ESTABLISHED JUNE 19, 1871.

OMAHA, MONDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 27, 1905.

SINGLE COPY THREE CENTS.

General Kouropatkin Reports Movements Made by Them on His Front.

SEVERE FIGHT OCCURS AT ONE POINT

Little Brown Men Occupy Coveted Position at Its Close.

RUSSIAN LOSSES EVIDENTLY HEAVY

Japanese Engaged in Extensive Building Plan for the Navy.

WORK TO BE DONE IN OWN SHIPYARDS

Steamers Fast in Ice Being Watched by Japanese Naval Vessels and May Prove to Be Prines.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 26.-General Kouropatkin has telegraphed to the emperor, under date of February 25, as fol-

"At 5 o'clock this morning the enemy occupled Tsinkhetchen. Exact reports of our yesterday's losses have not yet been received. There are twelve officers and about 300 men wounded in hospital at Sanlunyu. The percentage of killed is very large. The commander of the detachment reports acts of bravery by many detached bodies of

General Kouropatkin instances many cases of close fighting and bayonet charges, and concludes: "This morning a battalion of the enemy advanced in the direction of Papin pass, six miles southwest of San Lunyu, and this evening the enemy's outposts commenced to approach the passes occupied by us"

1:25 a. m.-An action of no mean proportions is in progress on the Russian left flank. The advantage thus far is on the side of the Japanese, though at heavy cost. From advices from the front it is difficult to say how severe the losses have been or how decisive the reverse and whether the Japanese are likely to attempt to drive in the Russian left much further. General Kouropatkin evidently has been trying to establish his left flank far in advance, to command the crossings of the Taitse river, the operation being a counterpart of General Grippenberg's movement on the right flank to secure the fords of the Hun river preparatory to the breaking up of the ice in the spring. The scene of the operations is fifty miles southeast of Mukden beyond Da pass, an important defile commanding the road to Fushun. Both armies occupying apparently impregnable positions on the cen-General Kouropatkin evidently planned to inaugurate widely sweeping operations on both flanks, but the Japanese

countered hard. Associated Press dispatches from the front indicate that the weather is fine and favorable for operations and that all is quiet on the Russian right wing.

According to a Viadivostok dispatch to the Associated Press the entrance to that harbor is open and the squadron, which is scaworthy, is apparently taking no risks, but is saving its strength for co-operation with Vice Admiral Rojestvensky's squad

Japan Builds Own Ships. TOKIO, Feb. 26.-The statement cabled to the United States from London that Japan has ordered four battleships in England is incorrect. It is probable, unless circumstances dictate otherwise, that Japan will in future construct all its vessels at home. It has equipped extensive yards, shops and gun and armory foundries, and there is a strong and growing sentiment in the navy and among the people generally in favor of home construction exclusively The yards are already engaged in an extensive building program, which includes

two large armored vessels. The identity of the steamer which is caught in the ice north of Hakkoido has not been determined, as it is impossible to approach it. The vessel is firmly held in an ice floe. It is expected that two vessels while attempting to pass La Perous straits, the northern point of Hakkoido, have also been caught and held by the ice. It is un derstood Japanese warships are watching the vessels and the seizure of all of them is expected when they are freed from the

The German steamer Romulus, bound for Viadivostok with a cargo of Cardiff coal, was seized on the night of February 25. The Manchurian army headquarters re port that two infantry attacks by the Rusians in the neighborhood of Malton moun tain Friday night were repulsed.

Threaten Main Defense. MUKDEN, Feb. 26.-Fighting continues in front and west of Tie pass. On the extreme east the Japanese have taken the outlying positions and they now threaten the main defense. Owing to their for midable attack it is thought that the Japanese artillerymen are veterans from Port Arthur, commanded by General Nogi.

Forty wounded Russians arrived at Mukden today and 400 are expected tomorrow Other indications point to an unusual strug-

A blustering snowstorm all day is ending in a bitter wind, which may modify the threatened conflict. The region of the Japanese attack is in lightly wooded and high mountains, favorable to the Russian operations. The force of Japanese of unknown strength, joined with Chinese brigands west of Kungchialin, is still menacing

the Russians in that region. The cannonade along the Russian center diminished in intensity today There is no penalties of striking, the railway employes evidence of activity on the part of the Japanese, who are strongly strengthening the site of the Russian operations toward Line Yang in the latter part of January.

