

# General Nebraska News.

## THE STATE IN BRIEF.

William Johnston, who had been working in a hotel at Lincoln, was arrested at Wynore by Marshal Acton, charged with stealing a check for \$10.

Business men of Ashland are agitating the question of a Fourth of July celebration this year. No celebration has been held in Ashland since 1909.

The large increase in school population is overcrowding the public schools of York and the school board will be compelled to build desirable and central locations are scarce.

Bellevue college was twice struck by lightning during a late storm. The first bolt did some damage to the chimney of one of the large boarding halls and seriously shocked Frank Sylfex, the cook.

James Oppenheimer of Ashland has received word from the patent office at Washington stating that he has been granted a patent upon improvements to an adjustable tension bracket for window shades.

From coal dealers say that people are laying in their supply for next winter already. They remember the difficulty to get fuel last winter and are determined that the next cold season shall not find them unprepared.

The special elections held in Logan and Fife townships at which the proposition to vote bonds in the sum of \$5,000 each in aid of the extension of the Missouri Pacific railroad from Virginia to Beatrice, resulted in the defeat of the bonds in both townships.

The case of Bruce West, charged with horse stealing, was dismissed in the district court of Seward county. He is only fifteen years old and had been tried and convicted could have received only a reform school sentence.

Lafayette Campbell of Grand Island, a lad of about sixteen years, was caught on a live electric wire and suspended in the air about ten minutes, until notice could be sent to the Electric Light & Ice company's works to turn off the current. He was not badly hurt.

The United States civil service commission announces that on June 23 an examination will be held for the position of illustrator in agronomy. Also that on July 7, 1903, an examination will be held for the position of Chinese watchman. Also that on June 23 an examination will be held for the position of assistant steam engineer.

A new high school building at Fairbury is now an assured fact, the proposition to bond the district for \$25,000 having carried at the special election by a vote of 254 for to sixty-nine against. The apparent majority of sentiment in its favor was responsible for the high vote cast.

Miss Bonnie Star, a domestic in the family of J. S. Atherton at Beatrice, was found by Mr. Atherton in an outhouse on the place writhing in convulsions. The girl was unconscious for several hours and may not recover. On the floor where she was found was a half-gallon bottle labeled oil of tansy. There was only a little of the drug left in the bottle.

The first annual meeting and banquet of the operators and representatives of the Beatrice Creamery company, held in McCook, was a success to the station operators as well. Besides the entire official directorate of the company about fifty station operators were present, and the whole proceedings were marked by deep interest and were pronounced decidedly interesting by all concerned.

The Fremont Telephone company has asked the city council to change the rates for service fixed in its franchise. At present the charges are \$1 per month for residence phones and \$2 for those in business houses.

A valuable horse which was stolen from Joseph Lynn at Union several weeks ago has been located. It was found in the possession of a farmer named Christian, residing near Ashland.

Charles Elliott, mail carrier of rural route No. 2, in attempting to drive across a bridge six miles southwest of Beatrice, came near being drowned. Mr. Elliott and the horse and wagon were swept off the bridge by the high water and the mail sacks carried down stream more than half a mile before they were recovered. Two farmers who happened to be on the opposite side when the accident occurred rescued Mr. Elliott with much difficulty.

A story has been published at Fremont and probably sent to other papers regarding a mythical case of a child at Dodge, the son of Tade Sullivan, who is reported to have died to all appearances and then come to life again. The origin of the tale was in the effort of an imaginative writer to let himself out easy after printing an item that the boy was dead and later finding that this was a mistake.

The one hundredth anniversary of Emerson's birth was appropriately observed in the Doane college at Crete.

The United Evangelical church has purchased the church building on the corner of Eighth street and Grant avenue, York, which is being used for school purposes. They have notified the school board to vacate at the end of this term of school.

Ralph Taylor of Gibbon, 5 years old, living with Mrs. Pierce, his grandmother, died very suddenly from rupturing a blood vessel in his neck, said to have been injured by a neck trouble which has been causing lots of distress this spring.

## BUSH AFTER STATISTICS.

Labor Commissioner Hoping to Be Helped Out.

LINCOLN.—Labor Commissioner Bush is hoping these days that he will receive very shortly statistics he wants and that have heretofore not been forthcoming from the farming sections of the state. He is hoping that the county assessors will this year help him out by gathering in every fact connected with every family in the said assessor's range. Bush wants to know everything and the requests that he has been handing some of the assessors almost ask for the family skeletons and heirlooms.

