

The Norfolk News

Naptha, quantity considered, is about as dangerous to have about as volcanoes.

Mont Pelee is still threatening to do something, and the people remaining in its vicinity show signs of uneasiness.

When President Palma told Mr. Bryan that he preferred home and a quiet life he undoubtedly lacked a sympathetic listener.

Colonel Bryan has at last invaded Cuba—to witness the evacuation of the American troops and the inauguration of President Palma.

Some of the people who were wishing for rain a few days ago are now wishing that it might stop and give the sun a chance. The weather clerk no doubt considers them very exacting and difficult to please.

Colorado and Wyoming have recently experienced a severe snow storm and considerable loss of young stock is reported. The people there are invited to come where there is summer weather in the summer time, and that place is Nebraska.

It is positively disgraceful for the house to now undertake the task of vilifying the army where the democratic senators left off. They seek imputation to show that because one soldier has been guilty of cruelty that all the American soldiers and the officers and administration back of them are cruel, bloodthirsty wretches and that the democrats alone are capable of humane instincts.

Senator Clark of Montana was fined by a Washington court for getting too free with his exhibitions of plutocratic tendencies and running his automobile at a greater speed than the law of the capitol village endorses. The plutocratic democrat would encounter less danger from the law if he would emulate a famous predecessor in his party and descend to the custom widely known as Jeffersonian simplicity.

Reports from Washington are that the winter wheat acreage is more than 4,000,000 acres short of what it was last year and even that which is planted shows poor prospects of making a full crop. It is probable that the wheat market this coming winter will show a few stunts at price climbing that will rival that which has been done by cattle, hogs and corn during the season that is passing; then it will be in order for a protest to be filed against the manipulations of the "wheat trust."

The Tilden Citizen expresses the opinion that it would be about the proper caper for the republicans of the county to recognize Jefferson precinct this year by giving it a candidate and it suggests F. L. Putney of that town as the republican candidate for representative. Jefferson is certainly one of the republican strongholds of the county and entitled to the consideration of that party, if therefore Mr. Putney comes before the convention with the united support of Jefferson republicans behind him, his candidacy will undoubtedly receive the consideration it deserves at the hands of the convention.

While it is not reported that Spain is being disturbed by volcanic eruptions and earthquakes, a calamity almost equally dreadful is reported to be threatening that country. The report is that Morgan, the head of the steamship trust octopus, is approaching that country with designs on one or more lines of shipping with headquarters in Spain. European countries should invent a series of signals indicating the approach of Morgan and when these are displayed steamship companies and other leading European enterprises should at once go into retirement and lose themselves in some approved manner.

With what kind of an issue the democrats are prepared to enter the approaching congressional campaign is something of a question at this time. They seem to have had indifferent success at making anything stick that they have attempted. The recent attack on the soldier boys and their officers hasn't proven at all popular and will hardly answer for an issue, and other efforts at making political thunder have proven as futile. It is probable that the campaign will be conducted on the same plan as the efforts in congress, and that it will be any old thing against the majority party, tending to lead to denunciation, vituperation and evil prognostications.

The more people who come to know W. M. Robertson as his friends know him the more will be ready to support his candidacy for the republican nomination for governor. He is the kind of candidate who has hosts of friends at home and wins others wherever he goes. He is not one of the kind of whom it is sometimes said, "He would have received more votes if he had stayed at home." It will be the same way if he is nominated. He will be the general to muster the republican forces for a winning fight, and if the best interests of the party are observed by the convention he will be named for the place. His strength throughout the states con-

stantly increasing and when the convention meets in a month his friends hope to see him take it by storm.

The correspondent of the State Journal who writes under the title, "Viewed From the Field," has discovered some of the advantages possessed by Judge Robertson over others who have aspired to represent the republican party as its candidate for governor and pays him a neat compliment in the following language: "I feel that it is no longer a mystery why Judge Robertson has become so strong a candidate for gubernatorial honors. He was in Columbus a couple of days the past week and his affable manners quite won the esteem of all new acquaintances, and strengthened the good opinions of the old. Notwithstanding the fact that he is just getting fairly started in his pre-convention canvass, Judge Robertson stands today nearly, or quite, for that matter, at the head of all candidates now in the field for the nomination of governor."

