ESTABLISHED JUNE 19, 1871.

OMAHA, MONDAY MORNING, JUNE 1, 1903.

# SMITH MAKES REPLY

Coes Into Detail in Answer to the Charges of Ex-Cashier Tulloch.

INVESTIGATED AT TIME FIRST MADE

Evidence Justified the Transactions that He Complained Of.

LACKED KNOWLEDGE OF CONDITIONS

Course Taken Necessary to Meet the Situation During War.

OTHER DOCUMENTS TO BE MADE PUBLIC Replies of Perry S. Heath and

Assistant Postmaster General Bristow Are Among Them.

WASHINGTON, May 31.-Postmaster ter of the Washington city postoffice, regarding the postal administration. Mr. legations of irregularities when they were falling all day. made and the evidence adduced in most the criticisms betrayed a lack of knowledge | today. quirements.

Mr. Payne said today that Mr. Smith's clude the replies of Former First Assistant narrowly escaped drowning today. Postmaster General Heath and of Fourth Assistant Postmaster General Bristow, the sippi and the Des Moines rivers have M. is still hauling its trains from this owing to the great volume of the document, Mr. Payne said that all of the docubriefed, although the documents themselves abandoned.

will be open to public inspection if wanted. until the papers were actually found by will be great Mr. Francis W. Whitney, secretary to Mr. Payne, It was not known that the charges PACKING PLANTS IN DANGER papers showed that Mr. Smith divided the South St. Joseph Gets a Taste charges into groups, noting directions for investigation as to each group and subsequently recording against each group the results of the investigation. These results constitute "the exhibit" to which Mr. Smith

refers in his letter. prior letter had entirely forgotten the Tul- morning to tender men, money and boats to the tremendous forces that were pressloch charges and did not recall the name to all points needing assistance. or the fact that he had investigated the

Philadelphia, May 27, 1903.—Henry C. Payne, Postmaster General, Washington, D. C. Sir: I am in receipt of your letter of the 20th inst., inclosing copy of a letter addressed to you by Mr. S. W. Tulloch, respecting the conduct of the Postoffice department and the Washington city postoffice during the years 1836 and 1839.

In reply, I beg to say that the suggestions of irregularities made by Mr. Tulloch on his retirement from his position of cashier of the city postoffice were duly acknowledged at the time and the facts in the case were ascertained. The result of that examination was embodied in a full exhibit of the alleged irregularities and of the explanations in each instance, which is exhibit of the alleged irregularities and of the explanations in each instance, which is on file in the department. To this exhibit I refer as embracing a particular and detailed answer to Mr. Tulloch's statements. Without undertaking to repeat here its specific and minute evidences, let me say in general terms that in most cases it presents what was said to be a justification of the transactions complained of. The transactions mostly grew out of the conditions incidental to the operation of the Spanish war and the crificisms betrayed a want of the methods adopted to meet their requirements. The war was declared on April 21, 1888.

# No Fonds Available.

Within a few weeks an army of 250,000 men was raised and organized in camps. It became necessary to provide at once for the prompt handling of the mails of this large body of solders and their million friends at home. Any failure to do so would justly have excited universal condemnation. At the outset no special appropriation was available and the means had to be provided from the general postal appropriations. Afterwards congress made a special appropriation for the military postal service, to be expended entirely at the discretion of the postmaster general. In meeting the demands of the service and in making good out of one fand what had been temporarily and unavoidably drawn from the other, changes and transfers and special employments were made fers and special employments were mad which might not be understood by thos who had only an incomplete knowledge a

# Machinists on Payroll.

It was found expedient as a matter of practical administration to treat the camps and afterwards for a time the offices of Porto Rico as branches of the Washington office, as those of Cuba were treated as branches of the New York office. This involved the enrollment of the men employed for Porto Rico on the Washington roll for a time and some of the extra help inseded in the department was provided for in the same way. Out of these facts ignorantly grew some of the allegations of irregularity. Compared with the magnitude of the military service, not many new appointments were made, it was the policy of the department to select trained and experienced men already in the service and detail them to the military and Island work.

During two years congress appropriated source for the military postal service to be expended at the discretion of the postal master general. Of this amount historian was spent and the remainder, \$250,350 to was govered back into the treasury.

