

The Columbus Journal.

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WHOLE NUMBER 1,616.

DOWAGER STEPS BACK

Chinese Empress Appoints a Commission to Breathe the Public for Her.

SHE IS NOT SO ARBITRARY NOW.

New Plan Seems to Indicate Less Inclination to Run Things Herself—The News as Received in Washington Regarded as Most Important.

WASHINGTON, April 27.—The following cablegram has been received at the State department from Mr. Squires, the United States charge at Peking, dated today:

The empress dowager has appointed a board of national administration to relieve her of her public functions. They embrace three members of the cabinet now with the empress at Peking, and three members of the cabinet now in Peking. This news is regarded as of importance, indicating as it does the relinquishment by the empress dowager of the arbitrary powers she heretofore has exercised. It also is apparent that she has placed herself in a position to avoid direct responsibility to the foreigners for whatever may happen in the future and the board will have to bear the brunt of any complaint. It is felt that the appointment of this board will make it much easier for the foreign ministers to transact business with the Chinese government. The three members of the Chinese cabinet now at Peking include the notorious Jung Lu, who was one of the most active in the outbreak against the foreigners last summer. One of the other members of this council is 70 years old and is said to be greatly debilitated. The third member has been at least lukewarm toward foreign interests. The choice of these three is looked upon as likely to complicate the good which Li Hung Chang and the others may accomplish.

The foreign establishments here are receiving a number of important dispatches relative to the question of indemnity and how it shall be guaranteed, by a Chinese loan or to each of the powers individually.

One of the dispatches coming through an European foreign office says that Sir Robert Hart has concluded that China can pay a total of \$50,000,000 and the impression is conveyed that this will be the amount agreed upon, the various claims being scaled down to this limit. Another dispatch comes from one of the most prominent Chinese officials and from a plenipotentiary in the peace negotiations. He makes a suggestion that when the amount of indemnity is agreed upon it will be greatly to the interests of China as well as to the powers if the amount payable to each power can be made by installments and not by a gross payment outright. In that case China would not be compelled to negotiate a large loan. The view prevails among officials that while this proposition is fair it is not practicable and there is little idea that it will be favorably entertained.

Other dispatches which have passed within the last few days revive the idea of having The Hague tribunal administer the indemnities after the total is once agreed upon.

GRASPS BEAUMONT FIELD.

Standard Oil Company Has New Texas Fields Mailed in

BEAUMONT, Tex., April 27.—The Beaumont Oil exchange today posted the statement that the Standard Oil company had purchased the railroad terminals, wharves and shipping facilities at Port Arthur and 80,000 acres of land surrounding the port. The price was not given.

Port Arthur is the nearest deep water port to the Beaumont oil field, and by controlling this outlet the Standard Oil company can control every barrel of oil taken from the Beaumont field. The railroads cannot compete in freight rates with pipe line and ship via Port Arthur to New Orleans and Galveston. Thus owning Port Arthur, the Standard Oil company will control even the domestic trade in crude oil.

Cannot Attend the Funeral.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 26.—News of the death of Mrs. Saxton was received at the White House this afternoon. Mrs. McKinley was much attached to her aunt, but will be unable to attend the funeral, which occurs Saturday, owing to the departure of the presidential party for the western trip on Monday.

Prepares for North Trip.

HAMBURG, April 27.—Evelyn B. Baldwin, who is to lead the American (Zeigler) Arctic expedition, and who arrived here yesterday, spent the morning in shipping to Tromsø and Sanfjord supplies for the expedition. Privy Councillor Neumann is aiding Mr. Baldwin in every possible way. He has presented him with the latest polar maps, drawn by Dr. Nansen. Later he compared notes with the members of the German expedition.

Wait for Miller's Return.

LONDON, April 27.—Mr. Chamberlain, the colonial secretary, informed a questioner in the House of Commons today that the government did not propose to inaugurate a full scheme of civil administration in South Africa during Sir Alfred Miller's absence, which will be of short duration. The work of reorganization would proceed however, on the lines laid down by Sir Alfred, whose place would be filled by Lord Milner.

CONGER REACHES 'FRISCO.

