

NEWS FROM IN FRONT

Queen Makes Announcement, But the War Office is Silent.

CRONJE IS REPORTED CORNERED

Events Indicate It May Be So, But Authentic News is Lacking—Butler Shelling Boer Positions—Reported Strength of the Boers at Stormberg, 6,000.

LONDON, Feb. 21.—The War office has issued a dispatch from Lord Roberts, the main importance of which is the fact that it is dated Paardeberg, 7:05 p. m., Monday. Paardeberg is thirty miles east of Jacobsdal. The dispatch announces that the railroad to Kimberley is open and that General Methuen will proceed there with reinforcements forthwith, and that large supplies will be forwarded to the town.

The queen, prior to leaving Osborne house this morning, on her return to Windsor, inspected the Fourth battalion of the Lincolnshire militia. Her majesty announced with a gratified smile that good news had been received this morning from the seat of war.

Another account says the queen specified that the good news was from Ladysmith.

LONDON, Feb. 21.—Whatever good news may have been received from the front is being carefully guarded. In spite of the queen's announcement to the Fourth battalion of the Lincolnshire militia this morning prior to her departure from Osborne House to Windsor that good news had been received from the seat of war, the War officials solemnly averred that they had received no news up to 1:30 o'clock this afternoon. Unofficially it is rumored that General Kitchener has brought General Cronje to a standstill and has engaged him, and it is added the War office now is only awaiting the result of the battle. This, however, though plausible, may be premature. In any case the confident hope that General Cronje has been cut off from Bloombfontein continues to prevail in London, especially in view of detailed dispatches saying that the Free Staters, when they saw the extent of the British forces, were in favor of surrendering.

The first train to Kimberley left Capetown last night and the neighborhood of the famous siege seems thoroughly cleared of Boers.

General Buller, apparently, is contenting himself with shelling the Boers from his newly gained position at Monte Christo, which, according to good opinion, is likely to form his base for another attempt to relieve Ladysmith.

The Westminster Gazette's military critic says he believes the Boers have started northward in Natal and will raise the siege of Ladysmith and reinforce General Cronje. But this must be regarded as rather optimistic, at any rate until General Buller has developed a Boers' second line of defense, which, on every attempt to reach Ladysmith, has proved impregnable.

A dispatch from Pietermaritzburg, dated Monday, February 19, says all is quiet in Zululand and the Boers' main bodies are reported to be retiring upon Dundee and Helpmaakar, leaving small forces and two pieces of artillery at each magistracy.

Accord to special dispatch from Tarkastad, a refugee who has arrived there says the Boers are 6,000 strong at Stormberg, but that at Burgerdorp they have only a small town guard.

AMENDS CIVIL SERVICE LAW.

Bill in the House to Make Appointments for Five Years.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21.—Representative Lacey of Iowa has introduced a bill amending the civil service act. It provides that government employees shall serve out a term of five years, tunity for reappointment for another five years. Those now in the service shall serve out a term of five years, and those who have served beyond that time shall be divided into classes whose terms shall gradually expire. The annual report of the commissioner of patents for the year ending December 31, 1899, shows that the total receipts of the office amounted to \$1,325,457, a sum but twice exceeded since 1836. After deducting the expenditures for the year there was a surplus of \$113,673. The patent office has now paid into the treasury \$5,086,649 more than it has drawn out. The number of patents issued, including designs and reissues, was 25,527, a number but once exceeded. The number of patents expiring during the year was 18,135.

NO ACTION CONCERNING MACRUM

Great Britain Will Take Her Time in Replying to Charges.

LONDON, Feb. 21.—No action has yet been taken by the British government in regard to the allegations made by Charles E. Macrum, the former United States consul at Pretoria, nor has Mr. Joseph H. Choate, the United States ambassador here, received any instructions to make inquiries in connection with the matter. The British officials declare that it is extremely improbable that consular letters were opened at Durban as alleged by Mr. Macrum.

Go to Invite Dewey.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Feb. 21.—Department Commander Inman of the G. A. R. Hon. Charles S. Rannels, former Congressman William H. Hinrichsen and M. F. Dunlap of Jacksonville, left tonight for Washington, where they will be joined by Senator Cullom. They comprise the committee which bore to Admiral Dewey January 16 the verbal invitation which he accepted to be present May 3 at the department encampment of the G. A. R. at Jacksonville. They take to him a magnificent souvenir invitation.

THE POPULISTS FAVOR FUSION.

