many deeds of heroism that they became commonplace. There was so much slaughter that even Port Arthur war-hardened veterans shuddered at the sight.

"Japanese were compelled to clamber up the slopes of the hill in many cases without firing, in the face of one of the most murderous deluges ever poured from rifles and machine guns. I was there and it seemed to me that flesh and blood would be unable to stand our fire for a minute.

"The enemy went down in squads and companies, but always there were others grimly coming forward. Their bravery was beyond praise, as was that of our own men. Sometimes the fighting was hand to hand, with the muzzles of the rifles at the breasts of the contestants, the bayonets being used as swords.

"The sides of the hill were strewn with bodies and the snow was crimsoned with the blood of the wounded, some of whom had crawled into it, seeking in its coldness surcease for their dying agonies.

"Eventually, as in similar instances which were to follow, we retired, leaving the work of driving the enemy from the summit to the resistless guns of the neighboring forts, notably those of Liaioti mountain.

"One incident of this assault will remain forever impressed on my mind. When a Japanese standard bearer reached the summit and planted his flag, a gigantic Russian corporal left his retreating comrades and, rushing back, seized the flag, which he was tearing with his hands and with his teeth, when he fell, pierced with several bullets.

"When the Japanese retired under an artillery fire the Russians reoccupied the summit.

"The second and third assaults were replicas of the first, although the second was the most ferocious, being nearly all hand-to-hand fighting, in which mercy was neither asked nor given.

A remarkable incident occurred in the third assault, as the Russians still facing the enemy, retreated. A Japanese standard bearer, holding his flag aloft, climbed the pinnacle and fell dead, clutching the colors. In his tracks another arose with the colors, only to fall instantly with a dozen wounds in his body. Six others followed and met the same fate. At last, when the ninth man appeared, a Russian officer exclaimed, "Don't shoot that fellow with the flag, it will be planted anyhow."

The seven Russians confirmed the truthfulness of the Japanese official reports which told of the sinking of several ships of the Russian fleet.

**Goes to Witness Fall.**

TOKIO, Dec. 18.—Major Kuhn, U. S. A., who was military attache with the Japanese second army, has been reassigned to witness the fall of Port Arthur. Major Kuhn departed for Shinbashi today.

**Attempt to Capture Officers.**

SHANGHAI, Dec. 18.—It is reported here that Commander Pelem of the Russian torpedo boat destroyer Rastoropny, which was recently sunk at Che Foo, with others of that vessel's crew, have sailed for Vladivostok on the British steamer Nigretia. It is said that the Japanese will attempt to effect their capture.

## POLICE DISPERSE THE STUDENTS

**Three Hundred Arrested and Sixty Injured.**

MOSCOW, Dec. 18.—The police and Cossacks today dispersed a demonstration of 3,000 students who had assembled in the principal streets and in front of the governor's palace. Three hundred of the students were arrested and sixty were injured.

The police had orders to exclude demonstrators from the precinct of the palace of Grand Duke Sergius, but the demonstrators ignored all warnings and pushed along the street, shouting "Down with the war!" and singing revolutionary songs. They stopped in front of the palace and refused to disperse. After a few blank cartridges had been fired from the revolvers of the police the latter drew their swords and, with the assistance of gendarmes and Cossacks, drove the demonstrators, students of both sexes, into the neighboring streets, including the Boulevard Pushkin, where the struggle was continued around Pushkin's statue. The general public appeared to disapprove of the demonstration. The students had counted on the co-operation of the workingmen, but employers, by a threat to withhold the customary New Year's gifts, induced the men to abstain.

## SHORTAGE OF FUEL IS FEARED

**Chinese in Manchuria Are Already Suffering.**

HEADQUARTERS OF THE JAPANESE SECOND ARMY, via Fusan, Dec. 18.—Noon.—There is a possibility that there will be a shortage of food and fuel among the Chinese this winter. Firewood is quoted at $10 per ton and food is selling at three times its normal value with the end of the supply in sight. The Japanese are paying Chinese treble wages and are paying market prices for all the fuel and supplies they purchase. The cold weather continues. The military situation is unchanged.

