BEGIN THE MERGER SUIT.

Minnesota Authorities Open Trial at Home Against Consolidation.

Petition Urges that Directors of Northern Pacific and Great Northern be Prevented from Combining.

St. Paul, Minn., April 9.—The state of Minnesota has begun its merger suit at home. The bill of complaint in the suit of the state against the Great Northern and Northern Pacific Railway companies, the Northern Securities company, J. J. Hill, as president of the Northern Securities company and individually, was served on the defendant, Hill, in a variety of capacities, and return made to the sheriff's office by Deputy Reichow.

The court was asked to make orders restraining the merger as contrary to law, from the interchange of stock, from interference of one road with the other road and from the right of one set of directors to vote in the other corporation.

The recital in this new case is almost identical with that in the former case before the United States supreme court, after which the plaintiff prays:

PRAYER OF PLAINTIFF.

1. That it be adjudged and decreed that the agreement and combination hereinbefore alleged to be unlawful and all acts done and to be done in pursuance thereof are contrary to and in violation of the laws of this state and of the United States.

2. That the defendant, the Northern Securities company, its stockholders, officers, directors, executive committee and its agents and servants, and each and every one of them, be perpetually enjoined from acquiring, receiving, holding, voting, whether by proxy or otherwise, or in any manner acting as the owner of any of the shares of the capital stock of either the Northern Pacific Railway company or the Great Northern Railway company, from voting at any meeting of the stockholders of either said Great Northern or Northern Pacific Railway companies, exchanging any of the capital stock of either of said companies by any means or in any manner whatever, and from attending by reason of such ownership, possession or control of stock, either through its officers or by proxy, or in any other manner, any meeting of the stockholders of either of said companies, from in any way aiding, advising, directing, interfering with or in any way taking part directly or indirectly in any manner whatsoever in the management, control or operation of any of the lines of railway of either of said companies or in the management or control of the affairs of either of said companies, or from exercising any of the powers, or performing any of the duties or in any manner acting as a representative, officer, member of the board of directors in the employ of either the Great Northern or Northern Pacific Railway companies, or in any way exercising any management, direction or control over the same.

BLOCK NORTHERN SECURITIES.

4. That the defendant, the Northern Pacific Railway company, its stockholders, officers, directors, agents and servants and each and every one of them, be perpetually enjoined from in any manner recognizing or accepting the Northern Securities company as the holder or owner of any shares of its capital stock and from permitting such company to vote such stock, whether by proxy or otherwise, and from paying any dividends upon such stock to said company or its assigns and from recognizing as valid any mortgage, securities or assignment of such stock or for in any way combining in said Great Northern Railroad company, whether such combine be attempted to be effected directly and through the corporate bodies themselves or through the action of the constituent members or stockholders of such companies, and that said defendant, its directors, officers, agents, attorneys and employes be similarly enjoined from effecting or consummating any form of combination or agreement which shall disturb the independent integrity of each defendant and its independent management and control, whether such management shall take on the form herein alleged or any other form, and that hereinunder the defendant Northern Pacific Railway company, its officers, directors, agents, attorneys and employes be similarly enjoined from entering into any agreement directly or indirectly destroying free and unlimited competition between said defendant and said Great Northern Railway company by interchange of traffic, poolings or earnings or division of profits or otherwise.

The fourth prayer is identical with the third, with the exception that the Great Northern Railway company is substituted for the Northern Pacific Railway company.

5. That the defendant, James J. Hill, be enjoined individually and as an officer and director of the defendant, the Great Northern Railway company, from paying or permitting any dividend or dividends to be paid out of the earnings or treasury of said railway company upon stock of said railway company held by the defendant, the Northern Securities company, taken by it in exchange for the stock of said railway company and as an officer or director of said railway company from receiving at any directors' or stockholders' meeting of said railway company the vote of any shares of stock of said railway company taken by said securities company in exchange for stock, and as an officer or director or stockholder in said Northern Securities company dictating the policy or directing or controlling the rates of transportation or the business affairs of either of the defendant railway companies.

6. For such other further relief as the nature of the case may require and the court may deem proper in the premises.

Ends Fight on Grain Rates.

