THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

TWENTIETH YEAR. OMAHA, MONDAY MORNING, MARCH 2, 1891. NUMBER 254.

YUMA'S LATEST EXPERIENCE.

Second Flood On the Gila and Colorado Rivers Worse Than the First.

FOURTEEN TO FIFTY MILES WIDE.

Towns Washed Away, Ranches Flooded, Railroads Destroyed and Fears of Great Loss of Life—East and South.

DENVER, Colo., March 1.—The Rocky Mountain News' Yuma, Ariz., special says: "Over two hundred and fifty houses are in ruins from the flood, and 1,400 people are homeless. Not a single business house remains standing, and it is feared that hundreds of lives have been lost in the Gila valley. The river above town is seven miles wide and below town in many places the water covers the county in one grand lake, over fifty miles across.

"The town has provisions sufficient for eight days more, and the Southern Pacific hotel is feeding a thousand people a day.

"Reports from Jakuno, fifteen miles above here, are to the effect that the flood drove the people into the tree tops and many became exhausted from cold and hunger, dropped into the water and were drowned. Reports from reliable sources put the loss of life in the valley anywhere from thirty up to one hundred.

"All along the valley for 200 miles everything is desolation. Houses and barns, stock and fences, have been carried away by the flood, leaving the country bare as a desert. Eighty miles south of here, where 5,000 Cocopah Indians live, the country is flooded for eighty miles square, and as there are no hills for refuge, it is reported that over a hundred of them have been drowned. The great valley of the Colorado is one vast sea of water. The loss in this county foots up over $2,000,000.

Most Disastrous Flood.

YUMA, Ariz., March 1.—The second high water on the Gila river, on Thursday, was more disastrous than that of Sunday. The loss in Yuma is $300,000. The cemeteries are on high land, and many people are camping in them. It is reported that a Mexican family has been drowned. One body of a man has floated past town. The river here is fourteen miles wide. Many people are believed to be drowned in the country, but no particulars have been received.

Along the Mississippi.

NEW ORLEANS, La., March 1.—Concerning the condition of the levees and the uneasy feeling produced along the lower Mississippi by the continued rising water, the following information has been received:

A telegram from Captain Lambert, for many years editor of the Natchez Democrat, says: "The situation of river matters along the lower Mississippi is just now quite critical. While the water in sight does not appear to be sufficient to cause a flood of the height attained last, yet indications now are for rains through a considerable portion of the valley, and if they should occur, it is probable the floods of last year would be equalled the present season. The levees are not really in so good condition as they were at this time last year, and there is a constant fear of their giving way under the pressure at many points along the line."

R. F. Reynolds, commercial agent of the Louisville, New Orleans & Texas railroad, said the present condition of the Mississippi river and its tributaries threatens a disastrous overflow from Memphis to New Orleans. The main river, as well as its tributaries, is higher than at this date last year.

Loss of Life Discredited.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., March 1.—General Manager Towne of the Southern Pacific railroad tonight discredited the rumor that 100 lives had been lost at Yuma and vicinity by the second flood. He stated to an Associated press reporter that he had been in communication with Yuma up to 7:30 (San Francisco time) tonight and had received no such reports, as he surely would have had had there been a disaster. So far no lives have been lost at Yuma, except one Mexican who was drowned last week.

In the upper Gila valley, however, ranches may have been flooded and some people drowned.

Destructive Thunder Storm.

NEW BEDFORD, Mass., March 1.—A destructive winter thunder storm, accompanied by lightning, visited this city and vicinity last night. At South Dartmouth, Dartmouth, Westport and Mattapoissett the lightning played havoc, destroying no less than six buildings and causing serious injury to two churches, one valued at $8,000 being demolished.

Damaged by High Water.

WATERTOWN, N. Y., March 1.—The large pulp mill of the Remington paper company was almost totally destroyed late last night by high water, causing damage requiring about $50,000 to repair, and killing John Murphy, an employe. Another employe was badly bruised and many others had narrow escapes.

Floated Away in a Cabin.

TUCSON, Ariz., March 1.—Word received from Gila Bend reports that a small cabin floated down the Gila river last night, past that place. Lamps were lit and the cries of women and children were heard.

Other Towns Destroyed.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., March 1.—A special from Maricopa, Ariz., by mail from Phoenix, dated February 27, says: The Mormon settlement of Lehi, on the south bank of Salt river was nearly destroyed. The Gila river rose twenty-five feet in a few hours. The bridge at Florence was washed away and the town is supposed to be under water. The town is built of adobe, so the loss will be great.

The Colorado river at Yuma is greatly swollen and it is feared the town will be wiped out. Thirty miles of the Southern Pacific track west of Maricopa is under water.

THE BODIES RECOVERED.

Victims of the Snow Slide at Irwin, Colorado.

