

News in Brief

The estate of the late William C. Whitney of New York is estimated at \$21,234,101.

Rear Admiral Philip H. Cooper, commander-in-chief of the Asiatic station, will be retired on August 4.

Western members of the republican executive committee are soon to confer in Chicago with Chairman Cortelyou.

The congressional merchant marine commission completed its work in Seattle and departed for Tacoma last night.

Albert F. Dawson, private secretary for United States Senator Allison, has been nominated for congress by republicans of the Second Iowa district.

William Preston Harrison, brother of Mayor Harrison, is named as a co-respondent in a counter suit for divorce brought by Andrew P. Carter in New York.

A court at Naples which has been judging a contested will case has decided that the pope is capable of inheriting in Italy, which hitherto had been disputed.

One man was killed and another painfully injured by the explosion of a fifty-gallon siphon which they were testing in a New York soda water apparatus factory.

Capt. Gross, an instructor of the German army balloon corps, has left Berlin for St. Louis, where he will observe the dirigible balloon contests in behalf of the war office.

Tolstoi, in acknowledging the receipt of a copy of Herbert Spencer's autobiography, confessed that he did not like the English philosopher because he had little heart.

It is reported that the general freight offices of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois railroad are to be removed to St. Louis at an early date, and that other departments will follow.

Erie earnings for the fiscal year ended June 30 are figured at \$12,130,350, which would allow a 4 per cent. dividend on the first preferred stock and leave a balance of \$2,743,306.

William E. Curtis declares that the extension of the United States shipping laws to the Philippines imperils the coasting trade because of the absence of sufficient American ships.

Until the advent of the Americans no systematic efforts ever had been made to vaccinate Filipinos. The islands now are declared to be practically free from plague as a result.

Major Kirkpatrick of the Third regiment, Ohio National Guard, has been acquitted by court-martial of the charge of disobedience of orders, growing out of the Springfield riots in March.

The first annual reunion of the United Spanish War Veterans will be held in St. Louis instead of Indianapolis on account of the failure to get stop-over privileges from the railroads.

The will of Mrs. Mary F. Scanlan of St. Louis, disposing of an estate valued at \$1,000,000, has been filed for probate. The bulk of the property is divided among the children and grandchildren.

Two young women of Rochester, Ind., have declared their intention to walk to the World's fair on a wager. They are to leave home without a penny and earn their expenses by working along the road.

A letter from Elihu Root declining a nomination for governor is considered at a conference of republican leaders in New York and other candidates were discussed, but no conclusion was reached.

Eight large sticks of dynamite and two dozen percussion caps were found under the Santa Fe station at El Paso, Tex. The explosives were so arranged that it is thought any heavy jar would have set them off.

Judge Lacombe, in New York, has dismissed the indictment against John A. Benson of California, who was charged with conspiracy to defraud the United States in the acquisition of school lands in Oregon and California.

Lee Shubert, the New York theatrical manager, is held by the authorities at Aux-la-Chapelle, Germany, for having military plans in his possession, but which he claims are photographic plates for use in a new play.

Secretary Hay, after a hard struggle to learn the Russian language, has finally given it up. He says he has a most profound respect for anyone who has ever succeeded in acquainting himself with this linguistic anomaly.

An ingenious method employed in the Philippines to secure an adequate gas supply is to slowly feed cocoyut oil, a native product, into strong cast-iron retorts, after the latter are brought to a red heat in furnaces. This produces a very high quality of illuminating gas, free from smoke and tar.

Prof. O. F. Cook, who discovered the Guatemalan ants, said to be an enemy to the cotton boll weevil, has arrived in Washington with several colonies of the ants. A report of the experiments with the ants has been made to Secretary of Agriculture Wilson.

The question of a reduction to 25 cents for night admission that has been agitated since the opening of the St. Louis exposition, has been finally disposed of by the board of directors voting almost unanimously against the proposition.

NOW IN THE TOMB

FUNERAL OF VON PLEHVE HELD AT ST. PETERSBURG.

