THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

ESTABLISHED JUNE 19, 1871. OMAHA, MONDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 15, 1902. SINGLE COPY THREE CENTS.

FIRST SHOT IS FIRED

Puerto Cabello Bombarded to Avenge Insult Paid British Flag.

FORTS REPLY TO ALLIED WARSHIPS

Venezuelan Guns Quickly Silenced and Quiet Restored Once More.

SEIZURE OF STEAMER CAUSES RUPTURE

Ultimatum is Presented, but Answer Comes Too Late.

REPUBLIC STILL EXPECTS INTERVENTION

Leading Official Claims Monroe Doctrine Must Soon Operate So as to Stay Further Proceedings by Britain and Germany.

PUERTO CABELLO, Saturday, Dec. 13.—The British cruiser Charybdis and the German cruiser Vineta bombarded the fortress here at 5 this afternoon and quickly silenced it. The bombardment lasted for forty-five minutes.

The fortress is composed of Fort Solano and the Castle Libertador. After the firing ceased Charybdis sent marines to occupy the castle.

The fortress was almost demolished, though it is probable only a few persons were injured. The commander of Castle Libertador has been taken prisoner and the cruisers remain in port.

At 7 this morning Charybdis and Vineta arrived, searching for Venezuelan gunboats. They sent their boats into the inner port, which, finding nothing, quickly returned.

The captain of the British merchant steamer Topaze, which was seized by the mob here last Wednesday, then visited the British commodore on board Charybdis and lodged a protest against the violation of his ship. He returned an hour later with a detachment of fifty marines, who took charge of Topaze. The populace was greatly excited at this incident and raised the cry "to arms," but there was no disorder.

The British commodore next sent a message to the authorities at Puerto Cabello, demanding immediate satisfaction for the action of the mob in hauling down the British flag from Topaze, saying that if it was not forthcoming in two hours, at 5 o'clock, the fortress and the custom house would be bombarded.

Answer Arrives Too Late.

The authorities sent a message to President Castro, asking for instructions, and a committee of merchants approached the American consul here, petitioning him to intervene. He accepted the mission and visited the cruisers, but could obtain no modification of the ultimatum.

At fifteen minutes to 5 word was received from President Castro authorizing the chief officer here to give the British commodore ample satisfaction, but before this answer could be communicated to the American consul the hour stipulated for its receipt had arrived, and the cruisers immediately opened fire.

The fire was returned from Fort Solano and Castle Libertador, but the Venezuelan guns were soon silenced. While the firing continued there was intense excitement in this port. Every house in town was closed.

The British marines propose to make use of the cannon in Castle Libertador. No damage was done to the town. The excitement of the people is subsiding.

The entrance into the inside harbor at Puerto Cabello is through a narrow channel, not more than a few hundred feet wide. To the left, as one enters the harbor, situated on a low sand spit is the fortress which was bombarded by the German and British cruisers. It is an old-fashioned structure, which was rebuilt in the eighteenth century. Its sides are comparatively low and would offer but poor resistance to modern shells. It is not probable that the Venezuelan government had any modern cannon there.

The customs house is situated on the right, or mainland, side of the channel. It is a long, two-story brick building and contains, besides executive offices, large warehouses. Steamers discharging at Puerto Cabello tie up immediately in front of the customs house.

The town itself is flat and stretches from the water front inland to the base of the hills, a distance of two or three miles.

The outside harbor is hardly more than a large bay, offering comparatively little protection to shipping. The inside harbor is very secure and quite commodious.

Bowen Confirms Report.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Mr. Bowen this afternoon cabled the State department that President Castro had informed him that British and German warships were bombarding Puerto Cabello.

In an earlier dispatch received at 3:22 on Sunday morning Mr. Bowen said the situation at the Venezuelan capital, Caracas, was much quieter. The great excitement at the outset of the affair was caused by the precipitate flight of the British and German ministers, the arrest of all the subjects of those two nations and the seizure of the Venezuelan gunboats without a blockade having been declared, thus causing the people to fear that a bombardment would follow at once.

Aside from the dispatches from Mr. Bowen there were no important developments today in the Venezuelan plans so far as the State department is concerned. The officials are watching events with keen interest, so as to be able to act promptly should such a step become necessary.

Secretary Hay took Mr. Bowen's dispatches over to the White House and discussed the situation for some time with the president, but he had nothing to make public on the subject.