CRESTED BUTTE, Colo., March 1.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The bodies of all the victims of the Bullion King disaster at Irwin have been recovered. The body of Mrs. E. A. Clark was found yesterday evening near where the boarding house stood. She was buried in about nine feet of snow. She was not much bruised and had apparently smothered. The remains, with the body of the baby, were brought to Crested Butte today on a hand-sled drawn by men on snow shoes, and shipped to Denver.

The body of Captain B. F. Smiley was found about 2:30 this afternoon. He was in his cabin and had undoubtedly been killed while eating dinner. The cabin had been crushed in on him, killing him instantly. His body will be brought to Crested Butte tomorrow and shipped to his home in Factoryville, Ia., for burial. Out of seven buildings at the Bullion King only a part of one, the shaft house, remains. Two of these buildings, the boarding house and Superintendent Keppel's residence, were very large buildings and were built especially to resist the snow.

It is storming hard now and by tomorrow all traces of the Bullion wreckage will be buried deep under the snow. The probabilities are that no more work will be done at the mine until spring.

PRESIDENT MANDERSON.

The Nebraska Senator Chosen to Succeed Ingalls.

WASHINGTON, March 1.—A conference of the republican senators was held tonight for the purpose of selecting a president pro tempore in the senate in the place of Mr. Ingalls. Senator Sherman presided. Three senators were nominated for the position, Messrs. Frye of Maine, Hoar of Massachusetts and Manderson of Nebraska. Six or seven ballots were taken, and on the last Senator Manderson received the nomination. On motion of Mr. Frye the nomination was made unanimous.

Western People in Chicago.

CHICAGO, March 1.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Among the western people in Chicago today were the following:

At the Sherman—J. B. Owen, Phil Stimmel, Omaha.

At the Tremont—H. A. Jandt, Sioux City.

At the Auditorium—Levi F. McKenna, Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Burkley, Omaha; Dr. D. J. Montgomery, Council Bluffs; F. E. Houghton and Leo A. Little, Salt Lake; B. C. Kingsbury, Buffe.

At the Leland—Mr. and Mrs. John McCook, Mrs. A. Beadle, Cresco, Ia.

At the Palmer—Mr. and Mrs. A. Morsman, C. N. Dietz, C. H. Gulon, Omaha; Phillip Loler, Council Bluffs, Miss N. Davis, Fargo.

At the Grand Pacific—Owen W. Rowe, Pierre, S. D.; H. F. Miller, Fargo, S. D.; J. H. McKnight, Great Falls, Mont.; Caston Wade, Sioux City; Mrs. M. G. Russell, Helena; W. F. Wake, Des Moines; J. M. Poorbaugh, Sioux City.

MURDEROUS HIGHBINDERS.

Police Efforts to Prevent Another Outbreak in 'Frisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., March 1.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—A very large force of police is massed in Chinatown tonight, as it is expected a battle between highbinders will take place at any hour. Last night members of the Ep Ying Tong society posted a challenge to the Suey Sing Tong society and both forces arrayed for battle. The police learned of the meeting and dispersed them. Several who were arrested wore coats of mail.

About midnight a Chinese courtesan was shot by an unknown highbinder who escaped, although ten policemen were not forty yards away. His countrymen knew his identity, but refused to reveal it. The trouble in Chinatown is due to raids which the police have made on the highbinders' strongholds. These criminals have been prevented from levying blackmail and the big societies have decided to clean out the smaller. The Suey Sing society numbers 1,000 men, while the Ep Ying has only seventy, yet the latter refuse to abandon their organization and show fight. If the two societies meet without the police near there is sure to be bloodshed.

PROHIBITION INVESTIGATOR.

The Kansas Legislature Committee Uncovering the Fraud.

LEAVENWORTH, Kan., March 1.—[Special telegram to THE BEE.]—The committee of the Kansas legislature appointed to investigate the police commissions of cities of the first class in this state, cross examined Police Commissioner Fairchild of this city, an ultra prohibitionist, last night. Fairchild admitted that saloons were licensed here as in Wichita, Atchison and in other cities in this state. The investigating committee has found that the police commission method of enforcing the prohibitory law has been productive of all kinds of bribery and hush-money schemes.

THE GREAT MONUMENT.

Work to Be Commenced Within a Short Time.

NEW YORK, March 1.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The Grant monument association has filed an application for permission to begin the work of erecting the memorial, and the committee in charge expects to break ground on April 27, the sixty-ninth anniversary of General Grant's birth. The association has arranged also for a celebration in the Madison square amphitheater on the afternoon and evening of Saturday, May 20. The entertainment will consist of "an allegory of the war in song," an arrangement of popular patriotic songs by S. G. Pratt, the Chicago composer.

Sensation in Church.

CHICAGO, March 1.—Just as Rev. Father Frederick of St. Joseph's church, was bringing vestal services to a close tonight, a neatly dressed woman rushed down the aisle and up the altar steps, and threw her arms around the priest's neck, exclaiming:

"My husband! My long lost husband!"

