

# NO SUGAR BOUNTIES.

## THE LAW IS DECLARED UNCONSTITUTIONAL.

The Comptroller of the Treasury renders an opinion on the celebrated Oxnard sugar bounty claims—claimants can go into court and test the validity of their demands—An important decision.

### Declared Unconstitutional.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 7.—R. B. Bowler, the comptroller of the treasury, yesterday rendered an opinion on the now celebrated Oxnard sugar bounty claims, in which he holds in effect, first, that he, as comptroller has jurisdiction of the case, and second, that, in his opinion, the act of March 2, 1895, making the sugar bounty appropriation is unconstitutional. He, however, decides that the papers in the case be sent to the court of claims for the rendition of a judgment, in order that there may be furnished "a precedent for the future action of the executive department in the adjustment in the class of cases involved in these sugar bounties."

The particular claim decided is substantially on the same footing as all other sugar bounty claims for the satisfaction of which congress, at its last session, appropriated \$5,238,289. The comptroller answers at great length the arguments presented by counsel at the hearing, in which his jurisdiction was attacked, and in the course of his reply, he says statutes which do not conform to the constitution are not law, and therefore, when a statute is in apparent conflict with the constitution it becomes the duty of the executive officer to determine for himself as between the statute and the constitution whether the statute is the law.

As to the constitutionality of the act, the comptroller says in part that the principle has so long been decided that taxation must be for a public purpose, that an attempt to take money from the people by the forms of taxation for a purpose other than a public one, is not an exercise of legislative power, and, therefore, that an attempt to do so is a mere nullity, as an effort by the legislature to exercise power not granted by the constitution.

Manufacturing establishments have been uniformly treated as private rather than public enterprises. Numerous decisions are cited tending to show that factories of all kinds, saw-mills, rolling mills, etc., are private, and are in no sense public enterprises. It is suggested that when congress gets out of the domain of law and into the realm of equity and justice their power is unlimited. That would be no doubt true if congress could get out of the domain of law, but it cannot do so.

The bounty of the act of 1895 is not limited to those who may have suffered an injury by failure to receive the bounty of the McKinley act, but is given to all alike, whether they suffered loss or not. There is nothing which indicates that it is intended to make compensation for such injury, and that cannot be implied.

By a refusal to pay the claims the ultimate rights of the claimants are in no way affected, for they have a legal remedy in court to test the validity of their claims and obtain payment thereof after a final determination of the constitutionality of the law, if it be held unconstitutional.

## A CONSPIRACY CHARGED.

Letter From a Duluth Man Who Says the Prisoner is Not Fraker.

TOPEKA, Kan., Sept. 7.—The Kansas Independent, a Populist paper, publishes a letter from a citizen of Duluth to its editor, I. W. Pack, which purports to expose a conspiracy on the part of the insurance companies and the chief of police of Topeka to arrest William Schnell and palm him off for George W. Fraker of life insurance fame. The letter is written by a German of the name of Harberger, and is to the effect that Fraker or Schnell is a crazy hermit, whose great ambition is to achieve notoriety. The author of the letter declares that it can easily be proven that Schnell has lived in the woods of Minnesota and Wisconsin for years, and that he passed in the locality where he was arrested as "King of the Forest." It is alleged that it is not the intention of the insurance companies to push his prosecution after the money handed over to Fraker's executor has been recovered. It explains that the reason why Fraker's companion in Minnesota was not taken into custody was that he would swear that the prisoner is not Fraker and furnish the names of any number of witnesses who would so testify.

J. P. Davis, president of the Kansas Mutual Life Insurance company, in an interview said there was no doubt of Fraker's identity, and that no effort would be made to secure the return of the insurance money until all interested admitted it. He said that he believed Fraker would be sent to the penitentiary, although he admitted that a number of prominent Kansas and Missouri attorneys whom he had consulted had expressed the opinion that he could be convicted of no crime.

### For Killing Daniel Stone.

LIBERTY, Mo., Sept. 7.—George W. Russell was arrested at Smithville this morning on the charge of having murdered Daniel Stone, the farmer who was found June 25 at his home, a mile east of there, with his skull crushed. The officers say that the evidence is very strong against Russell. He runs a pool hall at Smithville and has had a bad reputation. He once lived in Kansas City, and is said to have killed a man there.