In the matter of the blockade the secretary has instructed the ambassadors at Berlin and London to represent to these governments that the United States must not be understood as giving its consent to any extension of the international right of peaceful blockade. This representation was made simply as a precautionary measure in case any development should arise making the government's position a matter of importance.

It was confidently hoped that before this time some answer would have been received from the German and British governments to President Castro's request for arbitration, but up to this time Secretary Hay has not received any reply.

The visit of President Castro to the bedside of the invalid wife of the German diplomatic representative created a good impression here, whereas the necessity for the bombardment of Puerto Cabello made an equally unfavorable one.

It is regretted that the commanders of

(Continued on Second Page.)

MEXICO HAS CASH TO SPARE

Surplus Grows Steadily in Spite of Slump in Silver Values.

MEXICO, Dec. 14.—In s[illegible] budget of income and expense to [illegible] the finance minister makes a full [illegible] of the state of trade and revenue [illegible] fected by the fall in the price of silv[illegible]

He estimates the total revenue for the ensuing fiscal year at $67,959,000 and disbursements at $67,597,079, showing an excess of nearly $362,000.

Last year's actual surplus was over $3,000,000, but the minister is always most conservative in his estimates. The actual accumulated surplus on hand in July last was $26,000,000 in silver and $3,000,000 in gold, and it is the possession of this surplus that gives strength to the financial position.

In his comments on the budget the minister says, after referring to the depression in silver and its adverse influences on the country's revenue:

It is true that the economical situation of the country has been suddenly confronted by a danger which threatens to check for some time its growing prosperity, but seeing that we cannot forecast the duration or intensity of this recent occurrence, the wisest course for the present seems to be to content ourselves with leaving a wider margin than usual between future disbursements and revenue without being influenced by an exaggerated spirit of despondency.

GALE SETS SHIP ON FIRE

Upsets a Stove and Leads to the Loss of a Newfoundland Schooner.

ST. JOHNS, N. F., Dec. 14.—The schooner Molly, carrying a crew of seven men, was caught in a gale yesterday morning. The vessel was heeled over until the stove in its cabin upset. The woodwork caught fire and the schooner was soon a mass of flames. The crew ran Molly to outer Gooseberry Island, an uninhabited island twelve miles off Bonavista bay, where it was beached and the crew landed on the rocks.

Residents of the mainland caught sight of the burning ship and the mailboat Dundee was dispatched to the rescue.

Dundee reached outer Gooseberry Island yesterday evening. A heavy surf was breaking and only the captain of Molly risked the plunge through the surf necessary to reach Dundee's boat. Dundee remained in the offing until this morning and succeeded in getting the other men of the crew on board. The men were badly frostbitten as a result of their night's exposure.

BLOW AIMED AT AMERICA

New German Tariff Especially Designed to Affect Trade with United States.

BERLIN, Dec. 14.—During the debate on the third reading of the tariff bill in the Reichstag yesterday it was evident from many speeches delivered by members of the majority that the bill is aimed chiefly at the United States. This was clear even when the United States was not named, for it was understood that the term "abroad" referred to America.

Last night Dr. Pasche, national liberal, made a pointed reference to the United States which most of the newspapers this morning failed to print.

These remarks were:

We expect that the government will undertake a thorough going revision of all treaties containing the most favored nation advantages. We have absolutely no occasion to concede any such thing to such nations as are glad to take what we give other countries without making us any concession in return. The United States has introduced the limitation of the most favored nation clause, we have every reason to act in precisely the same manner.

STRIKE DRAGS WEARILY ON

Marseilles Port Workers Fail to Obtain General Support from Other Trades.

PARIS, Dec. 14.—Although the strike at Marseilles has now lasted for three weeks no serious disturbances have yet occurred.

Last night a few isolated groups of strikers attempted to wreck some bakeries, but the prompt arrival of the police quickly restored order. Four arrests were made.

The strike of bakers is far from general, only 400 out of 2,000 having refused to work. All telegrams received from Marseilles report the city as tranquil. Contrary to the usual Sunday custom, there was much activity today on the quays and docks, where nonunion laborers are working under military protection. The Marseilles correspondent of the Temps say that the general strike movement is regarded locally as a failure.

COMPROMISE WINS FAVORS

Kaiser Decorates Ministers Who Arranged Tariff Bill Passage.

BERLIN, Dec. 14.—Count and Countess Von Buelow lunched today with the emperor and empress at Potsdam. During the visit his majesty handed the chain of the royal Hohenzollern order to the chancellor.

The emperor had intended to elevate Count Von Buelow to the rank of prince in recognition of the successful passage of the tariff bill, but at Count Von Buelow's request this idea was abandoned.

