

DENVER IN THE DOLDRUMS

People of the Queen City Enveloped in a Bad Case of Blues.

CLOUDS SEEM BLACK ON BOTH SIDES

Outlook in Silver as Dark as the Lower Level on the Robert E. Lee—General Smash Predicted by the Discouraged.

DENVER, AUG. 4.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Time brings no improvement in the condition of affairs in the mining districts of this state and the indications are that it will be out a short time until the few silver mines which are in operation will be closed down altogether, unless there is some speedy and favorable action taken at the coming special session of congress. With the enactment of such legislation, it is a question if it will come in time to save the country, as it has become apparent that the bottom has not yet been reached.

In the Leadville district, which includes the county of Lake and is known as the richest silver producing territory in the northwest as well as the entire country, are scarcely a mine in operation. Where one year ago 15,000 men were employed at salaries ranging from \$3 to \$4 per day, the total number of men at work will not exceed 200, and most of these at reduced wages. One year ago the men in the mines, the men in the mills, the ore haulers and the charcoal burners were in a most prosperous condition. Now, however, the situation is changed and instead of men having money in their pockets they are begging for bread or tramping from camp to camp in the expectation of striking something in the placer mines which have been worked and reworked.

Free of Other Places. This will apply not only to the Leadville country but it will hold good in every mining camp in the state. Many of the men have left the country, while a few of them, but not many, are in Camp Relief in this city, supported by the charities of the people. The opinion has gone abroad that discontinuing work in the mines cannot seriously affect the growth and prosperity of this city, but this is a mistaken idea, especially as it exists. It is a well known fact that Denver is the great depot of the whole of the mining territory of the state, and the whole of the state and the whole of the country are dependent upon the great wholesale houses that sell the machinery and supplies to the hundreds of mines within a radius of a few score of miles. Here are located the great reduction works where the crude ore is converted into marketable goods and then sent to the mills to be coined into the dollars, which are alleged to be at the bottom of the present trouble. The owners of the most of these great stores and works are sitting about their doors, patiently waiting for something to turn up and dispel the cloud of ruin that hovers about them at this time. While they are trying to believe that this cloud has its silver lining, they undoubtedly do not know that the one which is now about them possesses nothing to cheer and make glad the heart of the man who is long on silver. Did this condition of affairs extend only to the men who are directly interested in mines it would not be so serious, but it does not end there, for it affects nearly every man in the state and all of the industries, infant as well as those of mature years.

Trade Generally Stagnated. This has always been a mining state, and its prosperity has depended exclusively upon the output of the mines. Every merchant in the state is directly or indirectly interested in the bullion that is dug from the earth and, with none being dug, the whole state must be upon the brink of bankruptcy. This is not a mere guess, but it is a fact which is borne out by the statements of the business men and the bankers of the city, who hold their breath as they contemplate the outcome of the next few months. Early in the season times were very prosperous here in the mountains and everything indicated that this was to be one of the bonanza years for Colorado. Looking at matters in that light the merchants in the mining camps and the surrounding towns ordered very heavily of the wholesalers, who in turn placed the largest orders came and a few days thereafter the same dealers cancelled their orders, which compelled the wholesale dealers in this city to do the same. Now the stores are comparatively empty, with no immediate prospect of selling what stocks are now on hand. There are some who allege that the action of the retailers was speedy and ill advised, but a tour through the smaller towns fails to furnish the proof of any evidence of prosperity. In almost every camp nothing but empty cabins, or miners who are on the verge of poverty, meet the gaze, where only a few weeks ago the valleys were busy with the hum of industry.

In this city, only as long ago as last Saturday, each of the leading merchants discharged one-half the clerks that were in their employ. Banks have let out their clerks, and the professional men have sent their stenographers to their homes.