It is apparent that the Alaskan boundary question never troubled the English people, either when Alaska was under Russian domination or when it had been acquired by the United States government, until gold had been discovered there and the prospects were that the country would be developed and become a valuable possession. It would appear that according to a recent exhibit by Thomas Willing Balch all that is necessary to prove the United States' claim in the controversy is to refer to official maps published by the British government and with its endorsement. This country naturally wants all of the disputed portion of Alaska that it may properly claim but will undoubtedly be satisfied to rest its claims upon the showing made by the numerous British and Russian maps extant. These seem to have been acceptable to the British government until within the past few years, when it suited them to endeavor to crowd the American line down toward the coast, thus throwing some of the most prolific gold claims into British territory.

The destruction of the Iowa institute for the deaf at Council Bluffs by fire has awakened a discussion among the papers of that state regarding the advisability of the state carrying insurance on its state building. Iowa, like Nebraska, has suffered some severe fire losses during the past three or four years and the question as to whether it would pay to have the insurance companies bear the loss is pertinent. The Sioux City Tribune is of the opinion that the state is now ahead by carrying its own insurance. If the matter was referred to an insurance company it would figure to make the rates high enough to bear the loss by taking as a basis the experience of loss on state property for a number of years past. There is one feature that would speak in favor of insurance and that is, when there is a loss the insurance companies would furnish the funds necessary to rebuild or at least commence the work of rebuilding and when the situation is as it was in this state at the time the Norfolk hospital burned, it would operate very satisfactorily, and the work of reconstruction could be undertaken without waiting for the action of the legislature to appropriate the necessary funds.

A disaster like that suffered by the island of Martinique touches the hearts and pocketbooks of mankind as nothing else could and the promptness with which the need of relief has been met is the best evidence of the teaching of civilization and christianity. It will be noticed that the highest countries in point of civilization lead in such work and in this particular instance the United States leads them all in promptitude and amounts given. The opinion is sometimes forced that this charity work is occasionally overdone. In this case more than a half million dollars have already been contributed to the survivors of the disaster and the contributions may be said to have been but fairly started. Before the disaster there were less than 200,000 inhabitants on the island and since then it is not likely that half of that number are in need of charity. With their immediate wants supplied many of them will be able to care for themselves. The United States government has already contributed \$200,000, and the proposition to appropriate another \$500,000, by the house of representatives, of the peoples' money may be well done at leisure and after it is demonstrated that the amount already contributed and to be contributed by the people is insufficient for the needs of survivors. If the money could be used in restoring the victims of the disaster to life and removing the horror that is past a large sum could be well spent and would be freely contributed, but in providing food, clothing and medicine, and encouraging the sufferers to make a new start in life no great sum additional to that which has been contributed would seem to be necessary. It is better that the work should be overdone than that not enough should be done, but the people should not allow their hearts to run away with their pocketbooks, even under such a terrible disaster. The worst cannot be undone with all the money in the world.

The criticism of the army in the Philippines by the anti-imperialists has recalled to an old Indian fighter the criticism that was offered by the people of the east concerning the "cruelty" practiced by General Wm. S. Harney in the strategy he employed to outwit the Sioux Indians in Nebraska in the early days. The Indians had persistently raided the freighters and movers, traveling west, killed the teamsters and others connected with the caravans, drove their animals away and robbed and burned the wagons. They were pretty shrewd in evading the soldiers, and Harney undertook to teach them that the pale face might be as wise as they in concocting strategic doses. He seized a train of 26 wagons, unloaded the freight and left it under guard and into the wagons he loaded 400 American soldiers and two mountain guns. The soldiers were not permitted to stick their noses out and the savages were given no intimation as to the character of the freight those wagons contained. The train had proceeded west about 70 miles when a war party of about 500 Indians was seen approaching. The wagons were moved into a circle as was customary with fighters when they expected an attack, and an opening about 15 feet across was left into which the stock might be driven, but it was not used for that purpose. The Indians came on and rushed into the opening with a whoop and all the speed their ponies could muster. Then the soldiers opened on them and the few Redskins who were able, drove out of that trap considerably faster than they entered. Of course there was a slaughter and as the freighter says, "the society for the protection of western savages" was driven into a particular frenzy" but the raids were stopped for some time. The narrator of the story is of the opinion that the natives of Samar are about on an equality with the treacherous, blood-thirsty savages that General Harney bettered. The famous Indian fighter was honored and advanced, and that may happen in the future to the officers and soldiers in the Philippines when the situation comes to be fully understood by the American people and those most severe in their condemnation now, may be the warmest in their praise then.

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New York coal dealers have advanced the price of hard coal to \$6 per ton, owing to the strike of the miners. If the Nebraska coal consumer could get that quality of fuel at that price he would have cause for rejoicing rather than given to worry over the strike.