National Convention to Be Held at Sioux Falls, S. C., on May 9th.

LINCOLN, Feb. 22.—The next national convention of the populist party will be held in Sioux Falls, S. D., on May 9. Representation is based on the vote for Gen. J. B. Weaver for president in 1892, or if any candidate for state office has since polled a larger vote, that vote shall be the basis. Two delegates at large are given each state. This was the decision reached in a somewhat extended but harmonious meeting of the fusion wing of the national committee.

The feature of the meeting was the unanimity with which the members accepted and indorsed the declaration of Senator Allen, of Nebraska, that Wm. J. Bryan would be the candidate of both the populist and democratic parties, and the coupling with his name that of Judge Henry C. Caldwell, of Arkansas, as the logical and most promising vice presidential possibility. Senator Allen went so far as to say that he had positive knowledge that if Judge Caldwell were nominated by the populists as Mr. Bryan's running mate he would be acceptable to the democrats, and the fusion national ticket would be Bryan and Caldwell.

Chairman Butler in a statement to the Associated Press, at the conclusion of the meeting said he had no regrets for his decisions of yesterday which led to the bolt of the middle of the road men. "It was a bolt here or at the convention," said Senator Butler, "and we preferred that the disturbers show their hands early in the fight."

IN LIEU OF WAR.

Police System is About to be Installed in the Philippines.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—According to information received at the War department from Manila, with the end of the present expedition of General Bates into the two provinces at the extreme southern part of the island of Luzon, military operations in the Philippines close.

Afterward there is nothing to do but to undertake to maintain order through a police system. Attention is now being given to that subject and steps are being taken to form a thoroughly mobile, lightly armed gendarmie, something on the order of the Canadian mounted police, to cover the islands at all points and conserve the energies of the regular troops.

The arrest of a Tagal on the charge of being a guerrilla, as reported from Manila yesterday, it is stated at the department, marks the initiation of another policy toward the insurgents who still remain under arms.

As the summary punishment of guerrillas cannot be had until some action has been taken to declare the termination of the application of the rules of war, it is assumed at the War department that General Otis has already issued some kind of a proclamation or notice to the natives, warning them that if they defy the rules of war and pursue a predatory warfare they will be treated as guerrillas when captured.

The president is devoting special attention to the formation of the new Philippine commission, acting on advice that the army has reached the end of its functions in the islands and that the time is ripe for the establishment of civil government throughout the archipelago.

Cuban Tobacco Dealers Protest.

HAVANA, Feb. 22.—For some time tobacco seed of an inferior quality has been shipped to Cuba and the Cubans naturally feel that this will militate against the future reputation and value of the local product. Earnest protests have frequently been made and today General Wood issued an order which prohibits the further importation of such seed. Reputable tobacco dealers and the public generally are much gratified.

Senator Has Two Amendments.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—Senator Culberson of Texas today gave notice of two amendments he will propose to the Porto Rican government bill. One of these provides for free trade between Porto Rico and the United States proper. The other gives the native Porto Ricans the same right to choose whether they will become citizens of the United States that the Paris treaty confers on the residents who may have been born in the Spanish peninsula.

Report Reciprocity Treaty.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—The senate committee on foreign relations today ordered a favorable report on the treaty of reciprocity with France. No amendment was made to the treaty. The committee did not take up the Hay-Panncote treaty relating to the Nicaragua canal.

Quay Case to Be Called Up.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—An effort is to be made to get the question involving the seating of Senator Quay of Pennsylvania formally before the senate for consideration.

Penrose of Pennsylvania gave notice today that he would call up the case tomorrow. As it is a privileged question he may be able to secure a vote on the taking up of the case for consideration and further develop the Quay strength in the senate, at least approximately.

Cronje in a Tight Place.

LONDON, Feb. 22.—A private telegram received here from Berlin this afternoon declares that General Cronje is in a bad position bearing out yesterday's Berlin rumor that General Cronje was surrounded and that a time limit had been given him within which to capitulate.

Canadian Regiment Suffers.

TORONTO, Feb. 22.—A special dispatch to the Globe says the First Canadian contingent was engaged at Modder river all day Sunday and that eighteen men of the regiment were killed and sixty wounded.

BUTTERMEN THANKFUL

Some Resolutions that Were Adopted Before Adjournment.

THANKS FOR A CORDIAL WELCOME

Those Who Have Generously Contributed Funds, the Givers of Low Transportation, Faithful and Efficient Officers and Others Come in for Good Words—Other Nebraska Matters.