No Blockade at Vladivostok. VLADIVOSTOK, Feb. 26 .- The report from Tokio that Russian cruisers had left this harbor and were met by Japanese blockaders and obliged to retire, is incorrect. The cruisers occasionally go outside have been seen and there are no evidences thronged than usual owing to the noncom-

SMELTER MEN GO OUT ON STRIKE British Columbia Workers Want an

Eight-Hour Day. VICTORIA, B. C., Feb. 26 .- A general strike of the smelter employes of British Columbia has been declared as a result of o'clock this morning. General Stoessel was the defeat of the eight hours bill for smel- met in the imperial pavilion at the Nicholas ter employes in the British Columbia legis- station by the governor, noblifty, numerous vorking on a basis of 1 per cent profit and come, declaring that "your splendid dewill tie up the mining industry rather than fence of Port Arthur amazed the world and

grant the demands. Rich placer discoveries are reported from Clearwater creek, on the Sikine, and are Madame Stoessel. The general afterward of over \$5,000,000, backed by the wealthy gests that the whole subject should be

diggings.

# Precaution Against Strike of Club Wielders in City of

Warsaw.

WARSAW, Feb. 26.-Every policeman on duty here today is accompanied by soldier. The authorities, fearing a strike by the police, adopted this precaution so that in the event of an officer leaving his post it will not be unprotected. The measis further intended to guard policemen

possible attack by strikers. e police demand \$12.50 per month, the e scale that is paid in St. Petersburg. present pay here is \$6 per month. private cabmen and livery stable here struck today. The strike of street

ray employes continues. cent.

is regarded as a prelude to the beginning of the strike. The Vistula strike continues. The directors will meet tomorrow to receive he workmen's demands, which will be referred to St. Petersburg for approval.

The Vienna ratiway service having been esumed, the station here was crowded all day and trains were overcrowded with passengers, who fought to obtain seats. The tension in the Warsaw railway situation has been greatly relieved by the settlement of this strike. Direct communication with western Europe is thus reopened, but traffic east of Warsaw is entirely dislocated. The St. Petersburg road is the only direct line still open, and passengers for Moscow and Odessa are compelled to travel by cir-

cuitous routes. In Novolipki street, at 9 o'clock tonight, an unidentified man fired a revolver at a patrol, killing two policemen and severely wounding a sergeant. The murderer es-

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 26 .- All the Russian railways except the Central Asian have

been placed under martial law. 1:35 a. m.-Evidence is increasing that the strikes throughout the empire and especially those in St. Petersburg, are not conomic in their origin, but inspired by a point. definite political plan. The government and employers are embarrassed by the tactics of the workmen, whose discontent is being fed and who are increasing demands with each new concession. This condition is believed to have been fomented by crafty political agitators who are stirring up the men and at the same time holding them in leash, apparently waiting some signal for concerted action. Fear is entertained that this widespread agitation may be connected with a plan to await a possible peasant outbreak in the spring, with which a general strike will be synchronized, the work-

men joining hands with the peasants. The election of a labor representative to the imperial commission which is to investigate the causes of discontent in St. Petersburg passed off quietly yesterday. The situation in Riga is again reported to be very serious. The authorities there apparently are unable to cope with the law-

In the Caucasus the situation is extremely bad, practically amounting to civil war. In Baku the inhabitants, barricad in their houses, are petitioning the central authorities at St. Petersburg for relief from the existing condition of affairs. The government is sending reinforcements troops; but while these may be able to stop the reign of terror they will be impotent to start the wheels of industry, Proprietors fear that the oil wells will utterly ruined if pumping is suspended much longer. Conditions in other towns in

the Caucasus are equally desperate.

In Siberia as well as in other parts of the mpire the government has granted considerable concessions to railway employes, in some cases according them a reduction of the hours of labor to nine a day. This renders the situation of private employers increasingly difficult, as they claim that it is impossible for them to concede so much The question of convoking the zemsky zobor is apparently not settled. Some of the emperor's advisers are urging the idea that to summon the land Parliament at this time would be fatal to the autocracy, but as a preliminary step toward a representative assembly it might be well to invite representatives of the people to sit in the council of the empire, a purely consultative assembly, with existing conserva-

tive elements as a balance wheel. LONDON, Feb. 27 .- A dispatch to a new agency from Odessa says it is reported there that ten Jews have been killed and thirty wounded in an anti-Jewish riot at

The correspondent at St. Petersburg of the Times says that the government is making concessions to the railway men and placing the railways under martial law with a view to expediting the transportation of troops to the far east. The correspondent adds that the South Rifle brigade, which left Odessa two months ago, is still near Omsk; that the Fourth army corps, which left Minsk a month ago, has not yet reached Siberia, and that the rifle brigade, mobilized last year, is only now leaving Kieff. The latest units or dered for service include some 25,000 mer and forty-eight guns from Caucasus garrisons. These cannot reach General Kouro patkin before April.