Incidentally Mr. Bush has stopped several girls from working overtime in Omaha and warned their employers that a repetition of the offense would not be tolerated. On several occasions he found the boys in the ten-pin alleys, who were too young to be in the business, and sent them home and gave the same warning to the proprietors.

As a result of the constant hammering done by former Commissioner Watson and which has been kept up by Bush, many fire escapes have been put up and more are in course of construction. A recent one in Lincoln was on the Burr block.

## Prisoner Skips Out.

BEATRICE.—Ouis Hoffelinger, a prisoner at the county jail awaiting trial for horse stealing, who had been working in the jail yard and was allowed considerable liberty, was discovered in company with a prisoner named Charles Cain. Cain's time was nearly out.

## Arrested for Passing Bad Money.

ALBION.—Deputy Marshal Waller came in Saturday evening with Dan Mummy, whom he had arrested at St. Edward for passing counterfeit money at that place. For some time considerable bad money has been in circulation there, and it is supposed that Mummy has confederates who have not yet been apprehended.

## Laborer Crushed Beneath Scaffold.

LINCOLN.—Charlie Jones, a laborer aged 23, was instantly killed near here. Jones was working near town with a gang of bridge builders and was stationed on a scaffold on which a pile-driver rested. The scaffold gave way and Jones was crushed by the falling mass.

ASHLAND, Neb.—Erwin Jenks, living near this city, was quite badly poisoned by a puff adder several days ago. He had run across the snake in crossing a field and had killed it with a strap. He carried the strap back to the barn and on the same day the poisonous effects began to appear. It is thought that the poison was contracted from handling the strap. Both his face and hands are badly swollen.

## Arrested as a Deserter.

COLUMBUS.—Chief of Police C. M. Taylor arrested Emil Hoeben on advice telegraphed from the navy department at Washington. Hoeben is 19 years old and was raised in this city. Last fall he enlisted in the service at the Mare Island navy yard, near San Francisco. He returned home about a week ago. He is being held here awaiting the arrival of government officers.

## TROUBLE FOR A POSTMASTER

Held to Federal Court on Charge of Trafficking in Stamps.

SPENCER.—Postoffice Inspector A. O. Swift took into custody M. L. Erb, postmaster at Slocum, Neb., on the charge of making fraudulent returns of postal accounts and illegally trafficking in the sale of postage stamps.

Postmaster Erb was arrested by Deputy Marshal Walling and brought to this place before Sanford Parker, United States commissioner for this district. Inspector Swift had the case so well worked up that Erb saw there was no way to avoid punishment or acquit himself of the charge and when brought before the commissioner he admitted his guilt as charged in the complaint. He was bound over to appear before the next term of the United States court at Omaha in the sum of \$500, which bail he furnished and was released.

## Reports on Schools.

LINCOLN.—Superintendent Fowler has begun to hear from a few of his requests for statistics regarding the consolidation of school districts. The statistics were called for as a matter of encouragement for other districts that are contemplating consolidation. So far very few have responded with reports. It is expected the consolidation idea will result in much good all over the state where the attendance of schools is small.

## Poisoned by Adder.

For Non-Compliance.

SEWARD.—Charles E. Barnett, Geo. W. Menke and John T. Johnson, who have been selling groceries to the farmers of Seward county, were arrested while delivering a car load of goods to their customers and taken before County Judge Levenson on the charge of not complying with the state law requiring such peddlers to have a license. They failed to show a license and were fined \$50 and costs each.

# ATORNADO SOUTH

REPORTS THAT ONE HUNDRED WERE KILLED.

## AS MANY MORE ARE INJURED

Gainesville, Ga., Scene of the Disaster—Great Cotton Mills with Five Hundred Employes in Storm's Path—Buildings Demolished Upon Inmates.

GAINESVILLE, Ga.—Just after the noon hour Monday the city was struck by a terrific tornado, killing probably 100 persons, injuring 150, unroofing the City hotel and other large buildings and destroying the Gainesville cotton mills. The greatest loss of life is reported in the destruction of the cotton mills, where about eighty persons are reported killed and scores injured.

Eighteen persons were killed in the city between the center of the town and the railroad station, where four large stores were blown down.

The cotton mill was a three-story building. The first story was left standing, but badly wrecked. The second and third floors were completely demolished and the employes caught under the wreckage and mangled.

