THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

ESTABLISHED JUNE 19, 1871. OMAHA, MONDAY MORNING, MAY 7, 1900. SINGLE COPY FIVE CENTS.

FIGHT WAY FORWARD

British Forces Are Advancing North Through Enemy's Country.

REST WITHIN THREE MILES OF VET RIVER

Boers on Opposite Bank Are in Considerable Strength.

GOOD WORK DONE BY HAMILTON'S FORCES

Barton's Brigade Meets with Success in Storming Hilly Positions.

BOERS WORSTED IN ALL-DAY ENGAGEMENT

South Africa Men Engage British Infantry at Close Quarters and Only Retire When Their Retreat is Cut Off.

LONDON, May 6.—3 p. m.—The War office has published the following dispatch from Lord Roberts, dated Vet river, Saturday, May 5, 7:15 p. m.:

"I marched here today with Pole-Carew's division. Headquarters and Wavell's brigade of the Seventh division are two miles in the rear. Maxwell's brigade of the same division is the same distance to our right.

"The enemy are in considerable strength on the opposite bank of the river. Our guns engaged theirs for some three hours without our being able to force a passage of the river, but shortly before dusk the mounted infantry, under General Hutton, turned the enemy's right and in a very dashing manner pushed across the river under heavy shell and musketry fire.

"We are now bivouacking for the night within three miles of Vet river. Our casualties, I hope, are not numerous.

"Hamilton was in action yesterday and succeeded in preventing a junction of two Boer forces by a well executed movement by some of the Household cavalry, the Twelfth Lancers and Kitchener's horse, who charged a body of the enemy and inflicted serious loss. The enemy fled, leaving their dead on the field and their wounded to be attended by our doctors.

Praise for the Black Watch.

"MacDonald's Highland brigade dislodged the enemy on the right flank under cover of the naval guns, in which operation the Black Watch distinguished themselves and were very skillfully led.

"Hamilton was advancing this morning to a difficult drift over the Kleinevet river.

"Hunter reports that Barton's brigade was heavily engaged this morning two miles north of Rooidan. The enemy's position was quite four miles long and strongly held. He states that our men marched magnificently and carried ridge after ridge in grand style.

"Casualties in this force, in Hamilton's and Hunter's will be reported as soon as possible.

"Captain Miller, who was taken prisoner near Thaba N'Chu, has been sent to Rundle's camp by the enemy with a severe wound in the abdomen.

"Brabant reports that one sergeant and three men were captured on May 2 while on patrol and that one of them, who had been brutally ill-treated and left for dead by the Boers, was found the following day.

"Lieutenant Lilley, Victoria Mounted Rifles, reported missing, was found at Brandfort dangerously wounded and has been most carefully attended by the Netherlands ambulance."

Work at Warrenton.

WARRENTON, Sunday, May 6.—Yesterday General Barton drove from 2,000 to 3,000 Boers from hilly positions at Rooidan, where they awaited them. They retreated after stiff fighting, leaving a number of dead on the field. The British casualties were slight. General Barton is still pursuing. Windsorton and Klipdam have been evacuated.

General Paget's brigade is attacking the Boer position at Warrenton.

The engagement yesterday was severe and lasted from 9 in the morning until 4 in the afternoon. More than once the British infantry were obliged to engage the Boers at close quarters and the Boers only retired when their retreat was nearly cut off. The British losses were five killed and twenty-five wounded—mostly Welsh Fusileers. The British took a baten of prisoners, including the Swedish ambulance, which they allowed to return. The Boers, in their hurried retreat, left thirteen dead.

Today General Paget made a strong demonstration against the Boer position east of the bridge, thereby preventing Boer reinforcements going to assist in checking General Barton's advance.

Rundle Reaches the Boers.

THABA N'CHU, Saturday, May 5.—General Rundle, who has been pursuing the Boers with the Seventeenth brigade, two batteries and contingents of the yeomanry and mounted infantry, succeeded in reaching them with his artillery and forced them to leave their position.

The yeomanry are making a long detour in pursuit. The result is not yet known here.

Hot Encounter at River.

VET RIVER, Sunday, May 6.—General Pole-Carew started at daybreak yesterday on a nineteen-mile march. He first came into contact with Boers holding the river at 1 o'clock p. m. The British soon had two batteries in action and later they added two naval nine-pounders, two 4.7 and 5-inch siege guns.

The Boers fired with great accuracy and the duel continued unabated, with a terrible din, until sunset, and even later there was desultory firing. It is marvelous that nobody on the British side was injured.

General Hutton started early to find the drift on the west. When this was discovered it proved to be strongly held and protected by two guns. The British speedily engaged the Boers, who enfiladed the dismounted firing line with a Maxim, but General Hutton pushed forward his own pom-pom and a galloping Maxim and forced the Boers to leave the river bed. The encounter was terribly hot. Later the British force crossed the river, threatening the Boer right.

