THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

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BLOW TO PACKERS

English Government Excludes American Beef from Its Army Contracts.

PACKER SWIFT RECEIVES FIRST TIP

London Agent Cables News and Armours Also Have Intimation.

APPEAL TO AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT

Companies Ask for Whatever Aid Uncle Sam Can Lend Them.

ACTION OF FAR-REACHING EFFECT

Not Only Excludes American Beef and Cattle from Commissary Depots, but May Prejudice English Public.

WASHINGTON, April 11.—The Department of Agriculture has received a dispatch from a prominent packing company of Chicago announcing that it has just been advised that the English government has excluded all beef except home-bred from the British army contracts. This, it is stated, is to be effective June 1 next.

The Chicago concern has asked the Agricultural department for any assistance it can render. It has pointed out that the action of the government is a severe blow to American beef and cattle exporters and producers and means not alone the loss in government trade, but it is feared it will serve toward causing a prejudice of the people of Great Britain against the beef and cattle of this country.

No report of this contemplated move has reached the department, according to statements of officials this afternoon. Steps have been taken, however, looking to acquiring whatever information it is possible to get.

Means Sacrifice of Millions.

To demonstrate the importance of the move that is said to be contemplated it is pointed out that the value of our exports of live animals to Great Britain amounts to $40,000,000, while the total of animal products exported from the United States to Great Britain is stated to be, in round numbers, $200,000,000. It is pointed out here that this proposed embargo may really be a sequel, in greater or less degree, to the proceedings instituted at New Orleans against shipments of horses and mules from that port for use in the South African campaign. While this is, of course, merely conjectural, it is very strongly hinted that the New Orleans incident probably is the directing step of inspiration for the step. It is pointed out that if the English really decided to take the action reported in the advices just received the British might turn to Australia for their meats. It is claimed, however, that meats cannot be gotten there in as good quality nor as cheaply as in the United States.

Swift and Company Advised.

CHICAGO, April 11.—Swift & Co. was the packing firm referred to as having wired the Agricultural department regarding probable action of the English government excluding all but home-bred beef from army contracts. Mr. A. H. Veeder, general counsel for Swift & Co., said their London representative had cabled to the above effect and they had immediately telegraphed it to Washington. They had also cabled London for further information. Mr. Veeder was inclined to doubt that definite action had been taken by the British government. He expected further information tonight.

Mr. J. G. Brine of Armour & Co. said his company had received a cablegram from its London agent stating that "it was rumored" that such action had been taken. Armour & Co. immediately telegraphed Secretary of the Treasury Gage asking for confirmation, but had no reply up to late this afternoon.

No Course of Action.

CHICAGO, April 11.—Packers of this city were not disposed this evening to discuss the reported action of the English government in placing a ban on American beef. None of them seemed greatly surprised at the action and all said that they had determined on no course of action.

"We will wait until we know more about it," said General Manager Meeker of Armour & Co. "There is no earthly cause for such action that I can think of. It cannot be on account of the quality of the beef, for it always has been of high-class in every respect."

Swift & Co. expressed similar views to those of Mr. Meeker, and General Manager Lyon of the Hammond company said he did not know enough about the matter to discuss it, but he did not anticipate that the American packers would be badly hurt.

PACKERS TO BE DEFENDANTS

Omaha and Two Other Companies Figure in United Salt Company Suit.

CLEVELAND, April 11.—The fight between the National Salt company and the stockholders of the United Salt company was resumed in Judge Stone's court today when the motion of the United Salt company to have ex-Judge Lamson, the receiver, removed, was placed on hearing. Judge Lamson was appointed receiver upon application of J. M. Henderson, one of the stockholders.

Attorney S. H. Holding, representing the United Salt company, argued in behalf of the removal of the receiver, claiming that the appointment was irregular, being made at Judge Stone's residence in the evening; that the other side was not given an opportunity to be heard and that Judge Lamson was not a proper person for receiver, because he had been attorney for the United Salt company in another case.

Attorney Arnold Green asked that the Omaha Packing company, Anglo-American Packing company and Continental Packing company be made defendants to the suit, claiming that the United Salt company owed them $100,000 for breach of contract to furnish salt. Judge Stone refused the request.

NEW CHURCH REGULATION

Missouri Congregation Seizes Minister and Wife and Beats Them with Staves.