EVERYWHERE THE BELLS TOLL

Impressive and Imposing Services—Notable Characters of Russia Stand with Bowed Heads About the Flashed and Caparisoned Bier.

ST. PETERSBURG.—M. von Plehve, the minister of the interior, who was assassinated Thursday morning last, was buried Sunday, and in every city of this vast empire church bells were tolled and masses and prayers said for the repose of the soul of the murdered minister.

The services here, which were according to the rites of the orthodox church, were of an impressive and imposing character. At 11 o'clock high mass was said in the stately chapel adjoining the ministry of the interior.

Emperor Nicholas and the dowager empress stood with the broken-hearted widow and the children at a great mound of flowers on which rested the casket. To the right, on gold-embroidered cushions, before a mass of wreaths banked to the ceiling, were ranged the decorations which had been won by the statesman during his notable career.

To the left were the metropolitan of St. Petersburg and the officiating bishops and priests in their gold-embellished vestments. A screen of flowers concealed the famous imperial boys' choir.

Among those present were other members of the imperial family, the foreign representatives, including Spencer Eddy, charge d'affaires of the American embassy; ministers of the empire, generals, admirals, nobles, governors of distant provinces, like those of Astrakhan and Irkutsk; in fact, all high officialdom, not even omitting Genghis Khan, a lineal descendant of Napoleon, of Ahia, who is now a major general in the Russian service.

The entire assemblage was in full uniform, and on the arm of each one present was a badge of mourning. All hell lighted tapers throughout the service, and the air was heavy with the perfume of flowers and incense from the censers.

At the most solemn moment, when all knelt and many were affected by tears, the widow was overcome and fainted. The emperor came to her assistance, and she was carried out by gentle hands. The emperor was visibly moved, and upon the conclusion of the mass he followed the casket, which was taken upon the shoulders of ministers and borne down the broad marble stairway to the street.

The funeral procession was formed and the body was placed in a great white open hearse, drawn by six coal black horses, which were blanketed from their ears to their tails in somber trappings. A black-garbed groom stood at each bridle, and in advance went sixteen similarly clad lantern bearers. Behind the hearse walked the members of the minister's family, and then came a long and distinguished body of mourners, it being the Russian custom to follow the dead to the grave on foot.

The emperor himself walked a short distance, but as the Novodevichy monastery, where the burial took place, was over five miles away, and because of the condition of the empress, his majesty soon entered his carriage and returned to the Peterhof palace.

At the end of the procession came four white chariots filled with the floral offerings. The cortege proceeded slowly through the avenues and streets, preceded by a squad of mounted police, and passed within sight of the place where the tragedy occurred.

TIGHTENING UP THE LINES. Strikers and Packers Preparing for Another Week of Struggle.

CHICAGO.—Both the packers and the strikers spent Sunday in strengthening any weak spots that could be found in their defenses, preparatory to terms. Notwithstanding that it was Sunday all the plants were operated during the forenoon in order to get rid of the live stock that had been left over from last week.

The remainder of the day was spent by the employers in installing new men in the strikers' places and arranging many of the small details which had been overlooked last week during the heat of the conflict.

Over one thousand new men were added to those at work in the various plants. Among the arrivals were many skilled laborers, something the packers have been sadly in need of ever since the strike started.

The employers have experienced little difficulty in procuring all the unskilled men necessary to operate the plants to their full capacity, but there has been a decided scarcity of skilled workmen and for this reason the by-products of all animals killed have been let go to waste.

Successor to Van Plehve. ST. PETERSBURG.—The far-reaching character of the machinery of the ministry of the interior and the urgent necessity for dealing with many pending matters of importance render it imperative that the emperor select a successor to M. Von Plehve immediately and it is considered certain that he will do so in a few days.

Influences hostile to M. Witte, in spite of his acknowledged great ability and the general belief that he is the man for the position seem to render his appointment increasingly impossible.

NOTIFIED OF HIS NOMINATION.

National Committee Calls Upon the Republican Nominee.