The Boers must have received about the same time news of General Hamilton's occupation of Winburg. About sunset a detachment of twenty-six Australians, who had crept unseen toward the river bed, found themselves near a kopje occupied by the Boers. After firing they fixed bayonets and charged, capturing the kopje. All was done on their own initiative.

Boers Retreat at Night.

Thus night fell. Early this morning it was discovered that the whole Boer force had fled. General Hutton during the night got two squadrons to blow up the line near Swaldeel. The British discovered yesterday all along the railroad small packets of high explosive. The Boers had destroyed three bridges over spruits between here and Brand-

(Continued on Sixth Page.)

SITUATION AT THE FRONT

Work Done by the Armies Summed Up from Cable Dispatches.

LONDON, May 7.—4:10 a. m.—Lord Roberts is making better progress than anyone had dared to hope and is meeting with success at all points. The only news of the actual occupation of Winburg is the incidental reference to it in the dispatch from Vet river describing General Pole-Carew's operations, but as the latest news of General Hamilton's operations, dated Saturday morning, was that he was then preparing to force the difficult passage over little Vet river on the Bloemfontein-Winburg road, there is no doubt that the news of the occupation is accurate.

The Boers, following their customary practice, had evacuated their positions on the Vet river during Saturday night. As Lord Roberts, advancing along the railway, and General Hamilton, twenty miles to the east, threatened the two wings of the Boer forces, it would not be surprising to hear that they had also evacuated Winburg.

General Hamilton's advance will prevent the Boer forces in the direction of Thaba N'Chu joining their main army near Winburg.

General Rundle on Saturday had arrived in pursuit of the Boers seven miles north of Thaba N'Chu, compelling the Boers to retire in an easterly direction.

A Boer account of the capture of Brandfort says:

"The federal forces, although weak in numbers, offered strong resistance, but they were forced by the overwhelming force opposed to them to evacuate the town."

General Hunter's progress, although slow, is satisfactory. The idea that the relief of Mafeking is in sight, however, appears to have been premature, as the Boers in that quarter are still stoutly resisting the British advance.

According to a dispatch to the Daily Mail from Capetown a special expedition to the westward left Kimberley a few days ago and will endeavor to relieve Mafeking, while General Hunter and Lord Methuen are operating on either side of the Vaal river in conjunction with Lord Roberts' army.

From Lourenzo Marquez comes various rumors that Colonel Plumer has been reinforced and is again advancing toward Mafeking. Another report says that Mafeking has been relieved and General Lommer, with 3,000 Beers, captured at Fourteen Streams.

Women have been placed in the government offices in the Transvaal in order to relieve the burghers for active service.

Two New South Wales Lancers, who escaped from Waterval prison, have arrived at Delagoa bay after a dangerous journey.

The Volksraad will meet in Pretoria today. Probably the sitting will be memorable.

The Johannesburg shell factory has resumed work with Austrian, Italian and Greek workmen.

HOPE FOR ENGLISH SUCCESS

Resolutions Indorsing Position of Great Britain Adopted by African Methodists.

COLUMBUS, O., May 6.—Services preliminary to the general conference of the African Methodist Episcopal church were held at the Columbus auditorium today and were attended by immense crowds. Bishop Gaines spoke in the morning, Rev. A. W. Whitman of Georgia in the afternoon and Rev. D. P. Seaton of Virginia in the evening. At the evening session the following resolutions, indorsing the position of Great Britain n its war with the Boers, were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, England is now engaged in war with the Dutch, a people calling themselves the Boers; a people who have, by grabbing, squatted in South Africa and monopolized a large portion of the country and are now recognized as a nation; and

Whereas, These people retain the belief that the color of a man's skin is a badge of inferiority to such extent that the native African, or persons of color, are prohibited from all the rights and privileges that any human being may be allowed to exercise or testify in court against a white man or woman; neither are they allowed the privilege of enjoying the benefits of moneys derived by taxation for the education of the youth of the country, although they are compelled to pay their equal share into such fund, and many other ills too numerous to mention; therefore,

Resolved, That while we deprecate war between nations, yet we heartily indorse the action of England in its efforts to teach the misguided people the true lessons of our Christian education.

Resolved, That the sympathy of this meeting goes out to the struggling natives who are groaning under the pernicious tyranny of oppression and wrong at the hands of the Boers.

The business sessions of the conference open tomorrow morning with the reading of the quadrennial address by Bishop Lein. Dr. H. L. Reynolds of New Orleans has been chosen as chief conference secretary.

CHANGE VIEWS ON BOERS

Hertz Says Transvaal Is Not a Republic, but a Misgoverned Oligarchy.

NEW YORK, May 6.—Rev. Joseph H. Hertz, who was rabbi of the Witwatersrand Hebrew congregation of Johannesburg until last December, when he was expelled from the Transvaal by President Kruger, arrived here on the steamer Etruria today.