INDEPENDENCE, Mo., April 11.—A number of negroes constituting the faction in the Baptist church that is opposed to its pastor, Elder J. T. Fitts, seized the minister and his wife after a prayer meeting last night, threw ropes around their necks, dragged them into a hollow beside the road and "regulated" them with barrel staves laid vigorously on their backs. Minister Fitts today swore out warrants for six of the regulators.

MORGAN STUDIES ELECTRICS

Railroad King Will Give His Special Attention to New Form of Traction.

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LONDON, April 11.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—J. Pierpont Morgan [illegible] among the first of the passengers to leave the Teutonic on her arrival at Liverpool today. The financial magnate was practically unobserved as he walked rapidly to the train for London at the Riverside station. No special police protection was provided for Mr. Morgan, consequent on the rumors that attempts might be made on his life. Immediately on entering his private car at Liverpool he buried himself in a mass of telegrams and documents handed him. His trip, he declared, was more for a holiday than business, hence he declined to talk much of financial matters.

Mr. Morgan disclaimed responsibility for the rumors circulated regarding colossal movements attributed to him, and said practically that he was not interested in any Panama canal scheme. In closing his talk, Mr. Morgan made a significant statement that especially interests financiers here, more particularly the Americans who are concerned in railways. He said that during his stay in London he would give his attention to electric traction movements. This is taken to indicate that the financial king may do something that will keep Mr. Yerkes guessing.

The transit problem is absorbing London just now and Mr. Morgan is regarded as the man likely to solve it. When Mr. Morgan arrived in London he was met at the railroad station by J. P. Morgan, jr., his two children and a number of reporters. After answering questions he hurried to his carriage and drove off with a grandchild on each knee.

CARD SHARPERS DISCOVERED

Fail to Bluff J. Pierpont Morgan and His Fellow Voyagers.

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LONDON, April 12.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—The Morning Express publishes a story telling how J. Pierpont Morgan, during his voyage to England, played the part of an amateur detective and succeeded in discovering two confederates signaling each other across the card table. These two had been exceptionally successful, but one day Mr. Morgan, while looking on at the game, saw signals pass between them. He informed the other players, who thereupon watched and caught the confederates. Little was said beyond charging the sharpers with cheating, which, of course, was indignantly denied.

A passenger had given a £50 check to one of them and wished it back. Mr. Morgan handed him a handful of notes and the loser went to the sharper on pretense of cashing the check. The sharper handed it over, whereupon the maker tore it up and handed the notes back to Morgan. The sharper blustered, but he and his companion were ostracised for the remainder of the voyage.

MUIR GOES TO STOCKHOLM

His Wife Effects Reconciliation with Her Mother, Senator McPherson's Widow.

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LONDON, April 11.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Dr. Joseph Muir, son-in-law of the late Senator John R. McPherson of New Jersey, has been appointed secretary of legation and consul general of the United States at Stockholm, Sweden. He left London tonight for his post of duty.

Mrs. Muir returned to America on learning of the death March 29 of her mother, widow of Senator McPherson. There was a reconciliation between mother and daughter a few months ago, after nearly three years of estrangement, caused by the elopement with Dr. Muir in July, 1898. After the reconciliation Mrs. McPherson influenced Senator Platt of New York in Muir's favor. Mr. Platt and the New Jersey senator were warm personal friends, although differing politically.

"WILDERNESS" IN LONDON

Worldly Girl Discovers She Loves the Man for Whose Money She Angles.

LONDON, April 12.—H. V. Esmond's comedy, "The Wilderness," which was produced last evening at the St. James theater, London, proved charmingly fresh and original. Its motive is the discovery by a worldly girl, who is scheming to marry a rich man, that she is much in love with him. George Alexander, as the hero, and Miss Eva Moore, wife of the author, as the heroine, played their parts to perfection. Miss Julie Opp was excellent in a minor part.

The comedy, of which Charles Frohman has secured the American rights, promises to be a great success.

SAYS JAPAN ONLY WAITS

Former Premier Promises Some Pyrotechnics When Celestial Court Returns to Pekin.

LONDON, April 12.—"Count Okuma, former Japanese premier, asserts that the Russo-Japanese crisis is postponed until the Chinese court shall have returned to Pekin," says the Tokio correspondent of the Daily Press, "when Japan will send to Russia another protest against the occupation of Manchuria."

MUST NOT SHOW WHITE FLAG

British War Office Threatens Any Soldier Who Weakens in Presence of Enemy.