OYSTER BAY, N. Y.—President Roosevelt was notified formally on Wednesday of his nomination for the presidency by the national republican convention. The ceremony took place at his country home at Sagamore Hill, three miles from this village. In accordance with the president's wish, the ceremony was made as simple as possible.

The formal notification of the action of the convention was made on behalf of a committee representing every state and territory in the United States by Joseph G. Cannon, speaker of the house of representatives.

The day opened with ideal weather and arrangements for the ceremony were completed early. The wide veranda of the house at Sagamore Hill, extending almost entirely around the house, was decorated with American flags hung from pillar to pillar.

In addition, many houses in the neighborhood of the Roosevelt home and in Oyster Bay were draped with the national colors. Across the main street of the village there hung a large Roosevelt and Fairbanks banner. Only three of the members of the committee were absent. Included among the invited guests were men prominent in all walks of life.

Those present numbered about 125. Speaker Cannon delivered the speech of notification, to which the president responded at considerable length.

ALLIED TRADESMEN TO GO OUT. Packing House Mechanics at South Omaha Join the Strikers.

SOUTH OMAHA.—In response to orders received from Chicago all the members of the allied trades employed at the packing houses in South Omaha walked out at noon Tuesday. By this walkout the ranks of the strikers were increased by between 1,000 and 1,100 men, making nearly 6,000 in all. These craftsmen quit work: Steamfitters, firemen, engineers, machinists, car repairers, box factory workers, electricians, carpenters and coopers.

Orders for the walkout were received by President George Sterrett late Monday night and the word was passed around among the men at the plants. When the night force of men quit Tuesday morning they took their working clothes with them. The day shift men did the same when they quit at noon. Good order prevailed during the walkout, the men leaving the plants quietly. Many went directly to their homes, while others drifted towards labor headquarters to hear the latest news.

In speaking of the mechanical workers' walkout General Manager Murphy said: "We are glad the matter is settled. For a time the men kept telling us they would not go out and led us to believe they were satisfied to remain while negotiations for the new wage scale were pending. Now that these men have gone out we know just exactly where we are. As I have stated before, we are fully prepared to fill the places of the men who went out, and smoke will continue to pour from the Cudahy stacks."

POLICE KNEW OF THE PLOT. The Assassination of Von Plehve Was Matured Long Ago.

ST. PETERSBURG.—The police have not yet established the identity of the assassin of M. von Plehve or of his accomplices, though it has been ascertained that the former is little Russian, which accounts for his noticeable accent. The accomplice is a Jew.

It has developed that the police for some time past have been aware that a plot was maturing against the czar, and had advised one of the ministers that a party of fifteen anarchists had arrived in St. Petersburg. Several arrests were actually made several days before the assassination.

The bomb which the accomplice dropped in the canal after the assassination was recovered by the police. It is of foreign make, though it is believed to have been loaded in St. Petersburg. It is small and melon-shaped, and is believed to be fully as powerful as the one that killed von Plehve.

FLEET NEARS JAPAN. Vladivostok Squadron Seen to Eastward of Kazusa Bay.

TOKIO.—The Russian Vladivostok squadron was seen to the eastward of Kazusa province at 2 o'clock Monday afternoon. It was seen steaming to the east. Kazusa province is on the east side of Tokio bay.

The British steamer Chinan has arrived at Yokohama with the crew of the British steamer Knight Commander, that was sunk by Russia's Vladivostok squadron off Izu. The Knight Commander's cargo was a general one. Its European passengers were detained by the Russians and its crew of twenty-one was transferred to the Chinan, which also reports that the Russians sunk two Japanese schooners.

Packers Get Better Service. CHICAGO.—As a matter for protection of office employees and non-union workers, who, instead of taking up their abode in the barracks provided for the packers, desire to go home at night and come to the stock yards in the morning, the packers have arranged with the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern railroad for a large increased number of trains to the stock yards. The new schedule provides for trains running directly to the various packing houses inside the yards, thus avoiding the pickets.

