THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

ESTABLISHED JUNE 19, 1871. OMAHA, TUESDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 27, 1900—TEN PAGES. SINGLE COPY FIVE CENTS.

BOERS ARE MASSING

Hasten from All Quarters of Two Republics to Stop Roberts.

CRONJE'S STAND GIVING THEM TIME

Burghers Concentrating Their Forces Thirty Miles Outside of Bloemfontein.

STEYN URGES COMMANDERING O[illegible]MEN

Free State President Wires Kruger [illegible] Nearness of Roberts.

RESISTING FORCE TO NUMBER 30,000

One of the Battles of the Century Seems Imminent—Heavy Losses of Buller in Two Days.

LONDON, Feb. 27.—The Boers are assembling an army near Bloemfontein with which to dispute the invasion of Lord Roberts. This intelligence comes from Pretoria by way of Lourenzo Marquez. The commandos are described as "hastening from all quarters of the two republics."

No estimate is made of their number, but the withdrawal of the Boers from most of the places where they have been in contact with the British except the district near Ladysmith may raise the resisting force to 30,000 men. This figure assumes that the Boers have between 60,000 and 70,000 men in the field.

The gathering of this army across the path of Roberts gives significance to General Cronje's steadfast defense. He has engaged the corps of Lord Roberts for ten days now and, whether he is relieved or not, he has given time for the dispersed Boer factions to get together and to prepare positions to receive the British advance when Cronje is overcome and Lord Roberts moves forward.

A dispatch to the Daily News from Lourenzo Marquez, dated February 23, says:

"It is reported here that 5,000 burghers have left Ladysmith for the Free State. The Boers are concentrating their forces thirty miles outside of Bloemfontein and the Free State government is moving to Winburg.

"Reinforcements from all parts are passing through Bloemfontein hourly. President Steyn has telegraphed President Kruger that Lord Roberts is within a few hours of Bloemfontein and he urges that every male, irrespective of nationality, should be commandered."

Cronje May Hold Out for Days.

It is difficult to conceive that the Boers are strong enough to take the offensive and to rescue General Cronje from his precarious situation.

The war office had nothing after midnight to indicate his collapse and he may hold out for a few days. The correspondents seem to have no exact information respecting his resources. Some say he has plenty of food, but is short of ammunition. Others assert that he abandoned his food supplies, but kept abundant supplies of cartridges.

General Buller on Saturday faced the last and strongest positions of the Boers who bar his way to Ladysmith. The strenuous fighting indicates a battle between armies rather than rearguard actions protecting a retreat.

On Thursday and Friday he lost forty-three officers killed and wounded, probably representing a total loss of 400.

General White's guns worked on Saturday on the Boers' positions and a heliogram from Ladysmith reported that the Boers were retreating and that larger rations were being issued in view of the fact that relief seemed at hand.

Nothing has been heard from Mafeking since February 12. The movement on the veldt away from the railway is becoming increasingly difficult for large bodies of troops, as the grass is burned up. General French has to wagon forage for his horses and even the infantry finds the long marches harder than before, as forage for the transport animals must be carried. This requires the formation of garrisoned depots.

Sickly Season Sets In.

The ordinary campaigning season is over and the sickly season for both men and animals has set in. The technical military writers take these things into consideration in forecasting events.

The Daily Chronicle says it learns from private letters that British rifles and ammunition have been landed on the southern coast of Cape Colony, presumably for the Dutch colonists.

Lord Roberts has recently received seventy-two additional pieces of artillery. Whether all have been sent to Paardeberg is not known.

Probably the eighth division will leave England next Monday.

Four Thousand in Cronje's Camp.

The Daily Mail has the following dispatch from Paardeberg, dated Sunday:

There are about 4,000 men beleaguered in General Cronje's camp, exclusive of the losses he has hitherto sustained. His wife is not with him, although there are women and children in the camp.

The Boer position is now almost exclusively confined to the river bed. The enemy are entirely at our mercy, but Lord Roberts is treating them with great consideration, from motives of humanity.

WINBURG THE NEW CAPITAL

Orange Free State Government is Moving from Bloemfontein—Concentration of Forces.

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LOURENZO MARQUEZ, Feb. 23.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Reports here show that 5,000 Boers have left Ladysmith for Orange Free State. It is said all the Boer forces are concentrating thirty miles north of Bloemfontein.

The Orange Free State government is moving all its effects to Winburg. Boer troops from all quarters are reported to be passing through Bloemfontein hourly.

SAYS CRONJE CANNOT SURRENDER.

Brother of Prominent Free Stater Interviewed at New York.

NEW YORK, Feb. 26.—"Even if General Cronje wanted to surrender his men would not let him do so. Every one is determined to fight to the bitter end. Therefore American newspapers are in error when they state that the general is foolhardy in resisting so desperately."