It is estimated that there are at least seventy-five bodies under the wreckage of the third floor, and it is not known how many persons on the second floor of the building were killed.

The roof of the electric car barn was lifted and the building badly damaged. The railroad depot suffered also. Nearly every employe in the Gainesville cotton mills was killed, including a large number of children. The Southern depot was blown down. The Gainesville iron works were demolished and several people perished in the wreck. The Gainesville cotton oil mills were blown down. The old Piedmont hotel, now used as a school and apartment house, was razed and half a dozen or more people were killed in it. The Richmond hotel was wrecked and several perished along with it. One hundred and twenty-five cottages, a school house and a church were blown away in the negro section of the town. Five brick stores on the main street of Gainesville were swept away. In all 200 buildings are demolished here.

The furious wind next struck the plant of the Parcel cotton mill at New Holland, two miles from the Southern railway station. This is one of the largest cotton mills in the south, employing more than 600 hands. The storm spared the Parcel factory, but entirely demolished 109 of its cottages, standing nearby and tenanted by its operatives. Here the fatalities were greatest, upwards of thirty-five persons being buried in the ruins of the cottages. Bodies were blown hundreds of yards and many of them when picked up bore no semblance to humanity. The trunk of one young boy was found with the head decapitated as if by the guillotine.

From New Holland the tornado swept onward to the east in the direction of White Sulphur, a town of about 100 persons. The extent of its destruction there cannot be definitely ascertained, but reports so far received indicate considerable loss of life.

## GOVERNMENT PROMPT TO ACT.

Will Supply Subsistence and Tents Where Needed.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The war department is exerting its full powers and going to the extreme warrant of the law in aiding the flood sufferers in the west. Putting aside all technical questions as to the power of the department to move in the matter without violating the law prohibiting the expenditure of government supplies without direct order of congress, Acting Secretary Sanger has assumed full responsibility for the extension of relief where it is necessary to save human life, and if necessary, congress will be asked later to approve this exercise of authority.

## Pacific Ocean Rates Are Cut.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal.—The steamer Athol, the first of the fleet of the China Commercial company to reach this port, sailed for Hong Kong and ports in Japan Thursday. She took away about 1,500 tons of freight and there were about 100 Chinese passengers in her steerage. The agents of the company made a cut in freight rates to equal the reduction made by the Pacific Mail Steamship company in freight tariffs.

## Some people get credit for broken hearts when they have simply lost their nerve.

The poor ye have always with you—often so close that they touch you

## Sullivan Hit Too Low.

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—Tommy Felts of Savannah received the decision over Sullivan of Brooklyn in the eleventh round before the West End club here Thursday. Sullivan struck Felts very low three times during the fight. Felts was given the decision in the fourth round, which was the second time that he had been hit low, but declined it, and the fight went on to the eleventh, when Sullivan again repeated the foul.

## Saved from Kansas Mob.

WICHITA, Kan.—J. M. Woods, the negro arrested at Yates Center, charged with assaulting a farmer's wife, was brought here and placed in jail early to prevent being lynched.

## Actress Gets Divorce.

LONDON.—Ellis Jeffries, the actress has been granted a divorce from Hon. F. G. Curzon on the grounds of brutal treatment and misconduct. He is a son of the late Lord Howe.

# THE LIVE STOCK MARKET.

Latest Quotations From South Omaha and Kansas City.

## SOUTH OMAHA.

CATTLE.—There was another liberal run of cattle, and although trading was rather slow there was not much change in the prices paid. The beef stock market was very slow on opening and the market could best be described by calling it steady to a shade lower. Buyers did not take hold with a great deal of life, and while they bought up the more desirable grades at just about steady prices they were inclined to be bullish on the commoner kinds. The cow market was also a little slow with prices ranging steady to a little lower. There were some of last investment in the prices paid, but as a general thing the medium kinds suffered more than the choice grades, while canners sold without much trouble at just about steady prices. Hogs, veal calves and steers all sold in just about the same notches they did yesterday. The stocker and feeder market was not very well supplied, and in fact there were scarcely enough thin cattle to make a test of the situation.

HOGS.—There was another very heavy run of hogs, which makes the supply for the four days of this week 51,821, against 27,887, the same days of last week and 27,328 for the same days of last year. Other markets have also had very liberal runs, so the rapid break in prices is not to be wondered at. At the start a few loads sold steady to a shade lower, but they were not enough loads sold that way to make a market. After the first round packers were bidding 59.10c lower and wanted to buy their loads at 57.50c and 55.75c.