Some reference has been made to the fact that a few machinists appeared to be each. me reference has been made to the fact that a few machinists appeared to This may hav rolled on the clerical roll. This may have grown out of one of my acts. After examining the subject I determined to cut down the annual rental of cancelling machines used in the postoffices of the country to an extent which effected a saving of about \$100,000 a year in the aggregate to the government. In consideration of this large reduction the description assert to the consideration of the large reduction the description. ernment. In consideration of this large reduction the department agreed to take care of the machines. This required three or four machinists, who should travel from office to office for the purpose, and direction was given that the machinists already familiar with the work should be employed. I am frank to say that I do not now recall just how they were enrolled, but it was thought that It could be lawfully done in exempted piaces and he more red tape or form was allowed to stand in the way of what was believed to be for the good of the service.

what was believed to the alleged irregu-the service.

The examination of the alleged irregu-larities in the connection of the department with the Washington office as already stated justified most of them. I should not be altogether candid if I did not say that in some cases I was not thoroughly con-vinced of the propriety of the transactions. These questionable transactions consisted. vinced of the propriety of the transactions.

These questionable transactions consisted for the most part of placing on the roll a few persons, the need of whose services was not clearly shown.

When these developed the proper officers were instructed that every proceeding which could not be justified should be remedied and stopped.

Subject of Investigation. is proper for me to add that Mr. (Continued on Fifth Page.)

MISSISSIPPI IS OVERFLOWED SOME RAILROADS TIED UP CONDITION OF THE WEATHER For Monday and Tuesday Except Rain in Southeast Por Use of the Vicinity of Port Vicinity of Vicinity of Port Vicinity of V Buildings in Vicinity of Hauntbal.

mage library and and bottom land this section. damage in this section thing ruined, incluse as well as dwellings, a ore than half the live stock. The residents escaped to the Missouri shore. In Hannibal the water is far up on the levee and residents of the "squatters" section have been compelled to vacate their homes for higher places. The gauge at the Hannibal bridge registers fourteen feet and eight inches danger line of thirteen feet.

of Hannibal, up to St. Paul, Minn.

BURLINGTON, Ia., May 31.-The river General Payne today made public the reply here is ton feet five inches above low water shared the same fate. None of the Omaha many persons saw the men drown. of former Postmaster General Smith, to mark and is rapidly rising. The water is roads has thus far had to report any loss the charges of S. W. Tulloch, former cash- nearly on a level with the Diamond Joe of life, but the property loss is already freight house. The lowlands of Illinois are significant. The most vigilant efforts are flooded for miles and many acres of crops being exerted by all the local railroad men Smith says that he investigated the al- are ruined. A heavy, cold rain has been to avert more serious disaster. It is un-

LA CROSSE, Wis., May 31,-While movcases was believed to be a justification of ing furniture in a boat from his home, iso-the transactions complained of, adding that lated by floods. Paul Jicker was drowned The Burlington, Mis of conditions incident to the Spanish war danger line and is rising rapidly. On the to this time. The Rock Island for two and the measures necessary to meet the reand two feet of water stands in many of the floods as to have practically abandhouses. La Crosse is surrounded by water oned its service. It is still running trains letter practically closes the Tulloch inci- and a rise of another foot will inundate between Omaha and Des Moines, but is not dent, although other documents on the sub- the wholesale quarter. Railroads at Grants attempting it east beyond Des Moines, nor ject will be made public later. These in- Crossing are under water, Many people west beyond Omaha. Its Chicago-Denver

report on the former investigation of the reached and passed the danger line here city to Lincoln. The Rock Island tracks Tulloch charges to which Mr. Smith refers, and are flowing over the Missouri bottoms, at Fairbury and other places are under and the reports of the postoffice inspectors | Several thousand acres of crops have been | water. In the state of Iowa it is submerged who investigated the Washington postoffice. destroyed. The Egyptian levee, guarding also, additional thousands of acres may be overtopped tonight. Alexandria is flooded. ments except Mr. Heath's reply will be trains south and west of Keckuk have been

QUINCY, Ill., May M.-The Mississippi The first answer of Mr. Smith to the river at this point tonight reached a stage Tullech charges will not be made public. of fifteen feet eight inches, a rise of seven Payne explained today that Mr. Smith inches since morning. The lowlands herehad forgotten about Mr. Tulloch's charges abouts are under water and as a still and the investigation he ordered and that higher stage is sure to follow, the damage

# of High Water in the

Missouri.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., May 31.-President J. Mr. Payne said that Mr. Smith in his a mass meeting for 8 o'clock tomorrow

# Thirty Thousand Participate in Clos ing Event of National

League Convention. LIVERPOOL, May 31 .- The convention of tion by 30,000 Irishmen, T. P. O'Connor. M. P., who presided, referring to the fact from defeat over the London education

bill, said: "The English people must realize that Balfour is premier by virtue of the Irish vote. If they are fit to rule England, they are also fit to rule Ireland."