LONDON, April 12.—The British War office has issued the following special order, regarding surrenders in the field: "Any officer or soldier who when in the presence of the enemy displays a white flag or other token of surrender will be tried by general court-martial."

SETS DATE FOR HIS RETURN

Chinese Emperor and Court Decide to Leave Sian Fu for Pekin May 7.

LONDON, April 12.—According to the Shanghai correspondent of the Times the Chinese assert that the court has decided to leave Sian Fu for Pekin via the province of Ho Nan, May 7.

Sultan Finds a Friend.

BERLIN, April 11.—The Frankfurter Zeitung today prints a special dispatch from Constantinople which says the Turkish government has raised a loan of £200,000 from the Ottoman bank, to settle the claims of the Cramps and the Krupps.

RADICALS FORCE THE ISSUE

Unsuccessfully Attempt to Commit Cuban Convention Against Amendment.

WOULD ANTICIPATE WASHINGTON VISIT

Seek to Secure Delegates' Contrary Pledge Before They Can Talk with Administration in Washington.

HAVANA, April 11.—At the secret session of the constitutional convention several delegates offered resolutions that the convention should express its disapproval of the principles embodied in the Platt amendment, especially clauses 1, 3, 4 and 7. Senor Giberga moved that the subject be indefinitely posponed, but the proposal was supported by only six delegates.

The effort of the radical element is to put the convention on record against the amendment before voting to send a commission to Washington. It was evident that the radicals had a majority today. The matter will be further discussed tomorrow.

It is the opinion of the Havana bar that the case of libel against La Discusion on account of the so-called "crucifixion caricature" will not come before the courts. In reference to the statement that the constitutional convention as a body had expressed displeasure regarding the caricature, Senor Capote, president of the convention, explains that in requesting Governor General Wood to allow the continuance of the publication he, on his own responsibility and out of personal friendship for the editor, urged General Wood to take into consideration the possible bad effect of the suppression of the paper on the work of the convention in the present state of political agitation.

EVIDENCES OF FRIENDSHIP

French President Warmly Replies to Toast of Duke of Genoa.

TOULON, April 11.—In behalf of the king of Italy the duke of Genoa today distributed a number of decorations to the French ministers and military, naval and civil officials.

President Loubet spent the early part of the day in making a tour of the hospitals, and afterward received at the town hall delegations from the Toulon societies. He also distributed medals to workmen who had been thirty years in the same employ.

At noon President Loubet boarded the Lepanto, the Italian flagship, and lunched with the duke of Genoa. The latter in toasting the chief executive of France, said: "Permit me, Mr. President, to express to you my acknowledgment of the cordial and sympathetic welcome accorded by France to myself and to the squadron under my command. I shall retain an unalterably happy recollection of the magnificent reception. I drink to France and her armies on land and sea, and I also desire to express my high regard for yourself personally."

Before he resumed his seat the duke touched glasses with President Loubet and the two warmly clasped hands. President Loubet replied: "Monsignor, I am profoundly moved by the friendship you have expressed for the French republic and the sympathy you show for its army and navy. It is unnecessary to report to you what are the feelings of the French nation toward Italy. You already know them and I have described them to you, but I wish once more to assure you that we are profoundly touched by the evidence of friendship which his majesty, the king of Italy, has given to France by sending your grand squadron here. I drink to the health of King Victor Emmanuel, to the royal family, to their prosperity and to the Italian fleet. I drink also to your personal health, monsignor. Just now, I noticed in your cabin the pictures of those dear to you. Permit me to associate them with yourself in the good wishes I am now expressing and to drink to the health of your entire family."

CENSOR HANGS UP THE 'PHONE

British Public is Left to Guess What May Be Doing in Botha's Precinct.

LONDON, April 12.—No further news has been received regarding the reported resumption of peace negotiations in South Africa, but the fact that the censor allowed the report to go out is held to prove that negotiations of some sort are in progress.

The casualty list issued yesterday revealed the fact that Lord Methuen was discharged from the hospital last week, this being the first notification that he had been ill. There was no news from South Africa, beyond the fact that the British have evacuated Hoopstadt, which, the Daily Mail observes, "seems to show that Lord Kitchener's force is not too strong."

A report from Brussels is that the Dutch Transvaal committee has handed to Mr. Kruger a check for 1,000,000 florins, collected in Holland for the assistance of the Boers.

It appears that Mr. Kruger's entourage asserts that the route from Leysdorp to Zoutspansburg is heavily fortified and able to resist the British a long time.