Father Frederick, divining the situation, released himself from the woman's embrace, with the assistance of the parishioners in the front seats. The woman fought desperately, but she was finally removed and taken to the detention hospital. The woman proved to be Mrs. Mary White, who was recently released from the county insane asylum.

A Maronite Priest.

NEW YORK, March 1.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—At St. Patrick's cathedral this morning Arch Bishop Carrigan conferred holy orders on the first Maronite to be ordained priest in the United States. His name is Joseph Yasbey. Father Yasbey came here about eight months ago. Maronites dwell on Mt. Lebanon, surrounded by Mohammedans Druses, Jews, Bedouins and schismatics of every rite hated and persecuted by all alike. They claim that they were the first Christians enlightened by the preaching of the apostles.

The Weather Forecast.

For Omaha and vicinity—Light snow; slightly warmer.

For Iowa—Snow; slightly cooler, except stationary temperature in eastern portion, easterly winds.

For Nebraska and South Dakota—Snow, slightly cooler, northeasterly winds.

The Fire Record.

WATERTOWN, N. Y., March 1.—Twenty business houses at Hermon, St. Lawrence county, a village of 600 inhabitants, burned this morning. Loss, $75,000.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., March 1.—Byram & Sullivan's retail dry good house burned tonight. Total loss on building and contents, $100,000.

Steamship Arrivals.

At New York—The Adriatic, from Liverpool.

At Queenstown—The Etruria, from New York.

At New York—Sighted: The Normandie, from New York.

Condemned Murderer Escapes.

QUINCY, Ill., March 1.—Dan Porter, who murdered Edwin O. Smith, knocked the sheriff down against the cell tonight, and relieving him of his keys and revolver, easily made his escape. Porter was to have been hanged on March 20.

Fought Like Demons.

CHICAGO, March 1.—In a saloon row tonight George Stanoritch and Angelo Feansbio, Italians, were both fatally wounded. Both men used the same stiletto to slash each other with, and Stanoritch had an eye gouged out.

Killed by a Negro.

NEW ORLEANS, La., March 1.—O. H. Hamilton, government levee contractor, was shot and instantly killed last night by a negro named Frank Burgess in a dispute over wages. The murderer escaped.

WHO WILL GET THE PLACES?

Prospects of a Great Scramble for the New Circuit Judgeships.

INTERESTING OUTLOOK FOR JURISTS.

Political Effects of the Closing of Congress—Lew Wallace and Secretary Foster—Civil Crowding Legislative Work.

WASHINGTON BUREAU THE BEE, 513 FOURTEENTH STREET, WASHINGTON, D. C., March 1.

"There is going to be a great scramble over the judicial appointments which the supreme court reorganization bill provides," said a republican senator today. "And it is my opinion that the president is going to have no end of trouble, but not that he will have difficulty in finding good men for the places. It is a very difficult thing to select from the large number of men a few who are fitted for these places. You know they are for life, and there should be the highest type of character in each of the appointments, beside natural fitness and training. The greatest trouble in making these appointments comes in the form of personal importunities. The applicants send delegations to the white house and appeal to their friends in congress to use their political and official influence upon the appointing power. If the applicants would only present their claims upon paper and leave the president to decide their cases from the facts shown, the appointments would be better, and there would be an enormous amount of trouble saved to both the applicants and the president. A man can so much better present his claims upon paper, and I wish aspirants for these places would bear this fact in mind."

JUNKETS AND INVESTIGATIONS.

An examination of the records in the offices of the sergeants-at-arms of the house and senate shows that there have been fewer junketing trips and investigations in this than in any congress during the past decade. The senate committee on arid lands has continued the investigation begun in the last congress, and the special committee created by that body in 1889 to inquire into our meat export trade have continued their inquiries, while the senate committee on interstate commerce and Indian affairs have made some inquiries, but no junketing trips. There were some witnesses examined by the committee empowered to investigate the fish commission, and the joint committee of the house and senate on immigration and naturalization made some extensive investigations. The latter was the only committee that made much of a trip. Its mission was a very important one and the result was the framing of a bill which has just passed the house. The house committee on judiciary sent a sub-committee to the south, and it reported in favor of the impeachment of a Louisiana judge. A sub-committee of the committee on elections in the house went to Arkansas and investigated the killing of General Clayton, who was the contestant of Clifford R. Breckenridge's seat. There were investigations of the Ohio ballot box frauds, the silver pool, Postmaster Wheat and Pension Commissioner Raum. These constituted all of the investigations made by this house, and it is doubtful whether the entire expense of all the investigations and trips through the country will aggregate $90,000. There have been investigations by the democrats in either branch of congress which have cost as much as $100,000 in a single congress. It will be seen that the republicans are not bent on junketing trips or extensive investigations.

AIM OF THE WOMAN'S COUNCIL.