Minister, Wife, Daughter and Miss Pierce Are Safely Over.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 26.—Edwin H. Conger, United States minister to China, accompanied by his wife, daughter and Miss Pierce, arrived from China this afternoon on the steamer Nippon Maru.

Asked in regard to his future plans Mr. Conger said he would remain in this city until Saturday morning, when he would leave for his home in Des Moines, Ia. At the expiration of his sixty days' leave of absence he intended to return to China. He would go back sooner if anything important should come up.

When told that it was planned by the citizens of Des Moines to give him a public reception he said that although he did not care for public demonstrations he would accept a reception at Des Moines. He belonged to the people of Des Moines. In fact, the entire people of Iowa had always been kind to him, giving him everything that he asked for, refusing him nothing. In return he had been compelled often to refuse the people of Iowa favors.

Owing to quarantine regulations and the necessity for giving personal supervision to the landing of his baggage, Mr. Conger did not reach his hotel until 6 o'clock in the evening. Mr. Conger's arrival was awaited with considerable interest, not only on account of his connection with events in China, but from a political standpoint. There was a great desire to know what position Mr. Conger would assume with regard to the coming gubernatorial nomination in Iowa.

WILL CULTIVATE SUGAR BEET.

Six Million Dollar Company Buys Large Tract of Colorado Land.

CHICAGO, April 25.—The Tribune tomorrow will say that negotiations have been completed in Chicago for the formation of the largest beet sugar concern in the world. A company has been organized with a capital stock of \$6,000,000, to be known as the Arkansas Valley Beet and Irrigation Land company. The plant of the new company is to be located in Provera county, Colorado, in the famous Rocky Ford fruit district.

A number of New York capitalists, including the Oxnards, the Cuttings, the Hamiltons, the Lawsons and the Richards of the Mercantile Trust company are interested. The new concern has purchased the holdings of the Great Plains Water company, which comprises about 125,000 acres along the Arkansas river in southeastern Colorado. Colonization of the land with farmers will be undertaken by the company. Over \$2,000,000 will be expended this year on improvements.

Sensate Dies With the President.

WASHINGTON, April 26.—Tonight Senator Millard and Dietrich had their first taste of official life, having been guests of the president at a dinner given by the chief executive to the Cuban commission. Senator Dietrich had determined to go home this afternoon, but in view of the invitation from the president, he decided to avail himself of the opportunity and delay his return to Nebraska until tomorrow. Senator Millard will leave tomorrow night for New York with Miss Millard en route west.

On the Hunt for Bad Butter.

DES MOINES, Ia., April 27.—Deputy Dairy Commissioner Wright returned from Afton Junction, where he went the first of the week in search of oleomargarine. It had been reported that a substitute for butter was being used in the railroad camps along the line of the "Q," where 500 men are employed in straightening track. Mr. Wright had a search warrant for one of the camps and examined several others, but could find no oleomargarine, although the butter used was of the poorest order.

Single King Buys a Mine.

PRESCOTT, Ariz., April 25.—E. W. Wells and W. C. Parsons of Prescott and Hugh McCrum of San Francisco have sold the McCable mine to a syndicate of Chicago capitalists, headed by Frank Jager, the single king of that city. The price is said to be about \$600,000.

On Verge of a Collapse.

CHICAGO, April 26.—A specialist to the Record-Herald from Honolulu, April 19, says Governor Hale is a very sick man. He has been confined to his home for several days and only the most intimate friends have been allowed to see him.

Want a Foreclosure Sale.

ST. LOUIS, April 26.—Judge Thayer of the United States circuit court heard arguments today in the case of the Guaranty Trust company of New York, Julius S. Walsh, trustee, and others, against the Omaha & St. Louis Railroad company. The plaintiffs represent the bondholders and are seeking to have the property of the defendant sold under foreclosure proceedings. After hearing arguments Judge Thayer will decide the case.

Develop On the System.

ST. PAUL, Minn., April 25.—President Marvins Huggitt and other officers of the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha road were in conference here today, relative to the development of the Omaha system. In regard to rumors of consolidation of the Omaha with the Chicago & Northwestern President Huggitt said: "You may say authoritatively, taking my word for it, that there is nothing in the story."