**Japs Lose Two Boats.**

TOKIO, Dec. 19.—The Japanese have lost two torpedo boats during all the operations against the ship Sevastopol, which was reported yesterday in advices from Port Arthur to be completely disabled.

Bee Want Ads are the Best Business Boosters.



## NO QUORUM IN THE HOUSE

**Members Scatter to Homes Before Date for Holiday Recess.**

**DEADLOCK ON INAUGURATION PROGRAM**

**Senate Not to Attempt Any Business Before the Christmas Recess and Then Comes Appropriation Bills.**

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—The exodus of members of the house from the city since the adjournment Friday indicates that the lower branch of congress will be without a quorum when it meets tomorrow. Should this be the case and should any members make the point on the floor of the chamber the only thing that can be done is to adjourn from day to day until Wednesday, when the Christmas holiday recess until January 4 begins.

The question of where the inaugural ball shall be held is the only matter of legislation in sight in the house for the week. This will come up under suspension of the rules on a motion from Representative Morrell of Pennsylvania. The senate has proposed the pension office and the house the congressional library, and there are indications that a deadlock has been reached, and that when it is discussed again the capitol building will be proposed as a compromise.

The senate will adjourn on Wednesday for the Christmas holidays, and no business will be attempted previous to that time. A large number of the senators already have left for their homes to spend the holidays, and there is an understanding that immediately after being called to order on Monday the senate will adjourn until Monday and that Wednesday's proceedings will be confined to the mere formalities. Soon after the senate reconvenes in January the committee on appropriations will report the legislative appropriation bill. It will be the policy of the senate to take it up as soon as possible and to have other supply measures follow speedily.

## PROBLEMS OF CANAL

(Continued from First Page.)

and the operation of the power plant electric light sufficient to illumine the whole of the Culebra cut might be had, thus making practical the working of two or more shifts and shortening the time of construction. Mr. Wallace stated that the excavation of this cut was the feature of the construction of the canal that took the time. He said:

**Cut the Big Problem.**

Upon the economical and efficient handling of the material from Culebra cut depends the cost and the time it will take to complete the canal. Every other question and every other problem connected with the engineer work is subordinate and inferior to the problem of the excavation and disposal of the material from the Culebra cut; that is the principal problem of this work. The control of the Chagres, the construction of the various dams, the construction of harbor improvements and all other works are relatively less important.

Work is now going on in the cut, one American steam shovel and some of the French machinery being in operation. Fourteen American steam shovels have been purchased, one of which is being set up. The others are to be delivered at the rate of one a month. During October 3,185 men were on the payrolls of the commission. The 2,165 laborers receive 15 cents, silver, an hour and 245 laborers receive 17½ cents an hour; 775 were machinists, boilermakers, pipe fitters, plumbers, carpenters and masons; 256 were Americans from the United States, whose compensation is paid in gold and who fill positions as engineers, clerks and foremen. More laborers are to be employed in the immediate future. Mr. Wallace is somewhat doubtful of the practical working of the civil service order as recently applied to canal employes.

**Foundation Uncertain.**

Reverting again to the question of the Bohio dam, upon which depends the construction of the ninety-foot level, Chairman Hepburn asked questions which brought out a statement from Mr. Wallace as to the probability of finding proper foundation for the dam. Mr. Wallace said: "It is very uncertain. What will be found when more borings are taken is entirely theoretical. But the results of the borings so far taken at the various sites investigated have been disappointing. The average depth bored without finding bedrock has been 162 feet."

As to foundation for the proposed Gamboa dam, which is required in all of the alternate plans, Mr. Wallace said:

At Gamboa the elevation of rock on the site of the proposed dam is at sea level, and numerous borings taken at that point, entering the rock twenty to twenty-five feet in depth, would indicate that at Gamboa there is no question as to the ability to find a satisfactory foundation for a dam at a maximum depth of sea level. The probable method of construction of the Gamboa dam or even of the Bohio dam would be the construction of a core of concrete and the filling in with the waste dirt out of Culebra cut. The Gamboa dam can be constructed cheaper than the Bohio dam on account of the fact that the foundation is much nearer the surface and the dam site much nearer the Culebra cut.