Count Von Posadowski-Wehner, Baron Von Thielmann and Baron Von Richtofen, respectively home secretary, secretary of the imperial treasury and foreign secretary, have also received decorations for their efforts in connection with the tariff bill.

ARMY MAY TURN ELECTION

Nord Has So Many Troops He Can Be Haytian President at Will.

PORT AU PRINCE, Hayti, Dec. 14.—General Alexis Nord, who was war minister under the provisional government, entered the capital today at the head of his army. He was accorded a sympathetic reception by the people.

General Nord's intentions are not known, but it is generally believed that in case he announces himself a candidate for the presidency his election is assured by reason of the numerous forces at his command.

King Increases Washington Staff.

LONDON, Dec. 14.—Lieutenant Colonel H. J. Foster, commanding the royal engineers on the island of, Guernsey, has been appointed military attache to the British embassy at Washington.

Chilean Exposition Opens.

SANTIAGO DE CHILE, Dec. 14.—The international exposition was opened here today. President Riesco and other officials were among those who attended the exercises.

HELPING THE ARID REGION

Senator Dietrich Urges Legislature to Make Appropriation for Purpose.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT WILLING TO ASSIST

[illegible] is to Purchase and Equip an Experimental Farm in Semi-Arid Region Under Control of University.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—(Special.)—Senator Dietrich is anxious that the Nebraska legislature shall make a liberal appropriation during its forthcoming session for the establishment of an experimental farm in the western or semi-arid portion of the state. He would have this farm operated in connection with the University of Nebraska, the relations to be the same as those between the university and the experimental farm at Lincoln. The purpose of such a farm would be experimentation along lines for the benefit of that portion of the state which does not and cannot receive attention, for the reason that the humidity of the eastern section of the state precludes experimenting in that district for vegetation in the arid or semi-arid regions.

The senator has the assurance that the Agricultural department will gladly cooperate in experimental work of this nature. In fact, that department has already asked congress for an increased appropriation with the distinct understanding that the increase would be used in experimenting in Nebraska.

Senator Dietrich was the first to recommend the establishment of an experimental farm in western Nebraska. His views were expressed at some length in a communication sent from Washington to the Nebraska Real Estate Dealers' association at its convention in Fremont early this year, and were received with much favor by the members of that organization. The real estate dealers recognized the fact that a farm of the kind proposed would greatly hasten and enhance the development of the vast territory which is arid or semi-arid, and their views were shared by the state authorities in agricultural work.

Trees Will Grow in Sand.

Dean Charles E. Bessey of the university has demonstrated by practical experiment that trees can be grown in the sandy lands of Nebraska. In fact, he is able to point with pride to what he terms a small forest of pine trees out in the western and sandy portion of Holt county, which he planted himself many years ago. These trees are thriving and he has risked his reputation on the assertion that by pursuing proper methods trees may be made to grow in other parts of the western section.

The officials of the Department of Agriculture are confident that there is great wealth in the undeveloped resources of western Nebraska and other territory of the same character in western states, and they are willing to lend the assistance of scientific investigation to any movement that will be started by the state.

The entire expense of creating and conducting the forest reserves will be borne by the government, but the department is willing to go still further by assisting in scientific experimentation in the development of the arid and semi-arid territory in every possible way along all agricultural lines.

It may be said that of the state of Nebraska one-third is humid, another third arid and the other semi-arid, so that there are three conditions presented for experimentation. In this regard Nebraska is unlike eastern states, wherein practically all land is of the same character, so that the experiments carried on in one section are of equal value throughout the state.

Government Would Aid.

"We have an experimental station farm at Lincoln that is located in a territory where there is plenty of natural rainfall," said the senator, in outlining his ideas. "We should by all means have an experimental farm in the central western portion of our state, so that experiments could be made under irrigation and without. The government has corps of experts in all parts of the world seeking for plants which are adapted to arid or semi-arid regions. If our state had an experimental farm or station of the kind I propose, the government would send experts there to aid in experimenting with the various cereals, grasses and plants which are adapted to an arid or semi-arid region. I have taken up this matter a number of times with the Agricultural department here and I know that the officials are anxious that Nebraska shall establish the farm. The department can be of great service to our state, and this is asserted officially in a letter I have received from one of its officers, in which he says they are planning for considerable work in Nebraska under a co-operative arrangement with the state university, and they hope that the secretary's estimate for an increased appropriation will be approved by the house committee without any reduction.