COURSE ALMOST AS HAD AS STRIKE

Strict Interpretation of Rules Han

pers Italian Roads. ROME. Feb. 26.-In order to escape th throughout Italy have engaged in a harrassing system of literal and exaggerated obedience of rules and orders, which is having the effect of badly crippling traffic, provoking great indignation on the part of nafrey was the central figure in a bloedy the public. The effect has been the cancellation of trains and the delay of others. The passenger traffic has been reduced in in which two men were killed and six othconsequence about 60 per cent at a time when the tourist season is at its height and maneuver, but thus far no blockaders the railroads are suffering accordingly. The employes demand certain concessions from of a blockade Life in the town is quiet the railroads and the repeal of the law preand regular, though the streets are less scribing severe punishment for railway amployes who engage in strikes.

> GENERAL STOESSEL AT MOSCOW Commander Given a Great Reception

at Old Captest. MOSCOW, Feb. 38 .- General Stoessel, late ommander of the Russian forces at Port Arthur, and his party arrived here at 9 The men are striking for shorter officers and civil officials. Colonel Diman-The owners state they are now sky made an cologistic address of wel-

created immortal glory for Russia." Numerous bouquets were presented to burg on Wednesday.

Big Terminal Docks of Illinois Central at New Orleans Destroyed.

Besides the Docks and Grain Elevators Immense Quantities of

> Cotton and Merchandise Are Consumed.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 28.-Fire involving millions of dollars loss in physical properry and which strikes a serious, if temporary blow at the immense export trade ne 15,000 strikers from the big iron of New Orleans, swept the river front will return to work tomorrow, all tonight and wiped out the vast freight terdemands having been granted. These minals of the Illinois Central, known as te a nine-hour day instead of ten and the Stuyvesant docks. Nearly a dozen f hours, and an increase of from 5 to equares of modern wharves and freight sheds, the large grain elevators, hundreds It is announced that all the railways will of leaded cars and vast quantities of be placed under martial law in order to freight, including 20,000 bales of cotton, prevent the extension of the strikes. The were destroyed, together with a large numemployes of the Warsaw-St. Petersburg ber of small residences. The fire was ragrailway have formulated demands for pre- ing fiercely at midnight, at which time sentation to the management. This action it had nearly reached the north end of the Illinois Central property. It has not been determined whether there has been any loss of life. The ocean shipping seems to have escaped serious damage. Two firemen and several dock employes were injured.

The loss may exceed \$5,000,000. The Stuyvesant docks extend from Louisiana avenue almost to Napoleon avenue, distance of twelve squares. The wharves between these two points were covered with miles of trackage and steel and iron sheds ran the whole distance. The two onstruction, the upper one having a capacity of 1,000,000 bushels. Much cotton, everal hundred thousand packages of ceivable variety of freight filled the warelouses and sheds. Practically all the export business handled by the Illinois Central was put aboard ships at these docks. The docks and improvements have been under construction for ten years past, elaborate preparations and investments convention of 1898 made it possible for the road to invest permanently at this

Fire Spreads Rapidly. The fire was discovered shortly after 7 o'clock. It was said to have resulted from Fifteen a journal that had not been sufficiently oiled. The whole plant was equipped with gigantic water tanks and fire extinguishing apparatus, but the blaze, small at the beginning, almost instantaneously got be yond control. The response of the fire department was prompt, but owing to the fact that the terminals were not readily accessible because of fences and tracks the engines found difficulty in reaching the flames. In half an hour the fire covered two squares, the lower elevator was practically consumed and the fire was sweeping with irresistible fury both up and down

As soon as it became known that the zone of the fire was the Stuyvesant docks | tered window glass a mile distant. harbor tugs hastened to the wharves and vessels that were moored there were pulled out into the river.

o points above the upper end of the terminals before the fire reached them. Hundreds more, however, were consumed. The wind was blowing down the river

greater speed in that direction. By 9 o'clock the lower elevator and sheds and wharves from Amelia street to Louisiana avenue, a distance of six squares, had fallen in. Fortunately Louisiana avenue is a very broad thoroughfare and the further spread of the fire beyond that point into a residence section was checked. Between the points named, however, the flames swept to complete destruction many cottages of the poorer classes, the occupants in a great many instances losing all they possessed.

