received a letter of unusual interest from General I. S. Catlin, a retired army officer, at Manila, which gives a comprehensive account of conditions at the Philippine capital.

"While as a matter of course," says General Catlin, "the collisions between our forces and the retreating and disappearing bands of guerrilla insurgents continue to be quite frequent, it is true that they were never so relentlessly and ceaselessly pursued as during the last two months. Every volunteer regiment has seemed desirous of placing to its credit additional honor and fame before returning to the states and it has lost no opportunity to give a glorious account of itself whenever possible, and hence the enemy has literally had no rest. And now, with the positive knowledge that the American people have at last provided an army sufficiently large to confront any exigency at home or abroad, and that it means unconditional surrender or death to every armed foe in the Philippine islands, I do not think it possible that even any organized guerrilla warfare will be carried on after the expiration of another twelve months. At any rate, it will be so insignificant that the work of establishing a stable government and introducing American schools and American courts of justice and giving self-government to the extent that may be found practicable will not be seriously impeded.

"The organization and growth of the federal party will be a potent factor in the effort to establish local and general government for the islands. A native comes down from Marinduque and reports that the people of the whole island are favorably considering the propositions of the federal party, and in a day or two after he is followed by Colonel Corliss of the Second Infantry, who corroborates him substantially in every respect. And so it goes from island to island and from province to province. The most remarkable feature of this federal government is the judgment and discretion of the average native in being willing to eliminate the question of religion."

General Catlin in closing his communication says that he has talked with at least 100 army officers on duty in the islands and in scarcely an instance has he heard any sentiment of dissatisfaction expressed with the service or the treatment of the army in the Philippines.

In reference to a reported visit to the islands of Secretary Root, the general says: "A visit from the distinguished secretary would be of great service and benefit to the solution of the problem here."

BOERS SUFFER HEAVY LOSS.

Babington's Force Attacks Delarey, Capturing 140 Prisoners.

LONDON, March 26.—The war office has received the following dispatch from Lord Kitchener:

"PRETORIA, March 26.—Babington's force, including Shekleton's column, attacked Delarey, 1,500 strong, northwest of Ventersdorp, and having defeated him followed him up rapidly with the result that the Boers rearguard was driven in and its convey captured, including the guns captured at Vaal's bank.

"Our troops displayed great gallantry and dash. They captured two 15-pounder guns, one pompon, six maxims, 320 pounds of big ammunition, 15,000 rounds of small ammunition, 160 rifles, fiftythree wagons and twenty-four carts, besides taking 140 prisoners.

"Our losses were slight. Many Boers were killed or wounded.

Makes Even Home Tremble.

ROME, Ga., March 26.—A rain and hailstorm here this morning blew in the fronts of several business houses and ruined their stocks. No fatalities have been reported.

Indian Litigation Is On.

OMAHA, Neb., March 26.—Judge Shiras of Iowa has notified the parties interested that he will arrive in Omaha Friday to hear the injunctions argued in the cases of the Omaha Indians against the United States government and the Indian agent to restrain him from ejecting them from the land claimed to be owned by them under the act allotting the lands of the Omaha tribe of Indians in severalty. The cases have been advanced one day.

ROYAL PAIR REACHES MALTA.

Fleet and Soldiers and Populace Turn Out to Greet Them.

MALTA, March 26.—The steamer Ophir, bearing the duke and duchess of Cornwall and York on their tour of the world, arrived here this morning. The war ships in the harbor were manned and dressed. The sun shone brightly and the crowds were early astir, pouring into Valetta and filling the terraces and ramparts commanding a view of the harbor. The approach of the Ophir was heralded when it was still eighteen miles distant by salutes from a flotilla of ten torpedo boat destroyers, which went out to meet it. It entered the harbor amid salvos of artillery from St. Angelo, the citadel, forts and war ships.

After receiving the officials the duke and duchess landed and drove to Porto Reale and thence to the palace. The balconies of all the houses along the route were profusely decorated with flags and bunting and filled with cheering spectators. The entire distance from the landing place to the palace was brightly decorated with venetian masts and arches. The streets through which the duke and duchess and their party passed were lined with troops and bluejackets.

RUSSIA MODIFIES TREATY.

Concession Demands that Chinese Sign It at Once.

LONDON, March 26.—A dispatch from Pekin avers that the Russian government has consented to a number of modifications in the Manchurian convention, the principal ones being that Kiu Chow and Port Arthur shall not be annexed, but shall be leased from the Chinese government, as heretofore; Russia will not insist upon there being a Russian resident at Moukden; the Chinese army will be permitted to maintain order in Manchuria prior to the completion of the Manchurian railway, which, while in course of construction, will not necessarily require the protection of Russian troops; Russia will forego its demands that mining and railway concessions in Mongolia, Turkestan and Kashgaria shall be granted to none but Russian subjects. Russia stipulates, however, that none but Chinese and Russians shall be allowed to undertake such enterprises.

In consequence of these concessions the Russian government asks for an early signature of the convention.

COULD USE MORE CADETSHIPS.

President Knows Many Young Americans Who Deserve a Place.

WASHINGTON, March 26.—Senator Hawley and General E. V. Sumner, U. S. A., retired, were with the president a short time yesterday. Senator Hawley asked the president to appoint General Sumner's son a cadet at West Point.