Answering a question about the operation of a sea-level canal, Mr. Wallace said:

A sea-level canal would be less expensive to maintain, less expensive to operate, save time in passage through it, and could be widened and deepened when required, without interfering with traffic.

Mr. Wallace said that he was not prepared to estimate as to time or cost or plan of a canal until he had completed taking the data he is now compiling. He has several parties of engineers at work along the line of the canal, each engaged in compiling data on a given problem, but he could not then tell when his recommendations as to the canal will be ready.

**Charges Not Sustained.**

LAWTON, Okla., Dec. 18.—Judge E. M. Payne of Chickasha, United States commissioner, has been acquitted in the federal court at this place of the charge of drunkenness and permitting the sale of liquor in the Indian territory. The charges were made public some time ago. The attorney general of the United States was asked to call for an investigation and the matter was referred to Judge Townsend of the federal court.

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## NO SIGN OF EXTRA SESSION

**Possibilities of Special Term Have Disappeared, Says Senator Millard.**

**THINKS JUDGE BAKER WILL BE RESTORED**

**Says Estelle Still Has Good Chance for Pension Commissioner—Congressman Hitchcock Also Returns for the Holidays.**

"Possibilities of an extra session of congress to take up amendments to the interstate commerce law and other matters recommended by President Roosevelt, have disappeared," said Senator Millard, who has returned from Washington to spend the holiday season at home. "I am a member of the committee on the Interstate Commerce commission and may say that no action will be taken upon the question of enlarging the duties of the commission at this season of congress. It is likely, however, a select committee will be appointed to investigate the problem during the period between the close of the present session and the opening of the next.

"The present session will accomplish little more than getting through the appropriation bills and handling routine affairs. It is not at all prolific of interesting matters and there is scarcely a thing I can tell the people out here that they do not know already from the newspapers.

**Thinks Baker Will Get Back.**

"The order for the removal of Judge Baker was a complete surprise to me and my first information of it was conveyed in a telegram from the judge himself. In company with other members of the Nebraska delegation I immediately took up the matter with Attorney General Moody and President Roosevelt and Judge Baker appeared upon the scene and made a very favorable impression. I feel quite well satisfied that after he has stated his case before the Department of Justice, in accordance with the president's order, holding the removal in suspense, Judge Baker will not only be exonerated, but that the order of removal will be annulled and he will go back to his post.

Congressman Hinshaw and Delegate Rhodie of New Mexico, who went over the charges and testimony submitted, pronounced the whole thing absolutely flat from a legal standpoint. Personally, I believe the charges against the judge were brought by political enemies in the territory for political purposes and have their source in nothing else. I have the impression that outside influences have been at work and that Judge Baker will be rehabilitated.

"Judge Baker is now in Washington and plans to come to Omaha the latter part of next week for a few days' visit with friends here.

"In case Major Warner of Kansas City does not accept the position of commissioner of pensions Judge Estelle of Omaha has as good a chance as any of the other applicants for the place. Even though Major Warner is not elected senator from Missouri it is not certain he would take the office. I believe Judge Estelle could fill the office with less friction and discomfort to himself than any one else I know. The place is a trying one and certain of criticism and abuse from one quarter or another.

**Politics in Swayne Case.**

"The impeachment proceedings against Judge Swayne of Florida are creating more of a stir in the newspapers than at the nation's capital. I think the fight on Judge Swayne has its bottom in politics and the political dislike of men in Florida. The sentiment in congress seems to be in his favor. In order to hear the case, which will occupy a good deal of time, it has been proposed that the senate sit two hours each morning for the purpose. This will enable the body to finish the trial before the regular time of adjournment, March 3.

"The work of putting old Fort Omaha in condition for the signal corps in the spring now is entirely in the hands of the quartermaster of the Department of the Missouri, who has $30,000 at his command, which should suffice until next July, when another appropriation of $114,000 will be ready. The cold weather will handicap the improvements, but they will be pushed as rapidly as possible. General Greeley is very anxious to have the post established as soon as possible.