Defies Fire Fighters.

The river boats, the employes of the road and the fire department concentrated all their energies in an effort to save the upper elevator between Austerlitz and Constantinople streets and to check the fire at that point. The fire, however, gradually worked past the point occupied by the elevator. Herolcally the forces kept at work, but ultimately they were beaten and the big steel structure, covered with corrugaated iron, suddenly burst into flames at 10:30, and in half an hour was a complete wreck.

At midnight more than nine squares of the terminals had been completely destroyed and it seemed unlikely that the fire would be checked until it reached Napoleon avenue, which also is a very broad street. During the fire a heavy wind blew and the blaze was of indescribable fury, carrying brands to great distances, driving back the crowds of sightseers. Immense pieces of corrugated iron, torn from the sides of the upper elevator, were carried through the air as if they were feathers and dropping in every direction, constantly endangered the lives of firemen and

spectators. The weather was bright and warm and probably 50,000 people visited the scene during the progress of the fire.

Aside from the tremendous loss of property the fire is a calamity to New Orleans in the temporary abatement of the immense export business of the Illinois Central, particularly in the matter of grain shipments.

BLOODY RIOT AT A WEDDING Two Men Are Killed and Six Others Shot and Stabbed During

Melee. GREENSBURG, Pa., Feb. 26.-Anna Onbattle at the Strickler works of the Western Coal company in Mount Pleasant township, ers were stabbed, shot or slashed with knives. The dead:

JOHN KOPHAS, jr., 24 years old; leaves a wife.

MICHAEL LESHOW, 30 years old; leaves a wife and two children in the old country. Of the wounded, Tom Poliak may die. Anna Onnafrey's refusal to dance with George Lukesz, an unbidden guest at a wedding celebration, started a riot.

HAS VALUABLE METAL Discovery of Iron and Aluminum to Central Provinces May Revo-

Intionise Industries. CALCUTTA, Feb. 26.-(Special Cablegram to The Bee.)-The discoveries of iron ore and aluminum in the central provinces are officially confirmed, and it seems likely that they will revolutionize industrial India. A rush has commenced to stake out alum num claims, and a company with a capital a cloud of perilous uncertainty and sugexpected to result in a rush to the new hald a reception. He will go to St. Peters- Parsee Tata connection, is being formed carefully examined when The Hague conto erect blast furnaces and coking plants.

# SOLDIERS ASSIST THE POLICE MILLIONS GO UP IN SMOKE RECOMMEND SEA LEVEL CANAL EXTENT OF INDIAN SCANDAL NEBRASKA WEATHER FORECAST RAILROAD BILLS Engineers Make Report of Results

in Digging the Big

Ditch.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 36.-The first definite engineering plans for the construction EFFORTS OF THE FIREMEN ARE FUTILE! of the Panama canal have just been laid before the Isthmian Canal commission by the engineering committee of that body, consisting of Commissioners Kurr, Parsons and Davis. The principal recommendations

are summed up in this resolution:

Resolved, That this committee approve and recommend for adoption to the commission a plan for a sea-level canal with a bottom width of 150 feet and a minimum depth of water of thirty-five feet, and with twin tidal locks at Miraflores, whose usable dimensions shall be 1,000 feet long and 100 feet wide, at a total estimated cost of \$230,500,000. Such estimate includes an allowance for administration, engineering, sanitation and contingencies amounting to \$23,450,000, but without allowance for interest during construction, expense of zone government and collateral costs, and water supply, sewers or paving of Panama or Colon, which last items are to be repaid by the inhabitants of those cities.

The committee estimates that a sea-level are summed up in this resolution:

The committee estimates that a sea-level canal can be completed within ten or twelve years from the present time. These recomsendations are the conclusion of a report to the commission prepared under date of February 14 last and based on complete engineering reports on all of the problems involved.

cumstances should the surface of the canal be more than sixty feet above the sea, and estimates that at this level the cost would be \$178,013,406. A thirty-foot level is estimated to cost \$191.203, los. It is recommended that the Chagres river be controlled by a dam at Gamboa,

The committee decided that under no cir

built to a crest height of 200 feet, and the waters of the lake thus created disposed of grain elevators were of the most modern through tunnels. The work on the foundation of the dam will require from one to one and a half years, and the committee reports it should begin at once. The dam sugar, great quantities of cottonseed oil at this place, it is stated, involves no formand oil cake, and lumber and every con- idable obstacles, which is not the case at the Bohio location.