### A Florida Girl's Terrible Fate.

AMILLA, Fla., Sept. 7.—Last Tuesday night Stella Johnson, the 16-year-old daughter of a widow who lives near here, was kidnapped. This morning the nude corpse of the girl, strapped to a log and horribly mangled, was found floating in a small lake about six miles from her home. The girl's neck had been broken and her throat cut from ear to ear. Her right arm had been severed from her body at the shoulder.

## WILL SECURE JUSTICE.

This Country Will Investigate Chinese Riots.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 7.—The United States government, it is announced at the state department, has decided to enter forthwith upon an independent investigation of the Cheng Tu riots, with the co-operation of a Chinese representative.

As at first arranged, the inquiry was to have been made in co-operation with England, but there has been a change of plan within the past few days, occasioned partly by the fact that the British consul at Chung King, who is to conduct the investigation on behalf of his government, and to whom, with the concurrence of an American missionary member, it was at first proposed to entrust the preliminary investigation of the facts, has been detained at his post, and, it is said, will not be able to begin the inquiry for a month or more. There are also understood to be other reasons why the state department has decided upon an independent investigation, such as France has already made and such as England will make later.

It is said at the state department that it is not true, however, as has been represented, that the policy of this government has been changed by any feeling of dissatisfaction or resentment caused by any apparent delay on England's part in proceeding with the inquiry. The department has other reasons, which it is not yet prepared to make public.

China is expected to lend her support to the American inquiry to the extent of supplying an escort to the persons who will conduct it, but who have not yet been designated, and will probably furnish an official who will co-operate with the American investigators, as in the Ku Cheng investigation. The investigation is expected to be made by some officials now on the Chinese coast.

## TRANSFERS IN THE ARMY.

Extensive Changes of Infantry Companies and Troops of Cavalry Ordered.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 7.—Extensive transfers of troops in the West were ordered to-day by the secretary of war as follows: The present garrison of Fort Buffalo, N. D., to Fort Assiniboine, Mont.; two companies of the Twenty-second infantry from Fort Assiniboine to Fort Harrison, Mont.; one company of the Second infantry to Fort Yates, N. D., to be joined by another company of the same regiment now at Fort Keogh, Mont.; three companies of the Tenth infantry now at Fort Yates and their commanding officer, Lieutenant Colonel Comba to Fort Niobrara, Neb., from which two companies of the Eighth infantry are to depart for Fort Russell, Wyo.; the three companies of the Seventeenth infantry now at Fort Russell to go to Columbia barracks, Ohio; four troops of the Seventh cavalry now in the department of Texas, to the department of the Colorado; four troops of the First cavalry now in the department of the Colorado to Oklahoma, two troops going to Fort Sill and two to Fort Reno, relieving four troops of the Third ordered from Oklahoma to Jefferson Barracks, Mo.

Fort Buford, N. D., and Fort Hancock, Texas, are discontinued as army posts and directions given to turn over the public lands to the interior department. Where the troops and companies to be transferred have not been designated in the order, the department commanders will make the selection of the troops to be removed.

## AFTER ROTHSCHILD.

Another Attempt to Dynamite Him in His Paris Banking House.

PARIS, Sept. 7.—M. Rothschild's banking house in this city was the scene yesterday of another nihilist attempt. At 3:20 o'clock a man entered the bank from the Rue Lafitte. In the vestibule a detective, who was on guard there, saw the stranger trying to light the fuse of a bomb which he carried, with a cigarette. The ashes on the cigarette prevented the ready ignition of the fuse, and the man, seeing that he was observed, threw the bomb upon the carpeted floor. The weapon did not explode, and the man was arrested. When he was taken to the police office he boldly avowed himself an anarchist. He made a desperate attempt to use a razor before he was overpowered by the detective and a policeman, who had come to his assistance. Police officials believe, from the appearance of the culprit, that he is a brother of Pawels, who perpetrated the Madeleine outrage.