DEWET IN FEAR OF HIS LIFE

Is Said to Be Surrounded by Bodyguard Against His People.

LONDON, April 11.—A news agency this afternoon publishes a dispatch from Capetown, received by the Frankfurter Zeitung, purporting to be a true picture of the present situation in South Africa and confirming a Reuter dispatch on the same subject cabled to the Associated Press yesterday. The dispatch says that General Dewet is so distracted by the hopelessness of his cause that he can truthfully be described as insane. He goes in fear of his life amidst his own troops and keeps himself surrounded, night and day, by a bodyguard of chosen adherents. From his own ranks voices are now more frequently heard calling imperatively for peace.

AUSTRALIANS SHY OF BOERS

Federal Cabinet Doesn't Enthuse Over Plan to Make Prisoners Their Island Neighbors.

MELBOURNE, Victoria, April 12.—The federal cabinet at its first sitting today decided that it was unable to recommend the suggestion of Mr. Chamberlain, the colonial secretary, that the Boer prisoners be sent to Tasmania.

Goulsen Will Visit America.

COPENHAGEN, April 11.—The well known actor, Emil Goulsen, is arranging to tour the United States during the coming summer. He proposes to read his most notable plays in New York, San Francisco and other large cities.

EXPOSES NAUGHTY NEW YORK

Committee of Fifteen Tells What It Found and Makes Some Recommendations.

NEW YORK, April 11.—The committee of fifteen, organized some months ago to investigate vice as it exists in this city, made its preliminary report to the public today. This report will be followed by others from time to time as the committee deems necessary.

The report says that the committee's agents by investigation disclosed the fact that gambling and pool rooms were being operated openly in violation of the law; that the gambling spirit had been developed to such an extent as to become a distinct menace to the community and that these resorts were undoubtedly protected in their operation by officers whose duty it was to close them.

Raids were made by the committee and its agents and the results obtained show conclusively that a committee of citizens can force the police to close such resorts, thus proving that vice is protected and also that the raids have resulted in making the gambling business unprofitable.

The committee has been collecting data from different countries and intends preparing a report embodying suggestions for the treatment of the social evil problem in great cities. It does not feel that the best interests of the city will be served by any violent attempt to suppress this evil, but it is hoped that the forthcoming report will present such information and recommendations as will enable the community to face the situation frankly and to deal with it conservatively and wisely.

The committee says the actual conditions of the tenement house population is alarming, in a social way, and that in 125 tenement houses that were examined by its agents and in which disorderly women were living there were found in each house an average of twenty-four children under the age of 18 years and the committee is collecting evidence which will be utilized to eliminate this evil. It is also investigating the organized traffic in young girls by the so-called cadet system.

The recommendation is made that in each assembly district one suitable assembly hall may be built which will be kept available for citizens' meetings and it throws out a suggestion that these might be built in connection with the new public libraries which are likely to be erected in every part of Greater New York.

TELEPHONE CONSOLIDATION

United Company Acquires Five Other Properties with Fifty Thousand Patrons' Contracts.

BALTIMORE, April 12.—Final steps were taken today in the big telephone consolidation scheme engineered by the syndicate headed by George R. Webb of this city. At the meeting of the directors of the United Telegraph and Telephone company today the following properties were acquired: Maryland Telephone and Telegraph company, capital stock, $1,000,000; Pittsburg and Allegheny Telephone company, capital stock, $1,560,000; West Penn Long Distance company, capital stock, $1,000,000; Home Telephone company, capital stock, $200,000; Allegheny County Telephone company, capital stock, $200,000; Hartford County Telephone company, capital stock, $10,000.

In all, 50,000 telephones, either in actual operation or under contract awaiting installation will go into the combination.

The United Telephone and Telegraph company was chartered under the laws of New Jersey. It has a capitalization of $5,000,000 of common stock and $2,500,000 of 6 per cent cumulative stock. The financial plans provide for the advance at once of $1,500,000 of the common stock and $2,000,000 of the preferred.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S ASHES

Removal to New Monument is to Be Accomplished in Private.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., April 11.—The remains of Abraham Lincoln, which have been resting in a temporary vault during the reconstruction of the Lincoln monument, will be removed to the new monument within a few days. The removal will be private, only the trustees of the monument, state officers and representatives of the press being present. It is probable that the casket containing the body of the martyred president will be opened. The exact date fixed for the transfer of the remains will not be made public.