Actual work with the new American steam shovels on the Culebra demonstrated that the entire excavation can be done at a cost of 50 cents a cubic yard. The former Isthmian Canal commission estimated this cost at 80 cents. This reduction amounts to having been made after the constitutional a total of \$15,000,000, and is given as a justification of the recommendation of the sea level of the canal.

> MINERS ARE KILLED Bodies Already Taken from the West Virginia Mine.

BLUEFIELD, W. Va., Feb. 26.-As a result of an explosion in shaft No. 1 of the United States Coal and Coke company at Wilcox today, twenty-three miners are supposed to have lost their lives, and it is possible that the number will exceed that Up to 8 p. m. fifteen dead bodies had been taken from the shaft. A large rescuing party is in the mines tonight. It is barely possible, but not likely, that some of the ntombed miners will be rescued alive. The explosion was of terrific force and shat-

Immediately after the shock great numbers of miners, who were off duty today, it being Sunday, rushed to the shaft to find the United States district court and the At the same time switch engines were great clouds of smoke and dust gushing rushed to the wharves and hundreds of from its mouth. Morners, children and box cars loaded with freight were drawn other relatives soon were weeping and pleading for the rescue of those dear t

them. The officials of the mines, including Gen eral Manager Reis, were soon on the ground as the blaze began and the fire spread with and the work of rescuing miners is now being directed by Mr. Reis. The dead miners so far recovered are all

> not been identified. The company usually work in this shaft about seventy-five miners, but today being Sunday, the men were not all in and the small loss of lives can be attributed only

Italians and Hungarians and have as yet

to this fact The United States Coal and Coke company, with principal offices in Pittsburg, Pa., is a part of the United States Steel corporation. The cause of the explosion has as yet not been determined and since It is hardly probably any of those in the mine will be recovered alive the cause of the explosion may never be known.

### DEPUTIES PAID THEMSELVES Seandal May Grow Out of Distribution of Funds to Martinique Sufferers.

PARIS, Feb. 21 .- (Special Cablegram to The Bee.)-Several of the Paris papers refer to a serious scandal which is expected to result in the disgrace of a high functionary attached to the ministry of the

M. Clement, one of the deputies for Martinique, asserts that the relief commission sent to Martinique to distribute the money voted by Parliament to the victims of the great eruption of Mt. Pelee spent £2,000 on themselves, although they voyaged in a French warship and only doled out £700 to the sufferers. M. Clement also states that the chief of the mission unlawfully pocketed a sum of £8 per day for the whole time of his absence

### RELIGIOUS AWAKENING Six Thousand Five Hundred Con versions in the City of Louisville.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Feb. 26.-Meetings in wenty-four churches, theaters and halls today concluded the main effort of one of the most remarkable religious revivals seen in America during the past fifty years. During the two weeks just closed 6,500 persons confessed to Christianity. Eighteen visiting evangelists took part in the work. some of whom will remain for a month longer to follow up their work. Fifteen hundred persons were today added to the 5,000 already converted, this being the final "decision day."

PRESS WELCOMES THE DECISION Criticism of Court is it

Not Go Far Enough. LONDON, Feb. 26.-The British press welcomes the report of the international commission of inquiry into the North sea affair with almost unqualified satisfaction. Some of the papers think the decision does not go far enough in the direction of condemnation of Vice Admiral Rojestvensky and the commander of the transport Kamchatka, but at the same time they hold that it is now possible for Russia to make ample amends. The Daily Telegraph's editorial article says:

It remains for the czar to act on the commission's finding. It is difficult to be-Heve that he will dismiss with indifference an admiral who nearly involved his mon-arch and country in an unnecessary war. The Standard thinks the report leaves the question of the rights of shipping under ference reassembles after the war

Father Schell Explains Meaning of Bootlegging Convictions.

MUST BE FOLLOWED UP TO PRODUCE GOOD

Plain Spoken Words on the Methods Practiced to Fleece the Poor Indians of Their Land and Their Money.