"I went to the Transvaal a strong pro-Boer," said he, "and spoke on many a public occasion in favor of the Transvaal government, but an insight into the Transvaal methods and an acquaintance with the leading officials within the Transvaal and the Free State, as well as my personal experience while trying to remove the obnoxious religious disabilities under which the Catholics and the Jews suffer, gradually compelled me to see that the Transvaal is not a republic, but rather an oligarchy, misgoverned on strictly mediaeval principles.

"At the outlander meeting at Johannesburg, July 26, 1899, I uttered these words:

"'Let President Kruger demand of the Catholic inhabitant, of the Jewish inhabitant of the state everything he has a right to demand of his own burghers. We would give up everything. Willingly, joyfully would we sacrifice everything with the exception of our faith, our principles and our honor and we will not sacrifice our faith and our honor, because the heroes of Holland and the sturdy men who have presided at the birth of this republic have not taught that by sacrificing these things we would become worthy members of the Transvaal republic.'

"For this sentiment I was called on to apologize. I was ordered to withdraw it; I refused and, although an American citizen, I was expelled."

No Aid from Free Staters.

LONDON, May 7.—The Lourenzo Marquez correspondent of the Times, telegraphing Sunday, says:

General Botha has been to the Free State to rouse the burghers, but has returned disheartened and disgusted. From an unimpeachable source I learn that he is openly stating to friends that the Free Staters are so completely demoralized that it is hopeless to expect anything from them.

STEAMSHIP PIER IN RUINS

Flames Work Awful Destruction in New York Harbor.

LOSS ESTIMATED AT A MILLION DOLLARS

Captain Charles Lochs of Barge Sherwood Must Choose Between Saving His Wife and Nine-Months-Old Child.

NEW YORK, May 6.—A fire that started at the river end of the Mallory line steamship pier, at the foot of Maiden Lane and the East river, early this morning, completely destroyed the pier and its valuable contents. The police place the loss at $1,000,000. Several barges, which were moored near the pier, were also destroyed and many rescues of their captains and of the members of the families on board were made. Only one life was lost. The 9 months' old daughter of Captain Charles Loch of the barge Sherwood was drowned.

The Mallory line pier was 200 feet long and fifty feet wide. The pier shed was filled with valuable freight of a miscellaneous character, but mostly cotton. On the north side of the pier were moored a number of coal and cotton barges, while on the south side was the steamer San Marcos and a number of barges.

No sooner had the work of fighting the flames begun than the firemen and citizens turned their attention to saving the lives of those on the barges, which were lying within the line of danger. Nearest to the pier was the barge Stephen B. Elkins. Her captain, Frank Fox, and his wife, his 3 months' old daughter and a baby were on board and sleeping. A skid was quickly run from the pier to the coal barge, the occupants of the boat were awakened and were hurried from their bunks to a place of safety before the flames had reached them.

Father's Tough Choice.

On board the barge Sherwood were Charles Lochs, the captain, 36 years old; his wife, Lena, 30 years old, and their daughter, Rosie, 9 months old. The Lochs family was awakened by the flames. Their barge was already on fire at the time they were aroused from sleep. The father took the 9 months' old baby in his arms and with his wife jumped into the water. Captain Timothy Boylan, formerly in command of the barge New Brunswick, whose home is at Rondout, N. Y., plunged in to save the woman, who had become exhausted. Her husband, who still held the baby in his arms, saw that his wife was on the point of going down. It became a question to him as to which he should save, his wife or baby. He therefore let the baby go, in the hope that she would be picked up by someone else, and went to the assistance of his wife. He managed to hold her head above water until Boylan reached them. All three were then landed by life lines. The half-drowned captain and his wife were removed to the Hudston street hospital, where later they recovered.

On the coal barge S. H. Hand, which lay alongside the other burning barges, were the captain, Joseph Plumb, his wife and two children. All were rescued by the police, but Patrolman Jeremiah Cronin was badly burned while taking one of the children ashore. All hands on board the lighter Arno got ashore safely. Michael Sheldon of that boat was compelled to jump into the river, from which he was rescued.

Three large vessels were lying so near the blazing pier that their safety was endangered—the steamer San Marcos and the steamer Nueces, which were towed out into mid-stream, and the bark St. James, the rigging of which was burned before it could be towed out of harm's way.

Saving Other Shipping.

The scene on the water was a most exciting one, for the river was filled with steamer craft engaged in towing the various vessels and barges to safety from their dangerous positions. Four cotton barges, others laden with cornmeal and some laden with coal caught fire and were destroyed. Some of them were also sunk to prevent the further spread of the flames. A number of buildings on South street were scorched and several were emptied of their tenants, who feared that the buildings would be burned.