The Washington Post thinks that if the coal consumer would now organize he might stand some sort of a show in a three-cornered fight with the coal barons and the organization of miners. They would undoubtedly organize quick enough if they had some sort of weapon they might wield.

It is now reported that the cousin of the czar of Russia is to pay a visit to the United States. America has some mighty pretty scenery but that did not attract these royal folks until they got the impression that American views were gold lined and the people living near them were reputed to be the greatest commercial hustlers on the globe.

It is carrying politics a little too far for those who are opposed to the Nicaraguan route for the isthmian canal to subsidize Mont Pelee and the Soufriere volcano into making such terrible eruptions for the mere purpose of making capital against the route named, but politics is mighty rotten and politicians are capable of any outrageous proceeding in this latter age. For proof that they will do such horrible things the average populist exchange may be referred to.

Some people have recently had a curiosity to know what is the real cause of earthquakes. Their desire can now be gratified. The World-Herald has got it from someone who pretends to know that "earthquakes are the result of spasmodic acceleration of the secular folding of rocks and masses having their centrum at the mouths of large rivers, where prodigious quantities of silt are deposited." The Omaha paper is not certain that it will be fully understood and does not attempt to explain but the intelligence of the average reader of newspapers will not allow such simple statements to confuse them.

Mount Vesuvius, the historical volcano that buried Pompeii in the year 79 A. D., not desiring to be outdone by western competitors, is partaking of the general activity of volcanic formations and an eruption is reported under way there. Lava is flowing from the crater on the Pompeii side and hot cinders are being thrown up from time to time. It remains to be seen if the old mountain has the same vigor it displayed 1823 years ago. The entire volcanic surface of the earth appears to be in a state of unusual activity and people living in the near vicinity of a mountain that at any time showed signs of eruption may well be apprehensive of the possible action of their surroundings.

The king of Spain has now come into his own and is officially proclaimed the ruler of the Dons. He hasn't much of an empire to boast of and yet it is a considerable honor for a boy of 16 to be the monarch of even such a kingdom. It is significant that so shortly after his coronation, President Palma should be inaugurated president of the Cuban republic. The Queen of the Antilles was one of the best of the Spanish possessions and its loss has been a keen disappointment to that kingdom. It is to be hoped that the new king will rule Spain and its remaining possessions in a manner that will receive the approval of modern civilization and furnish no excuse for the disintegration of the balance of the empire.

The government officers have succeeded in hobbling the beef trust at Chicago, and the effect of their proceedings is anxiously awaited. If the price of meat to the consumer is reduced without making a lower price of animals on the hoof there will be cause for rejoicing in all quarters. If, however, the price paid for fat cattle suffers a reduction to meet the demands of eastern consumers there will be a considerable protest from the west. It is one of the few trusts that may have been of benefit to the western farmer and stock raiser and a shaving off of his prosperity will have its effect on all the indus-

Sugar Trust Pays All the Bills.

It is not the intention of the sugar trust that the American people shall be permitted to know the extensive, indeed the predominant, part taken by it in the campaign for the Cuban tariff reduction and in the downer legislation of congress. Therefore does it arrange for the suppression of all the facts in the case which go to show the work of the sugar trust in manipulating the tariff reduction in congress, as it would manipulate the stock markets in Wall street. The fact was suppressed, for example, in the sugar trust newspapers, the Associated Press dispatches and its other press agencies that when Mr. Donner of the sugar trust was before the senate investigation which is inquiring into the trust's interests in Cuba, Senator Teller's cross-examination compelled him to confess the truth that the pamphlets and other Cuban "poverty" literature spread broadcast by the bogus Thurber commercial bodies, included in the resolutions of fake Cuban mass meetings and reported by subsidized "relief" leagues, were in fact prepared by Mr. Donner himself and issued from the Wall street office of the sugar trust.

When Mr. Donner swore that the sugar trust had no direct holdings in the plantations and crops of Cuba the sugar trust newspapers reported his testimony as proof of its having nothing to gain from the tariff reduction. When Mr. Donner affirmed that the sugar trust had taken no action toward the attempted free trade legislation, his disclaimer was published everywhere in bold type and with flaming headlines. But when Mr. Donner had to admit, or be proved by Senator Teller to be a maker of false witness, that the Cuban tariff reduction literature and arguments were put out from the Wall street office of the sugar trust, that fact was suppressed. It was kept from the public as tight as sealing wax!