### To Combat Silverites.

CHICAGO, Sept. 7.—Democrats from all parts of the state are attending the meeting to-day of the Honest Money league of Illinois at the Palmer house for the purpose of preparing for the presidential campaign of 1896. Leaders of the party were present, and after transacting routine business discussed the work of the coming year and the means of combating the free silver element of the party.

### A Tennessee Negro Lynched.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Sept. 7.—At Fayetteville last night, Dock King, colored, arrested on the charge of attempting to criminally assault Mrs. Charles Jones, near Fayetteville, was taken from jail by a mob of 200 men and hanged. He protested his innocence, but he was identified by Mrs. Jones and her sister as the guilty man.

### Two Topeka Papers Consolidate.

TOPEKA, Kan., Sept. 7.—The Kansas Breeze, the official state paper, F. C. Montgomery and T. A. McNeal, publishers, and the North Topeka Mail, Arthur Capper, publisher, have been consolidated and beginning next week will be published as the "Kansas Breeze and Topeka Mail."

### Mr. Harrison Wants Adirondack Land.

OLD FORGE, N. Y., Sept. 7.—The negotiations which ex-President Harrison is carrying on with Dr. Steward Webb, owner of thousands of acres of Adirondack land, will probably result in his buying a number of lots near First lake, in the vicinity of Dodd camp, where he now is.

## FRAKER BEHIND BARS

WHERE HE DRAWS BIG CROWDS TO SEE HIM.

Many Old Friends and Acquaintances Have a Talk With the Swindler in the Kansas City Jail—Taken to Richmond—Lawyers All Agree that He is Sure to Go Over the Road.

### Fraker, the Swindler.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Sept. 5.—Dr. George W. Fraker was brought back to Kansas City at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

James Patterson, a druggist of Excelsior Springs, was the first to grasp his hand.

"Well, Dr. Fraker, how do you do?" he said with emphasis. The doctor answered in a scarcely audible voice: "How are you, Jimmy?"

Judge A. H. Dooley of Excelsior Springs was the next to speak to him and he was recognized, too, by the doctor, Melvin L. Zener, the manager of the Hartford Life and Annuity company, which had paid \$15,000 for Fraker's "death," spoke to the doctor but was not remembered by him. E. L. Moore, manager of The Elms hotel at Excelsior Springs, Attorney D. J. Huff, J. P. Davis, president of the Kansas Mutual Life association, the company which ran him down, and United States Marshal Jo O. Shelby were among others who crowded around the doctor and spoke to him.

He was hurriedly driven to the sheriff's office. As he sat with nervous hands clutching the hat on his crossed knees, he was beset, browbeaten, volleyed with questions. Every detective and lawyer and newspaper reporter in the room took a hand at it. He answered all questions with the same air of meekness and weariness which has characterized him since his arrest. He had said often that he was tired and worn out from hiding out from the men who were hunting him. He said he was glad the thing was over. He did not appear glad, but he did look resigned.

Before Fraker was taken away a reporter talked with him. "I notice," he said, "that a great many people seem to believe there was a conspiracy with several persons in it. Now this is not true. When I went on that fishing excursion I was preparing to take a trip to California to bring back my nephews. I had collected some outstanding debts and had \$540 in my pockets when I fell in the river. When I got out of the water half a mile below where the accident occurred, my clothing was covered with mud and I was wet to the skin. I first thought of going back to the camp, but I did not want to return to the Springs in such a plight, so I stayed in the brush all that night and the next day and caught a freight train for Kansas City the next night."

Dr. Fraker was placed in cell No. 4 on the south side, third floor of the county jail. From the time of his arrival until late in the evening the jail was besieged with people who wished to see him. Probably 200 were admitted to see him, but very few succeeded in engaging him in conversation and fewer secured any information from him. Dr. Fraker was tired and slept fairly well last night, though after enjoying the freedom of the Northern woods so long, confinement in a close jail was most disagreeable.

About 10 o'clock Fraker induced one of the other prisoners to shave off his Lurnsides. The amateur barber did a but-her's job before an audience that would have delighted the proprietor of a museum. When he had finished Fraker's face was bleeding, but fairly smooth, with no beard left except his mustache, which is light and thin and not very long. The presence of the crowd disgusted him and he would sit reading newspapers and pay no attention to the remarks and questions of his visitors.