## RICS IS SENTENCED TO DEATH Filipino Insurgent Leader and His

Followers Convicted of

Murder.

MANILA, May 31.-Ruperto Rios, the fanatical Filipino leader in the province of Tayabas, who was captured about a month ago, has been convicted of murder and sentenced to death. Twenty-seven of his followers also were convicted and sentenced

to various terms of Imprisonment. A detachment of scouts has defeated and scattered the Caniguf Island Insurgents. killing eighteen of them. This, it is believed, will end the opposition to the government in that place,

Earthquake in Asiatio

Turkey.

Erzoroum reports that an official estimate serious results are reported at local quarplaces the number of persons killed in the ters. earthquake in the Van district of Asiatic Turkey at 860, while the loss of cattle was free from trouble except on its Kansas incalculable, as owing to the lateness of Pacific branch, which is of course inwere destroyed and many more were par- the traffic is being sent through Omaha

### WILL SIGN COALING TREATIES Cuban Representatives Will Close Up the Matter During the Present Week.

Mt. Gipan.

HAVANA, May 31.-President Palma has nformed the representative of the Assoclated Press that the coaling station leases will be signed next week. He says the matter will not be delayed because of the absence from Cuba of the secretary of state, as Secretary of the Treasury Montes will act in Senor Zoldo's place.

MANILA, May 31.-Opposition is developing to the plan providing for the sale by held at the Mercantile club, at which Ralph the government of an exclusive opium M. Easiey, secretary of the National Civic corporation The Evangelical union is Federation, was present, a committee troil at At Movine—Sailed. The Liverpool.

from the islands, asserting that its use its differences be adjusted. The matter was placed in the hands of the conciliation of the Conciliation of the Pilipinos.

At Movine—Sailed: Lucania, from Substantiated. From all over eastern Kantary to was placed in the hands of the conciliation of the Pilipinos.

At Movine—Sailed: Lucania, from Substantiated. From all over eastern Kantary to was placed in the hands of the conciliation of the Pilipinos. corporation The Evangelical union is Federation, was present, a committee from an independent and searching investiga- is spreading and working great injury to was placed in the hands of the concillation

Rock Island Abandons Service in Iowa Nebraska and Kansas.

BURLINGTON LOSES OFTUMWA BRIDGE Union Pacific Main Line in Goo

Shape and President's Train Probably Will Come to Omaha Safely.

With President Rooseveit and his party train anxiety over the continued rains and floods which have subjected railroads to a above low water mark, which places the supreme test increases. While the Union water one foot and eight inches above the Pacific, over which the president is now traveling, has thus far been spared ser-Observer Cover of the weather station jous hardship, apprehension cannot altopredicts that the water will reach a stage gether be allayed in view of the threatenof eighteen feet, which will make the flood ing situation that continues and the grave one of the worst known in years. Predic- results that already have befallen some of says that twenty-feven men were on the tions of Observer Cover are based upon tele- the roads. Only yesterday reports reached graphic reports received showing that the Omaha that the big Burlington bridge over Mississippi river is rising at all points north the Des Moines river at Ottumwa had gone Kansas river when it went down, and all out and that the Missouri Pacific bridge spanning the Platte river at La Platte had fortunately not a question, however, of what the railroads can do, but of what the

The Burlington, Missouri Facific and Water has passed the government Rock Island are the greatest sufferers up business is being handled by the North-

### Big Bridge Goes Out.

The B. & M., while crippled somewhat by high water at Plattsmouth and in that vicinity, is managing to run its trains between here and Lincoln without serious difficulty and is maintaining its service west to Denver. In fact the B. & M. is not among the worst sufferers, but the Chleago, Burlington & Quincy is. It is practically at the mercy of the raging Des Moines river in lows, and therefore unable to pull its trains through from Chicago, except by roundabout route. terday afternoon the turbulent Des Moines. which has been on the rampage for several is reported to have swept days. away the big bridge which spans it at Ottumwa. The train for Omaha had evidently just passed over the bridge when it went out. A passenger who ar-C. Letts of the Commercial club has called rived at the local Buriington station said

or the fact that he had investigated the charges. Mr. Smith's second letter, in full, follows:

Text of Smith Letter.

Philadelphia, May 27, 1903.—Henry C. Mayor Borden left tenight on a special Payne, Postmaster General, Washington, Rock Island train for Topeka with 300 men.