Why They Don't Go to Farming. The question is frequently asked why the men do not turn from mining pursuits and engage in farming in the fertile valleys that lie between the mountain ranges? This is easily answered by one of the old-timers and a business man of this city, who in conversation today said: "It is true that 5,000 of the miners could go to raising wheat, corn and produce, and therein take the whole of our future prosperity. With that we go higher than the clouds and with that we go lower than the depths of the grave. There is nothing left for us but mines and mining. With the mines closed we are in a worse condition than are the residents of the agricultural states, as in such times they have other resources which they can turn to some advantage."

Prophecy Everlasting Smashed. The prediction is freely made that during the next sixty days the business houses of Denver will begin to topple and that from that time on the most prosperous merchants will go down like the ripened grain before the reaper's knives.

In Leadville, the great carbonate camp of the world, the time for failure is ripe and it is but a question of time when they will come, as the entire trade has gone and the merchants are simply waiting for the fatal

CASTOR'S WORK CONTINUES

Nebraska Land Office Receive Some Attention from the Patronage Distributor.

HOW CONSOLIDATIONS WILL BE MADE

Bloomington District Will Be Abolished at Once and that Territory Attached to the McCook Station—More New Postmasters Announced.

WASHINGTON BUREAU OF THE BEE

National Committeeman Tobias Castor spent some hours this morning at the general land office examining the map of the land districts of Nebraska. He was finally told that the department had determined to abolish but three of the Nebraska land offices, and that the only one up to this time that had been marked for obliteration from the land map was the one at Bloomington. All of the territory in that district will be attached to the McCook district.

It was the inclination of the general land office to abolish the McCook office, but a close examination of the conditions surrounding that district led to the conclusion that that office must be maintained. The other offices which are to be abolished, it is said, are on the extreme northern portion of the state, and the other probably in the southern section. The office at Lincoln will, of course, be kept open till all others are closed.

It was the purpose at first, in abolishing the several offices which must go in Nebraska, to divide the territory in an equal manner as possible among the districts which will be maintained, but that cannot be done, to divide the territory among districts whose offices are abolished would require a vast amount of clerical work in the present office. The making of new maps and the issuance of new patents will be a general reconstruction of all districts in the state. The three land districts which will be attached as a whole to the districts adjoining them which can best look after their interests.

In order to decide upon a desirable distribution of the offices, a map of Nebraska is being prepared. When this is completed, it will be in a few days. Mr. Castor will assist in reaching conclusions for a redistribution of the territory. Then will come the shake-up among the land offices of Nebraska.

Nebraska's New Postmasters. Another large installment of Nebraska postmasters was announced at the postoffice department today, their appointments being completed. The names of the new appointees will be as follows: Aida, Hall county, J. W. Modest, vice removed. Albia, Phelps county, C. S. McManeal, vice O. F. Roberts, resigned. Bennington, Douglas county, M. H. Fredrickson, vice H. J. Timme, removed. Beloit, Howard county, L. J. Morton, vice R. G. Savac, removed. Bryant, Greeley county, Carl Swanson, vice H. M. Thompson, removed. Carroll, Wayne county, F. A. Berry, vice J. R. Manning, resigned. Clearwater, Cass county, Henry Baker, vice G. E. Stiles, removed. Clearwater, Antelope county, Benjamin Calder, vice J. F. Fannon, removed. Crowell, Dodge county, Mary King, vice J. J. King, removed. Dancy, Lancaster county, James O'Brien, vice Henry Markson, removed. Dodge, Dodge county, W. Rosa, vice H. H. Hasson, removed. Elba, Howard county, Frank Swiderski, vice Peter Johnson, removed. Elmwood, Cass county, H. P. Wilcockson, vice Cyrus Allen, removed. Elmwood, Gosper county, E. D. Hunter, vice M. B. Bell, removed. Emerson, Dixon county, Patrick Kerwin, vice William Warnock, removed. Elmwood, Douglas county, D. McCormick, vice J. R. Wilson, removed. Hawley, Blaine county, Minnie McCormick, vice W. H. Crough, resigned. Hildreth, Deuel county, J. E. Sanders, vice J. R. Eckert, resigned. Laurel, Cedar county, Fred Philbrick, vice O. M. Wake, resigned. Louisville, Cass county, T. W. Shroyck, vice L. L. Hartshorn, removed. Maryette, Hamilton county, J. A. Wadell, vice Joseph H. Galt, removed. Mayberry, Pawnee county, A. J. Rucker, vice H. J. Gartner, removed. Mayberry, Gosper county, M. McDonald, vice J. R. Lord, resigned. Monterey, Cuming county, Fred Plantenberg, vice John Schorn, resigned. Mount Sterling, Hamilton county, J. M. McCee, vice John S. Torrell, removed. Mount Sterling, Louisiana county, N. G. Cofer, vice A. J. Weaver, removed. Mount Sterling, Hamilton county, John Harnes, vice C. Blackledge, removed. Olin, Henry county, E. B. Franklin, vice E. A. White, removed. Riverside, Washington county, G. W. Edelstein, vice Dr. William Otto, removed.