Kansas City, Mo., April 9.—The complaint authorized by the Kansas City Transportation bureau with the Interstate Commerce Commission against the Union Pacific, Rock Island, Santa Fe and Missouri Pacific railroads has been withdrawn. Commissioner W. P. Trickett of the Transportation bureau has received from officials of these lines assurances of the removal of the Kansas City grain arbitration rate. This ends a fight waged by the Kansas City business men for six years.

THE PEACE HOPE STEADILY WANES.

London, April 8.—The expectation of peace resulting from the present negotiations is steadily waning. The Boer leaders in the field are still irreconcilably opposed to surrendering their independence, it is said in official quarters here.

At the same time it is an unmistakable fact that the British government is far more anxious now to come to terms than at the beginning of the summer campaign. This anxiety is due in part to a desire that the coronation should be preceded by peace, but in a far greater degree to the increasing gravity of Lord Kitchener's position, owing to the steady lessening of the remount supplies.

The Australian horses are evidently useless, while the Argentine animals, even after six months acclimating, which the wastage and pressure at the front render impracticable, are little better, and the European supplies are becoming exhausted. So England's reliance now is mainly on American sources.

Dr. Leyds has agents wherever England is buying horses, and the calculations and plans of the Boer generals are largely based on the information he is sending them on the steady exhaustion of the available horse market of the world. That is the secret of the Boer belief in ultimate victory.

The sensation caused by the atrocities of the Australian irregulars has been deepened by the studiously bald and belated official avowal of the war office. The policy of concealment having failed, it is bitterly resented by the jingo press and the statements published indicating that horrors on a far larger scale than the dry official pronouncement implies are included in the wholesale ill treatment murder of Boer women and children. It is freely suggested in conversations here that these criminal excesses by the Australians illustrate the doctrine of atavism, the ringleaders coming from the colonies which were originally convict settlements.

HANNA SAYS LABOR SHOULD ORGANIZE.

Philadelphia, Pa., April 9.—Senator M. A. Hanna was the guest of the American Academy of Political and Physical Science on the occasion of its annual meeting. His subject was "Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration: Its Possibilities and Limitations."

The keynote of Mr. Hanna's speech was the organization of labor, which, he said, he had favored for thirty years. He denounced socialism as an un-American, and opposed to the principles maintained by the Civic Federation, which sought to bring a peaceful adjustment of all difficulties existing between capital and labor.

He believed, he said, in the former meeting the latter more than half way in any difficulty that should arise. He said he felt much pride in the work of the Civic Federation, which had in its brief career successfully concluded seven strikes and averted two, saving in the latter instances more than 200,000 men from idleness.

He urged arbitration in a sensible and logical way.

PACKING TRUST TO BE INVESTIGATED.

New York, April 9.—Positive statements are made in Washington that President Roosevelt has ordered a searching inquiry into the methods of the beef trust. A western representative in congress said that this had been done and it is generally believed to be the truth.

While complete secrecy will be maintained, it is understood United States district attorneys have been ordered to give evidence in New York, Chicago, Kansas City and other points. Evidence of the sort required is difficult to obtain, and that recently published is said to be more incriminating than any other at hand.

Retail dealers complain that with the present high prices, they are unable to meet the credit demands made by the trust and are obliged to close their shops. It is shown the packers' monopoly sells beef cheaper in London than it does in New York.

FAVORABLE REPORT ON FINANCIAL BILL.

Washington, D. C., April 9.—The house committee on banking and currency, by a vote on party lines, has ordered a favorable report on the financial bill, framed by the republican members, and introduced by Chairman Fowler, "to maintain the gold standard, provide an elastic currency, equalize the rate of interest throughout the country, and further amend the national banking laws."

The details of the measure were given when Mr. Fowler introduced it, and since then the changes made have not affected any of the principles of the bill. A division of banking and currency is created in the treasury department, with a board of control of the currency.

The methods by which banks may take out of circulation are provided, the parity of the silver dollar with gold is established, a provision for the national banks is made, silver bullion in the treasury is to be coined into subsidiary coin, and guaranty funds are provided as a protection against insolvent banks.

Sues Ex-County Treasurer.