LINCOLN, Feb. 23.—Before adjournment the National Creamery Buttermakers' association adopted the following resolutions:

"Resolved, That we, the members of the National Creamery Buttermakers' association, in session assembled at Lincoln, Neb., February 22, 1900, having enjoyed the unstinted hospitality of the people of Nebraska upon the occasion of their ninth annual convention, do hereby extend our sincere appreciation and thanks to the state of Nebraska for her cordial welcome; to the people of Lincoln for their liberal and fraternal treatment; to the members of the Commercial club for their unselfish and thoughtful entertainment of the city's guests, and we especially desire to extend to Messrs. Morris Friend, J. C. Seacrest, A. M. Priest, A. T. Peters and E. C. Folsom, the local committee of the Commercial club, the thanks of the association for their labors in perfecting arrangements for this convention which have resulted so satisfactorily in every particular; and, be it further

"Resolved, That in appreciation of the dependence of this association upon the financial support of the allied interests for a continuance of its work upon the plans adopted by its officers and managers, we extend our hearty thanks to all who have so generously contributed to the funds of this association during the last year; to the railroad corporations who have by their grant or reduced transportation rates permitted the assembly of so large a proportion of our membership, and to the dairy press for their liberality in advertising the affairs of the association without charge; and, be it further

"Resolved, That the thanks of this association be extended to the managers of the Burlington route for their proudest decoration of the convention hall in which our sessions have been held; and, be it further

"Resolved, That we extend our sincere thanks to the officers who during the last year have so faithfully devoted their labors to the needs of the association, and to all others who, by their personal efforts, have succeeded in making this convention one of the most successful in the history of the National Creamery Buttermakers' association; and, be it further

"Resolved, That we, the members of the National Creamery Buttermakers' association, desire to express our appreciation of the valuable work being done for the agricultural interests of the United States by the department of agriculture under the direction of Hon. James Wilson, and especially to thank the secretary of agriculture for his attention to the needs of the dairy industry, his interest in our association and his honored presence at our convention; and, be it further

"Resolved, That we, the members of the National Creamery Buttermakers' association, believing that all creamery butter should be adjudged as to its merit upon a uniform basis of quality, respectfully recommend that in future competitive exhibitions of butter under the auspices of this association no distinction be made between the product of separator creameries and that from factories in which the butter is made from gathered cream, but that all exhibits be accepted under the uniform classification of "creamery."

Porter Kept Busy.

LINCOLN, Feb. 23.—Secretary of State Porter is busily engaged these days in securing and compiling evidence in the arguments to be heard by the state board of transportation March 1 on the tentative order issued some time ago ordering the railroads to reduce the freight rates on cattle 10 per cent and on hogs 5 per cent. It will be remembered that the secretary and the attorney general were not disposed to sign the order demanding this reduction, both contending that it was not enough.

From the evidence already on hand, Secretary Porter is of the opinion that he and Mr. Smyth were justified in their conclusions.

Funeral of a Nebraskan.

FREMONT, Neb., Feb. 26.—The funeral of the late Dr. L. J. Abbott, who died at South Omaha, was held from St. James Episcopal church. At the request of the deceased the burial service of the church was read by Rev. Irving Johnson of South Omaha, and there was no funeral sermon or eulogy pronounced.

Prepare for Large Funeral.

YORK, Neb., Feb. 26.—As no church in the city is large enough to hold the large crowd who desire to attend the triple funeral service of the three members of Company A, First Nebraska, whose remains have arrived from the Philippines the large new auditorium will be used.

Supreme Court Appointments.

LINCOLN, Feb. 26.—It is learned from reliable sources that at the sitting of the supreme court Tuesday, Judges Holcomb and Sullivan decided to appoint Lee Herdman of Omaha to the position of clerk of the court and librarian, the position now held by D. A. Campbell. From the same source it is learned that Wilbur F. Bryant of Hartington will be made official court reporter, to succeed Charles F. Rose, and that Eland W. Nelson of the land commissioner's office will succeed Edward J. Straight as assistant clerk.

A NEBRASKA PIONEER GONE.

Death of Dr. Abbott, Former Superintendent of the Insane Asylum.