Fraker was taken to Richmond, Mo., on the 5 o'clock Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul train this afternoon. Sheriff J. R. Holman of Ray county and City Marshal Byers of Richmond having come after him.

Attorneys Huff and Van Valkenburg say there is no chance that Dr. Fraker will escape conviction in the circuit court of Ray county, where he will be tried on five counts of attempting to cheat the insurance companies. The information lodged by Mr. Van Valkenburg in Ray county against Dr. Fraker, and on which the warrant for his arrest was issued, charges him with violating section 3826 of the statutes of Missouri. This statute makes it a felony, punishable with seven years in the penitentiary, for a person to attempt to obtain money from any other person by means of a cheat or fraud or false pretense, or trick of any kind.

"You will notice," said Mr. Huff, "that to violate this statute it is not necessary for a person to obtain the money by fraud; the simple attempt to obtain it is a violation of law. The statement is made in some quarters that because Fraker did not obtain any of the insurance money, and did not seek to obtain any of it, his will have left it to his relative, he cannot be convicted under this statute. All supreme court decisions on this point hold that it is not essential that the person himself should actually receive the money. It is sufficient for conviction if he is delivered in accordance with his wish, or for his advantage, or for the purpose of effecting some object of his.

Other lawyers who were asked about the possibility of conviction in Fraker's case said the statutes covering attempts to defraud were very broad and would undoubtedly cover the case of Fraker.

### SOMETHING ABOUT GEORGE HARRY.

Although Attorney Herriek has persisted in his refusal to say whether or not it was George Harry who gave him the information that led to Fraker's arrest, Fraker says to-day that he is positive that Harry was the man.

"How about your boy at the shanty where you lived?" "He never heard of me as Fraker and did not know anything about my history. That is impossible. His name was Fred Springstead and he couldn't possibly have known anything about me," he thought my name was Schnell. The fact that it was shortly after an exchange of letters between himself and Harry that Herriek got his first intimation of Fraker's whereabouts

points to Harry. Before there could be another exchange of letters Fraker moved to Minnesota, and not long afterwards Harry disappeared. Suddenly a store was robbed in Ray county, N. M., where Harry's mistress is said to live, and simultaneously, too, Mr. Herriek's friend dropped out of sight. Herriek knew the name and address of the only man in Wisconsin who knew Fraker's address. Fraker thinks Harry wrote to this man for his address and that as he knew of the previous correspondence between the two the young man gave it. If Harry committed the robbery with which he is charged there was a motive for him to keep his whereabouts secret. When he was arrested two weeks ago there was no longer any reason for him to keep himself hid, but he needed money and there was no easier way of getting it than by giving up Fraker and securing the reward previously promised, probably more money than Harry had ever before seen in his life.

Harry was one of the men who was with Fraker on the night of the alleged drowning. He was the chief witness for the Fraker heirs. He testified that he saw the doctor fall in and drown. He may be a witness against Fraker at his trial in Ray county, though his former testimony might impeach his evidence now. It has developed recently that he has been a professional thief for years and that as long ago as 1875 he was a friend of Dr. Fraker. In that year Attorney James Garner was prosecuting attorney of Ray county. The James gang was looting banks all over Western Missouri and bank officials were uneasy and in Richmond, Ray county, all suspicious strangers were arrested and held until they could give some honest excuse for being in town. Among the suspects on the list was George Harry and he was held till officers from Texas came and took him to Texas on a charge of horse stealing.

## BOMBS FROM THE CLOUDS.

Dynamite Balloons Prepared for Cuban Rebels.

HARTFORD, Conn., Sept. 5.—Samuel Andrews, a machinist of this city, claims to have perfected a war balloon which he has sold to a syndicate of New York Cubans for use in aid of the Cuban insurgents. It has been tested in the fields and is said to work perfectly.

Instead of the ordinary car fixed with an armored box from which a number of bombs can be suspended the bombs are ignited and released by automatic machinery in the box and after all are discharged, the box explodes, destroying the balloon. Andrews claims to have a device by which he can control the direction of the balloon.