This statement was made to a reporter by Phillip Lenter Wessels of Bloemfontein brother of the president of the Volksraad of the Orange Free State, who arrived here several days ago to raise funds for Boer widows and orphans.

"And even if General Cronje's forces should surrender," added Mr. Wessels, "that would not end the war. We have done the British no wrong and we have never deserved the underhanded tricks they have employed upon us since the first."

George W. Van Sielen, president of the American Boer council, has just forwarded $2,000 for Boer widows and orphans to Treasurer C. Devilliers of the Afrikander committee of legislature at Cape Colony.

ADVICES FROM GABERONES

Dance is Interrupted by the Report that the Boers Will Attack the Town.

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GABERONES, Feb. 16.—(By runner to Mafeking, Feb. 20.)—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—All are well [illegible] A dance was interrupted on Sunday, [illegible]y 11, by an alarm sounded, announcing [illegible]t the Boers intended to attack the town. There was some heavy firing by the Boers, but it was not pushed home. The next day, Monday, February 12, Captain Girdwood (A. S. Kirkwood), lately of the Third Royal Irish Rifles, was mortally wounded. He was universally held in high regard.

There was heavy night firing on Tuesday, the 13th, and Wednesday, the 14th. "Creaky" (apparently the nickname of a Boer siege gun) was dismantled at nightfall on the 14th and had disappeared on the morning of the 15th (Thursday), but during the day turned up five miles west of Mafeking and began shelling the town at noon, the range at that distance being as favorable for her as that from her previous position, while she is inaccessible at present to the gradual advance of the British garrison (by running trenches). The last advance made the Boers uneasy. There was firing all Thursday night. It was a pretty sight, but too much of that sort of thing palls upon one. Today the 16th, bullets have been falling everywhere and very viciously. The British guns occasionally stir up such a response.

BAILLIE.

KILLING OFF THE OFFICERS

Buller's Latest Death List Contains Three Lieutenant Colonels—Others Slain and Wounded.

LONDON, Feb. 26.—General Buller, in a dispatch from Colenso, dated Sunday, February 25, reports that the British casualties February 20 were twelve killed and ninety-nine wounded among the Somersets and Dorsets, and that February 22 and 23 twelve officers were wounded.

The War office has issued an additional list of the casualties sustained by the Fifth brigade, under Buller, February 23 and 24, which includes seven officers killed, twenty-three wounded and one missing.

General Buller's death list contains the names of three lieutenant colonels, Thackeray of the First Royal Inniskilling Fusilleers, Sitwell of the Second Royal Dublin Fusilleers and Therold of the Royal Welsh Fusilleers.

An additional list of the British casualties at Paardeberg, February 18, is announced, and gives a lieutenant and eight men killed, a lieutenant and seven men missing and thirty-eight men wounded.

WILL FAN REBELLION'S FLAME

Danger from the Intrigues of the Afrikander Bund and the Coming Congress.

LONDON, Feb. 27.—The Brussels correspondent of the Daily Mail says:

As a result of special inquiries in Boer circles here I am able to corroborate fully the reported danger from the intrigues of the Afrikander bund and the coming congress. Unless the ends of the bund are otherwise attained it will fan the flame of rebellion throughout the colony.

CURZON BIDS THEM FAREWELL.

Departure of Lumsden's Horse from Calcutta a Brilliant Event.

CALCUTTA, Feb. 26.—The departure of Lumsden's Horse to South Africa today was a brilliant event. Immense crowds assembled to bid the troops farewell, the docks were profusely decorated and the highest officials were present, the viceroy and Lady Curzon arriving in state. Lady Curzon received a royal welcome. In his farewell speech the viceroy said:

"You go as the tide of fortune seems to have turned in our favor. May it carry you on its crest to Pretoria."

Wales Praises the Canadians.

LONDON, Feb. 27.—The prince of Wales, who yesterday paid a visit to the wounded who had arrived at Southampton on the hospital ship Princess of Wales, picked out the Canadians and told them how proud the empire was of them and of their brave compatriots who had come forward so loyally and spontaneously to make common cause with the mother country.

Lord Roberts has appointed to his staff Major Dennison of the Royal Canadian regiment.

Manitobans Mourn Their Dead.

ST. PAUL, Feb. 26.—A special from Winnipeg says:

Flags are flying at half-mast from all public and leading private buildings today, the sad news having been received from Capetown of the death of Captain Harry Arnold on Friday. He was wounded in the Modder river fight on Sunday a week ago. He was a very popular resident of Winnipeg. Private McCreary of New Brunswick, also wounded then, is dead.

Decimating Buller's Command.