FATHER DOWLING'S ATTITUDE

Representative of Omaha University Favors More Liberal Use of Publications.

CHICAGO, April 11.—Delegates to the third annual convention of Catholic colleges devoted their attention today to the consideration of technical subjects. Father Dowling of the Omaha university expressed the fear that Catholics had in the past not kept in close touch with the improved methods advocated by non-sectarian institutions. They failed to present their arguments to the mass of the people by means of the newspaper, magazine and other publications.

STUDENTS DO GHOST WALK

Armour Institute Boys Jubilate in Their "Nighties," Causing Numerous Feminine Shrieks.

CHICAGO, April 11.—Seventy-five students of the Armour institute, wearing night gowns outside their other garments, took possession of a south side elevated train tonight and before they were ejected by the police they caused several women passengers to go into hysterics and created pandemonium. The students were celebrating the gift of $1,000,000 to the institute by Mrs. P. D. Armour and J. Ogden Armour, widow and son of the founder.

Amateur Robbers Cause Wreck.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., April 11.—The wreck on the Wabash railway near Wilcox, Mo., early this morning was due to an attempt to rob the express car. After the train had been derailed the robbers lost heart. The fishplates of the two rails had been removed. The crime was doubtless the work of novices.

Succeeds Thunder.

BLACK RIVER FALLS, Wis., April 11.—The Winnebago Indians will tomorrow elect Striking Tree (John Little Soldier) as successor to President John Thunder, deceased.

Movements of Ocean Vessels April 8.

At New York—Arrived—Deutschland, from Hamburg; Frankfurt, from Bremen. Sailed—Rhein, for Bremen; Auguste Victoria, for Hamburg via Plymouth and Cherbourg; La Champagne, for Havre.

At Queenstown—Sailed—Oceanic, for New York; Waesland, for Philadelphia, both from Liverpool.

At Yokohama—Sailed—Queen Adelaide, for Tacoma.

At Liverpool—Sailed—Dominion, for Portland, Me.; Irishman, for Boston; New England, for Queenstown and Boston.

At Plymouth—Arrived—Pennsylvania, from New York, for Hamburg.

At Rotterdam—Sailed—Staatendam, for Boulogne and New York. Arrived—Maasdam, from New York via Boulogne.

KIOWA AND COMANCHE LANDS

Opening of Reservations as Forecasted by Assistant Attorney General.

DISAPPOINTMENT FOR MANY CLAIMANTS

Almost Four Times as Many Applicants as There Are Homestead Tracts—Plan Devised to Apportion by Lot.

WASHINGTON, April 11.—(Special Telegram.)—Speculation is general as to what rules the Interior department proposes laying down for the opening of the Kiowa and Comanche country in Oklahoma, which is scheduled to take place August 6. Assistant Attorney General Vandeventer of Wyoming has had the question under serious consideration, and tonight gave out a general statement as to what would be required.

The Wichita reservation will be embraced in a separate land district, with a land office at El Reno. Deducting the land allotted to the Indians and reserved for school purposes, there will be 3,122 tracts of 160 acres each to be disposed of to homestead claimants. The greater portion of this is fine land, but some of it is not of sufficient value to justify complying with the homestead laws to obtain title to it.

The Kiowa reservation will be in another land district, with a land office near Fort Sill. Deducting the lands allotted to the Indians and reserved for school and other purposes, there will be 10,351 tracts of 160 acres to be disposed of to homesteaders. These are generally good lands, but this reservation contains a greater percentage of poor land than the Wichita.

Many Will Be Disappointed.

The highest number of homestead claims which could be taken in the two reservations, even if all the lands were desirable, is 13,473. Indications are that there will easily be 40,000 applicants. Many of these are doomed to disappointment. There are not enough lands for all.

The two reservations may be opened at the same time, but the opening of each will be as separately conducted as if they were 1,000 miles apart. The law does not require them to be opened at the same time, but to do so will divide the crowd of applicants and simplify the task of the land officers.

The opening of the Kiowa reservation must not be later than August 6 of the present year, and it will take until near that time to complete the allotments to the Indians.

No Free Homes.

None of these lands can be obtained as free homes. They must be paid for by all claimants at the rate of $1.25 an acre at the time of submitting final proof. The law also requires five years' actual residence, cultivation and improvement, except that honorably discharged soldiers are given credit for the time of their service in the army.