"Matters concerning the reforms demanded at the Winnebago Indian agency are pending the action of the new head of the Indian bureau and probably will wait until he has thoroughly familiarized himself with his work.

"In the death of Frank Murphy Omaha sustained a great loss."

Senator Millard may remain until after January 4, when congress reconvenes, if personal business requires his attention here.

**Hitchcock Also at Home.**

Congressman Hitchcock, who also has returned from the national capital for the holidays, says there is little doing in congress of particular interest to Nebraskans.

"I feel much gratification over the fact that after January 16, every farmer in the Second Congressional district will have the benefits of rural free delivery," he said. "The order just issued makes the service in Washington county complete and thus rounds out the district. This is the first congressional district in Nebraska and, I think, in the west to have this service entire.

"I expect to make a speech on my postal savings bank bill before the session adjourns, although I am not hopeful of a report from the committee that has it in charge by that time.

"The only matter that I have been pressing hard in this session is the Indian warehouse appropriation bill and I think, with the assistance of the others of the Nebraska delegation, we will get it through, although Chairman Sherman of New York, who is at the head of the committee, is opposing the appropriation."

## KELLER LOSES HIS STANDING

(Continued from First Page.)

occupying a private room, he needs nothing further, everything being provided by the institution. Because of sickness and accidents I have had to be put into hospitals at various times for repairs or recuperation and so have come to know a good deal about the ways and methods of these beneficent institutions. To a patient occupying a private room a hospital can be more nearly likened to a hotel with a free medical department attached than anything else I can think of.

"At the same time there is thrown about the occupant of the private room in a hospital, as well as about the occupant of a cot in the general ward, a restraint that is absent in a hotel and which is even faintly suggestive of a jail. You cannot enter a hospital at will, nor can you leave it wholly at your own pleasure, as you can with a hotel. The hospital authorities exercise a certain necessary discretion as to the admission of patients, pay as well as free, and also as to their leaving. It frequently happens that a patient, tired of the monotony of hospital life, wants to leave before he should. He usually finds that some essential part of his street apparel, his shoes or his coat is missing. This is one way by which he is detained from going out too soon. Besides, the hospital exits are all kept fastened, so that no one can go out, any more than come in, without the knowledge of those in charge.

**Is Held for a Week.**

"I recall a case in point. A patient had had some ribs cracked. After a few weeks he thought he was well enough to go out, and he certainly was very weary of his indoor life. He was a pay patient, but his own family did not want him to take any chances by going out too early. It was on a Thursday he first insisted he was well enough to go out. It was on the following Thursday that he was discharged. He had been detained a week beyond his wishes; yet it was done in such a way he could find no just cause for complaint.

"It surprises some people to learn that a hospital does not do free laundering for its patients any more than a hotel does for its guests. But it's a fact. The patient must pay for whatever laundering he has done. The hospital provides where necessary nightshirts and usually slippers—at least when the patient is denied his shoes—and some sort of light lounging garment in lieu of the coat, where it is withheld. In spite of this, however, the patient should take with him everything he will need. He should pack his valise precisely as if he were going on a journey. He should provide himself also with a little money outside his hospital expenses. He will need it for newspapers, cigars (if he smokes), postage stamps, the barber and the like. Every hospital is a little world in itself differing in some degree from every other similar institution. What I have said, however, is general and applies to all hospitals."

**Gold and Silver Production.**

The rich Tonapah district, in Nye county, made Nevada the leading state of the union in the production of gold and silver during the year 1903. The total production of gold for the United States was 3,560,000 fine ounces, valued at $73,591,700, a decrease of $6,408,200 or 8.01 per cent as compared with the production of 1902. Of the twenty-one states and territories that yielded gold in 1903, eleven showed an increase in production, Nevada leading with an increase of $492,700 or 17.02 per cent. An equal number of states and territories produced silver in 1903, and the same number showed an increase in production, with Nevada the leading state in the production of silver as well as gold. It held the same proud position in 1902, but bettered its own record in 1903 by 1,304,300 fine ounces, or 34.82 per cent.