LONDON, Feb. 27.—The Times has the following from Pietermaritzburg, dated February 23:

The Dublin Fusileers have again distinguished themselves by volunteering to take Groblerskloof, which they did. This gallant battalion, which began the campaign 850 strong, can today be said to muster on parade only between 100 and 200 of its original members.

Australian Sympathy for Canada.

OTTAWA, Ont., Feb. 26.—Lieutenant Governor Darlet of New South Wales cabled to Lord Minto as follows:

"SYDNEY, Feb. 26.—The premier, on behalf of the people of New South Wales, desires to express deep sympathy with the people of Canada in the loss of so many of her valuable and gallant sons."

MacDonald's Wound in the Knee.

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LONDON, Feb. 26.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Private telegrams show that MacDonald received a Mauser bullet just below the kneecap, which penetrated around the knee joint and emerged just below the hip. It killed his horse after penetrating the saddle.

Ladysmith is Excited Again.

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LADYSMITH, (By Heliograph to Weenen), Feb. 26.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—There are excitement and jubilation in the prospect of relief. Buller's column is reported six miles from the outposts. The Boers' wagon train and artillery are moving north.

Thousands of Boers Hover Near.

LONDON, Feb. 27.—A dispatch from Paardeberg, dated Friday, to the Times says that several thousand Boers are now hovering in that neighborhood.

PLEASED WITH THE OUTLOOK

Thurston, on Return to Washington, Says Nebraska Will Go Republican.

THINKS MOORES WILL BE RE-ELECTED

Senator Again Announces that He is Not a Candidate for the Place of Member of the National Committee.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—(Special Telegram.)—Senator Thurston was on the floor of the senate today, having returned from Nebraska yesterday. Speaking of the political situation in the state he said:

"I found the feeling excellent among republicans for a successful battle and everything points to a republican year in Nebraska. In Omaha the republicans are practically united for Mayor Moores and the city ticket, and I expect it to be elected."

When asked as to national committeeman from Nebraska, about which so much has been said and written recently and so many statements have been made as to Senator Thurston's desire to relinquish the cares of the position to another, he authorized this statement:

"The situation as to member of the national committee is exactly this: I said to my friends some time since that I had received so many favors from the republican party of my state that I did not feel justified in being a candidate for member of the national committee, and I am not. I further said that any republican selected by the party would be entirely satisfactory to me. My only wish is to secure republican success. I was somewhat annoyed by the newspaper statement that I was supporting another candidate for this position. I have not directly or indirectly tied up with any man for any place. The republicans of Nebraska, in convention, through their selected delegates, must settle all such questions for themselves, and they will certainly do it without any attempt on my part to shape the situation for or against any man."

Indians File a Protest.

It is probable that the pipestone quarries in Minnesota, for the purchase of which a treaty was negotiated last summer with the Yankton Sioux of South Dakota, will not pass into the hands of Uncle Sam. Petitions have been received by the secretary of the interior from various Sioux tribes opposing ratification of the treaty unless they secure equal recognition with the Yanktons. The treaty providing for the sale of the quarries was negotiated by Inspector McLaughlin and the consideration involved is $100,000, three-fourths of which is to be paid in cash and the remainder in cattle. Exclusive title of the Yankton Sioux is disputed by other bands, who claim that it is the property of the whole Sioux nation. The Yanktons call attention to an article of the agreement of 1893 wherein it is stated that unless a suit is instituted within one year involving the ownership to the pipestone quarries title shall be vested in the Yankton Sioux. No such proceedings have been instituted and the government was apparently satisfied with the title of the South Dakota band when it began negotiations to acquire the property. The matter is therefore held up.

Miss Elinore Dutcher of Omaha, who has been in attendance upon the national convention of the Daughters of the American Revolution, has been successful in securing official recognition for her design for an informal pin for the society, displacing the design of the New York pin.

Transportation of Soldiers' Bodies.

Senator Thurston had an interview with Adjutant General Corbin this afternoon relative to the transportation of the bodies of Nebraska boys who died in the Philippines to the homes of their relatives. It is not yet definitely known how many bodies are enroute from Manila. The list of dead will be wired to Washington upon the arrival of the transport soon due and General Corbin will promptly issue the necessary orders which will result in providing for interment of the remains of Nebraska's heroes in the vicinity of their homes.

Congressman Gamble today recommended the establishment of rural free delivery at Vermillion, Clay county, S. D. A. K. Lightfoot was today appointed postmaster at Ioka, Keokuk county, Iowa, and L. R. Colley at Rathbun, Appanoose county, Iowa.

The comptroller of the currency has been advised of the following changes in officials of northwestern national banks: Nebraska: The United States National Bank of Holdrege—Swan M. Millner, vice president. The Commercial National Bank of Fremont—J. H. Stewart, assistant cashier. The City National Bank of York—Harris M. Childs, president, in place of John R. Pierson; no vice president in place of D. S. Zimmerman; Fred E. Bodie, cashier, in place of Harris M. Childs.