"There have been Sumners in the service since 1777," said Senator Hawley, "and we cannot have too many of them."

The president will appoint him when there is a vacancy. The trouble is there are too few cadetships-at-large. There are many meritorious cases that the president ought to be able to reward. For instance, there was young Tutus, the soldier lad who first scaled the walls at Pekin. The president is going to send him to West Point as a reward for his bravery. Other cases should be similarly rewarded.

BANK NOTES TO BEWARE OF.

Are for Five Dollars and on the Bank of Morristown, N. J.

WASHINGTON, March 26.—Chief Wilkie of the secret service has announced the appearance of a new counterfeit \$5 national bank note on the National Iron bank of Morristown, N. J. It is a deceptive counterfeit, printed on two pieces of paper between which silk fiber has been distributed. The face of the note, apparently printed from engraved plate, is defective in detail. The word "cashier" abbreviated in the genuine to "cash'r" appears in the counterfeit as "cash."

Mitchell to See Morgan.

NEW YORK, March 26.—President Mitchell of the United Mine Workers' union is in this city with the intention of seeing J. P. Morgan and the heads of the important coal companies to consult about the situation in the coal fields, for the purpose, if possible, of averting a strike. Mr. Mitchell has so far been unable to see Mr. Morgan, as the latter only arrived from Washington late last night.

Kruger May Yet Come Here.

LONDON, March 26.—The Geneva correspondent of the Daily Mail says it is reported there that Mr. Kruger, if his health permits, will visit the United States next month.

Another Severe Fight.

CAPE TOWN, March 26.—Severe fighting occurred Friday, March 22, between the British and Boers at Hartbeestfontein, east of Kiersdrop, Transvaal.

FEAR OF THE EMPEROR

Nicholas Convenes Ministers to Consider Troubled State of Affairs.

WILL REVISE UNIVERSITY STATUTE

Decide to Remove Some Pressure From Recalcitrant Students—More Demonstrations Are Expected—Outburst at St. Petersburg.

ST. PETERSBURG, March 25.—The political situation is so serious that Emperor Nicholas held a meeting of the ministers yesterday to consider the state of public affairs. Threatening letters have been received by Lieutenant General Kouropatkin, minister of war; M. N. V. Muraviev, minister of justice, and M. Zipyagin, minister of the interior.

The czar presided at the council, which was convened at the Tsarskoe-Sele palace. It was decided not to abolish the law for drafting recalcitrant students into the army, but for the present to refrain from applying the law. It was also resolved to revise the university statute. The decision of the council of ministers is regarded as a step in the right direction, because it is an attempt at a partial remedy of the grievances of the students.

Renewed demonstrations on a great scale are expected tomorrow. It is reported that Prince Viazemsky has been disgraced for petitioning the czar to consider the grievances of the students. Lagowsky, the provincial official, who last Friday attempted to assassinate Privy Councillor Pobedonostzeff, procurator general of the Holy Synod, is a disciple of Count Leo Tolstol, and he has asserted that the act was one of revenge for the excommunication of Tolstol.

According to a special dispatch to the Russia, the governor general of Kieff, General Gragomieroff, has published a riot ordinance similar to that published by General Kleigels in St. Petersburg and declaring that the military will be called out unless the ordinance is strictly obeyed.

The day passed quietly in St. Petersburg. Some 40,000 persons promenaded about noon along the Nevskoi prospect, particularly in front of the cathedral of our Lady of Kazan. The crowd dwindled to normal proportions when it became apparent that nothing would happen. The promenaders were for the greater part curiosity seekers.

NORTHERN PACIFIC WANTS IT.

Is Negotiating for the Southern Pacific Line From Portland.

MINNEAPOLIS, March 25.—A special to the Times from Tacoma, Wash., says:

It is currently reported here and is generally believed in railroad circles, that the Northern Pacific is negotiating for the purchase of the Southern Pacific line from Portland to San Francisco. It is said the purchase of that portion of the line within the state of Oregon is assured. It is known that a representative of the Northern Pacific has been over the entire line within a few days on a tour of inspection and much depends on the report he will make to the board of directors. Negotiations have been hanging fire for more than a year and the matter has been kept very quiet.

Buy Home for Schley Soon.

WASHINGTON, March 25.—At a meeting of the committee appointed at a mass meeting of the citizens of Washington for the purpose of presenting Admiral Schley with a modest home, held in this city tonight, it was reported that about \$6,000 had been contributed to the fund. It is expected that by April 15 \$15,000 will have been raised, and this will be used to purchase a home in the suburbs of Washington.

Kidnapers and Dynamiters.

NASHVILLE, March 25.—"Kidnapers and dynamiters" is the signature to a letter received by Joseph Schneider of this city Friday. The contents informed Mr. Schneider that unless he placed \$300 at a certain spot in Cumberland park by Saturday afternoon one of his children would be kidnaped or his house blown up by dynamite. No harm has yet come to the Schneider home.

Discrimination on Flour.

WASHINGTON, March 25.—The dispatch of Minister Hart at Bogota, saying that Colombia had imposed discriminating duties upon flour and other articles, is not clear to the State department, nor to the Colombian minister here, as it is not known whether the discrimination is favorable or unfavorable to the United States. The Colombian minister, Dr. Silva, thinks there has been a reduction.