SOUTH OMAHA, Feb. 24.—Dr. L. J. Abbott, late superintendent of the Hospital for the Insane at Lincoln and one of the best known pioneers of this part of Nebraska, died at his residence in South Omaha on Thursday. For a time in the early days, he was a prominent farmer and stock raiser in the western part of Douglas county and afterward, for many years, was a practicing physician at Fremont, from which he was appointed to the superintendency of the hospital. From personal participation few men, if any, had a wider knowledge or a more accurate memory than he of the events and incidents of those early times in Nebraska, his reminiscences of which were peculiarly interesting and valuable.

Dr. Abbott was a man of marked characteristics. His professional skill, his grasp of practical affairs, his integrity and sturdy manhood secured him the respect of all, while his warm, genial and sympathetic nature made him hosts of friends. Without being a seeker of place, he inclined to take an active interest in party affairs and controversies, with decided convictions upon political questions, but his main lines of life were professional and his devotion to his family absorbing.

About ten days ago he had a paralytic stroke. As a physician, he knew at once and forecasted the result. For the last three days he was unconscious. After a long, useful and honored life he died in the peace and quiet of his home. His wife, four sons and two daughters survive him, one of the sons being now in service in the Philippines. The funeral services will be held at St. James Episcopal church in Fremont.

Triple Soldiers' Funeral.

BEATRICE, Neb., Feb. 24.—A triple funeral of three First Nebraska soldiers who died in the Philippines and whose bodies were recently returned to the United States, was held here. Their names were Frank M. Knouse and Bruce E. Macy of Company C, and George W. Andrews of Company A.

The funeral was strictly a military one and was conducted by the comrades of the deceased soldiers. Services were held at the First Presbyterian church, where the remains lay in state from morning until the services opened in the afternoon. The services were conducted by Chaplain Matley of the First regiment. The interior of the church was decorated with flags and flowers and the caskets were draped in flags. The procession to the cemetery included former members of Company C, the Wymore battery, Rawlins Relief corps and other organizations. Following this came a long line of carriages. At the cemetery the burial salute was given by the firing squad.

Novel Scheme for Theater.

COLUMBUS, Neb., Feb. 24.—Jasper Hoffmann of York recently made an offer to the citizens of this place that if they would take insurance in the company he represented to the amount of \$5,000 in premiums, he would invest \$13,000 in an auditorium here. Pledges from responsible parties now lack but \$225 of the required amount and the subscribers have elected the following committee to proceed with the work: C. S. Gray, Jonas Welch, George Lehman, I. Silberman and Daniel Schwann.

To Advertise Its Possibilities.

BROWNVILLE, Neb., Feb. 24.—The business men's association of Brownville is taking steps to thoroughly advertise this section's resources as a fruit growing country. No finer fruit is grown in this latitude than Nemaha county fruit, and the business men believe all the county needs to develop its possibilities is to procure a canning factory and other needed improvements necessary to the growth of Brownville and vicinity.

Johnson Will Satisfy Creditors.

MEAD, Neb., Feb. 24.—Lee Johnson has made arrangements with his creditors whereby they receive 80 per cent, of which 40 per cent will be paid at once and the balance in six months. No clue to the robbers has been secured, but local talent is suspected. Things are beginning to look brighter for the creditors.

Fair Grounds for Sale.

NORFOLK, Neb., Feb. 24.—The old Norfolk fair grounds have been advertised for sale by a committee of the owners of the grounds. This association was formed in 1896 and for several years conducted fairs that were well attended, yet not sufficiently to be a financial success.

Accused by Girl Mother.

SOUTH SIOUX CITY, Neb., Feb. 24.—M. Priest of Homer has been arrested on the charge of being the father of a child born to Maud White, daughter of Herbert White of Homer. Young Priest denies the charge.

Sm-lixox Nearly Stamped Out.

DU BOIS, Neb., Feb. 24.—Barring the case of one of Dr. McCole's children, who is now down with the disease, there are no cases of smallpox in Du Bois or vicinity. The sick child is doing nicely so far, and the attending physician and nurse are confident of his recovery. There is no uneasiness felt now as to the disease spreading, and business goes on very much as usual. The authorities have the matter well in hand, and have had since the first case appeared, and it is only a matter of a little time until it will be stamped entirely out.

His Jawbone Worth \$10,000.

PLATTSBOUTH, Neb., Feb. 24.—William Tate has brought suit against the Burlington road for \$10,850. On the 23d day of last March Tate was stealing a ride on a passenger train from Pacific Junction, and when near this city he claims the conductor kicked him off, breaking his jaw bone, badly bruising his face, and rendering him insensible for three weeks, during which time he was cared for by the county physician of this county. Plaintiff claims \$10,000 damages for personal injury and \$850 for doctor bill, loss of time, expenses, etc., during the time he was disabled.