Kansas also is worthy of special mention in the chronicle of gold and silver producers. Kansas and Tennessee, with products valued respectively at $9,700 and $800, joined the ranks of gold producers for the first time, giving a production of no less than 97,400 ounces.

**Colorado's Big Loss.**

Alaska, which led in the increase of gold production in 1902, was second in 1903, with an increase of $268,900. Arizona showed a gain of $245,300; Utah, $102,900; Idaho, $95,400; Montana, $38,300; Virginia, $10,400; Washington, $7,700, and Alabama, $1,900. The greatest decrease in the production of gold in 1903 was in Colorado, where the production fell off $5,028,600, or 20.82 per cent. California was second in amount of decrease in 1903, falling off $687,600. Decreases were also noted in the following states and territories: Oregon, $526,500; New Mexico, $286,500; South Dakota, $138,700; Georgia, $35,800; Wyoming, $35,200; South Carolina, $21,200; North Carolina, $22,200, and Maryland, $2,000.

The total silver yield of the United States for 1903 amounted to 54,300,000 fine ounces. This had a coining value of $70,206,000 and a commercial value of $29,322,600, a decrease in quantity of 1,250,000 fine ounces, or 2.16 per cent. Besides Nevada and Kansas, the following states and territories also showed gains in production in 1903 over 1902: Idaho, 652,600 ounces; Utah, 365,100 ounces; Arizona, 344,000 ounces; Alaska, 51,600 ounces; California, 30,700 ounces; Oregon, 24,700 ounces; Texas, 8,300 ounces; Virginia, 3,600 ounces; Tennessee, 700 ounces. The greatest decrease in the production of silver in 1903 was in Colorado and amounted to 2,685,800 fine ounces. Alabama, which reported 100 fine ounces of silver in 1902, reported no production in 1903. Other decreases were as follows: Montana, 601,600 ounces; Washington, 324,500 ounces; New Mexico, 276,500 ounces; South Dakota, 119,000 ounces; Michigan, 60,800 ounces; North Carolina, 9,900 ounces, and Wyoming, 4,800 ounces.

**Year's Production Lower.**

The total value of the production of precious metals by the United States in 1903, reckoning silver at its commercial value, amounted to $102,913,700, a decrease of $6,501,300, or 5.94 per cent from the yield of 1902.

The above figures are taken from a report on the production of gold and silver in 1903, which is published by the United States Geological Survey in its annual volume of mineral resources. The total statistics of the production are furnished, as in previous years, by George E. Roberts, director of the mint. The statistical canvass made by the survey resulted, however, in some differences in the distribution of the product among the several states and territories. The phases of production in Alaska and in several states are discussed by the survey's representatives, Messrs. Alfred H. Brooks, Victor C. Heikes, Charles G. Yale, A. N. Winchell and E. P. Porter. They present some very interesting data regarding properties and development work in the great gold and silver producing camps of the west.

## FORECAST OF THE WEATHER

**Fair Monday and Tuesday is the Promise for Nebraska—Fair and Colder for Iowa.**

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—Forecast of the weather for Monday and Tuesday:

For Nebraska and Kansas—Fair Monday and Tuesday.

For Iowa and Missouri—Fair and colder Monday; Tuesday, fair.

For Illinois—Fair Monday, preceded by snow flurries in north portion; Tuesday, fair, brisk northwest winds.

For South Dakota—Fair Monday and Tuesday; warmer Tuesday.

For Colorado and Wyoming—Fair Monday and Tuesday.