"I do not believe that there is any legislation that will be more important or more beneficial to the state of Nebraska than a liberal appropriation for an agricultural college, and the establishment of an experimental farm in the western part of Nebraska, where experiments can be carried on both under and without irrigation. Nebraska has the Dakotas on the north, Kansas on the south and Wyoming and Colorado on the west and south, in which states the soil and the conditions are much the same as those in Nebraska, and the government recognizes that experiments conducted in Nebraska would apply to the other states as well. States east of us have plenty of rainfall and do all of their experimenting upon one farm, but because of the difference of the conditions within Nebraska there ought to be two or three experimental farms within the state, one in the humid region and another in the arid. The government would send experts to aid in the experimenting with the various cereals, and, in fact, all kinds of agricultural work. These same experts, in performing that work, would be doing the same service in instructing students of the agricultural college at the farm as though they were employed by the state, so that the students would have the benefit of their investigations and instruction, at the expense of the government, for my idea is to have the experimental work conducted in connection with the university and the agricultural college to be established at the farm, just as the experimental work is carried in connection with the agricultural farm at Lincoln.

Method to Be Pursued.

"What would be the method of establishing the farm? The legislature should provide the land upon which these experiments could be carried on by appropriating a sufficient sum of money for its

(Continued on Second Page.)

INSULAR TRADE IS GROWING

Seven Months Ended July Show Increase of Two Millions in Imports.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—The Bureau of Insular Affairs of the War department has issued the following comparative summary of the commerce of the Philippine Islands for the seven months ending July 31, 1902, and 1901:

The total value of merchandise, exclusive of gold and silver, imported during the seven months ended July 31, 1902, was $19,810,437, as against $17,132,205 for the same period of 1901. The principal increase in 1902 was in foodstuffs, the purchase of rice alone exceeding the figures for 1901 by nearly $1,500,000. Gold and silver were imported during the seven months of 1902 to the value of $3,026,747, as against $1,230,294 in 1901. The value of imports coming from the United States in 1902 was $2,433,889, a gain of approximately $500,000 as compared with 1901.

Agricultural industries throughout the archipelago have been materially affected owing to the unfortunate destruction of work cattle by an epidemic of rinderpest, a disease that has practically annihilated the carabo, or water buffalo, and the outbreak of cholera, which has curtailed the already small supply of labor.

These unfavorable conditions in connection with the frequent changes taking place in the present currency standard, an early solution of which situation is absolutely essential to the business interests of the islands, produced a falling off in the exports for the seven months ended July 31, 1902, of nearly $1,000,000, as compared with the corresponding period of the previous year, the figures for 1902 showing $13,883,263 against $14,815,761 in 1901. Gold and silver were exported to the value of $2,019,717 in 1902 against $435,181 in 1901.

The general decrease, however, did not prevent a comparative increase in shipments destined for the United States in the value of merchandise which in 1902 amounted to $4,279,630, a gain during the last two years of more than $3,250,000.

The annual export trade of the islands since the American occupation has improved so rapidly that the present monthly average, notwithstanding the adverse conditions that have prevailed during the seven months of the current year, is in excess of the computed ratio based from the showing of former years.

ASKS STREET RAILWAY BIDS

Philippine Commission Announces Terms of Franchise to Be Awarded in March.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—The bureau of insular affairs of the War department announces that it is now in a position to furnish intending bidders full particulars of the Philippines commission's offer regarding a franchise to construct an electric street railway and an electric light, heat and power system in Manila.

The franchise will be awarded after competitive bidding, the tenders to be filed in Manila before March 5. The route of the proposed system as fixed by the Philippine commission, covers thirty-five miles.

The franchise is not to exceed fifty years, the fare on the street railway not to be more than 7½ cents gold for first class passengers and 5 cents gold for second class passengers, and the compensation to be paid the city of Manila not less than 1½ per cent of the gross earnings. Construction must begin within six months after the franchise is awarded and be completed within twenty months.

ROCK SLIDE DERAILS TRAIN

Engineer and Fireman Are Killed, but All Others on Board Escape Uninjured.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—The eastbound express on the Chesapeake & Ohio railway was derailed last night at Whitcomb, Va., by a rockslide, caused by the long and continued rains during the last two or three days.

The engine, mail car and baggage car were derailed and the engineer and fireman killed. The baggage master was hurt slightly, but the mail clerks were uninjured. No passengers were hurt. The track was cleared early this morning and the train proceeded eastward.

WILL FIGHT FOR HIGH RATES

Chicago Railway Men Propose Justifying Increase in Western Freight Schedules.