Iowa: The First National Bank of Creston—M. D. Smith, cashier, in place of F. W. Clarke; no assistant cashier in place of M. D. Smith. The Shenandoah National Bank of Shenandoah—Ellis Tucker, cashier; R. M. Gwynn, assistant cashier, in place of Ellis Tucker. The First National Bank of Marion—E. A. Vaughn, vice president, in place of A. J. McKean. The Fort Dodge National Bank of Fort Dodge—F. E. Seymour, vice president, in place of S. J. Robertson. The Iowa National Bank of Davenport—W. H. Creclius, assistant cashier. The First National Bank of Odebolt—Joseph Mattes, vice president, in place of B. C. Bowman. The First National Bank of Garner—Sam A. Schneider, assistant cashier. The First National Bank of Blanchard—F. E. Meredith, assistant cashier.

South Dakota: The First National Bank of Aberdeen—No assistant cashier in place of J. H. Suttle.

Arthur P. Gulou and wife of Omaha, who have been making quite an extensive tour through the east, are at the Raleigh enroute to their home in Omaha.

GERMANY GIVES CAPTAIN A WATCH.

Grateful for Treatment Accorded Its Samoan Commissioner.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—The German government has made a graceful acknowledgment of the treatment received by its commissioner, Baron Sternberg, while on the U. S. S. Badger, engaged in the settlement of the Samoan complications last summer, by forwarding a handsome chronometer watch through Ambassador Holleben to be presented to Captain Merrill Miller, who commanded the ship. Because of the constitutional inhibition against the receipt of presents from foreign governments by American officers a special act of congress will be required to enable Captain Miller to receive the present. The latter was brought to the State department by Ambassador Holleben today and left in the custody of Secretary Hay.

Sewall Calls on McKinley.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—Arthur Sewall, who was the democratic candidate for vice president in 1896, paid his respects to President McKinley today. Sewall was on his way to Hawaii and the Philippines, but was prevented from continuing his trip by the plague. He denied a recent interview in which he was quoted as forecasting the defeat of the democratic party this year.

"I did not say anything of that kind without qualification," Sewall said. "I believe in expansion in a certain way. I believe in keeping Porto Rico and Hawaii and extending to them every law of the United States. Make them territories of this country without discrimination as to tariff or other laws. I also want to keep the Philippines, but I think we should ultimately establish a republic there with our protection extended over it."

FORCE OF DEWEY SUPERIOR

But Half the Naval Bounty Claimed is Awarded—Only Opposing Fleets Considered.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—The United States court of claims today rendered an opinion on the claim of Admiral Dewey, his officers and men for naval bounty, under section 4,635 of the revised statutes, for the destruction of the Spanish fleet in Manila bay May 1, 1898, the court holding that the claimant has a right to recover for each person on board the enemy's ships the sum of $100.

This decision is upon the basis that the admiral's fleet was superior to the Spanish fleet, excluding the shore batteries, the torpedoes and the mines in Manila bay. Admiral Dewey's claim was for $200 for each man belonging to the enemy's fleet, including the supporting shore batteries, mines and torpedoes. The principal question involved in the case was whether in determining the enemy's force the supporting shore batteries, mines and torpedoes should be included.

Taking into consideration the guns at Corregidor, El Fraile and other forts at the entrance of the bay and those at Manila and Cavite and the torpedoes and mines in the bay and entrance to it, it was contended by counsel for Admiral Dewey that the enemy's force was superior to the vessels of the United States. The government insisted that the statute failed to provide for the contingency of the co-operation of land batteries with the naval forces destroyed and that the court is powerless to supply the omission. The court, in deciding the case, held that the law applied only to the force of the vessels engaged in the action, and that in this instance, taking the number and character of the vessels into account, the strength of their batteries on board and all other matters which properly go to the determination of the actual fighting strength of the two opposing fleets, that the United States was the superior.

It is understood that counsel for Admiral Dewey will take an appeal to the supreme court of the United States. Under today's decision Admiral Dewey is personally entitled to $9,570.

VESSELS ARE LAWFUL PRIZES

Decision of Supreme Court in Regard to Seizure of Ships Durng Spanish War.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—In an opinion by Justice Brown, the United States supreme court today decided the naval prize money case involving the seizure of the British steamer Adula. The opinion handed down today holds that Admiral Sampson's blockade of Guantanamo, Cuba, where the vessel was captured, was effective and because the voyage of the steamer was pecuniary it was a lawful prize.

An opinion was also handed down in the case of the Spanish steamship Panama, sailing from New York to Havana, which was captured as a prize off Havana on April 25, 1898. The vessel was carrying United States mail, but was owned by a Spanish corporation and was under contract as a Spanish mail vessel and carried arms as such. The court held this vessel was a lawful prize.