**Local Record.**

OFFICE OF THE WEATHER BUREAU, OMAHA, Dec. 18.—Official record of temperature and precipitation compared with the corresponding day of the last three years:

| | 1904. | 1903. | 1902. | 1901. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | 42 | 48 | 30 | 4 |
| Minimum temperature | 25 | 26 | 8 | —6 |
| Mean temperature | 34 | 37 | 19 | —1 |
| Precipitation | T | .00 | .00 | .25 |

Record of temperature and precipitation at Omaha for this day and since March 1, 1904:

| | |
|---|---|
| Normal temperature | 27 |
| Deficiency for the day | 7 |
| Total excess since March 1 | 70 |
| Normal precipitation | .03 inch |
| Deficiency for the day | .03 inch |
| Total rainfall since March 1 | 24.49 inches |
| Deficiency since March 1 | 5.33 inches |
| Excess for cor. period, 1903 | 2.42 inches |
| Deficiency for cor. period, 1902 | .91 inches |

**Reports from Stations at 7 P. M.**

| Station and State of Weather. | Temperature at 7 p. m. | Maximum Temperature. | Rainfall. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Omaha, cloudy | 29 | 42 | T |
| Valentine, clear | 24 | 34 | .00 |
| North Platte, clear | 30 | 42 | .00 |
| Cheyenne, clear | 22 | 36 | .00 |
| Salt Lake City, clear | 40 | 48 | .00 |
| Rapid City, clear | 26 | 34 | .00 |
| Huron, clear | 14 | 34 | T |
| Williston, clear | 18 | 32 | T |
| Chicago, cloudy | 34 | 24 | .00 |
| St. Louis, cloudy | 34 | 40 | T |
| St. Paul, partly cloudy | 16 | 34 | .01 |
| Davenport, cloudy | 30 | 38 | .00 |
| Kansas City, clear | 38 | 44 | .00 |
| Havre, partly cloudy | 38 | 38 | .00 |
| Helena, cloudy | 40 | 42 | T |
| Bismarck, clear | 10 | 26 | .01 |
| Galveston, cloudy | 60 | 62 | .00 |

—Zero.
T indicates trace of precipitation.

L. A. WELSH,
Local Forecaster.



## STATEMENT BY CUNNINGHAM

**President of Rural Letter Carriers Talks on President's Order.**

**SAYS SOME CURT THINGS OF BRISTOW**

**Asks if Russia Has Been Moved to America, with Fourth Assistant Postmaster General as Czar.**

Frank H. Cunningham, president of the National Rural Letter Carriers' association, arrived home from Washington yesterday. Mr. Cunningham said that for a time at least he would maintain his office in South Omaha. He said he expects to travel for some time with the purpose of furthering the organization of the rural carriers throughout the country. President Cunningham has prepared this statement for the press:

What are the letter carriers' rights and how are they being treated? It is due the public to know the facts. President Roosevelt, in his recent message to congress, uses the following language:

"The letter carriers, both municipal and rural, are, as a whole, an excellent body of public servants. They should be amply paid. But their payment must be obtained by arguing their claims fairly and honorably before the congress," etc.

This is what the letter carriers have always desired to do, but I will leave the public to judge whether or not the language of the president's message does not directly conflict with the now famous executive order of January, 1902, and for alleged violation of which the letter carriers are now being persecuted. It is as follows:

"All officers and employes of the United States of every description, serving in or under any of the executive departments, and whether so serving in or out of Washington, are hereby forbidden, either directly or indirectly, individually or through associations, to solicit an increase of pay or to influence or attempt to influence in their own interest any other legislation whatsoever, either before congress or its committees, or in any way save through the heads of the departments in or under which they serve, on penalty of dismissal from the government service.

"(Signed) THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

"White House, January 31, 1902."

The rural letter carriers have been struggling for an existence upon the meager salary of $900 per year, out of which they were compelled to maintain from two to four head of horses to perform the service, as well as to provide for their families. They were voted at the last session of congress a salary of $720 a year. And when this was about to go into effect upon July 1, 1904, General Bristow came out with a famous ruling which has caused the trouble. He did not propose to allow the maximum salary of $720 upon any route less than twenty-four miles in length, while the rule for the establishment of the service had been to make the routes from twenty to twenty-five miles in length. This deprived nearly 90 per cent of the carriers of the $720 salary which congress had voted them, and it was vigorously opposed by the carriers. The ruling was so changed by the president's order as to more nearly conform with the plain intent of congress, and all carriers who were then in the service having routes of twenty miles or over in length were allowed the $720 salary. The president has in many ways befriended the carriers and they as a class have a most kindly feeling for him. Fourth Assistant Postmaster General Bristow, in whose immediate charge the rural service has been entrusted, has continually antagonized not only the carriers, but the service as well. He has made various rulings which rob the letter carriers of their citizenship, one of which is as follows:

"The Postmaster: Sir—You are directed to advise the rural carrier or carriers from your office that they are not permitted to instigate, circulate or encourage any petition or remonstrance on or in connection with their routes. Very respectfully,

"J. L. BRISTOW,

"Fourth Assistant Postmaster General."

This ruling has been interpreted as being binding upon the carrier after his day's work has been completed and he is off duty, and is it not in direct violation of the constitution of the United States, which guarantees to every American citizen the right to petition to congress? Article I of amendments to the constitution of the United States is as follows:

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble and to petition the government for a redress of grievances."

Has Russia been moved to America, and is Fourth Assistant Postmaster General Bristow the czar? Is the constitution still in force? Does the constitution of the United States mean what it says? Or does it mean what Mr. Bristow thinks and wants? The right of petition was a right guaranteed by the founders of our government—a government for all the people. Mr. Bristow, apparently, would have one kind of rights for letter carriers, and another kind of government and rights for other citizens. When a rural carrier takes his oath to support the constitution, must he make a mental reservation to support only such portions as Mr. Bristow approves of? Is the rural carrier a free moral agent? Is he a citizen of the United States, or does he lose his citizenship and forfeit his constitutional rights when he becomes a carrier? And why is it these petitions are not wanted? If hundreds of thousands of patrons, believing they are right, and desiring to correct an injustice, want to sign a petition regarding rural free delivery, and if they wish the rural carrier to circulate this petition for them, why should he not do so, as long as he does not let the doing so interfere in the slightest with his duties? Why are these petitions so unwelcome at Washington? Why should the earnest petitions of hundreds of thousands of honest, taxpaying patrons be suppressed? Is there anything in the truth which should be concealed? Why did the petition last winter cause such consternation? Why was the effort made to minimize their magnitude until it could no longer be concealed? The handwriting on the wall of the Babylonian palace could not be more clear. The people, the common people, the unheard, taxpaying, consuming population of the United States desired that the only branch of the federal government that came in direct touch with them for their benefit should be efficient, and they plainly saw that only by paying a living wage could this efficiency be maintained. If the interest of the public means anything, if petition by the lineal mile betokens anything, the smothering of all our bills in the committee chairmaned by Jesse Overstreet is a direct annulment of the will of the people. If the past affords any basis on which to forecast future conditions, what have the rural carriers to hope for or expect? The resignations among the rural letter carriers, because of their inadequate pay and miserable condition, have been thousands upon thousands annually, amounting to nearly 25 per cent of the entire carrier body; and now, since the election is over, they are to be persecuted and dismissed from the service should they dare to make known their intolerable condition and assert their rights of citizenship, even though they have their last dollar invested in horses, wagon, harness and other equipment with which to perform the service. Congressman Hearst, however, has introduced a resolution in congress, making inquiry into these dismissals and the matter will likely be tested in the highest courts to determine whether or not letter carriers have any constitutional rights or citizenship.

F. H. CUNNINGHAM,
President National Rural Letter Carriers' Association.

## MURDER IN INSANE ASYLUM

(Continued from First Page.)

242 head of cattle, besides having furnished the meat for the inmates during the last thirty weeks. The institution is raising English Berkshire and Poland-China hogs, and recently has been butchering pigs 11 months old weighing 320 pounds.

At the beginning of the biennium there were in the institution 516 patients, 194 males and 322 females. During the two years there were admitted and returned from parole 1,603 patients, 649 males and 438 females. November 30 there were on hand 588 patients, of which 214 were males and 374 females. The greatest number on hand at any one time during this two-year period was on June 17, 1903, when the institution was caring for 629 patients. Of the inmates treated during the two years 700 were natives of the United States, 473 were married, 421 were single, 119 were widowed, 35 were divorced and 6 did not know anything of their condition insofar as marriage was concerned. During the two years there has been no change in the working force of the institution.