RUMORS OF FIGHT

ONE IS THAT PORT ARTHUR HAS BEEN CAPTURED.

THE NEWS IS NOT CONFIRMED

Associated Press Dispatches and Other Reliable Sources Deny the Rumors—A General Assault, However, Seems to Have Been Begun.

LONDON.—A Shanghai correspondent, in a cablegram, says: "Various telegrams received here from Che Foo announce that the Japanese have captured Port Arthur. This report is regarded as confirmed by news just received from Wei Hai Wei that the British fleet returns there. It is also stated that the Japanese casualties numbered 11,000."

CHE Foo.—Refugees who have just arrived from Port Arthur confirm previous reports that a general assault has been begun by the Japanese on that fortress, and they declare that the Russians are sanguine that Japanese could not succeed in capturing the place, even though they had twice as many troops. The Russians, according to the refugees' story, are still hoping for success from General Kuropatkin. They are unwilling to believe the reports of his defeat at Ta Tche Kiao. The refugees further confirm the reports that the Russian fleet is in a state of repair, but say that the fleet is unwilling to attack that of Admiral Togo on account of the mines which the Japanese place nightly at the entrance to the harbor. It was believed at Port Arthur that if the Vladivostok squadron or reinforcements from General Kuropatkin should arrive the Russian fleet would take the risk of going out.

Ammunition is said to be growing scarce and the large fort guns are not often discharged. Attempts to manufacture ammunition in Port Arthur are reported to have been failures.

All public buildings are being used for hospitals. The sick and wounded are being well cared for by volunteer nurses. The wounds made by the Japanese rifles are not dangerous except when vital spots are reached. Hundreds of badly wounded have quickly recovered from their wounds.

An American named Holt reports that Lieut. Newton A. McCully, the American naval attaché now at Port Arthur, is well.

The Russian have erected a new wireless telegraph station at Che Foo, but they are unable to obtain any results, owing to the fact that Japanese auxiliary cruisers fitted with wireless telegraph outfits are constantly cruising in the zone of communication and interrupting the currents.

LONDON.—No further news of the reported fall of Port Arthur or war news of any kind has reached the London morning newspapers.

NEWS OF THE ASSASSINATION. Does Not Cause Much Surprise in Washington Circles.

WASHINGTON.—The first official information received here of the tragedy at St. Petersburg came in a short cablegram to the state department from Spencer Eddy, the charge d'affaires of the American embassy in the absence from that capital of Ambassador McCormick. The message read:

"Secretary of Interior Plehve and several others killed and some wounded by explosion of a bomb."

The cablegram was promptly forwarded by Acting Secretary Adoo to Secretary Hay at Newbury, N. H., and a proper expression of condolence will be directed through Mr. Eddy.

Although the assassination is deeply deplored here, it cannot be said that it has caused much surprise in the circles here best informed as to the conditions in St. Petersburg. M. Plehve was regarded as a reactionist and was particularly severe in his treatment of the radical element in Russian politics. He was able to enforce his policies through his absolute control of the secret service and police.

TAGGART CHOSEN CHAIRMAN. He Is to Be at Head of Democratic National Committee.

NEW YORK.—Expectations were fulfilled Tuesday, when Thomas Taggart of Indiana was elected chairman of the democratic national committee. Indorsed by nearly every member of the committee the day after the convention adjourned at St. Louis, it has been known that only the decree of Judge Parker in favor of another, or the consent of Senator Gorman to accept the place could prevent the selection of Mr. Taggart. Neither of these contingencies arose, and the Indiana man was unanimously chosen to a place for which he has long aspired.

Although the vote was unanimous, it was not until after it was actually in progress that opposition to Mr. Taggart's selection was withdrawn.

Winner Is in Washington. LINCINN.—William McCormack, who was first in the Rosebud draw, is not now a resident of Lancaster county, as telegrams first reported. He is employed in the treasury department at Washington, and until recently his people lived in Clay Center, Neb. They now live in Missouri. McCormack formerly attended business college here. It was reported that he was a barber, employed in the Pioneer shop, but this report grew out of the fact that a soldier who registered works there.