THE STANDARD OIL CO.

Their Celebrated Case Comes Up Before the Nebraska Supreme Court.

ARGUED BY PROMINENT ATTORNEYS

Senator Thurston and F. L. McCoy Pleaded for the Corporation, While Attorney General Smyth Represents the State—What the Oil Company Sets Forth.

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 22.—The question of the jurisdiction of the supreme court to try the case of the State of Nebraska against the Standard Oil Company, brought under the anti-trust law, was argued before the supreme court by Senator John M. Thurston and F. L. McCoy of Omaha, representing the corporation, and Attorney General Smyth representing the state. The case was called up for consideration on the demurrer filed by the attorneys for the defendant company denying the right of the supreme court to hear the case in original jurisdiction.

The argument was opened by the attorney general, who spoke for nearly an hour on the legal phase of the question, attempting to prove that the case at issue was civil and not criminal in nature. Senator Thurston followed, speaking for an hour on the opposite side of the case. McCoy of Omaha closed for the defense.

The action is the one in which the attorney general seeks, on the ground that the company has violated the anti-trust law, to enforce the forfeitures and penalties provided by the act, by means of an injunction enjoining the defendant from doing any further business in the state. The attorney general first instituted the suit in the district court of Douglas county; afterward dismissed it and then began it again in the supreme court. The Standard Oil company contends that the attorney general was right in instituting the suit in the district court but wrong in instituting it in the supreme court. The company contends that the supreme court can hear the case only on appeal or possibly ancillary to an appeal. It cites the constitution to prove its belief that the supreme court has no jurisdiction in original actions of injunction because the word "injunction" does not appear therein.

Considerable early history of Nebraska was related by the attorneys for the defendant company to prove that the constitution had shorn the state of the power it once had to assume original jurisdiction over a certain variety of cases. It was insisted that the main purpose of the new constitution of 1875 was to take away the original jurisdiction of the supreme court except in particular specified cases, the original jurisdiction of all other cases being vested in the district, county and other inferior courts.

The attorney general brought this case in the supreme court on the theory that it was a civil case, in which the state was a party and, therefore, by the constitution one over which the supreme court had jurisdiction. This assumption was denied by the attorneys for the Standard Oil company, who held that the action was purely penal or criminal in character.

Wilson Addresses the Buttermakers.

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 22.—Secretary Wilson of the Department of Agriculture spoke before the buttermakers' convention. Mr. Wilson said his purpose in attending the meeting was to get an inspiration for his work in Washington and for studying the needs of the dairymen. He said the Department of Agriculture was attempting to open up new markets for dairy products in the Orient, and while the results so far obtained were not very satisfactory, he hoped for better conditions in the future and for a wider and more extensive market. The speaker also called attention to the fact that the dairy market in the United States was the greatest dairy market in the world and that foreign butter and cheese men were constantly trying to break into it.

A Soldier's Burial.

SILVER CREEK, Neb., Feb. 22.—The body of Charles W. Paterson of Company H, First South Dakota volunteers, killed in action at Calumpit, Philippine islands, April 25, 1899, arrived here Tuesday for burial. The remains reposed at the home of the deceased's sister, Mrs. A. L. Davis, until Wednesday, when they were taken to the Congregational church, from which the funeral occurred at 2 p. m.

Omahan to Meet Oom Paul.

OMAHA, Neb., 20.—Dr. G. Adolph Koerber, until recently an instructor in the Omaha Medical college, will start for Pretoria, South Africa, Thursday of this week to enlist as a surgeon in the Boer army.

"I have had no correspondence with the military authorities of the Transvaal," said the doctor, "but I think there is no doubt of my being accepted. I go solely for the experience I will get in the army hospitals. Being a German, I am naturally in sympathy with the Boer cause, but this sympathy has little if anything to do with taking me to Pretoria. So far as I know at present I shall go alone."

Soldiers' Bodies are Home.

YORK, Neb., Feb. 22.—The bodies of two more of York county's volunteer members of Company F, First Nebraska, have arrived. Sergeant Walter Poor, the son of Henry Poor, a pioneer farmer, living north of York, and Private Milton Lynde, the son of Rev. Lynde. Sergeant Poor was 22 years of age and while in the front ranks in a charge in the Philippines on March 26, 1899, was shot, dying instantly. Four days later Milton Lynde was killed in battle at Gingenettes. Lynde was only 19 years of age.