CHICAGO, Dec. 14.—A number of executive officials and traffic men of the Chicago lines will go to Washington tomorrow to attend the Interstate Commerce commission inquiry into the proposed advance in freight rates between the Missouri river and the Atlantic sea board. The announcement of the advance in rates on certain commodities and the promise that there would be a general increase on all articles on the schedules brought out strong protests from the shippers, especially the northwestern millers who objected to the advance on flour and grain.

Since the declaration of one of the most prominent traffic men of the west a few weeks ago in his testimony before the commission that all freight rates were too low there has been a disposition among other railroad men to substantiate that statement.

The western traffic officials believe they can make a showing which will prove the proposed advance is not more than the increased price of maintenance, labor and general operating expenses justifies.

TWO DIE IN TUNNEL WRECK

Electric Wires Cause Fatal Explosion Under Lake Erie.

CLEVELAND, O., Dec. 14.—Two men were instantly killed, two others probably fatally burned and a number of others less seriously burned in an explosion of gas in the water works tunnel 100 feet below the bottom of Lake Erie today.

The dead:

BEN BUDNER, aged 21, unmarried.
ARTHUR BOLVER, aged 24, unmarried.

Injured:

William Knox, civil engineer; burned about face, head and body; will probably die.
James Ossman, burned about head and face; condition serious.
Edward Engleson.
Peter Carlin.
Henry Hapfear.
John Powers.
Albert Arnet.
Ernest Bures.

The cause of the explosion, it is believed, was a spark from two electric light wires in the tunnel, igniting accumulated gas.

MRS. GRANT PASSES AWAY

Late President's Widow Succumbs to Heart Disease at Washington.

ONLY HER DAUGHTER WITH HER AT END

Three Sons Summoned Last Night Have Too Short Notice to Reach Capital in Time to Bid Farewell.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant, wife of the late President Grant, died at her residence in this city at 11:17 o'clock tonight.

Death was due to heart failure, Mrs. Grant having suffered for some years from valvular disease of the heart, which was aggravated by a severe attack of bronchitis. Her age prevented her rallying from the attacks.

Her daughter, Nellie Grant-Sartoris, was the only one of her children with her at the time of her death, her three sons, who were summoned last night, not having had time to arrive.

There were also present at the bedside when the end came Miss Rose Mary Sartoris, a granddaughter; Dr. Bishop, one of the attending physicians, and the two trained nurses.

Death came peacefully, the sufferer retaining almost complete consciousness practically to the end. Word has come from Jesse and Ulysses S. Grant, two of the sons now in California, that they have started on their way to Washington. The other, General Fred Grant, is in Texas and he will hasten here as soon as he receives a message telling him of his mother's death.

The remains of Mrs. Grant will be interred at Riverside Park, New York, beside those of her husband, but whether they will be taken there immediately or at a later date, however, could not be ascertained at the house tonight.

LAREDO, Dec. 14.—General Frederick Dent Grant, commander of the Department of Texas, recently spent several days in Laredo on a tour of inspection and then continued his trip to the lower Rio Grande country to inspect Forts Ringgold and Browne, and it will be late tomorrow before he can receive word of his mother's death.

Sketch of Her Life.

Mrs. Grant, whose maiden name was Julia Dent, was born in St. Louis in 1826 and was the daughter of Frederick and Ellen Wrenshall Dent. She was married to General, then Captain Grant, in 1848. During the civil war Mrs. Grant was with the general much of the time and remained as near as possible to him when he was campaigning. She saw her husband twice inaugurated as president and accompanied him on his journey around the world.

As mistress of the White House she gave liberally to all charitable institutions in the city.

Four children were born to her—three sons and one daughter—all of whom are living. Miss Nellie, the daughter who became the wife of Algernon Sartoris in 1874, has lived in Washington with her mother for several years. Frederick Dent Grant, the oldest son, is in the army and two other sons, Jesse and Ulysses Sherman, live at San Diego, Cal.

During recent years, since General Grant's death, Mrs. Grant had spent most of her winters in this city, living at 2111 Q street, while during the summer she usually stayed at Saratoga, Manchester-by-the-Sea and other popular resorts until the last two summers, when she resided with her daughter, Mrs. Sartoris, at Coburg, Ont.

She also made several visits to her sons in California.

She was of domestic temperament and devoted most of her time to her home and children. She cared little for society and always avoided public notice as much as possible.