NEBRASKA STATE NEWS

NEBRASKA IN BRIEF.

The Foster Grain company has just completed a new 16,000 bushel elevator at Germantown.

The Y. M. C. A. secretaries of the state will meet in Fremont October 1 to 4. The local directoral board held a meeting to plan for their reception.

Robert Mehaffey found the body of a well dressed stranger in the Platte river two miles east of North Bend. The body at this writing has not been identified.

Articles of incorporation for a new bank at Farnam have been filed. She is a graduate of the state university in the class of 1900.

The farmers near Lincoln need more help. They are offering from \$1.25 to \$2 per day, or from \$25 to \$100 per month, but the demand for harvest hands is decidedly greater than the supply.

During a thunder storm at Monroe last week a telephone girl received a shock while answering a call that nearly cost her her life. Her face was seriously burned and she was partially paralyzed.

Reports from reliable threshers in Platte county place the yield of wheat at from twelve to fifteen bushels per acre, and the quality is said to be somewhat poorer than was generally expected.

James Carr, who killed Charles Best at Sarry Mills on the Fourth of July, had his hearing at Papillion and was held to the district court without bonds. He was charged with murder in the first degree.

Gilhamous McCarty, a carpenter, has sued the Lincoln Traction company for damages amounting to \$20,000. McCarty was injured by a fall from a street car on May 25 and since then has been unable to walk.

President J. W. Crabtree of the Peru State Normal school has begun making his appointments and has selected Miss Katherine Woods as his secretary. Miss Woods will teach one of the advanced Latin classes in addition.

Edith Adams, a young woman of 19 years, living one mile north of Elba, shot herself with a 32 calibre revolver. The ball entered her abdomen from the left side, ranging inward and passing out near the backbone. She cannot live. She says the shooting was accidental.

County Clerk W. G. Hirons has given to the public the valuation of Pierce county for this year as compared with the year previous. This year real property was valued at \$1,708,080.90; last year it was valued at \$1,046,420. Personal property this year, \$526,040.01; last year, \$237,971.

Chester Weeks, a farmer living near the Merrick county line, has a curiosity on his farm in the shape of a peach tree. The tree is eighteen years old and has never before bore any fruit nor even blossomed, but this year it is fairly loaded down with peaches. Mr. Weeks set out four other peach trees near this one last fall, but whether that gave any impetus to the old tree or not remains for some scientist to explain.

County Superintendent Charles O. Stewart of York county has just completed his annual report of the schools of York county. This shows that the total indebtedness of the district has been reduced by more than \$2,000 during the year; that the value of district property has increased by about \$1,500; that there is a total of 6,130 school children in the county, 3,101 boys and 3,029 girls; that the total enrollment for the past year was 4,587; that the lowest wages paid was \$25, while the highest was \$50 in the country schools.

Captain W. W. Lyons and Ella C. Button, two early settlers of Adams county, died last week.

County Judge Basler of Burt county thinks it is a mistake for courts to allow one man to pound another to a jelly, and then by pleading guilty of assault and battery to escape with a small fine. He fined his last prisoner on this charge fifty dollars and costs.

Two young sons of Henry Ebke of DeWitt narrowly escaped death when a buggy in which they were riding was struck by a northbound passenger train and was demolished. They were thrown out and severely injured, although it is thought they both will recover.

At Weeping Water thieves stole a team of mules from an oil dealer by the name of Wallace and a light wagon from L. E. Davis. They then drove one mile north to the farm of E. F. Marshall, put the mules in his barn and took a team of horses and it is supposed a harness. They then set the barn on fire, leaving the mules in it, evidently hoping to cover up the second theft, thinking that the remains of the mules would be taken for those of the horses.

The Payne Investment company of Omaha has ordered its local representatives in Grand Island to proceed with the matter of putting up the buildings necessary for the manufacture of a new stock food from alfalfa, meal, salt and syrup, and it is stated that \$25,000 worth of machinery will be put in.