A NEWSPAPER FAMINE

SCARCITY OF PRINT PAPER MAY BRING IT ON.

Great Shortage of the Material from Which It is Made—Canadian Supply of Wood Pulp Shut Off Entirely for the Present.

(From the Chicago Daily Inter-Ocean.)

A serious famine threatens the paper industry of the United States. Various causes have conspired to lessen the product of the mills, while the demand for print paper and the other ordinary grades is unprecedented.

The conditions led to a secret meeting of the leading paper manufacturers of the United States yesterday at the Great Northern hotel, to consider what could be done to avert the famine threatened by the shortage in wood pulp, which, if it is not relieved, will cause the vast paper mills of the country to shut down and cripple seriously every industry which depends upon the product of the mills. Nearly all of the leading paper manufacturers of the country were present, and the principal topic of interest was a new fiber for the manufacture of paper, to take the place of the wood fibre now in such universal use. What the new fiber is, the paper manufacturers would not say. They averred that at present the process by which it is manufactured is in a crude stage, but they discussed it as the only visible solution of present difficulties.

Great Lack of Material.

"Not for twenty years has such a serious condition confronted the manufacturers of paper, and there is great danger that we may be forced to close our mills for lack of material," said A. D. Schaeffer of the Hartford City Paper company, who presided over the meeting. "Various causes are responsible for this condition. The principal one is that wood pulp, from which the lower grades of paper is manufactured, is so hard to get that there is a constant scramble for material. Recent inquiry of the pulp mills at Sault Ste. Marie, the largest pulp mills in the world, develops the fact that there is not a pound for sale there, and other mills are as hard pressed. The rapid cutting of the forests of the Eastern and middle Western states, and the stopping of the supply from Canada is largely responsible for the threatened famine. Added to the scarcity of timber is the recent mild weather, which has made it impossible to bring the pulp wood which has been cut to market. A large part of the season's cut of the forests of Wisconsin and Michigan, upon which the middle Western states depend for pulp wood, is now lying on the bare ground and cannot be moved until snow comes. Another great danger comes in the possibility of a heavy fall of snow following this long dry season. A fall of eighteen inches of snow would cover up the pulp wood already cut so that it would be next to impossible to dig it out and float it down the river to the mills.

Labor Also Scarce.

"A great scarcity of labor in the pineries has also made the movement of pulp wood to the mills slow. Companies cutting pulp wood have spent thousands of dollars importing men into the pineries to cut pulp wood only to lose them when they got there. Boys of eighteen and nineteen are being largely employed in the work.

"Canada has been the source of supply for many of the Eastern mills, but that source of supply has been cut off as the cutting of timber on crown lands has been prohibited and the province of Quebec makes the importer pay \$1.90 per cord duty, which makes the material too expensive. The only solution we can see is to adopt a new fiber as a substitute for wood fiber. That is the subject of discussion. We have one in view, but I do not care to talk of that now.

"Another difficulty which confronts Eastern manufacturers is a lack of water upon which they depend for power. That, too, is the result of the cutting away of the forests. The mills of the middle West are not embarrassed in this respect to the same extent as the Eastern mills.

"We have not come together to form any combination or to raise prices. The demand naturally governs prices. The sole object is to avert a famine if possible, for a famine would hurt the producer as much as the consumer."

J. C. Brockbank, vice president and Western manager of the Manufacturers' Paper company of New York, with offices in the Rookery building, confirmed the statements made by William Schaeffer concerning the trade.

Condition Is Serious.

"If present conditions in the pineries continue, there will be a serious shortage of pulp wood in the West until next fall," he said. "It has been simply impossible to get the spruce, from which wood pulp is made, to market. It grows in the swamps of the pineries, and the winter has been so open that it has been impossible to haul it to the rivers, down which it is floated to the mills, as wagons would sink to the hubs in mud and water. Only continued cold weather can relieve the condition."

The stock of paper now on hand is extremely short. The export trade, which was large, has been abandoned entirely, and the jobbers have very little free paper on hand. The mills have no free paper and will see that they are in condition to meet contracts already made before they sell to any one else. There is serious danger that the mills may have to shut down entirely for lack of pulp wood. The greatest danger to the trade is likely to be during March and April, and May, but the famine will continue until next fall.