Beatrice, Neb., April 8.—Suit has been begun in the district court by County Attorney Sackett against G. W. Maurer, ex-county treasurer, asking for a writ of mandamus to compel Mr. Maurer to refund to the county the sum of $3,325.36, alleged to have been retained by him out of the general fund of the county in excess of the fees and commissions collected by him during his incumbency in office. The case will in all probability be taken up at the opening of district court, April 15.

BLOW UP BANK SAFE.

Robbers Wreck Money Vault in Ruskin, Nuckols County.

Four Successive Explosions Rouse the Sleeping Villagers, Thousands in Cash Left Behind.

Nelson, Neb., April 8.—Word reached here early in the week that the State Bank of Ruskin had been robbed. The outer casing of the safe was blown open and the explosion, of which there were four, aroused the people residing in the vicinity of the bank building.

The money chest is still secure and the bulk of the money was in the chest. Just what amount of money was taken will not be examined until a representative of the insurance company reaches the scene, but it is said not over $5,000 was secured.

The robbers, four in number, were seen going south on foot, and were trailed about three miles, where they had a team waiting.

The sheriff and marshal went from here, and together with the Beatrice bloodhounds are making a hot chase for them.

They went south through Hardy into Kansas, and at Republic the pursuers reported being close after those who are supposed to be the robbers. Some others have been arrested on suspicion.

OVERLOOK THOUSANDS IN BILLS.

Beatrice, Neb., April 8.—Reports that reach this city of the robbery at the Ruskin State bank, state that entrance was effected by raising a back window. Once inside, the robbers drilled in the safe door and nitro-glycerine was used as the explosive. The door was blown completely off its hinges and the cash box was exposed, containing several thousands of dollars. In their haste to leave the building with their booty the robbers overlooked possibly $3,000 in bills, scattered about the room by the force of the explosion.

It is reported here that the thieves got about $5,000 in cash.

The noise of the explosion aroused the citizens of Ruskin, and in less than half an hour after the report was heard a telephone message was received here asking for the service of the Fulton bloodhounds. Trainer Maxfield with a pair of the dogs left the city on a freight train, arriving at Ruskin about 10 o'clock next morning. Upon reaching Ruskin the dogs took the trail of the thieves, which led west from that village.

The bank is capitalized for $7,000 and has deposits aggregating close to $15,000. The president is A. G. McGrew and the cashier, F. McGrew. Ruskin is a small town in the eastern part of Nuckolls county and is but a short distance west of Hebron on the Rock Island road.

SENATOR CLARKE JOINS WITH GOULD.

Los Angeles, Cal., April 5.—The Herald says: Los Angeles will be the Pacific coast terminus of the Gould railway system. The Gould and Clark interests have combined at either side of the continent. Senator W. A. Clark having joined with George J. Gould in the building of a road from Pittsburg to the Atlantic seaboard and Mr. Gould becoming interested in the San Pedro, Los Angeles & Salt Lake road. These arrangements will give the Gould system a continuous line of roads across the continent, beginning with the Salt Lake, then the Rio Grande Western and the Denver & Rio Grande to Denver. The Missouri Pacific to St. Louis, the Wabash to Pittsburg and the West Virgina Central, with projected extensions to the Atlantic.

Charles W. Clark, the senator's son, who is now in Los Angeles, and J. Ross Clark, brother of the senator, who has the management of the Salt Lake railroad, would only partly confirm the reports of a combination of the Gould and Clark interests.

"I have not received any direct information concerning a combine with Mr. Gould," said J. Ross Clark. "It seems probable and such a connection at Salt Lake would give Mr. Gould the long-sought outlet to the Pacific coast, but I cannot enlighten you further at present."

BILL LEAVES TWO COMMISSIONERS.

Washington, D. C., April 8.—The republican members of the house insular committee practically completed the Philippine civil government bill and a print of the revised measure will be submitted to the democratic members next week. As now changed the bill reduces the number of Philippine commissioners to the United States from three to two. The civil government plan and the gold standard coinage are preserved as framed some time ago. A change is made in the friar lands section, by which the Philippines committee will determine the methods of opening these lands to homesteaders.

Mementoes of Prince Henry.