The fifth annual session of the Fullerton Chautauqua assembly will be held at Fuller's park, August 5 to 15. The park has already been put in splendid condition and wired for electric lights.

MEASURING NEBRASKA TREES.

Government Men from Washington at Work in the State.

NEBRASKA CITY.—F. G. Miller, in charge of a party of government men from the department of forestry at Washington, D. C., has been here for the past four or five days inspecting and measuring the timber hereabouts. The party is composed of F. G. Miller, L. N. Godding, L. L. White, W. I. Hutchinson, J. D. Warner and G. W. Peavy. All are graduates of forestry in the universities of the country and are considered experts in that line. The party secured considerable data from trees in Arbor Lodge, where trees from nearly every portion of the United States are growing and have been for years. The company separated and took various routes from here and will drive to the Kansas state line, when they will travel north again to Lincoln and from there go into the northern part of the state. They expect to be at work in this state for the next two months. They were joined while here by Cooper Dunn of the Nebraska state university.

LEGISLATURE'S BAD GUESS. Assessable Property Will Not Total More Than \$289,000,000.

LINCINN.—When the final computations have been made the state board of equalization will find that the total valuation of the property in Nebraska will amount to about \$289,000,000.

The last legislature based the appropriations on the assessment of \$500,000,000. The allowances have been made and in most cases the money has been spent, so the levy must cover the defect or the state must go into debt.

With the counties of Nance, Holt, Cherry and Cedar missing the assessment of state property amounts to \$279,846,462. The assessable property last year amounted to \$180,299,665.

Pay of Assessors. FALLS CITY.—Under the old revenue law assessors for the different precincts were paid \$3 a day for the time necessarily spent, and last year the cost of making the assessments was \$2,143,300 for the entire county. Under the new law the deputy assessors get a per diem of \$3 for not more than sixty days. The bills filed for making the assessment this year under the new law amount to \$2,382, being nearly \$150 more than under the old law. And when to that is added the salary of the county assessor, which is \$600 per year, it makes the new law cost the county about \$750 more a year than the old one did.

Will Test Inheritance Law. PLATTSBROUGH.—In the administration of the estate of Barton W. Harmer, now pending in the county court, an interesting point has been brought out by J. E. Douglas, attorney for the heirs, involving the constitutionality of the inheritance tax law of Nebraska. The heirs, in support of their application to have the tax against the estate set aside, allege that the inheritance tax law, which was passed in 1901, was repealed by the legislature of 1903, when a new revenue law was enacted which purported to cover the entire system of revenue for this state, but did not mention the inheritance tax.

Killing Prairie Chickens. LINCINN.—According to advices received from the western section of the state pot hunters are remorselessly slaughtering prairie chickens. The birds are too young to be exceptionally wary. The hunters are killing them to supply the eastern markets. Game Warden Carter will investigate the complaints.

ARGO PLANT CLOSES. Wage Scale Said to Be Too High in Nebraska.

NEBRASKA CITY.—Superintendent G. C. Powers of the Argo starch plant has been transferred to Pekin, Ill., where he will have charge of the large sugar plant at that place. The Argo plant is to be closed down as soon as the starch on hand can be shipped out and it is not known when it will open. The plant is in charge of one of the other managers until it closes down. The officials of the trust say that the cause for the closing of this plant is that the unions demand too high wages and that the cost of making starch is too high, because of the wage scale, as compared to their other plants. It is thought that the plant will be opened this fall, if the wage scale can be adjusted to their liking.

Bought Tract of Land. LINCINN.—The state board of public lands and buildings purchased 20 acres of land from William Carr of Hastings for \$1,000. This is for the asylum grounds.

Getting Ready for the Fair. LINCINN.—An office has been opened by Superintendent Bassett of the concession department of the state fair at the state house, with Food Commissioner Thompson. He will be at this office Saturday of this week, Thursday, Friday and Saturday of next week and from then on all the time until the fair opens. Mr. Bassett wishes Lincoln merchants to notify once if they want the same places in Mercantile hall that they have had in previous years.