The two reservations will be opened by a proclamation of the president and a recent act of congress declares that "to avoid contests and conflicting claims which have heretofore resulted from opening similar public lands," the proclamation shall prescribe the manner in which these lands may be settled upon, occupied and entered, and that no person shall settle upon, occupy or enter any of them except as prescribed in the proclamation, until after the expiration of sixty days from the opening.

The purpose of this new statutory provision is clear. The Interior department is now struggling with the question. Many plans have been proposed by the people over the country who are cognizant of the faults of the old system and interested in public land questions. It is significant that nearly all of these propose a drawing or casting of lots.

Probable Plan of Allotment.

Of the plans considered, that which probably will be adopted is as follows: There will be a period of registration, lasting thirty or forty days prior to the opening, during which each application for these lands will be required to show by written proofs that he is qualified to make a homestead entry and actually desires to do so as a means of procuring a home. If his proof is satisfactory he will be registered as a qualified applicant and given certificate to that effect and will draw a number which will determine the order in which he will be permitted at the opening to make a selection of land.

The work of registration will continue until the qualifications of all applicants and the order in which they will be permitted to select land have been determined. The registration certificates will not be transferable, and to make the identification of applicants complete, so that there may be no transfers, applicants will be photographed by a rapid process which can now be utilized at a slight cost to the government. The registration will be under the supervision of a register, a receiver and a corps of experienced clerks familiar with public land transactions and fully qualified to conduct the registration in an orderly manner.

All Applications in Person.

Every applicant will be required to register in person excepting that honorably discharged soldiers may be permitted to register by an agent, subject to the restriction that no person shall act as an agent for more than one soldier, and no soldier will be permitted to register through an agent except upon clear proof that he actually desires to obtain a home from these lands by compliance with the homestead laws. There will be ample provision to prevent old soldiers from being imposed upon through the misrepresentations or neglect of an agent.

The drawing will be under the supervision of a non-partisan commission composed of two or three men whose high character is so widely known throughout the country as to make their control of the drawing a guaranty of its absolute fairness. The numbers placed in the box before the drawing begins will more than cover the number of people who will apply to the register.

All Chances Equal.

No advantage will be obtained by being the first to register and all will have an equal chance of drawing the first number. When completed the registration will show the numbers which are not drawn and at the opening they will be disregarded. If Nos. 1, 3 and 5 are drawn and Nos. 2 and 4 remain in the box, the order of selection at the opening will be 1, 3 and 5, as if there were not the numbers 2 and 4. The period of registration will be long enough to admit of the easy registration of all applicants. A man who registers on the last day will have the same opportunity of drawing one of the earlier numbers as does a man registering on the first day.

Know Their Fate Early.

Those who draw the first 10,000 numbers at the Kiowa registration will know that there will be lands on which their right of selection can be exercised and those who

(Continued on Second Page.)

CONDITION OF THE WEATHER

Forecast for Nebraska—Rain Friday; Saturday Fair; Easterly Winds, Becoming Variable.

Temperature at Omaha Yesterday:

Hour.	Deg.	Hour.	Deg.
5 a. m.	49	1 p. m.	48
6 a. m.	48	2 p. m.	51
7 a. m.	47	3 p. m.	48
8 a. m.	47	4 p. m.	48
9 a. m.	47	5 p. m.	48
10 a. m.	48	6 p. m.	47
11 a. m.	49	7 p. m.	47
12 m.	46	8 p. m.	46
		9 p. m.	45

BRIDGE CABLE DRAWN TAUT

First Wire for New East River Bridge Saluted with Cheers of Thousands.

NEW YORK, April 11.—Accompanied by the screeching of whistles and the cheering of thousands of spectators on both sides of the East river, the first cable of the new East river bridge was raised from the bed of the river today and drawn taut by a powerful engine until it was 120 feet above the surface of the water.

Thousands viewed the raising of the cable from the shores, while many tugboats, yachts and craft of all kinds ran up near enough so that those on board could witness the work. An interesting feature was the giving of a long chain of signals, reaching from a man on the Manhattan side to the engineer who controlled the sixty-five horse-power engine which stretched the cable.

The actual raising of the cable lasted just seven minutes. While it was going on all traffic in the river at that point was stopped by order of the harbormaster.

After being drawn back 620 feet over the top of the tower on the Williamsburg side the cable was put in clamps and firmly fastened to the massive anchorage of masonry.