Her devotion to her husband was remarkable, and during the latter's unsuccessful years before the civil war, and when his fortune was swept away shortly before his death, Mrs. Grant always bore herself bravely and was an inspiration to him.

For several years Mrs. Grant had been so feeble that it was impossible for her to accept social engagements. She suffered from rheumatism and was compelled to walk with a cane or with the assistance of an attendant. She was 76 years of age at the time of her death.

HILL DEPLORES LOST TRADE

Says American Products Cost Too Much for Other Nations to Buy.

ST. PAUL, Minn., Dec. 14.—J. J. Hill returned today from an eastern trip and said the alleged interview with him, sent out from Chicago, was imaginary.

He added:

The business of the country is undergoing a readjustment to meet changed conditions.

The most alarming thing is the decrease in our exports. We are importing much more than we export. This is not due to a larger home consumption; it is because our articles cost too much. Our people demand better things than do those of other countries, and our production has been overtaking the needs of the country too rapidly. The things we manufacture cost more than other nations will pay and they buy elsewhere. Agricultural products, provisions and such things sell readily everywhere and are staple the world over. They are not affected by local conditions.

I do not look for the production of articles of a cheaper kind to meet the demands of the export trade. I do not know what will be done. It is to be hoped that some adjustment will be made to meet the conditions. There is too much speculation now or too much boom. Just how it will come out I do not know.

OMAHA MAN GETS NEW POST

Cudahy's Electrician Becomes Hudson Valley Superintendent of Power and Wires.

GLENS FALLS, N. Y., Dec. 14.—The Hudson Valley Railway company, operating between Albany and Warrensburg, has engaged C. O. Fitch of Omaha as superintendent of power and wires, with headquarters at Glens Falls.

Mr. Fitch is chief electrician of the Cudahy Packing company.

TRY TO RAISE FUEL FAMINE

Reading Company Uses Fifty Engines to Haul Seventy-Five Thousand Tons.

READING, Pa., Dec. 14.—The Philadelphia & Reading company had over fifty locomotives in service transporting coal to market yesterday and today.

The company claims that 75,000 tons were started last night and today and is now on the road. Most of it is destined for the large eastern cities.

CONDITION OF THE WEATHER

Forecast for Nebraska—Fair in West, Snow in East Portion Monday; Tuesday, Fair, with Rising Temperature.

Temperature at Omaha Yesterday:

Hour.	Deg.	Hour.	Deg.
5 a. m.	24	1 p. m.	22
6 a. m.	24	2 p. m.	22
7 a. m.	24	3 p. m.	22
8 a. m.	23	4 p. m.	22
9 a. m.	23	5 p. m.	22
10 a. m.	22	6 p. m.	22
11 a. m.	22	7 p. m.	22
12 m.	22	8 p. m.	22
		9 p. m.	22

MINERS TO ELECT OFFICERS

Mitchell is Unopposed, but Hard Fight is Expected for Vice President.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Dec. 14.—The secretary of the United Mine Workers is sending out lists of candidates for the coming election of officers of the national organization, together with blanks upon which returns will have to be made by the various locals throughout the country.

The returns must all be in by December 31, but as some time will be required for tabulating the returns and determining the successful candidates, it will probably be a week later before the outcome will be known. It will be necessary to complete the count before the annual convention, because in all cases where no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast, the convention will have to make the appointment.

The locals in the anthracite district comprise about one-third of the membership of the national organization and it is expected they will stand by Nicolls for vice president almost to a man. His opponent, T. L. Lewis, is strong in other districts, however, and will put up a hard fight.

The list of candidates for positions to be voted on by the locals is given below. The candidates' standing in the list is determined by the number of nominations each receive:

President—John Mitchell, Spring Valley, Ill.

Vice President—T. L. Lewis, Bridgeport, O., and L. D. Nicolls, Scranton, Pa.

Auditor and credentials committee, three to be chosen: M. McTaggard, Barnesboro, Pa.; John J. Mossop, North Lawrence, O.; Patrick Fitzsimmons, Olyphant, Pa.; Joseph Pope, Belleville, Ill.; Reese Bennett, Wyoming, Pa.; Lawrence Love, Hocking, Ia.; Albert Neubeling Glencarbon, Ill.; Steven Corven, West Bay City, Mich.; J. C. Heenan, Linton, Ind.; Alex Suttie Streator, Ill.; Evan Owens, Belleville, Ill., and James Richards, Sandoval, Ill.