# Has to Change Its Route.

The Burlington has had to change its route to St. Louis and Kansas City. Omaha-St. Louis trains now have to go by way of Chariton and Creston and down through the Irish National league, which opened Kansas City must travel east over the "Q" Keokuk, while those running from here to as far as Chariton and then drop down by way of Leon, striking the regular route that Irish votes saved the government this line are in the vicinity of Hamburg again at St. Joseph. The chief obstacles on and Bigelow and near Forest City high waters obstruct the Kansas City trains. The B. & M. reports freedom from serious ondition at Plattsmouth, although the water was said to have been gradually rising there last night.

The Missouri Pacific had a train into Omaha yesterday, but was compelled to abandon its night train out because of the destruction of the bridge crossing the Platte river at La Platte. The Platte is reported to be steadily rising and the situation is being watched with considerable appre-

The Wabash trains yesterday were nearly on time, arriving and departing, but at night a report stated that the same flood SEVERAL FEET BELOW DANGER which submerged the Burlington tracks at water and it was thought that trains would be unable to get past that point.

# Four Fortunate Roads.

The Milwaukee, Illinois Central, Northwestern and Elkhorn have thus far been fortunate. The two former report no annoyance except the necessity in some cases to slow up slightly because of threaten danger point. ALMOST A THOUSAND KILLED ing conditions, but both are running on good time. The Northwestern has en-Consul Reports on Fatalities in countered some high waters near Sloux City that made it necessary yesterday to run the Twin City train on the west side of the river instead of the east side as The Elkhorn has had a landslide usual. LONDON, May Il.-The British consul at somewhere on the Bonesteel route, but no

As for the Union Pacific, it is practically the spring a large majority of the animals undated in many places by the floods that tially demolished. The center of the seismic on the main line. As to its ability to get disturbance was in the neighborhood of the president and party safely through from the west to Omaha, officials of the company express no doubt so far as they can speak from conditions now. The presidential train, which does not stop at the company last night said their reports of it were all right and that it would get into Omaha safely unless some very unexpected misfortune arose in the mean-

> Yesterday was a trying time for depot officials. At the three stations these mer had their woes. People seemed to have Movements of Ocean Vessels May 31.

# Appeal to Civic Federation.

ST. LOUIS, May 31.-At an executive

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# TWENTY-SEVEN ARE DROWNED

speeding toward Omaha in their special Are on Union Pacific Bridge Over Kansas River When it Collapses.

KANSAS CITY, June 1 .-- A message to of Leavenworth, at 2 o'clock this morning, Union Pacific bridge which spanned the of the men were drowned. It is said that

### TUMBLE INTO OCEAN Large Number of People Injured in Wreck on Southern Pacine.

SANTA BARBARA, Cal., May 31.-Nearly forty persons were injured, according to reports received today, by the falling of four oaches of the Southern Pacific southbound overland limited passenger train down a forty-foot embankment into the

Pacific ocean last night. The derailment occurred near Rincon, where the tracks run along a high cliff overhanging the ocean. Word was sent to Santa Barbara and Los Angeles and apecial trains went to Rincon. The more severely injured were taken to Los Angeles. Many persons were wedged under the cars, but the coaches were partly floated by the sea, so 'hat the prisoners were not crushed fatally.

The severely injured: Mrs. Nelson Johnson, Fort Madison, A. bruised and cut about head. Mrs. J. C. Smith, Los Angeles; both arms

crushed, must be amputated at shoulder. W. Grady, Lawton, Okl.; cut and Carr, Creston, Ia.; out and J. F2: bruised.

Mrs. J. E: Carr, Creston, Ia.; bruised. Mrs. Alice Stebbens, Ithaca, N. Y.; head, face, arms and hands cut and bruised. Mrs. J. M. Casey, Fort Madison, Ia.; cut and bruised about head, internally injured, Robert Casey, bruised and out.

Five-year-old son of Mrs. Casey, slightly Nelson Johnson, Fort Madison, Ia.; badly hurt about head and shoulders.

Train Agent O. M. Wells, right shoulder and back injured. It is not known just what caused the

Several other cars left the track, but did

### PRESIDENT HAS BUSY SUNDAY Attends Church in Morning and Visits Senator Warren's

Ranch Later.