JONES ON REORGANIZATION

Democratic Leader Says No Radical Change of Policy is Probable.

FORT SMITH, Ark., April 11.—Chairman James K. Jones of the national democratic committee, in an interview today, speaking upon democratic policies in general, said he thought absurd the talk of some formerly recognized leaders of the party about the necessity for reorganization. What the policies of the party at the next national convention may be, he said, no one can say and it would be manifestly impossible for any man or set of men to formulate a new policy for the party in the interim. He thought it quite within reason to believe that there will be modifications of the platforms of Chicago and Kansas City, but what these modifications may be on one can say, although it is not probable such modifications will be radical in character. In speaking of the Philippines and Cuban relations, Senator Jones said he was gratified at the more peaceful turn in the Philippines and hoped it would result in a settled government with large independent powers. He hopes the government will soon "redeem its pledges to the Cubans and leave them to govern their island domain as it pleases them."

PASSENGER TRAINS SMASH

Rock Island on Wrong Track as Denver & Rio Grande Express Arrives.

PUEBLO, Colo., April 11.—A headend collision of passenger trains occurred about 2 o'clock this afternoon at Eden station, five miles north of Pueblo. The northbound Denver & Rio Grande express ran into the southbound Rock Island train, which through some misunderstanding was on the wrong side of the double track. The two locomotives were locked together and badly wrecked and one of the baggage cars was smashed.

The injured:

On the Rio Grande train: Mrs. Judge Felter, Canon City, side and face hurt; Miss Felter, daughter of Mrs. Felter, thigh broken; Charles H. McNeer, Denver, news agent, feet hurt.

On the Rock Island train: Mrs. Ella Hayden, Colby, Kan., injured about head; E. J. Rawson, baggageman, Kansas City, injuries about head and face.

KILLED BY KNOCKOUT DROPS

Former Texan Mayor is the Victim of a St. Louis Saloon.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., April 11.—A special to the Commercial-Appeal from St. Louis, Mo., says:

John P. Smith, former mayor of Fort Worth, Tex., died today, the victim of knockout drops administered several days ago by unknown persons in a saloon near the union station.

Mr. Smith was taken from the Planters' hotel to St. Mary's infirmary Sunday in an unconscious condition. His daughter, Florence, and son, James, arrived from Texas Sunday and remained at his bedside until death came. He did not speak a word while at the hospital.

Mr. Smith was widely known throughout the southwest and in this city. The police have no clue.

CHANCE FOR PRESBYTERIANS

James Milliken Will Give $100,000 for University Purposes, Conditionally.

MARTINSVILLE, Ind., April 11.—Rev. M. E. Prather of Danville was elected moderator of the Wabash presbytery of the Cumberland Presbyterian church today.

James Milliken of Decatur, Ill., has donated $100,000 to the church for university purposes, conditioned that the synods of Indiana, Illinois and Iowa raise another $100,000 by July, 1901, and Rev. A. W. Hawkins of Decatur, Ill., has been placed in the field in an endeavor to accomplish it.

TEXAS LAWYERS MUST BE GOOD

Governor Approves Bill Imposing Heavy Fine on All Their Shyster Methods.

AUSTIN, Tex., April 11.—The governor today approved the barratry bill, one of the most important acts of the Twenty-seventh legislature. It imposes heavy fine and imprisonment on lawyers who foment suits against railroads and other corporations, or who advance money to clients to secure such cases.

FLOWERS TO REPLACE GUNS

Chicago Proposes to Vary Character of Parade When President McKinley Comes.

CHICAGO, April 11.—A floral parade that will surpass anything of the kind ever attempted in the west is one of the features contemplated for the entertainment of President McKinley when he visits Chicago in June. This novel welcome will take the place of a military display.

UNION PACIFIC LAND

Former Attache of the Department Makes Interesting Statement.

SERIOUS CHARGES AGAINST OFFICIALS

Details of Alleged Questionable Transactions Are Given.

PRESIDENT BURT DECLINES TO EXPLAIN

Chief Executive Says He Has No Time for Such Affairs.

INFORMER GIVES NAMES AND DATES

Accuses Employes of the Land Office with Speculation for Private Gain and Says High Officials Are Passive.