It is probable that the combination of the feeling which prevails among members of congress will result in the removal of all the present officers of the lower house of congress on next Monday. There are now in three of the four principal offices of the house, ex-members of that body. They are the clerk, sergeant-at-arms and doorkeeper. It may also be stated at this point that the secretary and sergeant-at-arms of the senate, who have been serving for years under the republican regime, are General McCook and Colonel Valentine. No sooner does a member of the house resign, than he turns about and seeks an office under the body in which he has been serving. Some members of the house, as soon as they are defeated for re-election, or in the event of their renomination, they resign and take up their abode in the house. Just as soon as Kerr of Pennsylvania, Yoder of Ohio and Turner of New York were defeated in 1890 they began to work for election to the house, and they got the places and are in them.

It is a very poor commentary upon the metal that is in a member of congress that he has no higher ambition than to hold an humble position as employe of the house in which he is serving when he fails of re-election. It is prima facie evidence that he has no pride, no ambition and no business at home.

A glance at the records of the two houses of congress for the quarter of a century shows that more than half of the salaries paid to the six executive officers of those two bodies have been paid to ex-members of congress. The new majority in the senate has chosen an ex-member of the house from North Carolina, Mr. Cox, as secretary, and another ex-member, Mr. Cook, as clerk, and if another ex-member from the position which has gone to Colonel Bright of Indiana, that of sergeant-at-arms, he would doubtless have secured the support of the majority.

Among the stray ex-members of the house who have held the offices at the disposal of that body during recent years, the following are respondent recalls: Forney, Michigan; Kerr of Pennsylvania; Yoder and Leeson of Ohio; Holmes of Iowa and Clark of Missouri. This is not half of them. Then in the senate, Scholer of North Carolina, Foreman of Pennsylvania, Valentine of Nebraska, McCook of New York, Cox of North Carolina and many other ex-members of the house have been given the best elective positions. At no time have more than half of the principal offices of the two houses of congress been out of the hands of ex-members of that body. If the democrats re-elect the present outfit next Monday they will again say that fellow sympathy ranks public duty, as all of the officers have worn themselves out at their homes, and their

only claims for the positions they occupy are based upon the charity and clannishness of their fellowmen.

News for the Army.