Delegates to the Women's National Council, which organization has been in session here during the week just closed, explain that their work and the aims of this organization are most grievously misunderstood. They say that the work of the women of the country through an organization of this character is not simply to secure voting power for mothers and sisters, but to secure an elevation of the personal and moral influence of women for the elevation of mankind and womankind. All of these national meetings of women are, as a rule, believed to be in the interest of woman suffrage, and there is in many quarters so much prejudice against woman suffrage that the whole business is discharged from the individual as well as public mind and as a useless waste. The delegates who have filled Washington during the past week say that if the country could understand that this whole movement is simply for the general elevation of women and specially to promote the interests of women, there would be much more sympathy for the movement, and it would more readily get a foot-hold. This much is said in the interest of these women as an organization privilege, and as a general explanation.

REORGANIZING THE SENATE.

Up to a few days ago it was generally believed in Washington that when congress adjourns on next Wednesday there would be a caucus of republican senators, with a view to reorganization, as it is known that a number of senators will go into private life three days hence. A reorganization of the senate would not be possible without an extra session of that body, as all schemes for reorganization must be reported on the floor of the senate and become a part of the journal and verbatim proceedings of that body. Thus there will be no reorganization and no changes until the Fifty-second congress convenes on the first Monday of December next, unless there should be an extra session, which is not at all probable. The chairmen of senate committees who will retire on next Monday are Mr. Spooner of Wisconsin, committee on claims; Mr. Blair of New Hampshire, education and labor; Mr. Moody of South Dakota, Indian depredations; Mr. Ingalls, District of Columbia; Mr. Evarts of New York, library. Inasmuch as there will be no work for any of the committees to do until there is a session of the senate, the present organization can stand without any injury to public or private interests.

SECRETARY FOSTER'S DOUBLE.

There has been at the Ebbitt house during the past week a man of medium height, weighing probably one hundred and seventy pounds, with a heavy wealth of deep gray hair and a face shaven cleanly to his chin, which is covered with a short, iron-gray beard. Always wearing a pair of steel-rimmed spectacles and a derby hat set squarely down upon his head, this gentleman has attracted some attention from students of human anatomy by his quiet demeanor. He has walked about the broad corridors of the hotel, his hands pushed far down into his breeches' pockets, and, with his face bent upon the tile-flooring, has ever appeared a man of deep study. While nearly every person whose attention has been attracted to this gentleman has scanned him closely, few venture to address him, and thus he appeared to enjoy his quietude, and at times solitude. The unknown gentleman continued to attract this quiet attention for about a week, when the nomination of ex-Governor Foster of Ohio, was sent to the senate for the vacant secretaryship of the treasury.

Secretary Foster has been much in Washington since he went out of congress, after six years of service in that capacity, and his figure is familiar to most persons who visit the national capital. When the name of Foster was upon every tongue in Washington, the quiet gentleman referred to appeared to attract more attention than usual, for he was an almost exact counterpart of the new head of the treasury. He was frequently addressed as "Governor Foster," and numerous inquiries were made for him by Ohio politicians. When one gentleman accosted the distinguished looking visitor and was about to address him as "Governor Foster," the quiet gentleman replied:

"I beg your pardon, sir, but I am General Wallace, of Indiana."

The counterpart of the secretary of the treasury and the man who attracted so much quiet attention was none other than General Lew Wallace, known throughout the world as the author of "Ben Hur." After enjoying the effect of the delusion General Wallace peeped into the Grand opera house, where the Woman's National council was in session, and it is needless to say that there he received a genuine ovation, for the women of the world recognize him as one of their greatest benefactors and friends. The name of Lew Wallace and "Ben Hur" are engraved in the minds of the Christian people throughout the civilized world, and while Charles Foster of Ohio may go down to posterity as a great financier and politician, his great counterpart of Indiana will hand down a name which will live for centuries.

CAN POSTMASTERS HOLD OTHER OFFICES?

An interesting question came up in the postoffice department this week. Captain Frank Ellis was a few days since appointed and commissioned postmaster at Muncie, Ind. Ellis for many years has been the mayor at Muncie, and occupied that position at the time when he entered upon the duties of postmaster. When the city council met last week it petitioned the postmaster general to permit Ellis to continue in the office of mayor till the regular city election is held, in the early part of May, on the ground that the city was in the midst of important financial transactions under the supervision of the mayor, and to change the officer at this time would greatly disarrange the interests of the city; and besides to hold a special election at this time would put the people at considerable inconvenience and expense and subject the interests of the republican party to the greatest hazard. It has been the rule of the postoffice department ever since 1879 to refuse permission to a postmaster to serve in any other official capacity. President Grant issued a proclamation in the year named, to the effect that whenever a postmaster accepted any other appointment or elective office, such acceptance would be considered equivalent to a resignation from the federal office. There is no statutory law upon the subject, but the proclamation of President Grant has been taken as at least unwritten law. The postoffice department has not yet decided the Muncie case, but it is safe to predict that the reasons for permitting the postmaster to continue as mayor eight weeks longer are so strong that there will be acquiescence instead of outright permission.