SHEEP.—Quotations for clipped stock: Choice western lambs, \$6.25-6.75; fair to good lambs, \$5.50-6.25; choice western woolled lambs, \$6.75-7.00; fair to good woolled lambs, \$6.00-6.50; choice light weight yearlings, \$5.50-5.75; fair to good yearlings, \$4.75-5.25; choice wethers, \$5.00-5.45; choice ewes, \$4.50-5.00; fair to good ewes, \$3.50-4.25; feeder lambs, \$3.50-4.00; feeder yearlings, \$2.50-3.00; feeder wethers, \$2.50-3.00; feeder ewes, \$2.25-2.50.

KANSAS CITY. Light hives steady; heavy, lowest of season; Texas steady; cows and heifers weak to lower; stockers and feeders steady to weak; bulls very quiet; choice export and dressed beef steers, \$1.50-1.50; fair to good, \$1.40-1.45; stockers and feeders, \$1.00-1.10; western fed steers, \$2.80-2.90; Texas and Indian steers, \$3.00-3.25; Texas cows, \$2.50-2.75; native cows, \$1.50-1.75; native heifers, \$2.00-2.25; canners, \$1.70-1.85; calves, \$2.00-2.50.

HOGS.—Market opened weak, closed strong to 5c higher; top, \$6.10; bulk of sales, \$5.75-5.95; heavy, \$5.50-6.10; mixed packers, \$5.50-5.75; light, \$5.25-5.75; yorkers, \$5.70-5.75; pigs, \$4.75-5.50.

SHEEP AND LAMBS.—Market steady to 10c lower; grassers, \$5.00-5.50; choice export, \$4.00-4.50; western lambs, \$4.00-4.15; red ewes, \$3.50-4.00; native wethers, \$3.70-4.45; Texas clipped sheep, \$3.50-4.20; stockers and feeders, \$3.25-4.05.

## LIKE IN THE UNITED STATES.

Sensation in the Legislature of British Columbia.

VICTORIA, B. C.—Sensational scenes in the house following the dismissal of C. F. Wells, chief commissioner of lands and works, and Attorney General Roberts Thursday culminated in the defeat of the government and the announcement that the legislature would be dissolved. A motion by Premier Prior was defeated by a vote of 16 to 13.

## Finance Minister Prentice made a sensational speech in which he referred to Eberts as a blackguard and said the premier had for colleagues "men untrue and unfaithful cowards and liars."

Later W. W. McInis, provincial secretary, tendered his resignation. Although the government was defeated, it was enabled with the support of Joseph Martin and his followers, who hold the balance of power, to secure an adjournment, during which arrangements will be made for the passage and non-contentious legislation before the legislature is dissolved, and an appeal made to the country.

## Yale Students Were Coached.

Yale and Princeton students held a joint debate last week, the subject being whether a closure resolution should be adopted in the United States senate, and what effect such action would have on the business of that body. Yale had the negative side and won, but it is learned that previous to the debate Senator Orville H. Platt of Connecticut had the Yale boys in his house for two hours and supplied them with a series of valuable arguments. The fact that he had done so seems to have been concealed until after the debate.