NEW YORK, Sept. 5.—Advices from Santiago de Cuba are that Dr. Donald Dodge, alias Frank M. Boyle, who says he is a correspondent of a New York paper and who sailed from Nassau by the Ward line steamer Niagara, was arrested by the Spaniards upon his arrival in Santiago de Cuba and confined, charged with being an emissary of the Cuban junta in New York on his way to Maceo's rebel camp. Despite the Spanish military governor's expressed purpose to have Dodge court martialed and shot as a spy, Consul Hyatt, after several long interviews with the civil governor, succeeded in having the case transferred to the ordinary courts.

## THE GOLD RESERVE.

Deposits Made to Offset Anticipated Withdrawals of Gold.

NEW YORK, Sept. 5.—It was quite evident yesterday that the Morgan-Belmont bond syndicate expected another large drain on the sub-treasury this week. At the opening of business it was announced that the Farmers' Loan and Trust company had deposited \$2,000,000 in the sub-treasury. No explanation of the deposit was made, but it was generally known that it was for the account of the bond syndicate and the belief was confirmed later by Washington advices. This is the second financial institution to come to the aid of the syndicate. The first was the American Exchange National bank, which deposited \$500,000 about a week ago. At that time it was said that a number of national banks and financial institutions which had been members of the bond syndicate had agreed to aid Messrs. Morgan & Belmont in their efforts to keep to the spirit of the contract with the government to maintain the gold reserve against exports in every way in their power.

### Medico-Legal Congress.

NEW YORK, Sept. 5.—The Medico-Legal congress, which convened in this city to-day, has attracted a great number of leading scientists, lawyers and physicians, not only from this country, but from Europe. The sessions of the congress will be held in the United States court in the post-office building. It will continue until the night of September 6, when a banquet will be tendered the visitors at the rooms of the Press club by the Medico-Legal society of New York.

### For a Banker's National Association.

NEW YORK, Sept. 5.—At a meeting of the New York State Banker's association, resolutions were adopted declaring in favor of a national association made up of delegates from state associations and a committee was appointed to arrange for a national meeting.

### Women May Go Armed.

LEXINGTON, Ky., Sept. 5.—In an editorial in his paper H. H. Gratz of the Kentucky Gazette, says that the next legislature will be asked to repeal the law prohibiting the carrying of concealed deadly weapons, so far as women are concerned. He declares that it is necessary for women to go armed to protect themselves from negro assailants.

### An Illinois Leader Dies in Kansas.

BLUE RAPIDS, Kan., Sept. 5.—James G. Strong, ex-state senator of Illinois, died this morning, aged 59. He located in Dwight, Ill., in 1859, and was director, secretary and treasurer of the Plymouth, Kankakee and Pacific railroad, and identified with the Kankakee River Improvement company. In 1870 he introduced the first bill for the appointment of a board of railroad commissioners in Illinois.

## FINDING OF FRAKER.

CAPTURED BECAUSE HE WAS BETRAYED.

He Tells All About His Insurance Swindling—Denies that He expected \$20,000 From His Heirs—Talks Very Freely About His Movements Since His Mysterious Disappearance—Distribution of Money Enjoined.

### Fraker was Betrayed.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., Sept. 4.—A reporter met Dr. Fraker, the insurance swindler captured Sunday in the woods of Northern Minnesota, and his captors, Attorney Robert Herriek and Chief of Police Wilkerson of Topeka, at Talmage, Iowa, on the Chicago Great Western railway at 9 o'clock this morning. Between Talmage and St. Joseph, which was reached at 1:50 o'clock this afternoon, the reporter talked with Fraker and the others and obtained the complete story of the chase and capture, now published for the first time.

Speaking of the capture, Mr. Herriek said: "Wilkerson deserves great credit for his part of the work. For myself, I am the company's lawyer, and it is my duty to protect the company from any injustice through the courts. Of course, I shall get a good fee for this work and Wilkerson will get enough to justify him in making the trip. There is no stated reward out. All offers of reward have been withdrawn."

"The other clues have generally been fakes and we did not get Fraker until we found some one who knew him and knew where to get him. It is useless to ask who that person is, because I shall never tell."

The man under arrest is Dr. G. W. Fraker, by his own confession and by the positive identification of Judge M. W. Sullivan of Excelsior Springs.