Delegates to American Federation of Labor seven to be chosen: John Mitchell, Spring Valley, Ill.; W. B. Wilson, Blossburg, Pa.; W. D. Ryan, Springfield, Ill.; T. L. Lewis, Bridgeport, O.; John Fahy, Shamokin, Pa.; W. B. Haskins, Columbus, O.; W. R. Fairley, Pratt City, Ala.; G. W. Purcell, Terre Haute, Ind.; John F. Ream, Beacon, Ia.; William Dodds, Pittsburg, Pa.; Edward McKay, Versailles, Pa.; Joe Vasey, Whitewell, Tenn.; D. H. Sullivan, Coshockton, O.; John T. Dempsey, Scranton, Pa.; J. H. Kennedy, Terre Haute, Ind.; G. W. Savage, Columbus, O.; Harry Wright, Perth, Ind.; Uriah Bellingham, Pittsburg, Pa.; William Little, Pittsburg, Pa.; Paul P. Pulaski, Mount Carmel, Pa.; John Nugent, St. Charles, Mich.; W. F. Williams, Saginaw, Mich.; Chris Evans, Nelsonville, O.; James Mooney, Higbee, Mo.; Barney Rice, Dubois, Pa.; Ed F. Flynn, Pratt City, Ala.; Thomas Haggarty, Reynoldsville, Pa.; Robert Legg, East Greenville, O.; T. H. Picton, Canton, Ill.; Adam Rescavage, Plymouth, Pa.; James Cantwell, Carbon, Ind.; George Bagwell, Murphysboro, Ill.; J. W. Davis, Keystone, W. Va.; William L. Haptonstale, Montgomery, W. Va.; D. C. Kennedy, Sewell, W. Va.; Lawrence Love, Hocking, Ia.; H. C. Ferry, Spring Valley, Ill.; Perry Tettlow, Washingtonville, O.; J. D. Wood, Central City, Ky.; M. S. Elliott, Coal Creek, Tenn.; Charles P. Gildea, Coal Vale, Pa.

BRIDGE BREAKS, TRAIN FALLS

Two Die and Many Are Injured on Their Way to Wrecked Freight.

BROOKFIELD, Mo., Dec. 14.—The identity of all of the persons killed in the wreck on the Hannibal & St. Joseph last night has not yet been determined, as there are known to be in the wreckage the dead bodies of men whose identity will never be known.

The bodies of the following have been recovered:

JAMES MURPHY, roadmaster.
ARTHUR HYATT and THOMAS AINSWORTH, bridgemen.

The injured, some of whom will die, are:

Thomas Phelan, conductor.
Harry Steele, bridgeman.
W. Goode, engineer.
Tex Leatherman, bridgeman.
R. Greene, fireman.
C. McDonald, brakeman.

The Brookfield wrecking train was enroute to the scene of a small freight wreck when it struck the overhead portion of a steel bridge just east of this city, and under the terrible strain and the force of the powerful engine pushing the wrecker the bridge gave way and the entire train crashed into the water below.

The escape of the engineer and fireman, who were pinned in their cab by tons of twisted iron, was miraculous. The moon aided them to crawl through an opening into the water, from which they were rescued by unhurt survivors.

MUCH COAL STARTS SOUTH

In Four Days Fifteen Million Bushels Will Leave Pittsburg by Water.

PITTSBURG, Dec. 14.—The Monongahela and Allegheny rivers are falling tonight after a continued rise of three days. The Ohio river mark at the dam is fifteen feet, and falling slowly.

Three million bushels of coal were started south today and fully 5,000,000 more is expected to be shipped tomorrow, which will make the aggregate for four days nearly 15,000,000.

Movements of Ocean Vessels Dec. 14.

At New York—Arrived: La Touraine, from Havre; Ethiopia, from Glasgow; Noordam, from Rotterdam; Patria, from Marseilles, etc.; Chemnitz, from Bremen.

At Liverpool—Arrived: Taurie, from New York.

At Naples—Arrived: Calabria, from New York.

At Moville—Sailed: Anchoria, for New York.

At Roches Point—Passed: Saxonia, from Boston for Liverpool; did not communicate owing to gale.

At Havre—Arrived: La Champagne, from New York.

At Queenstown—Sailed: Etruria, for New York.

At Southampton—Sailed: Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse, for New York, via Cherbourg.

At Gibraltar—Sailed: Trave, for New York.

At San Francisco—Sailed: Silvertown, for Honolulu; United States transport Hancock, for New York.

FIX RAILWAY TAXES

Board of Review Makes Its Final Decisions on Tax Complaints.

RAISES TOTAL UP OVER $26,000,000

Falls Short of Demands of Real Estate Exchange Men.