Henry Mallory said regarding the fire:

"I have no idea how the fire started and I can form no adequate idea of the loss. The entire pier is destroyed, together with the offices and other buildings on the bulkhead. My brother Charles sailed for Europe on the Teutonic ten days ago and he will remain abroad two months, notwithstanding this catastrophe. I cannot tell what our immediate plans will be or when we shall begin to rebuild. Our books and other documents were destroyed and I cannot say anything about the insurance at present. The only positive information that I can give at present is that fortunately at the time of the fire there was not the usual amount of freight on the pier, as the Comal sailed at 3 o'clock Saturday afternoon and cleared up most of the overflow. I positively cannot fix the origin of the fire, give the amount of damage or approximate the amount of the insurance."

TRANSPORT COMES FROM CUBA

Body of Mrs. Wilson is Brought to United States for Burial.

NEW YORK, May 6.—The United States army transport Buford arrived in quarantine at 8:30 tonight from Havana, having on board the body of Mrs. General J. H. Wilson, General Wilson, the Misses Wilson and Lieutenants James H. Reeves and G. S. Turner. General Wilson's aides and two orderlies were also on the Buford. The steamer, after being boarded and passed by the health officers, will proceed to New York, where Mrs. Wilson's body will be shipped to Wilmington, Del., for burial. It will be transferred from the Buford to one of the tugs of the United States transport service tomorrow morning and taken to Jersey City enroute to Wilmington. No date has as yet been assigned for the funeral.

AFFAIR WITH TURKEY QUIET

United States Legation is Doing Nothing in the Indemnity Matter.

CONSTANTINOPLE, May 6.—The United States legation is doing nothing in the indemnity matter, which apparently is now forming the subject of direct communication between the Yildiz Kiosk and the Turkish minister in Washington.

Rear Admiral Ahmed Pasha, whom an imperial irade issued April 25 ordered to proceed to the United States to study the construction of warships, has not left Constantinople.

The sultan has ordered the formation of a committee to raise a fund for the relief of the Indian famine victims. It is thought that this will tend to neutralize the effect of the recent arrest and exile of members of the young Turkish party.

Movements of Ocean Vessels, May 6.

At New York—Arrived—La Champagne, from Havre; Rotterdam, from Rotterdam.

BUFFALO STRIKE SITUATION

New Draft of Demands Will Be Prepared and Submitted by Unions.

BUFFALO, N. Y., May 6.—As the result of a meeting of the striking car repairers of the Erie railway today a new draft of their demands will be presented and submitted to Division Superintendent Brunn. As told by the strikers this draft will not be a modification of their original demand for pay at the New York Central scale, but a more perfect formulation expressing concisely just what they will contend for. It is believed that the Lackawanna men will make at least one more attempt to negotiate.

A reply from the general offices of the Lehigh Valley is expected tomorrow and President Decoursey of the Western New York & Pennsylvania has promised to reach Buffalo Wednesday. The situation is therefore sufficiently tentative to act as a stay upon any radical movement which might have culminated when the time limit of the men's ultimatum expired tonight.

It was said by leaders of the striking Erie car repairers today that there was a grievance among the yard switchmen of that line, who, on being sounded by their leaders, had expressed not only a willingness but a desire to strike in sympathy with the car repairers and for their own advantage and to extend the projected movement over the entire Buffalo division of the Erie road.

In the absence of anything more tangible than ex-parte statements this claim has the smack of an attempt to force concessions from the Erie through flaunting the tieup of the lines in '92 by the general strike of switchmen, which is yet a fresh memory to railway managers.

The report of last night that the New York Central repairers, who resumed work on Friday, would strike in sympathy with their affiliated craftsmen of the line where satisfaction has not been gratified was denied tonight by labor people but pronounced a proper move if the men who followed the Central repairers in the strike insist that it is the most tangible way to render them aid in their fight. This being discussed from the standpoint of selecting the most potent factor in bringing pressure to bear on the lines that have not made concessions it was stated that to keep the Central men in and the road operating to its full capacity while concentrating efforts to tie up rival lines will be an efficacious system of warfare, equally worthy of serious consideration.

It is possible the Erie and Lackawanna car repairers may meet their respective officials tomorrow.

The striking freight handlers made no move today and appear to be quietly waiting to hear what success attends the efforts of President Gompers to secure a hearing for them from the general officers of the several lines in New York.

GOMPERS STANDS DEFIANT

Says He Will Urge Strikers to Keep on in Spite of Injunctions.

NEW YORK, May 6.—Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, attended the meeting of the National Federation union today and announced that he had come here not to confer with the railroad officials with reference to the threatened strike as reported at Buffalo, but to openly defy the injunction granted by Judge Freedman against the striking cigarmakers, which prohibits them from picketing or attempting in any way to deter others from taking their places and enjoins sympathizers from giving financial aid for the purpose of continuing the strike.