The conviction of the Homer saloonkeepers for bootlegging conspiracy after a sensational trial in the United States court last week-the first conviction of the kind on record-is one of the results of the disclosures of corruption on the Winnebago reservation made by Father Schell and the persistent agitation he has carried on to emedy the abuses. The conviction of these saloenkeepers, however, is regarded by Father Schell as of small importance except as a link in the chain and of no lasting benefit unless pursued so that the whole system of Indian spollation under official protection is rooted out. Summing up the situation, Father Schell explains existing conditions on the reservation in he following vigorous language:

Public Sentiment Only Remedy, "The situation of the helpiess Winnebago ndians is as discouraging as it is revoltng and this condition is the outcome of the inefficiency, the indolence and the cor-ruption of the officers. Public sentiment is the only remedy for such cases. During the last twenty years the government was nisrepresented and its laws abused by the flicers; the public was biuffed by futile efforts and the ruin of the Indians was the natural consequence. Hundreds of thousands of dollars were spent by the govrament through these indolent officers to preserve the Winnebago Indians from the ravages of whisky, to protect them and guide them to civilization, and the only resuit after twenty years is their total ruin, their total degradation and their total demoralization.

"When I raised my voice in defense of these unhappy and heipless indians. I found myself confronted with an army of scoundrels, consisting of speculators, bootleggers, saloon keepers, corrupt officials, politicians, agents and representatives of sition reaching from Omaha to Washington.

Had an Uphill Fight.

"For a moment I was alone, forsaken and sold by my own, to oppose a body of bloodthirsty and lawdefying individuals, threatening me with ruin, disgrace and even violent death; but The Omaha Bee and the Sloux City Tribune gave me their unsolicited and disinterested help and support and the fairminded public, with other dailies and weeklies, followed their steps. "In a supreme effort the powerful ring attempted to influence the president of the United States against my efforts to obtain justice for the Indians, but, as could be expected, they were made to understand that he was the president of all, that the Indians must be protected and that the Indlan scandals must cease. A few months ago the federal grand jury indicted the Homer saloon keepers and bootleggers. One of these cases has just been concluded in defendants were found guilty.

Ring of Boartless Speculators. "From my study and observation resaloon keepers and bootleggers who are operating under the protection of this ring and through the whisky the Indians became the slaves of the speculators. When first came to Homer the ringleaders con fessed to me that they wanted the Indian husiness, that they only can bring them, their money and their business to Homer by selling them whisky; that it costs them a great deal of money to throw official protection around the saloons and the bootleggers and in order to come out even they must charge the Indians enormous prices

for everything they sell to them. "The justice of the peace and the marshal of Homer make their living from the arrests of drunken Indians. When the justice, with his eyes wide open, finds our that the marshal takes money from the drunken Indians and lets them go he seeds to the speculators and threatens them with denunciation if he does not get his share out of the Indians. The Indian who is arrested and fined goes to the speculators and borrows the money and signs a note for three to six times the amount that he receives. When the marshal knows that a drunken Indian has no credit with the speculators, who know his income and relationship, he will not arrest the Indian When the speculators see an Indian drunk and whose credit is good they tell the marshal to arrest him so that they can make the Indian sign a note. If an Indian is slow to buy or sign notes the speculators give him a few dollars for nothing. He gets whisky and when he feels good he is ready to buy out the whole town and to sign all kinds of notes and mortgages. Thus, horses that are not worth the feed are sold for \$400 and \$500, notes are signed and the money collected at the agency.

Lawbreakers Not Caught Napping "The local Indian commissioner, with deputy marshal, pays a visit to Homer about three or four times a year. They announce their coming to the ringleaders who inform the saloonkeepers and the bootleggers. The town is cleared of the Indians and the bootleggers go to sleep. The carnival begins again half an hour after the officials have left. The ringleaders have confessed to me that the arrivals of these officers cost them a great deal of money. It has happened that those officers have found on the road a drunken Indian They took his name, made out a case on the records with fictitious Indian names as witnesses and collected from the government large sums for imaginary cases, witness fees and transportation, etc. "The speculators are buying the Indian

land, and before the deal is approved in Washington the Indian in question has signed notes in favor of the speculator, who gets the land as well as his money again. The agent is but a tool in the hands of the speculators and he does all within his power to keep the Indian land and Indian money within the ring of the speculators. "But who will blame the agent and the other officers when the commissioner of Indian affairs in Washington-Jones, lately resigned-has done all within his power to favor the Homer ring and has sent a personal order to the agent requesting him to O. K. all the grafters' fraudu lent notes. No wonder that the agent says; 'If I fight the money power I'll lose my An Indian will pay \$1,000 cash rather than to lose his mortgaged ponies worth \$40, and the speculators know it, and always see that they hold a mortgage on the indian's teams. I have seen notes that were collected three times with threats of taking away the mortgaged ponies. "Through the influence of the agent and

(Continued on Third Page.)