NO DISCHARGES TO BE GRANTED.

Judge Advocate General Says Law is Discretionary.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—The War department has found a means of escape from the necessity which apparently confronted it of deciding at this time whether or not a state of war exists. The question was brought forward by the applications of a number of enlisted men to purchase their discharges. The applications, having been referred to the judge advocate general, the latter declared that the law relative to the purchase of discharges was not mandatory, but discretionary. The secretary of war "may," in time of peace, discharge a soldier who wishes to purchase his discharge. While final action has not been taken it is probable that all the applications will be rejected under the discretion conferred by this law.

New National University Bill.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—A new bill to establish the University of the United States was introduced today by Senator Chauncey M. Depew. It differs from the bills heretofore introduced and favorably reported in that in terms as explicit as possible it limits the institution to work exclusively post-graduate and special; provides for particular attention to matters which concern the government; vests management in a single body—Board of Regents, nearly all of whom are presidents of institutions of learning doing advanced work—and makes no appropriation of money. Like all bills to establish a national university, it grants the twenty-acre tract of land in the city which President Washington, by authority of congress, set apart for this purpose.

To Enlist More Porto Ricans.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—Secretary Root is so well satisfied with the record made by the troops recruited from the natives of Porto Rico that he has determined to increase the number now in service. There is now a full battalion of these troops and the secretary has issued orders for the enlistment of another battalion, the whole to be put in command of Major James A. Buchanan of the Fifteenth infantry, who has been nominated for the position of lieutenant colonel. The new battalion will take the place of the United States regular cavalry, which will be brought back to the United States. Horses for mounting the men will be purchased in the island, as the American animals do not readily acclimatize.

Increase in Internal Revenues.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—The monthly statement of the collections of internal revenues shows that the total receipts for January, 1900, amounted to $23,018,885, an increase as compared with January, 1899, of $2,206,672. During the last seven months the total receipts exceeded those for January, 1899, by $15,664,455.

India's Poor Cotton Crop.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—The cotton crop of India this year will leave almost nothing for export, According to Consul General Patterson at Calcutta, the season has been disastrous for cotton and the reports are discouraging from all quarters.

Archbishop Hennessey is Worse.

DUBUQUE, Ia., Feb. 26.—The condition of Archbishop Hennessey today is thought to be worse, rather than better. He passed a restless night Saturday.

AIM OF ANTI-SALOON LEAGUE

National Secretary Makes a Full Explanation of the Movement.

GENERAL SABBATH OBSERVANCE SIDE ISSUE

Meaning of the Organization of a Local Branch in Omaha at This Particular Time of the Year.

Howard P. Russell, the national secretary of the Anti-Saloon league, who has been in Omaha for several days, organizing a local branch of the league, left for the east Monday. Shortly before his departure from the Merchants hotel, where he had been stopping, he explained the object of his visit here and the purpose of the organization which he represents in some detail.

"The Anti-Saloon league," said Mr. Russell, "must not be mistaken for an organization for the extirpation of the saloon. What we want to bring about is simply a strict enforcement of the present laws, which, I understand, in Nebraska, cover the ground pretty thoroughly, by building up a public sentiment that will sustain it and co-operating with public officers in sympathy with the movement. We hope to have a strict enforcement of the provisions against Sunday opening and keeping open at night after the specified hours, as well as the selling of liquor to minors and women.

"It is true that the liquor licenses for Omaha have all been granted this year, but by coming in at this time we hope to throw our influence in the present campaign, with candidates who are ready to co-operate with us. While we usually work with republicans, that is why those enlisted in this movement are favorable this time to Mr. Poppleton, the democratic candidate, who is not a saloon man and whose whole surroundings are against the saloons. In fact, we have reliable assurances that if he is elected by our help he will promote the objects of our organization.

As to Sabbath Observance.

"Another misapprehension with reference to the Anti-Saloon league is that which makes it a factor for a general Sabbatarian propaganda. We concern ourselves only with the saloons, but, of course, if we can secure a strict enforcement of the liquor laws and build up a strong sentiment in favor of keeping the saloons tightly closed on Sunday we expect it to be followed by other organizations that will take up the work there and see that the laws against Sabbath breaking are enforced against other offenders.

"I noticed while I was in the city that the barber shops were all open on Sunday and the cigar stores and candy stores and boot black stands, and many other stores as well. There is no excuse, in my opinion, for having these places open on Sunday to divert people's attention from the church and keep the employes from their worship. Such a thing may be carried to an extreme, as it has been in some cities, where attempts have been made to stop milk wagons in their rounds and street cars. But all these places that I have mentioned, as well as others, could be closed on the Sabbath without interfering with the convenience of the people.