"Usually," said Mr. Gompers at the meeting, "when the labor movement is booming some one is found, clothed with the ermine of a supreme justice, who tries to check the advance. It is necessary for some man to oppose this injunction and I am glad to see that the stand has already been made. I am here especially to violate the injunction. I have done so before at a distance. I now want to face the music if there is any. I have contributed to the fund for pickets and tomorrow morning I shall speak to the strikers and urge them to keep on in spite of injunctions."

Strikers Meet Success.

BOSTON, May 6.—The strike ordered on May 1 by the carpenters' union for an eight-hour day with a minimum wage of $15 a week is stated to be meeting with success. The strike committee of the unions states that fifteen of the leading master carpenters granted the demand and twenty more firms will settle within the next few days.

Molders' Strike Settled.

AKRON, O., May 6.—A temporary settlement of the molders' strike in this city has been effected by J. F. Valentine, vice president of the Molders' International union, and the men will return to work tomorrow under a truce pending settlement through committee of molders and foundrymen.

SUCCESS FOR NATIONALISTS

Unexpected Victory for the Party in the French Municipal Elections.

PARIS, May 7.—2 p. m.—Although it was fully recognized that the nationalists intended to make a determined fight in all the wards of Paris on the occasion of the municipal elections held yesterday throughout France it was never seriously contemplated that their efforts would be crowned with such success as is shown by the results, which must be recognized as dealing a serious blow to the republicans and radicals.

The results show fifty definite elections in Paris. In thirty wards second ballots will be necessary. The nationalists have gained eight seats, five from the republicans and three from the radicals. The successful candidates include MM. Gaston-Mery, Galli, Lepelletier and Barretier.

The republicans have secured eight seats, including seven members of the old council. The radicals and radical socialists ten and the conservatives eight.

In wards where second ballots are necessary the nationalists obtained the most votes in eleven cases, but the total votes polled by their competitors was higher than the number obtained by them.

Relief for Fire Sufferers.

OTTAWA, Ont., May 6.—Premier Seddon of New Zealand has sent a cable to Sir Wilfred Laurier informing him that the New Zealand government has contributed $25,000 to the relief fund of the Ottawa fire sufferers.

Among the most interesting gifts received for the relief fund is one from the school children of Detroit, accompanied by a letter from Mayor Maybury of that city. There were 700 children who attended a May-day festival in that city and each sends a penny. Besides this Mayor Maybury encloses a draft for $500 and intends to send many more until such time as the needs of the people are fully satisfied. The relief fund is now well over the $800,000 mark.

Attempted Murder and Suicide.

CLEVELAND, O., May 6.—Daniel Silvercook killed himself this evening, after having tried to murder his wife. Jealousy was the cause. The woman will recover.

POPULISTS HEAD FOR OHIO

Advance Guard of Convention Workers Arrives in Cincinnati.

SPEAK SLIGHTINGLY OF SIOUX FALLS CROWD

Secretary Parker, in an Interview, Points Out the Harm Being Done to Bryan by the Gathering in South Dakota.

CINCINNATI, May 6.—The advance workers for the national convention of the middle-of-the-road populists, which meets here Wednesday, arrived here today. They are all opposed to fusion and almost everything else that has any connection with other political parties.

Joseph A. Parker, secretary of the national committee of the middle-of-the-roaders, has had headquarters here at the Dennison for some weeks in arranging for the convention. He was joined by many others today. They all claim they represent a large majority of the people's party; that in the contests at state conventions the Sioux Falls fusionists carried less than 300 of the 975 delegates, and that the convention at Sioux Falls this week will be one of excursionists with a minority of delegates, and that over two-thirds of the delegates were instructed by their states for the Cincinnati convention, which will keep in the middle of the road and not be sidetracked in the interest of anybody or party. They call attention to the fact that their call is in accord with the Omaha law of 1892, excluding all officeholders, and charge that the Sioux Falls convention is in charge of Senators Butler, Allen and Pettigrew and other officeholders, the same as republican and democratic conventions.

Followers of the True Faith.

"It is well recognized by all people," said Secretary Parker, "whether they be populists or not, that the Cincinnati convention represents the real populist movement. It is equally well known that the Sioux Falls convention is simply an adjunct to the democratic party. This accounts for the unanimity with which populists in every section have repudiated the call for the latter convention and indorsed the Cincinnati movement. We are confident of an attendance fully as great as the capacity of our hall and it is claimed that Robinson's opera house will seat 2,500 people."