CONFAB WITH CUBANS

Secretary of War Meets Special Delegation in First Diplomatic Bout.

GIVES NO GROUND OF HIS ACTION

He Convicted Them of Uncle Sam's Interests, Also His Determination—Delegation's Call at White House is Made Pleasant, Not Paralyzing.

WASHINGTON, April 26.—The Cuban delegation from the convention framing a constitution for the new island republic saw President McKinley twice today, once in the early part of the day, when there were introductions and a formal exchange of expressions of friendship between the United States and Cuba and again at night, when the members of the delegation were the guests of honor at a state dinner at the White House.

The real business which brought the delegation here was transacted with Secretary Root of the War department, the president, in the forenoon interview at the White House, saying to the delegates that he would confer with the secretary, who would act as his representative in conferences over the Cuban situation. The delegation and Secretary Root were closed for some hours in the forenoon in a discussion of the relations of the island to the United States. Secrecy was observed as to the conference, the statement being made that after reports were reached some announcement as to the conclusion would be made. Questions of importance were not touched upon in the interview between the president and delegation, the conversation being almost wholly formal.

Senator Capote in his address to the president spoke of the desire of the Cubans to have the closest possible relations with the United States. He said that United States soldiers and Cubans had fought side by side and driven Spain from the island and the ties between the two countries were bound in blood. The relations, he said, were most amicable and more than that which usually exists between nations. He also spoke of the gratitude which Cuba had to the United States for the assistance rendered in her liberation.

In response the president expressed his pleasure at meeting the delegation and desired through them to extend the kindest wishes to the people of the island. He said that his interest in Cuba always had been great and he made reference to messages he had sent to congress concerning the island. Its welfare always would be the subject of his most earnest consideration. He congratulated the members of the delegation upon being members of the Cuban constitutional convention and said it was a high honor and fell to the lot of but few men to have the opportunity to frame a government for a republic. Concerning the object of the delegation's visit the president said he would confer with the secretary of war and the secretary, having an intimate knowledge of the situation, would confer with the delegation.

The most important meeting of the day was a conference in Secretary Root's office, lasting until 6 o'clock in the afternoon. This was the first business meeting, the others having been social and formal. Those present were the five Cuban delegates, their interpreter, Secretary Root, General Wood, Assistant Secretary Sanger and Senator Gonzales, General Wood's secretary, who acted as interpreter at the meeting. The army officers who are acting as escort for the Cubans also were present.

When the meeting adjourned no official statement was made as to the proceedings, but it can be said that the result was considered satisfactory, both by the Cubans and Secretary Root. The business was not completed and the conference will reassemble tomorrow forenoon. The fact that the entire conversation had to be through interpreters made it necessary to proceed slowly.

Offer to Buy the Burlington.

BOSTON, April 26.—The Chicago, Burlington & Quincy directors at a special meeting today voted to submit to the stockholders of the road a proposition from the Great Northern and Northern Pacific roads to take control of the Burlington. The offer for the Burlington stock is \$200 per share for not less than two-thirds of the whole amount, to be paid for in 4 per cent bonds of the two negotiating roads, the stockholders being given the option of taking part cash.

Labor Differences Settled.

STURGIS, S. D., April 26.—An agreement has been reached by the Sturgis Labor union and the contractors, which will adjust the difficulty that came up between them. The following points were agreed upon: The rate for unskilled labor shall be \$2.25 per day of ten hours, from date to July 1; after July 1 the rate shall be \$2.50 per day of ten hours; only union men shall be employed and the usual three days' grace shall be given.

Recovered His Hat.

PLATTSBURGH, N.Y., April 27.—Several days ago an old fisherman named Samuel Henry was crossing the Missouri river in a skiff, when his hat blew off, and in attempting to reach it, the boat was capsized. Being a poor swimmer, Mr. Henry clung to the overturned boat, and the strong current carried him down to a small island two miles south of the city, where he was rescued the following day.

Rescued His Hat.