Serious charges have been made by W. W. Lunger, a former appraiser of the Union Pacific land department, implicating the officials of that department in some questionable transactions. Although brought to the attention of The Bee some two weeks ago, the charges have been withheld from publication by direction of the editor until they could be presented to President Burt for his investigation or explanation. When a reporter called on Mr. Burt yesterday with a note from the editor of The Bee he was compelled to wait fifty minutes for an audience, and then his respectful request for an examination of the story was turned aside with, "I don't care to read it; I haven't time," and a brusque invitation to submit it to the very land department officials against whom the charges are made.

According to Mr. Lunger, the present management of the department tolerates an abuse of privileges by employes which not only results in financial loss to the company, but in keeping farmers from settling in Nebraska, Kansas and other western states. He charges that several of the trusted employes of the department have for years been speculating on company lands, and during their speculations the lands have been kept off the market and away from the bona fide purchasers.

What the Plan Is.

The plan of operation adopted by the employes, according to Mr. Lunger's story, is to purchase a tract of good land from the company on a ten-year contract, make the "down" payment of 10 per cent and no more, and then lease the land for a share of the crops raised on it. The company pays the taxes on the land and allows it to remain for seven or eight years in possession of the delinquent purchaser, who receives from his tenant several hundred dollars' rental each year as a return on his investment, which represents only the first or "down" payment.

Mr. Lunger makes a particular charge against Alfred L. Lynch, who for many years has been the chief sales clerk in the office of B. A. McAllaster, the manager of the land department. This charge is of a most serious character and is backed up by the documentary evidence in the possession of Mr. Lunger.

Particular Deal Explained.

In 1886 the company sold the northwest quarter of section 29, township 14, range 11, west, in Kansas, at $9 per acre on a ten-year contract. The purchaser broke 100 acres of the land, made several payments and then abandoned it. In August, 1892, an application to purchase the land at $9.50 per acre was referred to Mr. Lynch, the sales clerk, and it was said that he turned it down. In the following month, according to the records of the department as copied by Mr. Lunger, the land was purchased at $9.50 per acre by Lynch, who made the "down" payment of $152. No further payment, it is asserted, was ever made on this contract.

The land was leased to Peter Heinge, who put it under cultivation and paid Lynch one-fourth of the proceeds from the crops. Mr. Heinge says there was no crop failure on the land except in the year 1895, and that he paid Lynch one-fourth of the crop as rental each year for 1893, 1894, 1896 and 1897, the amount so paid for the last year being $300.40. The amount of rental received by Lynch for 1893, 1894 and 1896 is not known, but if it was only half of the amount for 1897, the total sum realized by the landlord from his $152 investment during the four years would be $750.

The records of the Union Pacific land department show that this quarter-section held by Lynch was re-appraised on April 1, 1898, when the value was reduced to $5.25 per acre.

President Burt Notified.

"Early in 1898," says Mr. Lunger, "this speculation of Lynch's was brought to the attention of Mr. Burt and he demanded of Lynch, in the presence of McAllaster and myself, an explanation of why he had not paid for the land, as he had contracted to do, especially as he had been receiving a good rental from the land. Mr. Lynch attempted to explain by saying that he had purchased another piece of land from the company and lost money on it and wanted to get even on this quarter section. Mr. Burt told him that the explanation was not satisfactory and commanded Mr. McAllaster to send him in a written report of the case. Following this Mr. Lynch received about 500 bushels of wheat as rental for the land for 1898, but made no further payment on the contract."

In November, 1898, the contract on this quarter section with Lynch was canceled and the land was ostensibly sold to Charles G. Davis of Russell, Kan., at $9.50 per acre, by the local agents of the company, E. W. Voorhis & Co., who received a commission of $33 on the deal. Some light is thrown on this transaction by an affidavit made by Mr. Davis on January 21, 1901.

Story of an Agent's Clerk.

In his affidavit Mr. Davis says that in November, 1898, he was in the employ of E. W. Voorhis & Co., and that Mr. Voorhis came to him and said that one Mr. Lynch, a clerk in the offices of the land department at Omaha, had some time previously purchased from the company the northwest quarter of section 29, township 14, range 11, west, in Kansas; that Lynch was having some trouble with the company about the payments and not wanting to lose possession of the land, had asked Voorhis to have some stranger take the title and hold it for his benefit.

"Upon the assurance of Mr. Voorhis that no harm could come to him," continues the affidavit, "affiant signed a contract with the Union Pacific land company to purchase said land and assigned said contract in blank to said Voorhis. Affiant further says that he never paid a single dollar to the Union Pacific land company or to anyone else on said land; that he has not paid any