A similar case comes from the postoffice at Joliet, Ill. A few weeks ago a brother to Senator Cullom was appointed postmaster at Joliet, and at the time he entered upon his federal duties he was an alderman in the city council. There was a request from officials and private citizens similar to that which come from Muncie, asking that Postmaster Cullom be permitted to serve out his term as alderman, which ends when the regular city election takes place in April. It was shown that the interests of the city were at stake, and that it would be a political as well as economical advantage to the city for Postmaster Cullom to serve out the remaining few weeks of his term as alderman. Postmaster General Wanamaker was asked by some political malcontents to request Postmaster Cullom to resign as alderman immediately, but the question was laid aside "for investigation," and it is safe to say that it will not be determined until Joliet holds a city election.

CROWDING THE LEGISLATIVE WORK.

It will not be under a day or two after congress adjourns that an appreciation can be had of the amount of work being done. More bills will be finally adopted than even the statesmen themselves can trace. There is a perfect jam of legislation. Hundreds of bills are on the very verge of final action. Many have passed one house, been favorably reported from the committee into the other house, placed upon the calendar and ordered to the point of completion. Some have passed both houses, but with amendments, and must be taken up for concurrence or non-concurrence and conference action. Others are in the hands of conference committees. Some of them will fail. At the last hour there will be a perfect flood of work to complete, and the smoke of action must clear away before it can be seen just what good or damage has resulted from the contests now waging. Many bills have already been passed of more or less importance, and are on the president's desk, but have escaped the attention of the public. Some pass and are in the hands of engrossing clerks before their authors know they have received consideration. There is a rush of work, a hurrying of tongues and feet, and a perfect bedlam of confusion at the capitol, and it will continue, day and night, till the gavels of the presiding officers fall for the last time at noon on Wednesday. Then there will be a rush of statesmen and there families to get out of the city, nearly two hundred of whom are to see no more of public life. After the tide comes in and there is quiet it will be seen that this congress has accomplished more in the way of legislation than did the three which have intervened since the Forty-seventh, the last congress in which the republicans had a clean sweep of legislative machinery in both houses and at the executive mansion, and when the tariff was revised for the first and last time in several years.

ARMY MATTERS.

By direction of the secretary of war, Sergeant Louis Ebers of company H, Second infantry, now with his company at Fort Omaha, will be discharged from the service of the United States on receipt of this order by the commanding officer of his station.

Hospital Steward Charles Gomes, now at Fort Thomas, Ariz., will proceed to Fort Robinson, Neb.

Today's Herald of this city confirms the statement of THE BEE that it is very probable the Ninth cavalry will receive formal recognition from the war department by a detail to Fort Niobrara, Neb., and the assignment of Colonel Guy V. Henry to the command.

MANY DAYS WASTED.

The democrats in the house have succeeded in wasting about forty-five days in roll calls in this congress, despite the code of rules adopted. Thirty-six days were consumed in roll call in the first session, and yet the democrats threaten to defeat a complimentary resolution for Speaker Reed, because he has tried to enforce the rules.

MISCELLANEOUS.

While the chances are now decidedly against the passage of the Paddock pure food bill the senator is making a desperate fight to secure consideration of the measure, which is now openly opposed by the opponents of the Conger lard bill. Today Senator Paddock appeared before the appropriations committee, which had taken up the agricultural appropriation bill under consideration, and made an argument in favor of the committee adding the pure food bill to the agricultural appropriation bill as an amendment. He also addressed the committee upon his irrigation amendment, and his bill for the distribution of seeds in the drouth stricken region of Nebraska.

Senator Paddock's bill for the rectification of titles on the Otoe and Missouri Indian reservation is still pending in the house, awaiting a report from the land department upon the measure as it passed the senate. The senator has had several conferences with the secretary of the interior and Commissioner Groff, and hopes to get a favorable report upon the measure by tomorrow, in which event he expects that Congressman Connell will be able to call it up and secure its passage.

Colonel William F. Cody and Major Burke are much gratified over the passage by the senate last evening of an amendment to the Indian appropriation bill providing for the expenditure of $50,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary for the payment of damages suffered by the friendly Indians at the hands of the hostiles during the late trouble at Pine Ridge. Colonel Cody and Major Burke, with the aid of Senators Manderson and Paddock, have been working vigorously during the past week to secure the appropriation. It is believed that by prompt expenditure of this amount that not only trouble in the spring at Pine Ridge can be avoided, but it will lead to the support of the government a large number of friendly Ogallalas who suffered large pecuniary losses on account of their fidelity to the troops.

PERRY S. HEATH.

The Death Roll.

BURLINGTON, Ia., March 1.—Judge Charles H. Phelps of the district court of this city died this morning.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., March 1.—Colonel W. W. Gates, the oldest journalist in Tennessee, died at Jackson today, aged seventy-six. In 1841 he founded the West Tennessee Whig, and is the last of the celebrated leaders of the whig party in the south.