"But our league will not, as I have said, take this up, except as its constant and steady agitation for the enforcement of the laws against the saloons may contribute to it. I am especially glad to find a number of Omaha clergymen and church officers ready to assist in our work and am sure that it will be fruitful of good results."

BOARD FAVORS DEMOCRATS

Candidates for Minor State Offices in Kentucky Win Before Partisan Commissioners.

FRANKFORT, Ky., Feb. 26.—The state contest board this afternoon awarded certificates of election to all of the democratic contestants for minor state offices. Immediately afterward the contestants were sworn in and repaired to the state house in a body, where they made a formal demand on the republican incumbents for possession of the offices, but the demands were ignored.

The democratic contestants sworn in are: Secretary of state, C. B. Hill of Clark county; attorney general, Robert J. Breckinridge of Boyle county; auditor, G. G. Colter of Graves county; treasurer, Wilbur Hager of Boyd county; superintendent of public instruction, H. V. McChesney of Livingston county.

The principal grounds set out in the report for the finding in favor of the democratic contestants are: First, because of military interference in Louisville, on account of which the election there should be thrown out entirely; the alleged illegal action of Judge Toney in granting an injunction allowing Brown inspectors inside the polls and also that Judge Evans of the federal court contributed to the result by a threatening charge to the United States grand jury. It is charged that Judge Evans' charge to the jury was part of a conspiracy and on this point the report of the commissioners says:

"The conspiracy to create what might be truthfully denominated a reign of terror to intimidate voters was materially aided by the action of the federal judge for the district of Kentucky."

NATIONAL PARTY IS SPLIT

Prominent Cuban-Americans Leave the Organization—Gomez Declines to Head It.

HAVANA, Feb. 26.—The split in the national party is now the principal political topic in Havana.

Already seventy of the 190 delegates have resigned and it is expected that thirty others will follow their example. The resigning members include almost all the prominent newly enfranchised Cuban-Americans, which lends point to the assertion that the Cuban-Americans will endeavor to form a distinct political party, ultimately joining forces with the old autonomists. Any such combination would mean the introduction of a powerful factor in the politics of Cuba.

The leaders of the national party recognize that their influence, and even their existence as political leaders, depends on securing as president of the organization some man of the first rank. Senor de la Torro is only presiding officer, who fills the post till a permanent selection can be made.

Yesterday General Maximo Gomez was invited to accept the position, but he declined. Today a similar offer was made to Mayor Lacoste, who also refused the honor. General Gomez says that he has no political ambitions and is content to be a member of the Society of Veterans. Here also is an organization that is likely to have a powerful influence in the future.

Comparatively few of the veterans will sympathize politically with the Cuban-American party. Their leaders are for the most part white, but the rank and file is largely composed of colored men, particularly in the eastern provinces. A prominent Cuban, who declined to have his name used in connection with the statement, said today:

"Within a short time the members of the Society of Veterans will join what is left of the national party, while the opposing party will consist, under some name or other, of Cuban-Americans and autonomists."

CONDITION OF THE WEATHER

Forecast for Nebraska—

Rain or Snow; Colder.

Temperature at Omaha yesterday:

Hour.	Deg.	Hour.	Deg.
5 a. m.	4	1 p. m.	18
6 a. m.	3	2 p. m.	20
7 a. m.	2	3 p. m.	22
8 a. m.	4	4 p. m.	22
9 a. m.	6	5 p. m.	21
10 a. m.	9	6 p. m.	21
11 a. m.	14	7 p. m.	20
12 m.	16	8 p. m.	19
		9 p. m.	18

HE TELLS A TERRIBLE TALE

Tourist Who Has Traversed Africa Relates Story of Cannibals and Liquid Fires.

LONDON, Feb. 27.—Some of the morning papers—the Daily Mail, the Daily Chronicle, the Daily News and Morning Post—publish a remarkable interview with E. S. Grogan, who has just returned from a two years' journey in Africa.

Grogan, who traveled over 6,000 miles and represents himself to have been the first European to have traversed the continent from the Cape to Cairo, says that after leaving Lake Tanganyika, with eight porters, he entered a region of active volcanoes where he encountered "enormous lava streams, forming a lake forty miles by sixty, and a hundred feet deep."

This whole region he found devastated, forests and herds of elephants buried in liquid fire.

The neighboring country, he says, is occupied by some 5,000 Balekas, ferocious cannibals from the Congo, who live by manhunting. His guides told him that the country covering 3,500 square miles had been until recently densely populated, but that the people had virtually all been killed and eaten by the Balekas.

Everywhere he found evidences of cannibalistic practices. The very paths in the jungle were marked out by lines of human skeletons. The streams were full of decomposing remnants of humanity half eaten and horribly mutilated. These cannibals, according to Grogan's narrative, lived in grass cabins. He entered some of these habitations. He saw "cauldrons full of liquid, with floating human skulls and the bodies of infants."