FREMONT, Neb., April 27.—At the closing session of the Bankers' association these officers were elected: President, B. F. Folds, Schuyler; vice president, A. Anderson, Columbus; treasurer, Thomas Wolf, David City; secretary, P. B. McKillip, Humphrey; members of executive committee, T. E. Stevens, Blair.

Bankers Elect Officers.

The tanning plant of the A. Platts Leather company, Racine, Wis., was completely destroyed by fire.

FIRST REPORT OF THE YEAR

What is Set Forth Regarding Conditions in Nebraska Crops.

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA, LINCOLN.—The past week has been cold, with about the normal rainfall. The daily mean temperature has averaged from 5 degrees to 8 degrees below the normal. Killing frosts occurred on the 17th and 18th, with temperatures below 30 degrees. Vegetation is so backward, however, that no damage resulted from the low temperature.

Rain was general on the 15th or 16th. The amount exceeded one-half an inch at most places, and at a few places weather has retarded farm work in parts of the state, generally considerable progress has been made during the past week. Spring wheat seeding is well advanced, and some spring wheat is up—coming evenly and nicely. Out seeding has been general the past week and is nearly completed in the southern counties. Early sown oats are coming up nicely. Present indications are for a small acreage of oats, caused by the late spring and wet weather at seeding time.

Very little plowing has been done, but the ground at the end of the week was in excellent condition for plowing and seeding. Winter wheat, rye and flax have grown well, but somewhat slowly, because of the low temperature.

DIES ON HIS WIFE'S GRAVE.

Harry Rice, City Marshal of North Platte, Commits Suicide.

NORTH PLATTE, Neb., April 27.—Harry Rice, the city marshal here, in a fit of despondency, committed suicide by taking strychnine. The evidence at the inquest showed that he went to the cemetery, where he was seen just a short time before he died, sitting upon the grave of his wife, who died about two years ago. His body was found near a hydrant a few feet from the grave, to which he had dragged himself, as appeared from the tracks.

He pursued the poison of one of the drug stores here, stating that he had some dogs to kill and did not want to shoot them. He also made some of his friends goody, saying it was the last they would see of him. He went straight from his room to the cemetery without coming uptown. His strange conduct of last night being reported this morning and he failing to appear as usual, a search was instituted and his body found.

HORSE THIEVES' NERVOUS WORK.

Made Away With Two Teams and Wagons From Farmers.

TECUMSEH, Neb., April 27.—Horse thieves got in their work in Johnson county the other night. From Harry Roup, a farmer south of here, they stole a team of horses, wagon and harness, and from Nate Sutherland, a neighbor, they made away with a team of horses. Mr. Roup will pay \$25 for the recovery of his property and Johnson county will give a reward of \$50 for the apprehension of the thieves. Mr. Sutherland will also pay \$25 for the return of his team and in this case, too, Johnson county will pay \$50 for the capture of the thieves. Sheriff C. B. Strong and Deputy Sheriff William Cummings and other mounted men took the trail of the offenders early, and when last heard from they were a good distance south of Tecumseh and believed they were on the right track.

Indians Start for Buffalo.

RUSHVILLE, Neb., April 27.—Two hundred and fifty Indians, with seventy-five ponies, left here on a special for the Buffalo exposition. No finer body of Indians have ever left this place for an exhibition, their decorations were superb, and at least 1,000 of their friends and relatives accompanied them to the train. The company will pick up other bands along the route and at Chicago will meet the bands from Indian Territory and together will swoop down upon the city of Buffalo.

Western Nebraska Rejoices.

ALLIANCE, Neb., April 27.—Western Nebraska is rejoicing over the fine weather following three weeks of very severe storms. The ground is in the condition for crops and much more than usual will be put in. Grass is green and in a few days more like the present pasture will be abundant, much to the delight of stockmen. The loss of stock is not as large as many of the reports made it, perhaps 1 or 2 per cent.

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CUDAHY TELLS STORY

Author of Kidnaped Boy Gives Testimony in Criminal Court.

REITERATES FORMER STATEMENTS

The Trial of the Alleged Kidnapers Draws a Great Thrust—The Youthful Victim Takes the Stand and Relates His Experiences.