Kiel, April 9.—The damage done to the imperial yacht Hohenzollern by American memento hunters while it was in New York harbor as the domicile of Prince Henry was not nearly so great as has been reported. The only articles missing are various small objects from the mess rooms, some sailors' cap bands with the word "Hohenzollern," a lot of uniform buttons which had been cut off with the sailors' clothes, and other objects transferred from the clothes chests

IMPORTANT CHANGES IN INDIAN LANDS

Washington, D. C., April 9.—The Indian bill, which has passed the senate carries with it one of the most important provisions looking to the solution of the Indian problem that has been engrafted upon the statute books since the government began its systematic treatment of the Indian question. The bill provides that where Indian allottees have died the adult heirs of any deceased Indian to whom a trust or other patents containing restrictions upon alienation has been or shall be issued for lands allotted to him, may sell and convey the land inherited from such decedent. It further provides that in case of any treaty or an agreement with an Indian tribe, allotments have been made to white citizens without Indian blood who are citizens of the United States, final patents shall be issued to such white allottees without waiting for the usual trust, and they are permited to sell or dispose of land so allotted without restrictions. In addition to this the senate adopted a still further provision amendatory to the house bill, providing that any Indian over the age of 21 years to whom an allotment of land had been made or shall be made, may dispose of the same by will subject to the condition and limitation of the allotment, and in keeping with laws of the state or territory in which such lands are situated.

For years men who have made the Indian question a study and who have been advocates of a broader policy than the government has pursued, have urged this legislation for the purpose of taking lands out of the tribal relations and permit them to be sold to individuals who would thereby return a measure of their ownership to the general government.

IOWA RAISES THE JUSTICES' SALARY.

Des Moines, Ia., April 9.—The most important work done in the legislature last week was the adoption by the house of the bill to reorganize the Iowa supreme court and raise salaries. The bill as originally introduced was in substance that which was approved by the State Bar association and generally desired by the lawyers of the state. It provided for three general terms of the court, but practically continuous sessions, and a general change in the method of making the assignments and hearing cases so that the decisions will follow submission much closer than at present. It also fixed salaries at $6,000 a year instead of $4,000. The house cut the bill to pieces and eliminated all but the salary feature and fixed it at $5,000. The senate took up the house bill and substituted it for the one the house had passed and the house accepted the original bill as it came over from the senate in the form of a substitute.

An effort was made to reduce the salary to $5,000 a year, and on this motion Speaker Eaton, for the first time during the session, came down to the floor and delivered a stirring speech in opposition to such a change and in general defense of the original bill.

A resolution was adopted for a committee to view a portrait of the late Senator Harlan with a view to purchasing it for the state.

The bill to increase the salary of the superintendent of the Feeble Minded institute at Glenwood to $2,700 was passed.

A bill to authorize the executive council to employ expert accountants for the state to go over the state books was passed, also a bill to provide for filling cacancies in elective city offices. The Hubbard bill on railroad matter was brought up, but not put to a vote.

A bill to appropriate for the expense of inspecting private and county insane asylums was passed. A bill to make it impossible to withdraw a name from a petition of consent in a saloon case and to permit identification of names was passed.

Thinks Well Is Poisoned.

Beatrice, Neb., April 8.—Will Smith of Filley brought to Beatrice some water taken from his well, which he thinks contains poison. Applied to the flesh it causes the skin to crack and severe pains follow the drinking of it. Mr. Smith is of the opinion that his enemies are after him and have thrown lye or some other substance in the well for the purpose of poisoning the family. The water is being analyzed by H. Kleinhaus, a chemist of this city. Mr. Smith is not a relative of Willard Smith, the young man who was shot and killed at Filley recently.

Order Ten Boats.

Pittsburg, Pa., April 9.—Two men from the republic of Colombia, Senor Pedro del Ospina, for many years secretary of war, and P. G. Ingleside, formerly a resident of Allegreny, have been in Pittsburg two days at the boat building establishment of James Rees and Son. Before they leave the city a contract will be made for the construction of ten large packets to ply on the Magdalena river. These boats are to be strictly modern in equipment and are patterned after the craft in use on the Ohio river.

The South Dakota law requiring dentists to take out a license is to be tested in the courts on the ground that it is unconstitutional.

Deserved Hanging.