Any stranger who had never seen him before, but had seen his picture, would be struck with the resemblance to the pictures, though he now wears short burnisides with a short mustache, a mixture of red and yellow. His trousers are patched, his brown wool shirt shows evidences of wear and his slouched hat has seen long and rough service. In short, he looks very much a hermit, who had lived a long time in the woods.

When asked to tell the story of his wanderings, Dr. Fraker said there was not much to tell.

"I did fall into the river the night we were fishing," he said, "and came very near being drowned. However, there was driftwood floating in the stream and I caught a log and floated down the river for a considerable distance. Finally I found a place where I could touch bottom and waded out on the land. I laid there all that night and all the next day."

When reminded that the current at the point where he disappeared formed a whirlpool where the best of swimmers would not think of venturing, he said he knew it was a terribly dangerous place and considered his escape from drowning a miracle.

No amount of questioning or argument could make him change this part of the story in the least. "I don't know just when it was," he continued, "that I left the river, but with my clothing muddy and bedraggled, my hat lost my hat full of sand, I was in no condition to go back to the Springs, and accordingly I came to Kansas City. I had formerly stopped at first-class hotels, but this time, because of my appearance, I did not want to go to one of them, and so went to a rooming house on Grand avenue south of Fifth street, almost diagonally across from the Centropolis. I stayed there four days. On the second day I went to Twelfth street near Walnut street, and bought a razor, and then I shaved off all my beard, and if anyone in Kansas City who knew me had seen me on the streets he did not recognize me. At the rooming house no one asked my name, and I did not volunteer to tell it. Then I went to Chicago. While there I think I saw Dr. J. N. Love of St. Louis, but he was talking to some ladies and I did not approach him. From Chicago I went to Milwaukee and stayed most of the fall of that year. By that time the name of Fraker had been too much advertised, and I told a roommate that I was from Denver and that my name was William Schnell. I went by the name of Schnell from that time on."

"How about your being called 'Quick'?" was asked. "You don't understand German, then?" he replied. "Schnell is the German for Quick, and a few people used the English word for it, that is all."

"I lived in Wisconsin and Minnesota ever since." "Were you in the timber or the towns?" "I stayed most of the time in towns. There are no big towns outside of Milwaukee in that country. I went from one place to another. No, I won't tell you what towns we visited. You must excuse me now."

"Why did you conceal your identity?" "I didn't."

"Yes, but the assumed name and the fact that you kept out of sight when the companies were looking for you proves the contrary."

"Well, I had not decided to stay away until the papers said all kinds of things about me. Then I knew I was in disgrace and could not make a living if I came back. It was my newspaper boys who got me into it."

Then after a long pause he said: "No, it was my own fault and no one else's. I have wanted to come back a thousand times, and came near coming, but the disgrace and what people were saying about me kept me from doing so. This living death is horrible and I am glad now I am going back."

"It was telegraphed from Duluth that you expected a share of the insurance money."

"That was not true. It was all to go to my heirs."

"Were you not planning to buy some land with springs and spend \$20,000 making a resort of it?"

"The way that came to be told was that I said the springs had good medicinal qualities and it would take \$20,000 to fix them up right. I never said I had that much money, or would devote the springs. I stayed in the woods in that part of the country for the last six months to get the benefit of the springs, because my health has been bad. I have been sick nearly

three years now and nothing did me any good until I reached those springs."

Dr. Fraker carefully avoided answering questions intended to reveal his means of subsistence. Finally, when the question, "Who gave you away to the insurance companies and furnished the information that led to your arrest?" was bluntly asked, the doctor started suddenly and said: "I think it was George Harry, one of the men who went fishing with me. I wrote him from Wisconsin last winter. He was in New Mexico then. He answered my letter and I wrote again, but never heard from him."

"In my second letter I told him about a young man, whose name I won't mention, who was very kind to me when I was sick. I told him the young man's name and I think he wrote to him and got my address after I moved into Minnesota. I am satisfied that Harry gave me away. He is in New Mexico now under arrest. He was arrested at Moberly two weeks ago for burglary. I don't know of any one else who had the means of knowing just where I was, who would give me away."