Why do the American people suppose that the sugar trust conducts this Cuban tariff reduction campaign in congress and out of it? Mr. Donner told Mr. Teller that he prepared and issued that literature "only in the interest of the truth." He had no interest at stake. The sugar trust had none. But he desired that the truth should be known for the good of humanity; so the philanthropic sugar trust, although poverty stricken, according to the testimony of Mr. Havemeyer, its president, has done and is doing the work of reducing the tariff; and the sugar trust pays the bills.

Why do the American people suppose that when the Cuban tariff reduction legislation has advanced in congress the shares of the sugar trust have soared in the stock market? Why, when there has been a hitch in the program, because protection republicans have refused either to be intimidated or bought, have the sugar trust shares declined with impetuous velocity? Because up they go or down they go, as the downers succeed in doing or fail to do the task before them by the sugar trust that is to benefit if the tariff reduction measure can be forced into law; that is the only interest that will benefit which is the reason why the sugar trust does all the work and pays all the bills! —New York Press.

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tries of the west. In other words the only thing to be accomplished with satisfaction to all but the packers will be the reduction of their profits and if, as it appears, their profits have been exorbitant, a reduction will do them no harm and will be of benefit in both directions.

The little popgun fusion sheets of the country are taking up the cue presented by their representatives in the house and senate and are finding no words too low, no insinuations too base to be applied to the soldiers of the army, the officers in command and the administration behind the army, which is fighting its country's battles in the Philippines. In a more excitable time these slanderers and vilifiers might draw a counter-fire of abuse or be summarily punished by an outraged people to whom they have brought the blush of shame that such should find an abiding place in a country like the United States, where the president, congress and the army are the servants of the people. Something more than two years ago the policy of the republican party in regard to the Philippines received an overwhelming endorsement at the polls; even Nebraska, the home state of the candidate whose party went in for a scuttling policy, joining in the repudiation of the ideas advanced by that party and its candidates. While this verdict was in no wise intended as a license for the army to go in and burn, torture and kill it did mean that the people wanted to have the rebels acknowledge the sovereignty of the United States, and after that their final disposition could be determined. The people had faith in its army and believed that it could be trusted to carry on a war according to civilized methods. Furthermore it is believed that if the question is again presented to the popular will on the same issue they will again endorse the action of their soldiers in spite of the attempt to place them on the plane of brutes and savages. They realize that the boys in the Philippines are no worse than those at home and they can be depended upon to resent the imputation that one or two instances will serve to brand all the young manhood of America as worse than fiends. While it rolls the blood of true American citizens to hear of such slanders it would be a pleasure to have that and that only the issue during a political campaign that they might teach the vilifiers the place they occupy in popular estimation.

FOUR DIE IN TRAIN WRECK.

Seven Others Injured Near Ardmore May Not Recover.

Ardmore, I. T., May 21.—A construction train on the Choctaw, Oklahoma and Gulf railway plunged through a high trestle 12 miles east of Ardmore yesterday morning. Four men were killed and 21 injured, seven of the latter fatally. Among those believed to be fatally hurt is A. M. Oliphant, a prominent attorney of Tishomingo, I. T., who was riding home on the work train. The other dead and injured are all members of the construction gang or train crew. All are white.

The dead: Charles A. Black, Tishomingo; James Dolan, Fort Smith; J. R. Gaines, Jim Hopegood, Tishomingo. Fatally hurt: A. M. Oliphant, Tishomingo; James Wear, E. D. Clark, Hope Joy, A. D. Furney, Missouri; William Shipp, Missouri; unknown man.

Railroad officials are unable to assign a reason for the wreck. The train was running at the rate of eight miles an hour when the forward car jumped the track, followed by the rest of the train, a dozen cars piling up in a heap 30 feet below. The engine remained on the track.

HOUSE INSTRUCTS CONFEREES.

Directs Action in Senate Disputes for Third Time in a Week.

Washington, May 21.—For a third time within a week the house has instructed its conferees on matters of dispute between the senate and house. Yesterday the instructions were given on amendments in the army appropriation bill before the conferees had even considered the matters in controversy. The motion to instruct was made by Chairman Cannon of the appropriations committee. It was resisted by Chairman Hull of the committee on military affairs, and the somewhat spirited debate which followed developed antagonism between the committees. The amendment at which Cannon aimed was that which increased the appropriation for military posts from \$3,000,000 to \$4,000,000.

A resolution offered by Chairman Hitt of the committee on foreign affairs, felicitating Cuba on her progress, was adopted immediately.

A bill on the passport law was passed. The remainder of the day was devoted to private claims bills.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., May 21.—The Wyoming valley is so quiet that, except for the idle colleiries, a trip through the region would fall to give the impression that a great struggle is in progress between capital and labor. President Mitchell was at the strike headquarters early. He had no news to give out. He said that nothing had turned up to in any way change the present situation.