Chicago, April 8.—"A legacy of $10,000,000 for educational purposes does not mitigate the crime of a lifetime. It is the way a man gets his money, and not the way he spends it," said Peter Van Vlissingen, the Boer sympathizer. "Rhodes was the evil genius of South Africa. He has left behind him more skeletons than any man since Napoleon. Leaving a large bequest for educational purposes does not change his acts. It does not wipe out the Jameson raid or the moneyed manipulation

DOWRY TO EDUCATION.

Cecil Rhodes' Will to Promote Union of English-Speaking People.

Provides Scholarships at Old Oxford to Each Territory and State of American Union.

London, April 9.—The will of Cecil Rhodes provides for the establishment of colonial scholarships, as previously announced, and two American scholarships to each of the present states and territories of the United States. The will also provides for five scholarships for students of German birth at Oxford.

All the Rhodes scholarships, American, colonial and German, are at Oxford.

Mr. Rhodes' will is a remarkable and voluminous document of more than 3,500 words. Even this is not the entire will, as the executors only gave out the portions which they consider to be of public interest. It was executed in 1899. There is a codicil attached on the day of the deceased's last departure from England, and another cabled from Capetown, which leaves $20,000 annually to keep up the spot in the Matopopo hills where his remains are to be buried. The will further directs that a railroad extension be made into the Matopopo hills, so that visitors may go there at the week-end to inspect the "majesty and glory of their surroundings."

Mr. Rhodes explicitly says he is to be buried in an aperture, cut in the solid rock, surmounted by a brass tablet bearing the words: "Here lies the remains of Cecil John Rhodes."

No one else is to be buried there who has not deserved well of his country.

Mr. Rhodes bequeaths all his landed property near Buluwayo and Salisbury, both in Matabeleland, to trustees, whom he directs to cultivate the land for the instruction of the people of Rhodesia. His celebrated country place at Groot Schuur, not far from Capetown, Mr. Rhodes leaves as a residence "for the prime minister of the federal government of South Africa," with $5,000 for its maintenance.

BEQUEST TO ORIEL COLLEGE.

Mr. Rhodes divides the $500,000 bequeathed to Oriel college into several funds, indicating exclusively how he wishes them to be applied, and adds this characteristic sentence:

"And finally, as college authorities live secluded from the world and so are like children as to commercial matters, I would advise them to consult my trustees regarding the investment of these various funds so far as they would receive great help and assistance from such advice."

Regarding the American scholarships Mr. Rhodes says:

"Whereas, I desire to encourage and foster an appreciation of the advantages which I implicitly believe will result from a union of the English-speaking people throughout the world and to encourage in the students from the United States who will benefit by these scholarships an attachment to the country from which they have sprung, but without, I hope, withdrawing them or their sympathies from the land of their adoption or birth."

The will provides that the executors may at their discretion delay establishing any territorial scholarships until such time as they may think fit, but it provides also that the territorial scholarships once established shall not lapse upon the admission of the territory to statehood.

Another provision is that no student shall be qualified or disqualified for election to a scholarship on account of race or religious opinion.

Mr. Rhodes desires that the students should not patronize any particular college, but distribute themselves all throughout the university. The trustees are allowed to suspend or remove any scholar at their discretion.

Mr. Rhodes expresses the hope that the trustees will arrange an annual dinner and reunion for all "students and scholarship graduates who are able to attend and invite thereto as guests persons who have shown sympathy with the views expressed by me in my will."

COAL STRIKE SEEMS TO BE INEVITABLE.

Indianapolis, Ind., April 8.—At the national headquarters of the United Mine Workers of America in this city the feeling of uneasiness is apparent.

A strike of 6,000 men in the Indiana block coal district and little hope entertained for an amicable adjustment of the differences in the anthracite fields and in Virginia has thrown something of a damper on officials and upon members of the national executive board, wh oarrived to attend a meeting of that body.

The board must take up and consider all the differences now existing.

It was admitted that an amicable settlement can scarcely be secured.

Will Call Out State Troops.

Guthrie, Okl., April 8.—The Comanche county authorities wired Governor Furgeson, stating that proclamations have been posted all over the city of Lawton warning all negroes to leave town and that the city was wild with excitement, and asking the governor if he will order out the territorial national guard if it becomes necessary. Governor Furgeson answered that every Oklahoma militiaman will be sent to Lawton if necessary to protect the colored population.

BRITISH LOSS AT HARTS IS HEAVY.