CHEYENNE, Wyo., May 31 .- President Roosevelt was on the go most of the day. This morning he was driven to the First Methodist church, where special services for the president were held. At the close lives lost. A more conservative estimate of the service carriages were taken to the president and party, started for Senator Warren's ranches, fourteen miles south of Cheyenne. Here the routine work on one of by the flood and others tell of men who, Wyoming's largest ranches was shown the party. At 6 o'clock supper was served, which the start for Chevenne was after made. When the president reached his dead does not include the large number hotel at 1 o'clock tonight he was in jubiing forward with great pleasure to the frontier exhibition to be held tomorrow

morning. Previously to starting for the Warren ranches, the Eagle's Lodge of Cheyenne presented to President Roosevelt a membership in the order.

Secretary Moody, who has been with the presidential party since it entered the state, left today for Washington.

# Harlem, Mo., had put the Wabash under Missouri River Does Not Promise to Make Any Trouble at

Omaha. The Missouri river at Omaha in the

twenty-four hours ending Sunday morning at 8 o'clock had risen 1.8 of a foot, but the water is still nearly five feet below the The Sunday reports received at Omaha do not include river readings from points

south, and the only report received from a Missouri river point was from Sloux City. where the water was twelve feet above low water and five feet below the danger point Reports from points north show little rainfall, and therefore the local weather bureau predicts that the river will not go much higher at Omaha.

### MASONS TO MEET WEDNESDAY were indoors. Nearly a score of villages are raging in Kansas. It is abandoned and Nebraska Grand Lodge to Have Annual Session in Omaha This Week.

The annual meeting of the Masonic grand lodge of Nebraska will be held at Masonic hall, this city, Wednesday, June 3. Grand Omaha any length of time, is due here Master Nathaniel M. Ayres of Beaver City Tuesday morning at 3 o'clock. Officials of is expected to arrive this morning. The grand lodge will assemble at 4 o'clock Wednesday afternoon and continue for three or four days. A number of prominent Masons are already in the city to attend the meeting.

lost sight of the fact that the distorted rivers and raging floods had got clear beyond the control of even depot officials.

Annual to Civic Federation

Annual to Civic Federation Umbria, from Liverpo meeting of the Civic Federation, which was for Havre.

At Liverpool—Arrived: Cevic, from New held at the Mercantile club, at which Ralph At Liverpool—Arrived: Cevic, from New the number of drowned people was known the B Street Baptist church with the number of drowned people was known the B Street Baptist church with the number of drowned people was known the B Street Baptist church with the number of drowned people was known the B Street Baptist church with the number of drowned people was known the B Street Baptist church with the number of drowned people was known the B Street Baptist church with the number of drowned people was known the B Street Baptist church with the number of drowned people was known the B Street Baptist church with the number of drowned people was known the B Street Baptist church with the number of drowned people was known the B Street Baptist church with the number of drowned people was known the B Street Baptist church with the number of drowned people was known the B Street Baptist church with the number of drowned people was known the B Street Baptist church with the number of drowned people was known the B Street Baptist church with the number of drowned people was known the B Street Baptist church with the number of drowned people was known the B Street Baptist church with the number of drowned people was known the B Street Baptist church with the number of drowned people was known the B Street Baptist church with the number of drowned people was known the number of drowned people At The Lizard-Passed: La Champagne.

Put at Fully Two Hundred. Further teports from Topeka SMALL BOATS FOUND USELESS FOR RESCUE

12 m..... 45 S p. m..... 40 Large Number Arrive, but Little Could Be Done with Them.

> STEAM LAUNCHES FINALLY REACH SCENE These Are Atle to Face the Current and Work Proceeds Rapidly.

Death List at Topeka Now Conservatively

the Times from Kansas City, Kan., by way GREAT DANGER AT KANSAS CITY, KANSAS

Stock Yards and Packing Plants Under Water and Men Work All Night Rescuing the Live Stock.