IOWA FARMERS ARE NEUTRAL

Their Alliance is Not Formed to Be Used as a Political Machine.

AN IMPORTANT INSURANCE DECISION.

Work of the Iowa Business Men's Association—Municipal Politics—State Oratorical Society—A Geological Survey.

DES MOINES, Ia., March 1.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The conference of the farmers' alliance delegates from northwestern Iowa and adjoining states at Sioux City last week excited some interest among the politicians of other parties, because of the alleged determination to place an alliance state ticket in the field, with President Furrow at its head as a candidate for governor. From a reading of the proceedings, however, it is certain that no such action was decided upon, although the matter was probably discussed informally. It is difficult to see how such action could be taken, in view of the constitution of the farmers' alliance in Iowa. At the state convention in this city last summer the matter was warmly discussed and it was proposed to adopt a constitutional amendment declaring the Iowa organization to be non-partisan and forbidding independent political action. President Furrow, Secretary Post, Lecturer Ashby and other leading members favored such action, but it was not taken, because of the discovery that the constitution already provided for that very thing.

The convention, however, went so far as to declare that the alleged alliance candidates for congress in the various districts were not, in fact, alliance candidates, although alliance members would likely very largely vote for them. So that the farmers' alliance as a state organization is on record, and fully recognized, as non-partisan and opposed to independent political action, and on that understanding President Furrow and Secretary Post were re-elected. If there is an alliance movement for separate party action, it will not emanate from nor be sanctioned by these gentlemen or their followers, but must come from some other source. The organization has been growing very rapidly on non-partisan lines, and an attempt to force republican and democratic members together on a party basis would probably prove disastrous.

NATIONAL FARMERS' ALLIANCE.

There is another organization, called the National Farmers' Alliance, which is also rapidly gaining strength, and which is the same as the Nebraska, Kansas and southern state organizations, and is in favor of independent political action. What sort of figure it will cut in Iowa is as yet an indefinite problem. President Polk of the national organization has issued a call, stating that information has been filed with him, through legally constituted authority, that the required number of county organizations has been effected in Iowa to form a state organization under the constitution and laws of the National Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union, and designating Creston, Ia., as the place and Tuesday, March 17, as the time for the meeting of the properly accredited delegates to meet and form such state organization.

IOWA MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

For the first time since the organization of the city, probably, the city of Des Moines will this year have no city election, the election under the annexation law last spring holding good for two years. Every other city and town in the state, however, will hold elections for local officers tomorrow, except a few cities under special charters which hold their elections in April. Municipal politics has been lively in many places, the issue, however, being merely local. In nearly all places the dividing line will be upon the enforcement or non-enforcement of the prohibitory law, a never failing question of political warfare.

The victories will be neither democratic nor republican, both parties being divided within their own ranks on that question. In a large number of places party lines have been entirely ignored and people's tickets nominated which will carry the day.

IMPORTANT INSURANCE CASE.

For some time a case has been pending in the district court here involving important questions and a large amount of money. It was an action brought by R. G. English of this city against the Connecticut Mutual life insurance company of Hartford, Conn.

The petition alleges that the charter of the company requires that whenever its surplus funds shall exceed $200,000 the excess shall be distributed among the policy holders, who as members of a mutual concern constitute the company. It is claimed that the undivided profits in the company's treasury now amount to over $5,000,000, and the plaintiff, who has held a policy in the company since 1868, asks for a division and allotment to himself of his proportion of this enormous sum. The defendants demur on the ground—first, that this court has no jurisdiction; and second, that the provision in the company's charter regarding the division of the surplus is not mandatory, the word "may" being the term used.

Judge Holmes filed his decision in the case the past week, sustaining the demurrer, holding that the distribution is to be made at the discretion of the directors; and also that while the Iowa courts did certainly have power to enforce a contract made by a foreign corporation with a citizen of Iowa in Iowa, they could not enforce the obligations of a charter granted by another state, and they had no power to distribute the profits of a corporation in another state, where one of 60,000 shareholders is in court.

BUSINESS MEN'S CONVENTION.

The state Business Men's association of Iowa has been in session several days the past week at Cedar Rapids with large attendance. President Kurtz of Cedar Rapids outlined the objects of the association in his annual address as follows: "An organization of business men for business purposes has been one of the dreams of many a man who has seen his substance scattered to the different points of the compass by thoughtless customers whose favorite time to travel is in the dark of the moon. * * but it is perfected and we have met a second time to formulate crude ideas." He recommended further effort at legislation to improve the exemption laws. As the law now stands, he said, it is a premium on dishonesty. He had confidence that a proper committee would frame a bill which will express the sense of the business men of Iowa. Some protection should be devised against the itinerant vender also.