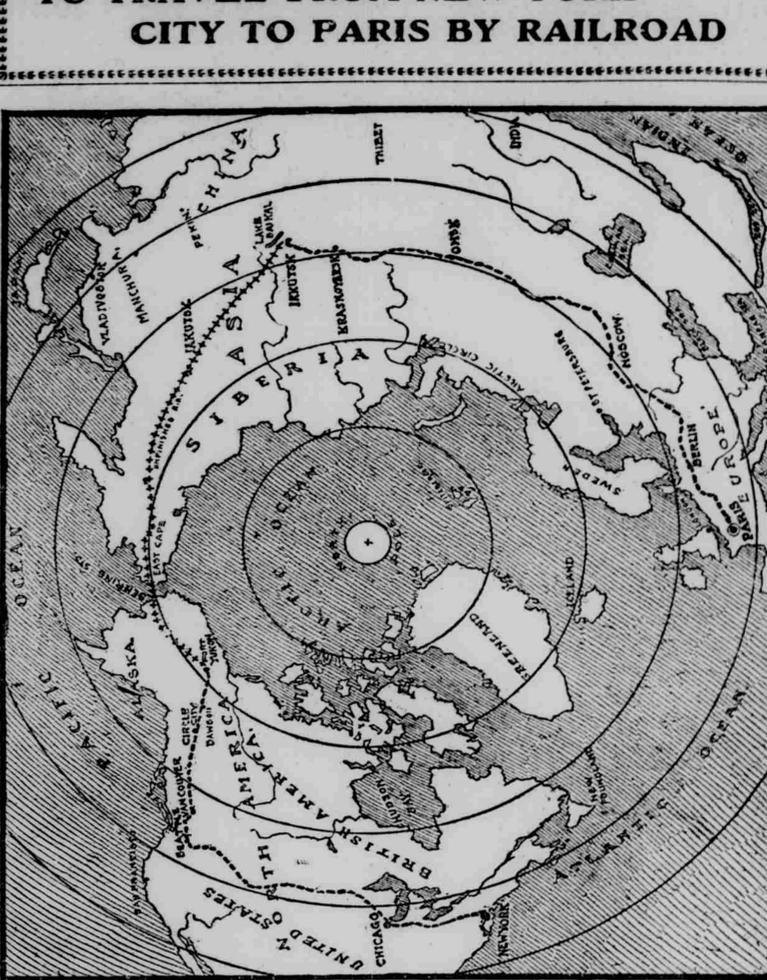
## Famous Preacher Coming.

Rev. R. J. Campbell, who is to succeed the late Dr. Joseph Parker in the City Temple, London, will sail for this country in a couple of weeks and will remain to take part in the students' conference at Northfield the last of June and first of July.

## Power of Small Magnet.

A magnet has been made weighing only three and one-half grains which could lift 1,550 grains, or 445 times its own weight.

# TO TRAVEL FROM NEW YORK CITY TO PARIS BY RAILROAD



French Map Showing Plan to Shift the Commercial Axis of the World. The Whole Line of the Proposed Railway.

## From New York to Paris by rail,

without change of cars, sounds like a startling proposition. It means from Chicago to Berlin, from St. Louis to Vienna, from Philadelphia to Peking and from San Francisco to Rome, for freight as well as passengers, by "the direct route, all rail." It means, in a word, the shifting of the world's commercial axis from the Suez canal to Behring strait, with the broad populations of America and Russia to replace the treacherous empty ocean.

This is the promise of the Trans-Alaska-Siberian railway, whose European development at the present hour is so striking and so intimately connected with certain secret political motives as to merit the attention of every American.

With the names of the president of the French republic and the shah of Persia on their patronage committee, the European directors of the Trans-Alaska-Siberian company went to Russia last September. In St. Petersburg they were received by the czar, whose government on the spot welcomed the work in principle, and demanded a report on the concessions that would be asked in return for constructing the Siberian end of the line. On May 1 this report was finally submitted to the Russian government.

In the United States the well-known Alaskan pioneer, Capt. J. J. Healy of the North American Transportation and Trading company, has several companies formed for the purpose (according to information) actually at work on the South Alaskan terminal cuttings. About this end of the work I have been requested to say nothing; but I learn that, when the conditions of the Russian concessions are finally agreed on, those of several American companies will be thrown with them into one great enterprise.

The day after I heard that \$10,000,000 had already been subscribed in France, I called on M. Loise de Lobel, the envoy of the Paris Geographical society, who originated the project and who has formed the European company.

"Will the Trans-Alaska-Siberian find local traffic throughout its length to justify its building?" I asked. "It is a cold country up there."

"Of the 30,000 persons who were at Dawson in the Klondyke in 1890-1899 there remain now scarcely 5,000," answered M. de Lobel.

## Head of Virginia University.

It was Thomas Jefferson's idea that the University of Virginia should be and remain forever a thoroughly democratic institution—the instructors equal, free and independent, the students under no rules except the universal ones regulating the behavior of men in civilized society. Up to now the university has had no president—only a chairman of the faculty. Last winter the general assembly of Virginia overhauled the charter and the trustees are now at liberty to elect a president whenever they see fit. It is predicted that they will choose either Prof. John Bassett Moore of Columbia university or President Charles W. Dabney of the University of Tennessee.

## Toistoi Condemns Persecution.

Count Toistoi's contribution of \$7,500 in aid of the persecuted Jews of Kishineff is one of the largest made in Russia. Though not a Jew and a harsh critic at times of the Jewish theology, Toistoi has not hesitated to denounce in unmeasured terms the treatment of the race by the Russian government and people.