Fair Monday: Colder in Southeast Portion. Tuesday Fair.

12 m..... 51

Temperature at Omaha Yesterday: Hour. 5 a. m. . . . . 40 1 p. m..... 50 2 p. m.... 50 n. m..... 39 7 a. m..... 38 3 p. m..... 4 p. m..... a. m..... 37 9 a. m ..... 38 5 p. m ..... 10 a. m ..... 11 a. m ..... 42 7 p. m..... 42 8 p. m..... 40 9 p. m..... 35

## BRIDGE AT FREMONT GOES OUT

Four Spans of Structure Across the Platte River Swept AWRY.

FREMONT, Feb. 26 .- (Special Telegram.) -The three north spans of the Platte river bridge south of this city were carried out this forenoon and a little after noon the next one followed. There is but little ice in the river, except on the sand bars, and the current, aided by a northwest wind, is very swift. This morning a small ce gorge formed west of the city, sending a big stream of water through the southwest part of the city. It broke before much damage was done. The streets in the north part of Englewood are under water and late this afternoon the water was rising there fast. The county has a gang of men using dynamite at the bridge across the south channel, but as communication with that side is cut off the condition of the bridge is not known. The trains on both railroads are running as usual and there is no probability of further trouble unless the wind should shift and an ice

gorge form. CRETE, Neb., Feb. 26 .- (Special Telegram.)-The expected occurred this afterupper dam went out, carrying with it the formed below the dam, and when this goes out it is feared there may be trouble at the lower dam. The great chunks of ice two feet thick are piled in heaps for fifty yards below the dam.

Fremont is still intact, but in danger, At Schuyler four spans of the Burlington railroad bridge over the Platte were torn on the Platte as far east as Ashland, where first that the committee would allow the the ice began to break up this evening.

because of the loss of its bridge over Bear

with dynamite to protect their bridges that some show of sincerity will be across the same stream. Alarming reports reached the Burlington tion of the Platte river at Ashland. An ice gorge formed just above the bridge, coverand the river was reported high and threatening to overflow back of the gorge. Later in the night the ice began piling up and at Il o'clock it had extended the length of a

BRIDGES WRECKED BY THE ICE Kansas City Suffers from the Breakup | much uneasiness among the corporation

dozen spans. The water was rising rapidly.

in the Knw River. KANSAS CITY, Feb. 26 .- Floating ice in the Kaw river has completely wrecked the from the old Newberry law, and is calcupile bridges of the Kansas City Belt line lated to be much more sweeping in its prothe much abused Winnebago In- and the Rock Island railroad. The madians I dare proclaim that there is at terial of these structures has been saved. Homer a powerful ring of heartless specu- but the rallroads have not yet decided lators who are after the Indian lands and whether they will rebuild the pile bridges the Indian money. To succeed in this they or hasten the construction of steel ones. It must keep the Indians together and bring is said the failroads may be enjoined from them into submission. They have hired rebuilding pile bridges, as they are consid-

ered a menace to other property. The Kansas City Belt line now has no and the Rock Island will have to use other roads to move freight from the west bot-

toms to Armourdale. Much ice is floating down the Kaw to night, but a channel has been made and measure. little dynamite is being used.

At Lawrence a great ice iam which had formed a blockade for twelve miles up the river was broken today by the use of dynamite. The bridge across the river there is being pounded by floating ice, but it is

### NOT OVERESTIMATED LOSS Property Owners at Hot Springs

Ready, However, to Commence

Rebuilding.