The report of Secretary Burnell of Marshalltown showed that a year ago the association was working in sixty counties and today in eighty-three; then there were seventy-seven local organizations and at present 125. He recommended the organization of a mutual fire insurance company and reported that he had over $1,000,000 worth of insurance promised by the retail merchants of Iowa with which to start such a company.

R. W. Crawford of Fort Dodge was elected president, A. P. Burnell of Marshalltown re-elected secretary, and George H. Shaeffer of Fort Madison treasurer, with a long list of directors, etc. Dubuque was chosen as the next place of meeting.

The reports from local associations all showed a healthy condition of affairs and a great improvement over a year ago. The statement that the state association had a membership of between five thousand and six thousand was received with great applause. The committee on trade interests submitted a report, embodying resolutions condemning the practice by manufacturers and wholesalers of soliciting retail orders after first securing wholesale trade; also the practice of taking orders by agents or mail samplings as unjust to local dealers. Arrangements were made for the formation of a mutual insurance company.

COLLEGE ORATORY.

The seventeenth annual meeting of the Iowa State O[illegible] Indianola on [illegible] delegations [illegible] the sixteen colleges composing the me[illegible] for the ensuing [illegible] R. Patrick of [illegible] vice presid[illegible] College, Cedar Rapi[illegible] George A. Camp[illegible] Des Moines. Edg[illegible] the honor of repres[illegible] the interstate contest [illegible] which occurs in this city in May. W. A. Little of Coe college, Cedar Rapids, was the successful candidate, his subject being the "Evolution of Democracy." The next state contest will be held at Cedar Rapids.

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

The state of Iowa needs to have a thorough geological survey for the purpose of definitely determining what is beneath the soil. There have been two partial surveys of the state, one by Hall in 1858 and the other by Prof. Charles A. Hall in 1869, neither of which was finished for lack of necessary appropriations. State Mine Inspector Thomas in talking of the matter the other day said: "There is little doubt but there are extensive coal fields underlying the southwestern part of the state, but they have not been developed because their location is not generally known. The coal deposits in many cases are underlaid with fire clay of the finest quality, and it only wants a geological survey of the state to bring these resources forward and make a healthy boom in these industries." It is probable a movement will be made in this direction at the next meeting of the legislature.

ANOTHER HALLOCK IN TROUBLE.

Charles L. Hallock, until a few years ago a resident of Audubon county, and who will be remembered as the young man who killed Carl Strahl and wounded John Millhollen, is in trouble in Colorado. Hallock is a railroad brakeman and being in a mob who were about to lynch the murderer of his conductor, he was shot in the groin. The mob which he was leading, went on and lynched the murderer. This occurred at Salida. Hallock's wife and children were in Audubon county when the affair took place. Willis Hallock, a brother of Charley, was shot through the lungs at the time the Polk City outlaws were run into Elkhorn grove in Shelby county a few years ago. The father of both the Hallocks formerly represented Audubon county in the general assembly.

Prehistoric Cheese.

SEARSBORO, Ia., March 1.—One of the most remarkable discoveries ever occurring in Iowa was made by Patrick McGinn, a farmer living near here. He was digging a well the other day, and at a depth of 83 feet struck a three foot six inch vein of what proves to be natural cheese. It is of a beautiful golden color and looks precisely like the finest creamery production. McGinn has just received an analysis from a reputable Chicago chemist, showing the article to be cheese of a very high grade that will keep any length of time. McGinn is making arrangements to mine the vein, and expects to make a fortune out of it. He has refused an offer of $10,000 for his discovery from Scott & Hicks of St. Louis, Mo. Many visitors come daily to view the remarkable discovery.

Forced to Leave the City.

FORT DODGE, Ia., March 1.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Prof. John Jameson, a free thought and free love lecturer, was forced to terminate his course very suddenly at Cherokee. After his first lecture there was some talk of mobbing the lecturer, but the movement finally ended in refusing Jameson the use of the opera house and public hall. He was forced to leave the city.

Sioux City Ball Club Troubles.

SIOUX CITY, Ia., March 1.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The Sioux City Baseball association is having trouble at every step. Having reasons to believe that its manager, J. H. Gifford, was giving away secrets to the American association, he was released today. Al Buckinberger of Detroit was signed tonight as manager.

WHAT WOMEN WANT.

Resolutions Adopted by the National Council Last Week.

WASHINGTON, March 1.—At the final business session of the National Council of Women, the following resolutions were passed:

Resolved, That the National Council of Women of the United States send a memorial to the clergymen of the Methodist Episcopal church asking that as 82 per cent of the members of that denomination have already, by formal ballot, expressed a desire that women be admitted to the general conference, that the clergy shall, in accordance with the will of the laity, grant admission to women to that body.

Resolved, That women be placed on the Sunday school lesson committee and on all committees appointed in the various churches for the revision of their creeds.

Resolved, That the council urge upon the National Reform Divorce league the eminent fitness and consequent obligation of placing women on its board.