On one occasion the savages attacked Grogan's party, but he opened up on them with rifle fire. This staggered the cannibals, as they had never before seen a gun or a white man. Grogan shot two and the rest retreated.

He says the Balekas are by no means repulsive to look upon. Although small they are well built and have good features. Men and women go about stark naked and their long hair gives them a peculiarly wild appearance.

Proceeding along the west coast of Albert lake Grogan found the natives terrorized by raids of the Belgians. He declares that he thoroughly investigated this matter and found that the Belgian troops were in the habit of crossing the frontier and shooting large numbers of the inhabitants and had carried off their young women and cattle, tying up and burning the old women while white Belgian officers were present. He adds:

"From the north of Albert lake to Lake Weru the whole country is in a state of chaos. It is administered by incompetent Belgians. Often the noncommissioned officers and troops are the lowest type of natives and they are almost invariably cannibals."

CRITICISES SMART SOCIETY

Arnold White Continues His Attack Upon What He Terms the "Kakocracy."

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LONDON, Feb. 26.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Arnold White renews his attack on the bad set in the Chronicle this morning, saying:

"Before continuing the discussion on the influence of smart society on the public service, I wish to reply to my critics. They allege that in exposing the bad smart set I attack the aristocracy. There is no connection between the two. The bad smart society being destitute of culture and not remarkable for breeding, assumes too much in identifying itself with the aristocracy. Smart society has no more pride of race than the army mule, and is as likely to beget posterity of value to the nation. If a word may be coined to describe them, 'kakocracy' is the term more fitly to be applied in speaking of the bad smart set. To be spoken of as 'kakocrats' may yet be their destiny. What I have endeavored to show is that inefficiency in certain departments is due to inequality of opportunity; that public servants have been chosen by favor rather than for their fitness; that if the empire is to be saved a new departure is necessary and that the influence of smart society must be extirpated at all costs."

Duke Weds on the Sly.

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VIENNA, Feb. 23.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—It is reported that the government seized the greater portion of today's issue of the Wiener Tageblatt because it published a story of a secret morganatic marriage of Archduke Francis Ferdinand, heir presumptive to the Austrian throne. Ferdinand is said to have been a long time in love with Countess Sofie Chouk. The story declares that two months ago the archduke arranged to marry her in a small village in the south of Hungary, but Emperor Franz Joseph discovered the scheme and thwarted it. It is now said that on February 5 the duke found a priest in a convent near Styria who was willing to perform the ceremony and succeeded in having the marriage celebrated on February 20. The bride is said to have remained at Bruck Au Der Mur, but the duke travels there from Vienna incognito each week. Regular news agencies and official papers deny the story.

Twenty Years for Robbery.

KANSAS CITY, Feb. 26.—Albert Hoskins, in the criminal court, today pleaded guilty to holding up a street car conductor one night last September and was sentenced to twenty years in the penitentiary. He is a widower and has two children. Two weeks ago a jury in the same court assessed a forty-year sentence against a negro highwayman.

Movements of Ocean Vessels, Feb. 26.

At New York—Sailed—Aller, for Naples.

At Gibraltar—Arrived—Trave, from New York, for Naples and Genoa.

At Naples—Arrived—Columbia, from New York, for Genoa.

At Glasgow—Sailed—State of Nebraska, for New York.

At Bremen—Sailed—Bremen, for New York. Arrived—Steamer H. H. Meier, from New York.

At Liverpool—Arrived—Etruria, from New York.

At Halifax—Arrived—Dominion, from Liverpool.

At Jaffa (Palestine)—Arrived—Steamer Auguste Victoria, from New York, via Mediterranean ports (on Oriental cruise).

MURDER AND SUICIDE

Wilson Wakelin, a Nebraska Farmer, Cuts His Wife's Throat and His Own.

KILLS HIMSELF AT FIRST WIFE'S GRAVE

Domestic Infelicity Said to Have Been the Cause of the Double Crime.

WIFE HAD ARRANGED TO LEAVE HUSBAND

Woman Ex-President of Nebraska Women's Christian Temperance Union.

FAMILY A PROMINENT ONE IN THAT SECTION

Man Chooses Hour of Midnight and Goes at His Crime in a Systematic Way—Threatened to Kill Another.

BROCK, Neb., Feb. 26.—(Special Telegram.)—Wilson Wakelin, a prominent farmer residing three miles north of this place, murdered his wife at 12 o'clock last night by cutting her throat. He then went to the graveyard nearby, where his first wife was buried, and standing on her grave cut two ugly gashes in his throat, falling forward on his face. Death in both cases was instantaneous. Mrs. Wakelin was very popular, being at one time president of the Woman's Christian Temperance union of Nebraska.