OMAHA, Neb., April 25.—Edward A. Cudahy, sr., and Edward A. Cudahy, jr., father and son, testified at the trial of James Callahan yesterday. The story of the kidnaping and the subsequent payment of the \$25,000 ransom as related by Mr. Cudahy, sr., was a repetition of the reports of the affair as published at the time in the news columns of the Bee. The testimony of the boy, giving the details of his abduction and imprisonment, also tallied with the reports heretofore published in this newspaper. In no detail did the evidence given by Mr. Cudahy and his son differ with the authentic and exclusive stories of the crime printed.

Yesterday forenoon was taken up with the opening statements of counsel and a visit by the jury to the scene of the crime, and in the afternoon the taking of testimony began. Young Cudahy was placed on the witness stand at 4 o'clock and when court adjourned at 5:30 o'clock his evidence had not reached that point where he is expected to positively identify Callahan as one of the kidnapers. It is apparent that the prosecution is leading up to an identification of the numerous conversations he had with his guard during the twenty-eight hours he was confined in the Melrose Hill house. It is the intention, evidently, to show that young Cudahy had become sufficiently familiar with the voice and the peculiarities in speech of his captor and guard to recognize them when heard at some future time. As previously published, after Callahan was arrested the Cudahy boy was given an opportunity to hear a conversation between him and Chief Donahue in the latter's office, after which he declared that Callahan's voice and peculiarities of speech were the same as those of his former guard. It is therefore predicted that the prosecution will today ask young Cudahy to identify Callahan by his voice and articulation.

So far as given the boy's testimony describes his captor and guard as a dark man with a stubby black mustache and black hair. This description may be fitted to Callahan, although it is extremely vague, and Callahan's mustache at this time is long enough to support a small curl at each end.

When the trial was resumed in the morning the court room was crowded with spectators, public interest having been revived by the announcement that the jury had been completed and the relation of the story of the kidnaping would begin. Edward A. Cudahy and the son for whose release he paid the \$25,000 ransom were in court, occupying seats directly behind those of County Attorney Shields and General Corwin. Callahan appeared as bright and cheerful as he was the day before and displayed keen interest in all the proceedings.

PLACED IN MARBLE CRYPT.

Remains of Lincoln and Other Members of His Family Moved.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., April 25.—Unostentatiously and without any ceremony, the remains of Abraham Lincoln and the other members of his family, which since March 10, 1900, when the work of rebuilding the Lincoln monument commenced have been deposited in a temporary stone crypt in the monument which has been built by the state of Illinois at a cost of \$100,000, were removed to the newly erected marble sarcophagus in the crypt of the monument.

Monquito Fleet at Cavite.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 25.—A cablegram received at the navy department today announced the arrival of the Monquito fleet at Cavite, Philippine islands. The four vessels of this little fleet will be utilized in patrolling the coasts of Luzon and the lower islands of the Philippine group.

Women May Vote.

ALBANY, N. Y., April 25.—Governor Odell today signed the bill authorizing women taxpayers in villages and towns to vote on propositions to expend money for public purposes.

Gauger Isn't Through Yet.

VANCOUVER, April 25.—The Shanghai Mercury publishes a statement, ostensibly from a confidential friend of Minister Conger, explaining that his application for leave was due to the fact that, having spent the last three years in Peking, he desired a thorough rest at this time. It is added that Mr. Conger would feel obliged to decline the nomination for governor of Iowa because he had no desire to retire permanently from the work.

Lincoln Has an Interest.

NEW YORK, April 25.—James M. Starbuck, a clerk in this city, filed a petition in bankruptcy today with liabilities of \$288,280, so assets. Mr. Starbuck was formerly a member of the firm of Driggin, Starbuck & Co., composed of Zimri Driggin of Chicago, W. E. Starbuck of Lincoln, Neb., and the petitioner. The firm failed in 1883, and insolvency proceedings were had in the states of Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana and Ohio.

Cynops Arrested for Theft.

OSCEOLA, Neb., April 25.—A company of cynops has been encamped at different places in this county for some time, and a good many things have disappeared. Sunday at Stromsburg it was found that they had entered the store belonging to A. B. Hedblom and helped themselves. Sheriff Nugent brought them up to Osceola and lodged them in jail. They were fined and told to move on.