Will Fight Biscuit Trust.

Chicago, May 21.—The Inter-Ocean says that the independent biscuit companies throughout the country will soon be combined in a giant rival to the National Biscuit company, probably under the name of the Union Biscuit company.

WILL TRY TO END STRIKE

Civic Federation Believed to Have Plan Under Cover.

SECOND WEEK OF THE STRIKE

No Hard Coal Mined in Any Part of the Region—The Question of Calling Out Bituminous Miners is Still Undecided.

Hazleton, Pa., May 19.—The visit of Ralph M. Easley, secretary of the National Civic Federation, to strike headquarters and his conference with President Mitchell of the United Mine Workers, was the only incident of any importance that claimed the attention of the labor leaders and others around the Valley hotel. As neither Mr. Easley nor Mr. Mitchell would say anything regarding their meeting there was much speculation as to the object of the visit of the secretary of the Civic Federation. It is believed here that the federation is quietly preparing to receive any proposition that might be offered by either side. This belief is strengthened by the fact that only 24 hours had elapsed from the time the conference was held at Washington between Senator Hanna, President Gompers of the American Federation of Labor, who is also a member of the Civic Federation, and Mr. Easley and the latter's arrival here.

Clergymen of nearly all denominations in their sermons yesterday touched more or less on the strike. The trend of the utterances were forbearance and frugality. The great struggle was generally deplored and the hope was held out that though the strike may cause much suffering for a time, it may in the end result in great good for both capital and labor.

Second Week of the Strike.

The strike now enters upon its second week. The week just ended was the first, it is said, in the history of the hard coal trade that no coal was mined in any part of the region. No disturbances of any character has been reported anywhere. President Mitchell will establish headquarters at the Hotel Hart at Wilkesbarre this evening, where he will remain until the strike is ended.

President Mitchell said that he could not yet say when the special national convention, to be called for the purpose of considering the advisability of involving the bituminous miners in the anthracite strike, will be held. He has not yet received the consent of two districts to make up the five necessary under the rules to call a special convention. All the local trades unions in this region met yesterday and decided to stand by the miners in their struggle.

Miners Hope to Win.

Indianapolis, May 19.—National Secretary Wilson of the United Mine Workers, who returned yesterday from Hazleton, Pa., discussed the miners' strike, saying: "The strike will be waged with the greatest steadfastness. We are determined to win. The men were practically unanimous in voting to make the strike permanent. The whole district is tied up and fully 147,000 men are out. Only the engineers and men needed to run the pumps are working. We have no disposition to call them out at this time, since, if they were taken away from work, the mines would soon fill with water. We are prepared for a long, hard fight, if one becomes necessary, and have no idea of giving in. We hope to win without a hard battle."

SHOT DOWN BY AN ASSASSIN.

Prominent Stockman Called to the Door at Night and Killed.

Downs, Kan., May 19.—James Clark, a prominent stockman residing at Downs, was called to the front door of his home and assassinated last night. The murderer fired two shots, one going through the body and the other through the back of the head, coming out of the forehead. The weapon is supposed to have been a shotgun loaded heavily with buck and fine shot. Clark leaves a widow and five children by a former wife, the oldest a girl of 15 years. No cause is known for the act, as he was not known to have had enemies. He carried heavy life insurance.

Second Jury for Acquittal.

Clarinda, Ia., May 19.—The jury in the trial of Eugene Mason for the murder of Oscar K. Miller at Shenandoah last winter returned a verdict of not guilty. Edward Dennis was previously found guilty of murder in the second degree in connection with the death of Miller. Wesley Irwin is yet to be tried on the charge of murdering Miller.

Dies of Overdose of Strychnine.

New York, May 19.—Miss Julia Williams, daughter of Mrs. Julia Williams of Detroit, said to be a relative of Senator Hanna, died yesterday at the Fifth Avenue hotel of an overdose of strychnine, taken in the form of pills. She was 22 years of age.

Kills His Mother.

Custerville, Cal., May 19.—John McCarty, aged 22 years, shot and killed his mother last evening and then gave himself into custody. He fired four pistol balls into her brain at close range. His story is that the shooting was in self defense.

Life Sentence for Murder.

Muscataine, Ia., May 19.—After being out from 3:30 to 7 p. m. the jury Saturday night found "Kid" Noble guilty of the murder of Thomas Morgan. Noble was given a life sentence.