## swore M. de Lobel. "Where are the

rest? A great mass of them have already passed into Alaska; and their discoveries of tin (Yakutat bay to Valdez), copper (Tanana river), coal, iron and petroleum have already drawn many of them from the gold which they originally sought. Others are following the gold belt all the way round to Siberia. They are the pioneers. Agriculture and industries follow the gold miner.

"Agriculture?" I exclaimed. "Emphatically," answered the French geographer. "Alaska is not a uniquely mountainous country, as is commonly imagined. Behind the mountains bordering the Yukon there are vast plains capable of rivaling the wheat fields of western America."

Here M. de Lobel showed me a lot of photographs of experimental wheat, barley and hay growing in which the stalks are so high that a man standing upright can hide in them. There were photographs of cabbages, potatoes, turnips, etc., that recalled the triumphs of California farming.

"The strength, the quantity and quality of these growths astonish us in France," he said. "The Alaskan soil by reason of the thickness of its humus decays vegetable matter will produce rich harvests for a century without artificial fertilizers. Beginning in the month of April flowers bloom, vegetation starts up and the snow disappears everywhere but on the mountain summits. The months of May, June, July and August are as warm as in France. Besides, Alaska possesses a unique agricultural superiority."

"What is that?"

"In summer there is no night; you can read a book at midnight in the open air. So grain, vegetables and plants of all sorts grown in perpetual sunlight during five consecutive months—which represents in reality ten months of growth. Now, note this: The constant humidity which the sun maintains at the roots of all Alaskan plants by means of the progressive thawing of the ground, deeper and deeper, pushes their growth. That is the secret of the phenomenal vegetables I brought from Alaska to our National Society of Acclimation."

"So much for agriculture," continued M. de Lobel. "As for minerals, I prophesy as an explorer and expert that in twenty years Alaska will be recognized as the richest country in the world."

## Duchess Stuns Americans.

London is stirred by a report that the duke and duchess of Marlborough will close their town house and move to Blenheim, their country home. The news is causing still more of a sensation in New York, however, for it is hinted that the young American duchess takes this method of talking the social ambition of numerous Americans whom she met in Newport last summer. These might look for favors in the British capital this season and as some of them are said to be impossible the duchess will now be able to avoid them.

## The Germ of Lockjaw.

It was a Japanese scientist, Prof. Kitato, famous as a microscopist, who discovered that the long, narrow lockjaw germ lives in the earth and can only work at its dangerous trade when buried deep in a wound where no air can reach it.

## Pope Leo's Mary Gifts.

Leo XIII. has had more money left to him than any of his predecessors. It is said that the total sum is \$5,000,000.

## the world, except perhaps, the

neighborhood part of Siberia, which has the same geological formation. You know that Behring strait has existed only a few hundred years.

"How much Russian capital shall you get?"

"At least 50,000,000 francs," replied M. de Lobel; "but I ought not to speak of such matters at present. The Americans interested, and here M. de Lobel mentioned the name of Rockefeller, 'reserve the option to subscribe first.'"

"When shall you begin the Siberian cuttings?"

"As soon as the Russian concessions are agreed on."

"You will not wait for the merging of the European and American companies?"

"Not necessarily. Work already accomplished can be thrown in along with the concessions when the time comes to make the merger. It is something I am not competent to speak of, as it depends on American financiers."

"Can you give me their names?"

"No. Perhaps I did wrong to divulge the name of Rockefeller. All this is premature. The public is not being asked for any subscriptions."

The aspect of the map with the whole world circled by a continuous line of railway fascinated me. There lies the North Pole in the center. It looked strange; to see it there.

"How long shall it be?" I asked.

"When school children shall be studying such a map, with the commercial axis of the world so shifted?"

"In less time than you think," replied the French geographer. "Behring's strait itself is providentially arranged for the crossing of the railway cars."

"Ferryboats?" I inquired, as I took my departure.

"I have never spoken of a ferry-boat," he answered. "One might be used temporarily during the first summer, but the one thing is the Behring tunnel. As if to invite it, the two Diomedes islands stand there in the strait. The entire distance across from Alaska to Siberia is thirty-seven miles. There will be two tunnels of less than eighteen miles each."

"Or two sixteen miles each and one of four miles?" I suggested.

"Exactly," said the French geographer.—Sterling Hellig in New York Press.