**Chancellor Andrews Lectures.**

Next Saturday evening Chancellor E. Benjamin Andrews will deliver a lecture at the Grand Army hall on the subject, "The Battle of Gettysburg." In this battle the chancellor was an officer, commanding a Connecticut battery, and the lecture doubtless will contain many important facts that are not down in the histories. All soldiers and veterans of the late unpleasantness, as well as others, are invited to attend.

**Papillion Poultry Show.**

PAPILLION, Neb., Sept. 18.—(Special.)—The Sarpy County Poultry association will hold its annual poultry show at Papillion Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of this week. Everything points to one of the best shows of its kind ever held in Sarpy county and will be far ahead of previous years. Exhibits here already come in from a great many places and a greater variety of birds than have ever been shown in Sarpy county will be seen. Adam Thompson of Amity, Mo., a poultry man of national reputation, will score the birds and place the awards. Secretary Tower of the association has been busy during the past week filling out application blanks for entries and a large attendance is anticipated.

**City Seeks to Open Street.**

COLUMBUS, Neb., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—City Attorney W. M. Cornelius, Judge J. J. Sullivan and Israel Gluck left here today for St. Louis, where the celebrated "M. Street" case is to be heard in the United States court of appeals. This is the case wherein the city of Columbus seeks to reopen a street in this city known as "M" street and which was vacated and deeded to the Union Pacific railroad many years ago. The case was tried before Judge Munger at Omaha last April and the railroad was given a judgment. The case was then appealed and is now set for hearing. This case has been in litigation for the past five years. The city wishes to open the street and the railroad wishes to build a large new freight depot in the street.

**Charges Editor with Libel.**

COLUMBUS, Neb., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—A complaint was filed with Judge Ratterman in the county court last evening, wherein George Wertz, county attorney of Colfax county, charges John Sprecher, editor of the Schuyler Free Lance, with criminal slander. A warrant was at once issued upon the complaint. It was impossible last evening, owing to the lateness of the hour, to get a copy of the complaint, but the objectionable article is set out in the complaint. It is said that Mr. Wertz has or will file the same suit in each county where the paper has a circulation.

**Sneakthief Gets Watch.**

FREMONT, Neb., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—A sneak thief yesterday afternoon stole a watch and fob belonging to Ed Morse, one of the proprietors of the auditorium, of the value of about $60. The watch was in his vest, which was hanging in the front room of the shop, and as a good many regular customers and others were in and out during the time there is no clue to follow.

**A. O. U. W. Lodge Election.**

PAPILLION, Neb., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—Gretna lodge No. 250, Ancient Order United Workmen, elected the following officers at their last meeting: Master workman, H. R. Secord; foreman, P. N. Deerson; junior overseer, Frank Chapp; recorder, P. J. Melia; financier, J. D. Ehlers; receiver, A. J. Rishel; guide, J. O. Wagner; inside watch, Harry Ellenger; outside watch, Walter Green; physician, Dr. McCarthy.

**Royal Arcanum Election.**

COLUMBUS, Neb., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—The Royal Arcanum of this city last evening elected the following officers for the coming year: J. C. Freydig, regent; D. M. Newman, vice regent; J. R. Carter, orator; J. H. Galley, secretary; W. A. McAllister, treasurer; J. D. Stires, collector; Rev. Mr. Cash, chaplain; C. J. Buckmaster, guide; P. J. McCaffrey, warden; Earl Galley, sentry; A. Jaeggi, past regent.

Through a typographical error in the Bennett ad in Sunday's Bee it was stated that the Bennett store would be open every Monday evening until Xmas, while it should have said that the store would be open every evening from Monday until Xmas.

**Dairymen's Convention.**

CHICAGO, Dec. 18.—The next annual convention of the National Association of State Dairy and Food departments will be held at Portland, Ore., June 20 to 25. This was decided on here today at a meeting of the executive committee of the association.