Resolved, That a request be presented to the proper authorities that in all departments of its service the government shall pay its employes equal wages for equal work, and both in engaging and promoting its employes it shall consider efficiency and not sex, and thus set a standard for the country.

Resolved, That inasmuch as the Columbian exposition of 1893 affords an exceptional opportunity for the convening of representatives of all countries, the officers of the national council shall write the officers of the international Council of Women to hold its first meeting in Chicago in the summer of 1892.

Resolved, That the general officers shall appoint a committee of women, whose duty it shall be to report within a year suggestions for a business costume for women, which shall meet the demands of health, comfort and good taste.

Resolved, That the council approves the movement for the prevention of the slaughter of birds for the sole purpose of ornamentation.

Such has been the phenomenal growth of the council, first convening with six regularly entered organizations and twenty-six organizations in fraternal relations, at this date that it numbers twelve regularly entered and forty-seven fraternally affiliated organizations. The first annual conference of the executive committee will be held in May.

A CHINESE BANQUET.

How High Toned Boston People Used Their Chopsticks.

BOSTON, March 1.—Boston literary people are still in the throes of the Chinese fad. The last thing was a Mongolian banquet last evening at a Chinese restaurant on Harrison avenue. The guests were limited to twelve, and included William Dean Howells, Prof. Fennellosa of Harvard, formerly president of Tokio university; Prof. E. S. Morse, the authority on Japanese art and pottery, Prof. Langmaid, the composer; Dr. Prescott Baker of Newport, R. I.; Walter Chase and Sylvester Baxter. The gentlemen were accompanied by ladies, and rare fun was had over the novel spread. The menu consisted of ten courses and included such delicacies as fish bellies, fried sturgeons' wings, birds' nest soups, rose and apricot wines and rice. The highest sport was had over the first two courses, as all the guests used chopsticks by previous pledge. The menu cards were printed on Chinese gold paper and placed inside great cannon crackers. The Mongolian restaurateur said the dinner was the most elaborate one he had ever known given in this country, and he charged his guests accordingly, collecting his money in advance.

SHOT BY THE BOSS.

An Altercation That Ended Fatally for Pat Gallagher.

HILL CITY, S. D., March 1.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—At Redfern, a small station near Hill City, this morning a laborer named Pat Gallagher was shot through the stomach and probably fatally wounded by the section boss, Mike Mooney, in an altercation about wages.

A Kentucky Affair.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., March 1.—At Gray's Station, near Barbourville today, Abner Mitchell killed John Woods, and in turn was shot to death by John Ingle, during a quarrel.

STAND OR FALL BY PALMER.

Illinois Democrats Determined Not to Abandon the State Convention's Choice.

EXPRESSIONS FROM THE LEADERS.

No Consideration of the Proposition to Drop Palmer—Work of Congress Yesterday—Other Political Matters.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., March 1.—The coming week is expected to be a memorable one in the senatorial contest. As the United States congress adjourns on Wednesday, the Illinois congressional delegation of both parties is expected here to participate in the senatorial contest. Of the republican congressmen, three or four are expected to become possible senatorial candidates themselves, in the event of Streeter being abandoned by the republicans, and the democratic congressmen will probably exert a great influence upon their party in the all important question of the advisability of General Palmer's withdrawal.

The Associated press has secured expressions from the democratic congressmen of Illinois in regard to the advisability of the democratic legislators abandoning General Palmer under any circumstance.

William M Springer, who is the dean of the Illinois congressional delegation, is of the opinion that Palmer is entitled to the unwavering fealty of the democratic legislators. "The democratic state convention," says he, "Put General Palmer in nomination, and no democratic caucus has a right to withdraw him. This is a matter which rests with General Palmer himself and as long as he remains a candidate, the democrats of the state should rest assured that there is hope of success, and give him their unwavering loyalty and support. The talk of General Palmer's withdrawal seems to have originated with the republican managers and the republican press, and certainly we are too loyal to our principles and our candidate to be routed by the enemy."

Congressman Scott Wike remains very nearly of the same opinion, and says he would not be in favor of General Palmer's withdrawal.

Congressman Lane, Williams and Forman, not being on the ground, did not care to express any opinion.

Congressman Lawler thinks the democrats ought to stand by Palmer until the enemy grows weary of their forlorn case and capitulates.

Ex-Civil Service Commissioner Oberly, who has long been recognized as the mentor of the Illinois democracy, said: "The democrats of the Illinois general assembly should not leave General Palmer, nor return from following after him. The democratic party will gain more by a defeat in Palmer's support than by a victory obtained by deserting him and surrendering to the three Farmers' Mutual Benefit association men, who now hold the balance of power in the joint convention."

Congressional Work.

WASHINGTON, March 1.—The appropriations committee of the senate has been at work the whole day getting the appropriation bills in shape. It is believed the condition of business is such as to make an extra session very improbable.

Three appropriation bills, the postoffice, agricultural and general defici