TOPEKA, Kan., May 31 .- There is ground

for hope that the worst is passed. So treacherous has the Kansas river proved itself tonight in the rise of the water, so slowly as to be imperceptible the five-mile stream is settling into its rightful channel. Up and down the official gauge has fluttered all day, tonight, however, City the Melan bridge, the only way of reach- in less than three or four days. Hakeries Engineer McCable issued a bulletin giving ling North Topeka, has gone out and an are over-taxed as a result of the demand out the cheering intelligence that the wat- effort will be made to stretch a wire cable of the 6,000 flood refugees through the reers had subsided to the extent of exactly across the gap. 71/2 inches. It may be a few hours before another drop may be noticed. With 175 side were washed out early this morning has been such as to cause great suffering to 200 lives lost, millions of dollars of prop- and the only possible chance of reaching and to threaten great loss of life through erty destroyed, hundreds of pistol shots as the survivors then was by boats. exposure. Now it transpires that there signals of distress, blended with the Shortly after daylight nine boats arrived is but a meager coal supply and that the agonising cries of unwilling inhabitants of from Ottawa on a special train and they light and power plant and the waterworks tree tops and roofs of houses and the wat- were put into active service at once. Soon have an insufficient supply. Roads are imers creeping upward and then slowly sub- after reports of drowning began to come passable for team hauling and no coal can siding and alternately changing hope to in. A boat containing eight men was swept be shipped in. At the water company's despair, the capital city has passed the away in the swift current about 7 o'clock office this afternoon it was stated that the most memorable sabbath day of its exist- and as far as known all were drowned. A situation was alarming. Notice was sent ence. To all this discomforting condition boat containing two men was capsized, to every resident in the city to draw an of affairs was added the presence of a cold. The boats were too frail to live in the extra supply of water to provide against dismal rain. The ardor of the rescue swirling waters. work of the heroic rescuers was not More boats arrived from Emporia at 10 Owing to the breaking of another levee, abated in the least by the conditions which o'clock and hurry messages had been sent the commons on which sixty tents were might have been swept away in the current. Briefly stated, the present condition

### of the flood is this: Summary of Conditions. One hundred and seventy to two hundred

people drowned. Eight thousand people without homes. Four-million-dollar loss of property de-

stroyed. Identified dead, five; floating bodies seen twenty; people missing, 200. Houses burned, result of fire in lumber, from slacking lime, probably 200.

Banks collapsed, two. Wholesale grocery stores flooded, two. crumble, fifty.
Wholesale Commission houses deserted,

six. gers held here by high water City water works plant useless.

Known drowned: ORRVILLE RUPP TWO RUPP GIRLS. G. H. GARRETT'S 5-YEAR-OLD SON.

### TWENTY UNIDENTIFIED BODIES. Estimate Loss of Life. Laaling men have made a careful ex-

amination of the flood and all its conditions and as a result of their investigation they give 250 as the probable number of places the number of dead at 175. The home of Former Senator Carey, where higher number is as likely to be correct luncheon was served. In the afternoon a as the lower. The number of dead is long procession of carriages, headed by the merely a matter of estimate. Members of rescuing parties tell how they saw people drop from houses only to be swept away ple are to be rescued. This plan, of course, terrified at the approach of the fire, dropped into the water, where they sank and did not reappear. This estimated number of classed as missing who cannot otherwise lant spirits and remarked that he was look- be accounted for, neither does it include the number who are supposed to have lost their lives in the fire. In the latter class there is absolutely no means of arriving at even an approximate number of victims. The water is so high and the current so strong that all that can be done now is to rescue those in the buildings surrounded by water. It will be at least three days before the correct number of dead will be decided upon.

Steam Launches Effective. Work of rescuing the victims of the flood is being pushed forward with vigor. Better results have characterized the efforts of the organized forces since 4 o'clock this afternoon than during all the precedboat is expected here by a special train on the Rock Island within twenty-four hours. be brought to a point two miles above

the city and there launched. A trainload of small boats were in tling against the mighty current.

wire cable has been stretched across the Kansas avenue bridge. To this will be every minute and they were powerless to attached a sand dip, and refugees will be cope with it. Meanwhile the beleaguered brought across in this manner. If the ones were being encouraged as far as flood does not rise further and those not possible to hold on a little longer in the yet reached can keep their places a few hope that rescue would soon be effected. hours longer, there need not necessarily be a much larger loss of life.

Large contributions have already been received for the benefit of the sufferers. The amount given by Topeka citizens alone will aggregate \$100,000. To this is to be added an immense quantity of clothing. provisions and general supplies. Outside towns have generously offered aid, notable among which is Galveston, Tex.

Tonight the portion of Topeka not affeeted by the flood is crowded with refugees and people from the surrounding country who have come to witness the flood condi-

There is great anxiety tonight as to what tomorrow will bring forth. If the river does not receive any more flood water west of here the improvement in the situation here will be marked. If the water rises at a repetition of the worst of the flood scenes and the distress will be greatly intensified. Either contingency is entirely within the range of possibility.

# Bridges Are Cone.

burned to death, but this could not be mile resous of the sufferers. The north and of

# SUMMARY OF SITUATION.

serve to add to rather than detract from the alarming stories of the first days of the great flood. It is now conservatively estimated that at least 200 people have lost their fives at that point and the property damage has been im-

The river has commenced to fall and there is a sign of relief, but continued rains do not lend too much assurance.