Dr. Fraker denies that he has seen Johnnie Edmunds, his former office boy, since he left home. He also says he knows nothing of Menendez, the Spaniard, who was fishing with him. He says he has not seen a Kansas City paper or any of his Kansas City acquaintances since he went away more than two years ago. He went smooth shaven most of the time, but grew a beard in Minnesota because of the mosquitoes. He says his main objection to coming back is that his private history has all been raked up and scattered broadcast by the newspapers.

## STONE'S SILVER WORK.

The Governor Confers With Bland Committee for Four States.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Sept. 4.—Governor Stone, who had a conference last night with ex-Congressman R. P. Bland on the silver question, said to-day: "We merely talked over in an informal way the work of organization of the friends of silver in accordance with the general plan adopted by the recent conference at Washington. At that conference I was appointed a member of the provisional committee, with instructions to confer with the leading free silver Democrats in Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska and Iowa with regard to the selection of a committeeman in each of those states to take executive charge of the work. I have opened correspondence in pursuance of that idea and as soon as the free silver Democrats in the states named indicate to me the men for the work I will report the names to chairman Harris of the national committee, who, I suppose will issue a call for another meeting of the friends of silver in order to perfect the organization of the silver forces in the Democratic party for an aggressive campaign."

The defrauded insurance companies proceeded to tie up some of the money.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Sept. 4.—At 10 o'clock this forenoon Judge Foster, Judge Sandusky, Judge Fowler, Attorney Claude Hardwick of Liberty, Attorney Huff and J. P. Davis of Topeka were in the office of the clerk of the United States circuit court. Mr. Huff filed five suits by five of the defrauded insurance companies. They were against James E. Lincoln, executor of the Fraker estate, George W. Magruder, trustee for the Fraker orphans, W. E. Fowler, judge of the probate court at Liberty, Nancy J. Magruder and Cynthia A. Hatfield, sisters of Dr. Fraker, and the Commercial Savings bank of Liberty.

The court is asked to set aside the judgment which was rendered in favor of the Fraker heirs, and that Lincoln and Magruder be ordered to pay back the judgment money, with principal and interest, and that Judge Lincoln and the other defendants be enjoined from paying out any of the money. The court made the order as asked for without objection.

Two More Victims for Holmes.

DENVER, Col., Sept. 4.—J. W. Hummel of Sandwich, Ill., has written a friend in this city suggesting the possibility that F. J. Gregory and his 9-year-old daughter, Dee, who disappeared from their home in Kearney, Neb., March 6, 1894, may have been a victim of H. H. Holmes. Gregory had \$10,000 in his possession when he left home. He formerly worked at Noldredge, Neb., for J. W. Burnett, a real estate dealer in this city. There is no evidence that Gregory ever had any business relations with Holmes.

Big Clothiers Assign.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Sept. 4.—Henry H. Wolfe & Co., one of the largest wholesale clothing firms in the South, filed a deed of assignment in the county clerk's office yesterday. The firm owes about \$250,000 and has assets which they believe will equal if not exceed that sum.

Bank Notes Not Boycotted.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 4.—The boycott declared by the Knights of Labor some time ago on national bank notes became effective yesterday, but the bank notes are as eagerly accepted to-day as they ever were. John W. Hayes, secretary of the Knights of Labor, says he cannot tell how long it will take the boycott to begin to show its effect, but thinks that in the course of sixty days bank notes will begin to be turned down by a great many people.

The Laddonia Bank Reopened.

MEXICO, Mo., Sept. 4.—The Farmers bank at Laddonia is again open and ready for business. The attorney general, bank examiner and receiver and attorneys met here yesterday and the matter was settled. The directors of the bank have fully complied with the law.

For Female Suffrage.

TRENTON, N. J., Sept. 4.—The gubernatorial state convention of the People's party of New Jersey was held in this city. W. B. Ellis of Trenton, was nominated for governor after several others had declined the honor. The Omaha platform was reaffirmed and a resolution passed favoring woman suffrage.

The Duke d'Arcos, Spanish minister to Mexico, and Miss Virginia Woodbury Lowery of Washington were married at New London, Conn.