The following army orders were issued today: First Lieutenant George B. Duncan, Fourth infantry, is assigned to temporary duty at the headquarters of the army with station at Washington to date from August 1. Leave of absence for one month, to take effect August 8, is granted Captain E. Van A. Andrus, First artillery. Captain Thumley, M. Woodruff, Fifth infantry, is detailed to attend the encampment of the Florida state troops, to commence at Tallahassee, Fla., on August 1. Captain Charles I. Holtes, Twenty-fifth infantry, is detailed to attend the encampment of the National Guards of Montana at Fort Ellis reservation from August 21 to 28. He will report by letter to the governor of Montana for such service as may be required of him during the encampment. Captain Thumley, M. Woodruff, Fifth infantry, is detailed to attend the encampment of the Michigan state troops, to commence at Grand Marais, Mich., on August 1. Bright, in this state, and continue for five days. Second Lieutenant John Howard, Nineteenth infantry, is detailed to attend the encampment of the National Guards of Montana at Fort Ellis reservation from August 21 to 28. He will report by letter to the governor of Montana for such service as may be required of him during the encampment. Captain Thumley, M. Woodruff, Fifth infantry, is detailed to attend the encampment of the Michigan state troops, to commence at Grand Marais, Mich., on August 1. Bright, in this state, and continue for five days. Second Lieutenant John Howard, Nineteenth infantry, is detailed to attend the encampment of the National Guards of Montana at Fort Ellis reservation from August 21 to 28. He will report by letter to the governor of Montana for such service as may be required of him during the encampment. Captain Thumley, M. Woodruff, Fifth infantry, is detailed to attend the encampment of the Michigan state troops, to commence at Grand Marais, Mich., on August 1. Bright, in this state, and continue for five days.

Leave of absence for three months, to take effect on August 15, is granted Second Lieutenant Charles Crawford, Tenth infantry. Leave for two months, to take effect upon the 1st of September, is granted Nicholas S. Wetherill, Sixth infantry, is detailed to attend the encampment of the Michigan state troops, to commence at Grand Marais, Mich., on August 1. Bright, in this state, and continue for five days. Second Lieutenant John Howard, Nineteenth infantry, is detailed to attend the encampment of the National Guards of Montana at Fort Ellis reservation from August 21 to 28. He will report by letter to the governor of Montana for such service as may be required of him during the encampment. Captain Thumley, M. Woodruff, Fifth infantry, is detailed to attend the encampment of the Michigan state troops, to commence at Grand Marais, Mich., on August 1. Bright, in this state, and continue for five days.

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Provinces in a Greatly Disturbed Condition—Reports of Serious Fighting on the Mekong—French Occupy Several More Islands.

COSTA RICA'S TROUBLES

Yellow Fever and Financial Distress with the Little Republic.

YELLOW FEVER AND FINANCIAL DISTRESS WITH THE LITTLE REPUBLIC.

SAINT JOSEPH, Costa Rica, Aug. 4.—There is a financial panic throughout the republic caused by the condition of the silver market. Failures have been numerous, and more are expected. All business is very much depressed, and no improvement is expected until some action is taken which will render the price of silver more stable. The Costa Rican market is in a panic, and its notes are no longer accepted in commercial circles. Yellow fever is raging at Port Limon so severely that half of the population have fallen victims to it.

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Two Important New Corporations Absorbed by a Road. SIOUX CITY, Aug. 4.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Disbursing Auditor Farrington of the Great Northern road is here arranging for the final transfer of the Sioux City & Northern road and the Sioux City Terminal company property to the Great Northern. The Terminal company owns four-fifths of the Sioux City & Northern extends from here to Garrettsville, S. D., connecting with the Great Northern, and has ninety-five miles of road. The terminal facilities in the city of Sioux City are valued at \$50,000.

Professional Tramps Jailed.

MISSOURI VALLEY, Ia., Aug. 4.—[Special to THE BEE.]—A gang of seven bums were arrested last evening and today had a preliminary examination before the mayor and were committed under \$500 bonds to appear at the next term of district court. In default of bonds they went to the county jail. There were seen a gathering party for the distressed laborers from Chicago. The town has felt, at different times, several hundred, which has attracted a large number of professional bums, to which they are bound over until they are discharged. They were charged with committing larceny by taking \$500 worth of goods from the store of John Calley, and were sentenced with a four pairs in their possession.

Property Owners Pressed for Funds.

SIOUX CITY, Aug. 4.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Many large property owners in this portion of the state are not going to be able to meet their \$500 bonds to appear at the next term of district court. In default of bonds they went to the county jail. There were seen a gathering party for the distressed laborers from Chicago. The town has felt, at different times, several hundred, which has attracted a large number of professional bums, to which they are bound over until they are discharged. They were charged with committing larceny by taking \$500 worth of goods from the store of John Calley,