The arrival of several steam and gasoline launches has facilitated the rescue of people imprisoned in the buildings of the flooded district, rowboats having been found

incapable of facing the current. At Kansas City, both on the Missouri and Kansas side, the conditions have grown worse. Fifteen people are known to have been drowned and several fires are now burning in the flooded district.

In Iowa the condition shows signs of improvement at Des Moines, but on the lower river they are worse. The death list at Des Moines is now placed at seven.

All of the pontoon bridges on the north

confronted them for long dreary hours, to other towns for more. The river re- placed for flood refugees was flooded, comknee deep in water and sometimes in water mained stationary after having fallen seven pletely submerging the tents. The oc up to their necks, they worked with might inches. Heavy rains were reported from cupants escaped. and main. Tenight they can proudly point up the stream, however, and it was feared to 300 or more rescued ones who otherwise that another rise would set in. Eightyseven people are high and dry in the Page elevator. ored Baptist church nearly 100 people have | been standing since yesterday. Many of them have doubtless fallen from exhaustion before this and drowned. The building stands intact, however, and those who are left alive may be rescued.

# Small Boats Useless.

bridge had not gone out, as was reported last night, but it was getting very shaky. Big business blocks almost ready to be current was running with an incredible existings. Small boats have no chance borth. South and East Des Moines, and wholesale commission houses deserted, at all, and many of their have closedy the main part of the city. This is extremely sex.

Rock Island trains containing 150 pessions of the wiring, eddying stream for authenticated fatalities have occurred. Remain many containing the main part of the city. This is extremely perilous. So far as is known but seven traverse the whiring, eddying stream for authenticated fatalities have occurred. Remains the city of ost sure to be other wreckage.

North Topeka is a scene of utmost deso- verified. lation. Not a square foot of land can be The Northwestern operated one train out seen in any direction. There is but a of the city limits today, mail being consmall chance of any of the residences be- veyed to it in a boat. The Rock Island is ing left standing at the end of the flood trying to get trains through to the west. period. Sherry, Oakland and the region The main line east is tied up. The Milabout the Reform school north of North waukee is also making spasmodic attempts Topeka, are all under water, but the sit- to operate trains. The Great Western, uation is favorable in these places com- Wabash and Burlington roads have com-

pared with North Topeka. what remains of the Kansas avenue bridge plants are still running, but it is only by has been abandoned. Boats will be taken the employment of several hundred men to in wagons to a point near Auburndale, a suburb two and a half miles southwest. They will then be launched and allowed to stantly and the mercury has stood close to float with the current to points where peo- the freezing point. Scores of men, women will involve much danger to the rescuers, in soaking wet garments, sitting on the but this is lost sight of in the desire to roofs of their homes awaiting the arrival help the unfortunate ones. It is impossible to force boats through the currents.

# Rains Put Out Fires.

Nearly all the fires have been put out by the heavy rain which has been falling other points on the Des Moines river benearly all night. The sky was overcast and low here is little better. the rain bid fair to continue all day. It was soon recognized that rowboats would be of no use in battling with the currents. Steam launches must be secured at once and to this end rush messages were sent to the superintendent and agent of the Rock Island at St. Joseph and to Mayor Bergunthal and to the secretary of the

Commercial club as follows: Topeka wants three to six steam launches or twelve or eighteen clinker-built row boats, with men to handle, sent here by special train at once, to rescue people in North Topeka.

The agent was ordered to load the train at once, secure a clear track and proceed ing twenty-four hours. Two little steam to Topeka. The train was to feel its way launches are now puffing up and down the as far as possible on the submerged tracks river picking up survivors. A larger steam- and the boats would be launched. Topeka citizens guaranteed all the expenses undertaken. It was expected that the launches If possible to run the train the boat will could reach here about a o'clock, in which event many of the people on the north side could yet be saved. Boats were received today, but they were useless tonight, bat- the Missouri Pacific and the Santa Fe over circuitous routes, but the current in the river seemed to be growing more powerful

# No Food Since Friday.

The eighty-five people in the Page elevator in North Topeka were in desperate straits for food, having had nothing to eat since last Friday. At 10 o'clock two boat loads of provisions were started to them. They had not yet reached the elevator after engaging in a hard battle with the waters for over an hour.