Mr. Parker said: "The Sioux Falls convention cannot deliver a vote to Bryan that would not go to him as the regular democratic nominee. Any action the Sioux Falls convention may take will only embarrass Bryan and give his enemies in the democratic party a chance to hammer him. He would be much stronger as a thorough democratic candidate than as a fusion candidate and if the leaders of the Sioux Falls convention were really for Bryan they would go about the matter to accomplish his election. They would openly join the democratic party and help to elect its nominees. But they are not so anxious for Bryan as they are for themselves and they are working the fusion racket more with an eye to getting democratic support for the state and other offices they hold and expect to hold than for any love of Bryan. Why, this idea was boldly argued in the committee on resolutions at Raleigh, N. C., in the convention which caused Harry Skinner to attack Senator Butler for his insincerity. Mr. Bryan is in more danger today from these fusion friends than he is from the middle-of-the-roaders."

Pettigrew in a Bad Light.

Asked about the charge of Senator Pettigrew, that Senator Hanna was helping the convention, Mr. Parker said: "It is false. The fusion leaders see the people's party has repudiated them. This has driven them to the extremity of trying to impugn the motives of those who are behind our movement. We expect nothing else but a campaign of slander, but we propose to meet it as it deserves. In truth, this whole work has been accomplished and all expenses of the convention paid with $700, the amount contributed by the Convention league of Cincinnati. The fusionist leaders buncoed the city of Sioux Falls out of $5,500, which will make their delegates cost over $20 a head, I should judge. Of course, all of us who have done the preliminary work have worked without remuneration and we have had to dispense with music and all extras and limit ourselves to bare necessities. But we are here for business and not to cut a swell and propose to do the best we can. But it does make us a little angry to have the fusionists parading such a statement before the public and leading people to believe that we have a barrel of money. I wrote Senator Pettigrew the facts over a week ago and asked that he set us right, but up to this time I have heard nothing from him. It does seem strange that any man holding an office, secured at the sacrifice of his party's purity and independence, should throw out slurs at other people who do not see things as he does. Senator Pettigrew is up for re-election in South Dakota this year and I do not think it will help his chances much to throw mud at true populists."

TICKET IS BRYAN AND TOWNE

Probable Fusion Leaders Are Named at the Conference Held in Chicago.

CHICAGO, May 6.—The Chronicle tomorrow will say:

Bryan and Towne—that was the way the probable democratic, populistic and Lincoln republican national ticket was framed up as the result of a conference yesterday afternoon between leaders of the three parties at the Sherman house. The presidential nomination was not discussed, as being a foregone conclusion, but when the conferees had delved into the puzzle of the vice presidential situation Charles A. Towne of Duluth, Minn., stood on a pinnacle of importance that dwarfed other possibilities.

The populist representatives at the conference were Senator Butler of South Carolina, chairman of his party's national committee; General J. B. Weaver of Iowa and Congressman George S. Sibley of Virginia. The silver republicans were represented by Senator Pettigrew of South Dakota and ex-Senator Fred Dubois of Idaho.

Mr. Towne, though chairman of the Lincoln republican national committee, did not attend the meeting owing to the position in which he stood regarding the matter under discussion. The democratic representatives at the conference were Vice Chairman James G. Johnson of the national committee and Dan Campau of Detroit, national committeeman from Michigan. Colonel Bryan was not present.

"I am not interesting myself in the vice presidential nomination," he said. "I have seen the men of the three parties present in the city today, but I am not saying anything regarding conferences. I'm going home for a two months' rest on my farm."

The populist plan does not contemplate the nomination of Mr. Towne at the national convention this week in Sioux Falls, S. D. The plans of the leaders, so far as leaders of the populist party can lay out the work for a convention, contemplate the nomination of

(Continued on Third Page.)

CONDITION OF THE WEATHER

Forecast for Nebraska—
Thunder Showers; Variable Winds.

Temperature at Omaha yesterday:

Hour.	Deg.	Hour.	Deg.
5 a. m.	60	1 p. m.	68
6 a. m.	60	2 p. m.	69
7 a. m.	59	3 p. m.	67
8 a. m.	58	4 p. m.	67
9 a. m.	59	5 p. m.	68
10 a. m.	61	6 p. m.	69
11 a. m.	66	7 p. m.	68
12 m.	68	8 p. m.	65
		9 p. m.	65

TORNADOES DO GREAT DAMAGE

Number Are Reported Dead and Injured from Storms in Kansas.

KANSAS CITY, May 6.—Half a do[illegible] distinct tornadoes occurred in central Kansas this afternoon, following a day of [illegible]edingly high temperature. Two [illegible] are known to have been killed and [illegible] injured. Wires are down in the a[illegible] districts, making it impossible to [illegible]urately sum up the damage done.

A Times special from Ellin[illegible], Kan., says: At 5:30 this evening a [illegible]ado visited Logan township. It forme[illegible] few miles south of Ellinwood and pass[illegible] over the west portion of the city. At the Cheyenne bottoms, six miles north, it divided in six different directions and destroyed the residences of George and William Helfrich, George Helfrich and wife were instantly killed. William Helfrich, wife and child were all badly hurt. The storm next struck the farm of Carl Schneider, destroying the outbuildings and leaving the dwelling untouched. Further into the country a number of others are reported killed or injured. A large amount of stock was killed.