Family trouble was the cause. It is reported that Mr. Wakelin has been keeping another woman at his home, which has been very unsatisfactory to Mrs. Wakelin. The woman left Saturday for Omaha, where she resides. Wakelin left a note dated 12:05 a. m., stating he was going to kill Mary, his wife. At 12:15 he wrote again saying he had killed her, adding: "You will find her entirely dead." He then placed a handkerchief over her neck, placed a penny on each eye, then started for the cemetery. He stopped at the home of S. P. Robertson and told him that his wife was very sick and to send for a doctor and notify some other of the neighbors. He then went to the graveyard and completed the terrible double tragedy. Besides cutting his throat, he shot himself at the grave of his first wife. The revolver and razor, the weapons used, were found near by. Mrs. Wakelin had decided to leave him and had begun arrangements with that end in view. In another note Mr. Wakelin said he was going to kill Mrs. Coryell, a friend of Mrs. Wakelin, who had signified her willingness to help Mrs. Wakelin get released from her husband. Public feeling is strongly against Mr. Wakelin.

Well Known in Fremont.

FREMONT, Neb., Feb. 26.—(Special Telegram.)—The news of the murder of Mrs. Wilson Wakelin at Brock last night created an intense sensation here today. Mrs. Wakelin was one of the best known women in the city during her twenty-two years' residence here. She came to Fremont with her first husband, Rev. Alfred Hitchcock, in 1872, and with the exception of a brief period lived here until her marriage to Mr. Wakelin, in 1894. After the death of Mr. Hitchcock, in 1878, she devoted a large part of her time to the work of the Woman's Christian Temperance union and in 1886 was president of the state organization. She was a pleasing and eloquent speaker and a woman of refinement and culture and broad intellectual views. Her only daughter, Mrs. P. E. Lumbard, resides here and was overcome with grief when she heard of her mother's terrible fate.

PERSISTS IN HIS CONTEMPT

E. J. Tabor Refuses to Pay the Fine of Fifty Dollars Imposed by Court.

SIOUX FALLS, S. D., Feb. 26.—(Special Telegram.)—Notwithstanding that Judge E. E. Smith of Yankton, acting for Judge Jones of this city, last Friday, sustained County Judge Wilkes in imposing a fine of $50 upon E. J. Tabor, special administrator of the estate of John McClelland, for contempt of court because he refused to transfer the estate to William Van Eps, whom Judge Wilkes on February 8 appointed administrator of the estate, Tabor has since persistently refused to pay the fine or transfer the estate and is yet in the custody of the sheriff.

U. S. G. Cherry, one of Tabor's attorneys, left today for Pierre for the purpose of attempting to obtain from the state supreme court a stay in the contempt proceedings against Tabor. It is regarded as probable that Tabor will not transfer the estate pending efforts to have the whole matter taken out of the hands of County Judge Wilkes and thus prevent the administrator appointed on February 8 from paying the claim of Paul Wilkes, a son of the county judge, for services rendered in the case as special commissioner on a trip to Ireland to discover McClelland's heirs, a course which the defeated claimants allege was without warrant of law.

The fight for the McClelland estate has been further complicated by the appearance here of James McClelland of Little Rock, Ark., who claims to be a son of the deceased. County Judge Wilkes today designated March 10 as the date for the hearing upon the latest claimant's petition, when he will have an opportunity to prove his claim. It was always supposed John McClelland was unmarried.

New Brewery in Dakota.

DEADWOOD, S. D., Feb. 26.—(Special.)—All of the machinery for the new brewery which is being erected at Central City by a St. Louis company has arrived. A large building has been erected and one of the largest beer establishments west of the Missouri river will be operated. It is proposed to supply all of the Black Hills towns from this plant.

Snow in South Dakota.

SIOUX FALLS, S. D., Feb. 26.—(Special Telegram.)—For the first time this year the ground is covered with snow, which, during the last twenty-four hours, has fallen to the depth of two or three inches.

Ask Receiver for Glass Trust.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Feb. 26.—Suit was filed in the federal court today asking for a receiver for the American Plate Glass company. The suit is on behalf of the DePauw heirs, who own $20,000 of stock in the glass trust. The complainants aver that the company has failed to pay the earnings of the money which the DePauw estate has invested in stock. The claim has been made by the trust that it could not, based on its earnings, pay dividends.

Bank Officials in Court.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 26.—President J. H. Bottman and the other officers and directors of the Mullanphy Savings bank, with the exception of Conrad H. Gratz, for whose arrest warrants were issued last Saturday, appeared today and were arraigned before Judge Willis Clark in the court of criminal correction. Their cases were set for trial March 7. All gave bond in the sum of $500 each for their appearance.