Pretoria, April 9.—The British losses in the engagement in the neighborhood of Harts river, in the southwestern extremity of the Transvaal, March 31, were three officers and twenty-four men killed and sixteen officers and 131 men wounded. The Boers admit that they lost 137 men killed or wounded. The action occurred at Doornbalt farm a few miles south of the scene of General Delarey's defeat of General Methuen. The Boers, who were commanded by Generals Kemp and Potgiler, attacked with great determination, but the Canadian contingent, which was the last to arrive in South Africa, from Canada, and two squadrons of yeomanry under Colonel Cookson and the artillery and mounted rifles, under Colonel Keir, presented such a stout front that the burghers were finally forced to retreat.

The casualty list shows that the second Canadian mounted rifles had four officers wounded, nine men killed and forty men wounded.

London, April 9.—The gallantry of the Canadian troops at the engagement with the Boers near Hart river, southwestern Transvaal, March 31, attracts unstinted praise from the British press. These comments form a striking contrast to the recently printed notification that the attention of Lord Roberts, the commander-in-chief, had been drawn to various cases where colonials who had been awarded commissionse were treated as inferiors by the regular officers and other commands. Lord Roberts, it was officially announced, is making investigation and intended to inflict the most serious penalties on any British officers found guilty of such conduct. Privately, and in letters to the press, many colonial officers have frequently complained "that they are good enough at the front, but are not wanted at a Capetown hotel or in a London drawing room."

The South African casualty list shows that the losses sustained by the Second dragoon guards in their sharp rear guard action witn the Boers near Boschman's kop during the evening of March 31 were severe. Two officers were killed and five were wounded and eighteen men were killed and fifty-eight wounded.

WARM DEBATE ON EXCLUSION BILL.

Washington, D. C., April 8.—In the senate a particularly strong speech was made against the Chinese exclusion bill in its present shape by Senator Platt of Connecticut. He criticised the provisions governing admission into the United States of Chinese teachers, merchants and students.

He said certain exclusion provisions and the restriction particularly surrounding the admission to teachers, were so stringent as to prevent any such coming into the United States. He said further that what was known as western civilization of the orient was largely due to the influence exercised by those Chinese who had been educated in this country and had returned to the Chinese kingdom.

The debate became so heated at one time, that Mr. Gallinger misunderstood a remark of Mr. Lodge, and warmly and flatly denied the former's assertion. He apologized when things were made clear.

During the discussion of the bill Mr. Lodge declared that the Six Companies secured $200 for each Chinese male smuggled into the United States, and $1,000 for each female. The latter were sold for immoral purposes. He declared that the fraudulent representations to secure the admission of coolie labor to this country in the guise of merchants, were simply astounding.

SECRETARY ROOT ENDS TEDIOUS LABOR.

Washington, D. C., April 9.—A little over a year ago the senate adopted a resolution calling on the secretary of war for information tending to show the authenticity and genuineness of the order for the massacre of the residents of Manila on February 15, 1899. The secretary of war has just made response to the resolution, all of the time since the adoption of the resolution being required to complete the search for the necessary papers here and in the islands.

The secretary transmits in answer to the resolution, a photographic reproduction of the alleged massacre order, bearing date of February 7, 1899, and with this photograph are a number of papers intended to demonstrate that it is an absolute copy of an original that actually existed and was issued by the late General Luna. Confirmatory evidence on this point, it is stated, is a statement by Aguinaldo, affirming the genuineness of Luna's signature to the order.

The secretary's report states that Luna was then director or assistant secretary of war of the Malolos government and commanding general of the Philippine army operating in the northern boundaries of the city of Manito. Soundica, who was a colonel of militia and who army officers in 1899 generally believed to have been the author of this order, was a member of General Luna's staff and probably the medium through which the order was given by Luna to the chiefs of militia stationed in Manila.

Bartender Slaps Mrs. Nation.

Nebraska City, Neb., April 9.—Mrs. Carrie Nation was arrested here and taken to jail, but was released on her promise to leave by the next train. She had been making the rounds of the saloons and at one time threatened to demolish a large picture and smash the bar. The bartender warned her, but she persisted, and he slapped her twice in the face and put her out of the saloon. She soon returned with a party of adherents, but a policeman arrested her and escorted her to jail.