A special from Larned, Kan., says: A tornado passed southeast of here at 6 o'clock this evening and struck near Pawnee Rock, three miles distant. The wires are down and it is impossible tonight to learn the extent of damage done. Four separate funnel-shaped clouds are reported to have been seen in the direction of Great Bend.

KANOPOLIS, Kan., May 6.—At 5 o'clock this afternoon four distinct funnel-shaped clouds developed within a radius of a few miles of here and it is believed caused considerable destruction to farm property, though no definite reports have been received. All of the outbuildings, granaries and windmills on the Waite farm, three miles north, were blown down. No causalities are reported. The day had been one of the hottest ever experienced in this part of the state.

Damage by Texas Storm.

DALLAS, Tex., May 6.—A severe tornado swept over Denton county at a late hour this afternoon and many buildings were wrecked and it is believed several fatalities occurred. Telegraphic and telephonic communication is interrupted and advices from the storm section are meager.

At Garza, a small town in Denton county, more than one-third of the houses in the village were wrecked by the storm, but fortunately no one was killed. The inhabitants of the village had ample warning of the approach of the tornado and successfully sought places of safety.

At Little Elm, in the same county, a tornado descended on the town, demolishing several houses and injuring several people. No particulars can be obtained tonight and the result of the storm is mere conjecture. All wires are down north of Dallas and it is feared the cyclone wrought much damage in that vicinity.

Texas Town Suffers.

DALLAS, Tex., May 6.—One-third of the houses in Garza, a town in Denton county, were destroyed late this afternoon by a tornado. No one was hurt, for, warned by a big black cloud, the people sought refuge in storm houses before the tornado reached them. Reports from other sections of Denton county show that several houses at Little Elm were demolished and several people injured. Wires to the north are down.

SITUATION AT GOLD COAST

Change for Worse is Reported to London by Sir Frederick Hodgson.

LONDON, May 6.—The colonial office has received the following dispatch from Sir Frederick Mitchell Hodgson, governor and commander-in-chief of the Gold Coast colony, dated Kumassi, April 27:

"The situation, I regret to inform you, has changed for the worse. On April 23 a force was sent to clear the territory to the eastward. Four of the constabulary were killed and a large number of the rebels were killed or wounded. On April 25 the Ashantis surrounded the town in great force, probably 10,000, and made a determined attack. The Hausas were obliged to evacuate the cantonment and concentrate around the fort. The engagement lasted four hours. Twenty of our native allies and two Hausas were killed.

"The present occupants of the fort number 358, inclusive of eighteen Europeans, six of whom are missionaries. It is necessary that further reinforcements be sent to the gold coast."

Sir Frederick Hodgson, under date of April 30, telegraphed:

"Yesterday a serious attack was made on the fort by the rebels, but they were routed on all sides with great loss. Two members of the constabulary were killed and ten wounded.

"A contingent of Lagos constabulary under Inspector General Aplin has arrived after two days' severe fighting. The column was attacked at Asagu, which was taken with the loss of one killed and 23 wounded, among them Aplin, slightly.

"On the following day the contingent was attacked two miles from Kumassi by 8,000 rebels. There was great loss in taking the stockade across the roads. After desperate fighting the Ashantis fled. Two members of the constabulary were killed and thirteen wounded, including Assistant Inspector Read. Have been unable to send letters or telegrams through."

Under date of May 3 Sir Frederick Hodgson wired that the rebels were massed eastward and that he had made a demonstration the previous day with two guns, inflicting great loss.

The colonial office announces that in addition to the Lagos constabulary reinforcements have been sent to Sir Frederick Hodgson from the Sierra Leone frontier police and from the West African frontier police in the western and southern Nigeria.

INSURGENT OFFICER TAKEN

Member of Funston's Staff Captures Man Next in Rank to Aguinaldo.

MANILA, May 6.—General Pantelon Garcia, the highest insurgent officer except Aguinaldo, was captured yesterday by Lieutenant E. V. Smith of General Funston's staff in the town of Jaen, three miles northeast of San Isidro.

Fire Loss a Million.

NEW YORK, May 6.—The police estimate the loss by the fire in the Mallory line pier, East river, this morning, at $1,000,000.

HOMES IN SPLINTERS

Tornado Literally Tears Many Dwellings Into Mere Kindling Wood.

WORK OF THE WIND AROUND WILSONVILLE

Damage Done to Property Will Run Far Up Into Thousands.

NO LOSS OF LIFE IS YET REPORTED

Miraculous Escapes of Many Persons Who Were Caught and Injured.

EXPERIENCE OF A MOTHER AND CHILD

Blown Many Feet with the Debris of Their Home and Dropped Amid Pelting Hail, but Neither Badly Hurt.