Former Policeman E. N. Capron just returned from a fruitless attempt to rescue some personal friends. He could make no headway against the current, though he have been saved. Nearly \$20,000 for relief and his companions put forth the most has been subscribed by the inhabitants of strenuous efforts with their three-oared Ottumwa. Churches, public buildings and boat. Mr. Capron said the desolate condi- many private houses were opened to suftion of the country on the north side is ferers. No deaths are reported. Railroad worse than anything he ever heard of. The traffic is cut off on all roads except on the loss of life from drowning alone, he said, Chicago, Burlington & Quincy. Manhattan and Wamego tomorrow will see | will hardly be covered by 150, without con-

sidering the missing. Chief of Police Goff and his family are among those not yet accounted for. They Milwaukee and Peoria Floodbound in may be among those on the tops of buildings, but this is hardly the case, as the house was directly in the line of last night's Yesterday afternoon at 1 o'clock fire. Isaac Standon succeeded in reaching the B Street Baptist church with 500 pounds

Half a dozen persons are in an abandoned

(Continued on Second Page.)

Food Shortage Adds to the Flood Troubles of Des Moines People.

SUPPLY OF MEAT IS ABOUT EXHAUSTED

Bakers Are Unable to Furnish Enough Bread for the Refugees.

COAL FAMINE IS ALSO THREATENED

Water Works Company Likely to Be Forced to Close at Any Time.

LEVEE BREAKS AND FLOODS COMMONS

About Evening the River Commences to Recede and Gives the Stricken Ones a Ray of Hope of

Relief.

DES MOINES, Ia., May 31 .- Late this aiternoon the relief authoritites announced that they were confronted with a food and fuel famine. Meat markets all over the city declare they have but two or three days stock on hand. There is no train entering the city and no prospect of getting a shipment of freight into Des Moines

lief association. The temperature of the past three days

the closing of the plant.

Once more hope has peen inspired in the breasts of the 6,000 flood refugees by elevator. If the building holds together the breasts of the 6,000 flood refugees by they will be rescued. In the B street colto decline. After rising all night, a fall of two inches was noted between 8 o'clock and noon. The condition of the sufferers has been slightly alleviated by the better organization of the relief forces. But isolated instances of extreme need of food have been discovered and those who were living in tents have nearly all been re-As seen from a high place on North Tyler moved to places of comfort in public buildstreet, near the Rock Island bridge, the ings. The need of bed covering is still stream appeared to be widening. The imperative. Not a wheel is turning in the factory district and no effort is made to open any business houses. Boats afford the overturned by striking against houses and from that section of the city that is cut

off from communication, but cannot be pletely abandoned their lines in this city. The plan of trying to cross the river near | The water and electric light and power

> man pumps and work on the levees. For over two days it has raised conand children have spent hours at a time of the rescuers. The last of these was removed at 10 o'clock. More fatalities will result from exposure than from drowning The property loss will mount up into the millions. The situation at Ottumwa and

Thieves Are Busy. At 8 o'clock tonight the water in the Des Moines river had declined fourteen inches from its maximum height of twentyfour feet, attained early this morning. Notwithstanding the steady rain that has fallen for three days, it is believed danger of further rise is past, as reports from points above Des Moines are to the effect that the river has been failing for twenty-

four hours. The extent of suffering among the several thousand flood refugees has been reduced to a n.inimum by the better organization of relief work. The few remaining levees will hold. The water plant reports that it will be able to continue in operation and the Edison light and power plant gives

a similar report. The river continues to be from a half mile to two miles wide, however, effectually cutting off communication between the here on a number of special trains run by | main part of Des Moines from East, North and South Des Moines, and covers thousands of homes and business houses. The water is filled with debris and boating is perilous. Railway traffic continues to be tied up and it will be several days before the steam railways will resume schedules or the street rallway can be operated.

The police report that thieves in boats are plundering stocks of merchandise in the business district to an alarming extent and several arrests have been made. One officer had a battle with a robber who escaped. Beats Record at Ottumwa.

OTTUMWA, Is., May II .- All records for high water were broken today with water in the Des Moines river standing 21 feet 54 inches. Hundreds of homes in the west and south part of Ottumwa are flooded. The work of rescuing victims occupied the entire day. It is reported that all sufferers

BALL TEAMS NOT DROWNED Vicinity of Manhattan,

Hansas.

KANSAS CITY, May 31.-The Peorle and Milwaukee teams of the Western Base Ball league are flood-bound somewhere between Wamego and Manhattan, Kan., and it is impossible to communicate with them by

wire, but the report that the players had been drowned is utterly discredited.