ROCK ISLAND WINS ITS SUIT.

Maximum Freight Law is Again Declared Unconstitutional.

OMAHA, April 25.—Judge Sanborn and Munger, the former of the United States circuit and the latter of the United States district court, sustained the demurrer of the plaintiff in the suit of F. L. Pruitt, attorney general, against the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad company, brought to recover fines and penalties aggregating \$450,000 on account of alleged violation of the maximum freight rate law passed by the legislature during the session of 1893.

As a result of the sustaining of the demurrer the attorney general is restrained from commencing suits and from prosecuting those heretofore commenced in order to enforce the provisions of the law, which is held to be unconstitutional and void. Shortly after the passage of the maximum freight rate law an attempt was made by the state board of transportation and George H. Hastings, then attorney general, to carry out its provisions. To prevent this the Union Pacific, Northwestern and Burlington Railroad companies took the matter into court. An adjudication was finally reached in the United States supreme court, where it was held that the law was unconstitutional. A permanent injunction went out.

The suit against the Rock Island was not tried at that time, but was handed down as one of the assets of the office, passing to C. J. Smyth, who became his successor. The cases against the other roads being in litigation and further advanced than that against the Rock Island, was not reached by Attorney Smyth. By him it was passed to his successor, Frank L. Pruitt, the present attorney general.

In their opinion the judges cite the former cases and the decision of the supreme court, holding the law unconstitutional, taking the position that the suit was brought to punish the railroad for failing to obey a law held invalid. An injunction is ordered to issue and the state is given the customary time in which to perfect its appeal.

OUR SHOW AT BUFFALO.

The Nebraska Exhibit Will Not Be of a Very Creditable Character.

LINCOLN, Neb., April 25.—The prospects for Nebraska making any adequate or representative showing at the Buffalo exposition this summer and fall are far from promising, notwithstanding the fact that the legislature made an appropriation of \$10,000 for that purpose.

Such at least is the impression gathered from a talk with Hon. E. L. Vance of Pawnee City, recently appointed by Governor Dietrich to have charge of Nebraska's exhibit and of the expenditure of the \$10,000. Mr. Vance has just returned from a hurried trip to Buffalo, where he went to complete preliminary arrangements for the installation of the exhibits which are to be made for the purpose of advertising Nebraska. The fair will be formally opened, Mr. Vance says, on May 20. Owing to the short time intervening, he says, and also because of the small appropriation, it has been decided impossible to erect a Nebraska building and the state exhibit will be made, therefore, in the various departments. For this purpose Mr. Vance has succeeded in securing but 1,100 square feet of space, 600 in a corner of the agricultural building and 500 in a corner of the horticultural building. No space could be obtained for an educational exhibit, nor for a showing of the state's various commercial and manufacturing interests.

NO THOUGHT OF FOUL PLAY.

No New Speculation in Death of A. G. Linstrum.

YORK, Neb., April 25.—The effort to create a sensation out of the tragic death of A. G. Linstrum seems a little far-fetched. While the construction of the verdict of the coroner's jury is a little peculiar, there remains no doubt as to the fact that the deceased came to his death by his own hand. It is said that a daughter hysterically remarked that her mother was the cause of her father's death, but it is claimed she had no grounds other than that the wife and husband had heretofore quarreled. The county attorney, F. C. Fowler, has taken no steps toward an investigation and he has not been solicited to do so, nor has any information been given him for this purpose, so for the present at least, under the circumstances, so far as known, the public will accept the verdict of suicide.

Hastings is Interested.

HASTINGS, Neb., April 25.—The Commercial club was called in special meeting for the purpose of ascertaining what had been done in regard to securing the location at Hastings of the grand lodge building of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. This matter will be settled at the next meeting of the grand lodge, which will be held on May 15 at Nebraska City. Hastings is very much interested in the project.

Cynops Arrested for Theft.

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BRIEF TELEGRAMS.

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and helps its customers when they need help.

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W. R. BUCHER, VICE-PRES.

H. BRUGGER, CASHIER.

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