WILSONVILLE, Neb., May 6.—(Special Telegram.)—Ruin and desolation reign in the path of yesterday's storm, the demon doing its work well, and complete families whose homes are now a mass of splinters are being cared for and everything possible is being done to make them comfortable. Returns from the stormswept district today bring new catastrophes to light and it is little short of a miracle that as yet there are no fatalities. The worst injured are Mr. and Mrs. Tower, who are in a precarious condition.

At the time the storm struck the place Mrs. Tower and daughter were in the house. They were trying to raise a trap door to get into the cellar, when the house commenced to shake. Suddenly everything became dark and flying debris commenced to strike them. They were carried for some distance, with boards constantly striking them, and were then thrown to the ground with some of the ruins on top of them. Mrs. Tower succeeded in extricating herself and crawled some distance, where she lay until found about an hour later. Little Goldie was held prisoner by boards across her chest, with the big hailstones striking her in the face, until relief came. Mr. Tower and son Addison were in the barn, when it went to pieces. Addison escaped with slight injuries. Mr. Tower started to go, too, when something struck him and he knew no more. He has one leg and several ribs broken and is badly bruised about the head and chest. Mrs. Tower has a collarbone broken and is seriously injured about the back and chest. Little Goldie has an ugly gash in her head and is bruised about the body, though not dangerously. All of the buildings were blown to atoms, the loss being $2,000, on which there is $500 insurance. One horse was killed.

Other Victims of the Storm.

H. A. Bourne is another victim who suffered some injuries, as did also Mrs. Bourne, who has a wrist broken. Mr. Bourne is badly injured about the head and chest. He was in the house at the time it was blown to pieces and was hit by a flying board. All their buildings, consisting of their house, barn and outhouses, were completely demolished. Loss, $1,000, part of which was covered by $500 insurance on house.

E. P. Lavine and wife, whose house was completely wrecked, had an exciting experience. Mrs. Lavine and son Enoch were carried thirty feet high with the house and landed 200 feet from the foundation. Enoch was but slightly injured, while Mrs. Lavine was injured on the leg and head. Mr. Lavine, who was out of the house when the tornado struck it, received a wound on the shoulder. The house was new and was not quite finished. The barn was also blown down. Mr. Lavine estimates his loss at $900, on which there was no insurance.

M. E. McFarland had a large barn, a washhouse, two cowsheds and a granary blown to pieces and about forty pigs and some poultry killed. His daughter, Pearl, who was in the washhouse when it went, was carried about 100 yards, but was only slightly hurt. No insurance.

H. H. Gerrish's house, barn and other outbuildings are a mass of ruins. The family, luckily, was not at home at the time and escaped injuries. About thirty hogs were killed. His entire loss is about $1,700 and the insurance $900.

School House is Obliterated.

The school house standing near Mr. Gerrish's was wiped from the face of the earth and there is little to indicate that a house ever stood there. Loss, about $300.

John McCoomb's house, partly sod, was blown down and his granary, barn and windmill reduced to ruins. Although the family were at home at the time they happened to be in the one room which remained standing. Mr. McCoomb's loss will be about $800. He had $200 insurance on barn and granaries.

H. H. Corbett's frame house, barn and windmill were all reduced to very minute pieces, some of his farm machinery broken and some of his stock injured. No one was at home when the catastrophe occurred. The loss is $800 and the insurance $500.

A. D. Pierce's big hay barn was ruined, though not blown to splinters, as most of the other buildings were. One horse was caught and crushed under the falling timbers. Mr. Pierce also lost two corncribs, which brings his loss up to $700. He carried $400 insurance on the barn.

A. Bauman estimates the damage done to his buildings and stock at $500. William Crosby's house and barn were wrecked and a large amount of farm machinery broken. His loss is about $600, on which he carried no tornado insurance.

C. L. Black's house, barn, windmill and machinery were injured to the amount of about $300. The house in which Stone was living was ruined by the twister, but no one was hurt. Loss, about $400.

Church a Complete Wreck.

The Presbyterian church in town is wrecked and cannot be repaired. A brick building in the north part of town was blown down and a large amount of damage of smaller importance was the result of the storm. W. S. Corom and George Sheldon each had about $100 worth of damage done to their buildings, but in nearly every instance where the houses were blown down the furniture inside was a complete wreck. The damage done in general will amount to thousands of dollars, but cannot be described in detail.

Damage at Beaver City.

BEAVER CITY, Neb., May 6.—(Special Telegram.)—A terrific hail and windstorm, described as a genuine twister, passed over the western part of this (Furnas) county yesterday afternoon about 4 o'clock. The worst damage was done in and near Wilsonville. Many farm houses were destroyed, the Presbyterian church was wrecked, roof blown away and window glass smashed. The hail continued for an hour, the wind coming from the east in a gale. The stones were as large as base balls, measuring nine inches in circumference, and were driven through roofs and sides of buildings. The storm cloud ap-