TABLE SHOWING COMPARATIVE FIGURES

Midnight Session is Required to Finish the Big Job.

PROTESTS ON JURISDICTION OVERRULED

Best Estimates Are Taken on Value of Great Terminal Properties in the City of Omaha.

ASSESSMENTS OF RAILROADS IN OMAHA FOR 1903.

Name.	State Board.	Tax Com'er.	Board of Review.
Union Pacific	$67,649	$6,764,940	$14,583,260
C. & N. P.	11,310	1,131,000	7,863,140
C. & S. W.	17,615	1,761,500	
C., St. P., M. & O	20,748	2,074,800	2,500,000
F., E. & M. V.	12,924	1,292,400	888,000
Belt Line	.....	503,000	494,000
Bridge & Terminal	.....	79,290	104,290
Totals	$205,000	$13,606,930	$26,430,690

Maintaining its own jurisdiction in the matter of railroad taxation and overruling all of the protests to the contrary which have been filed, the Board of Review has fixed assessments as shown in the above table upon those portions of the holdings of the various roads which have been in controversy.

These figures apply only to the properties of the railroad companies construed by them as being comprised within their respective rights-of-way and previously assessed by the State Board of Equalization and are inclusive of all personalty included within the shops and headquarters properties. Discussing the question of assessment of railroads and the method followed by the board in determining its action, one of the members said:

How the Figures Were Made.

"Each of the cases was considered separately, and in turn each of the protests against the jurisdiction of the board was overruled. The figures submitted by the Real Estate exchange in the various documents presented in its behalf were regarded by the board as altogether too high, and this assessment was made in an endeavor to arrive at the true value of the property. The board took into consideration the opinions of the experts for the railroad companies as presented in their testimony before the courts, but in doing so made all reasonable allowance for the exaggeration in those estimates which would be natural under the circumstances and which must have had some influence upon that testimony; also making allowance for the natural increase in the value of the respective properties since 1894 and as to the value of franchises, taking into consideration the earnings of the property.

Two Small Reductions.

"In two cases the board has reduced the figures of the tax commissioner—the railroads affected having no depot grounds in Omaha and merely making connection with the terminal facilities of the other companies.

"In addition to the assessments already mentioned the board has raised the personal property return of the Union Pacific company in its own schedule, upon the item of machinery, stores, supplies, materials, etc., from $125,000 to $1,000,000. On this item there can be no contention as to the question of jurisdiction, as the material upon which the assessment is placed is in the shop buildings and headquarters and manifestly outside the right-of-way."

The session of the board on Saturday evening continued until midnight and all of the citations as to contemplated increases have been finished. There is still a large accumulation of minor applications for reductions on real estate and personal property assessments. These will be considered this morning and the board expects to adjourn finally this afternoon.

TARIFF HITS PACKERS HARD

German Law Will Cost America One-Quarter of Its Export Provision Trade.

CHICAGO, Dec. 14.—The tariff bill passed by the German Reichstag early this morning, Chicago packers say, will deprive them of 25 per cent of their provision export trade, exclusive of fresh meats, and they are already preparing to urge the government to take some action that will give them relief.

William C. Evans of the foreign department of Armour & Co., who returned to Chicago today from Berlin, said the bill would deprive the American packers of nearly all their German export trade. It would also react on the poorer classes in Germany.

"The new law will rob the packers of a great part of the German export trade, which is 25 per cent of all our foreign business," said Mr. Evans.

"At present the outlook is not bright, and if prices continue high it will be practically impossible for us to win back any of the trade."

DRIVE SIX MONTHS FOR BET

Chicago Boy and Friend Come Three Thousand Miles in a Buggy.

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 14.—Edwin M. Barr of Chicago and Dr. Stanley F. Sabel of New York, who are driving from Colorado to Asherville, N. C., on a wager, left Knoxville this morning, having less than 150 miles to make before Christmas.

They have driven 3,000 miles since the middle of June and have avoided large cities as much as possible. Barr is a son of J. M. Barr, general superintendent of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul.

DENVER PASTOR RESIGNS

Definitely Accepts Call to Chicago in Spite of Congregational Protests.

DENVER, Colo., Dec. 14.—Rev. Bruce Brown, pastor of the Central Christian church, announced to his congregation today that he had accepted a call to the North Side Christian church of Chicago.

On Monday last his resignation was refused by the members of the church here, and he was asked to reconsider it. Today he announced that his decision to accept the call to Chicago was final.