HOT SPRINGS, Feb. 26.-Sunday has been day of gloom in Hot Springs. The first estimates of the damage done by the great conflagration were not exaggerated. More than forty blocks were destroyed by the flames and a most conservative estimate places the loss at \$1,500,000, and several insurance men state the figures will reach \$2,000,000. The three unidentified bodies recovered are the only known fatalities. The citizen's relief committee has the sit-

scribed for relief totals \$12,000 tonight, but it is being steadily increased. The committee feels that it can feed all the homeoutside are being accepted. Several excursion trains arrived here to and towns to view the ruins. Mayor Beld

ing ordered all saloons closed and it was a

ation well in hand. The amount sub

'tight" Sunday in Hot Springs. The following statement has been issued The following statement has been issued:
To the Public: The fire-swept area lies principally in the residence portion of the city. While the loss is enormous, the principal business portion of Hot Springs, including the hotels and bath houses, are not affected. We think, therefore, it proper to request the Associated Press to state that our city has ample accommodations for all who may desire to visit it for health, and no advance in rates will be tolerated.

GEORGE P. BELDING, Mayor.
EISLE, Superintendent of the Government Reservation.

ment Reservation. That the devastated district will be speedily rebuilt is evidenced by expressions heard on all sides. Property owners are already planning with architects and in three instances carpenters began work today on temporary structures.

Not Body of John Paul Jones.

PARIS, Feb. 26.-A preliminary examina tion which Ambassador Porter is making for the body of John Paul Jones, the naval hero of the revolutionary war recently disclosed a lead coffin. The nameplate on the coffin was much corroded, but the in scription has finally been deciphered, show ing that it was the coffin of an Englishman buried May 5, 1790, two years before the death of Jones. Consequently the coffin will not be opened. The search continues. The finding of the lead coffin has the advantage of establishing that those buried in the Protestant cemetery about the time of Jones' death lie in the vicinity of the present excavations.

Movements of Ocean Vessels Feb. 26. At Liverpool-Arrived: Armenia, from New York: Merion, from Philadelphia; Um-bria, from New York, via Queenstown. At Bouthumpton-Arrived: New York, via Plymouth and Cherbourg. At New York-Arrived: La Bretagne, from Havre, Balled: Vaderland, for Dover and Antwerp. and Antwerp.

Present Week Will See Several of Them Up in the House.

GIVES LOBBY LARGE AMOUNT OF WORRY

Commodity Rate Bill One Which Stands Best Show of Passage.

SPEED MEASURE ALSO TROUBLESOME

Lobby Realizes the Sentiment is Strong for Legislation on These Lines.

OMAHA WATER BILL BUE IN THE SENATE

Amendments Made by Committee Will Necessitate Its Being Returned to House for Final Action.

(From a Staff Correspondent.) LINCOLN, Feb. 26 - (Special Telegram.)-This will be something of "railroad week" in the legislature. Several bills, important and unimportant, affecting ratiroad interests are pending before the two houses and will come up for third reading or action in the committee of the whole within the next few days. Consequently the railroad men are on the anxious seat and more than the usual quota of them may be found at the

state capital this week. The commodity rate bill, introduced in the house by Foster, Davis and Junkin under the Foster resolution, is giving the railroad representatives more uneasiness noon when the ice in the Blue above the of mind than any other bill. They have come to the conclusion-this statement is bridge over the dam. A high gorge has made after talking with some of these representatives-that this measure will pass or it will take the hardest fight which the allied roads are able to put up to kill it. The bill takes twenty-seven staple commodities and makes an average reduction of 10 per The Northwestern railroad bridge west of cent in present rates and naturally enough the railroads contend this is unfair.

> Report on Bill is Duc. This bill has not yet been reported back

out and the Burlington bridge at Columbus to the house by the railroad committee, but the church and the state-a chain of oppo- is in a shaky condition. Trouble is feared is due. While there were grave doubts at bill to see the light of day, it is now gen-LINCOLN. Feb. 26.-The Manhattan erally believed it will make a favorable rebranch of the Union Pacific is still tied up port on the measure. Even railroad attorneys admit that in view of the anticreek, near Beatrice, and the Burlington railroad proclivities espoused at the outset and Rock Island have a force of 100 men by this legislature that it is to be expected and therefore some such bill as this one passed. It is pointed out that the legislaheadquarters late tonight about the condi- ture exacted from Elmer J. Burkett a pledge that he would work for anti-railroad legislation in the national lawmaking body ing several spans. The ice is very heavy and that it cannot, therefore, in justice to itself and the people and Mr. Burkett refuse itself to do what it asked or rather commanded him to do. In view of this situation, therefore, every railroad representative feels a certain degree of apprehension

over the present state of affairs. The maximum rate bill introduced last week by Caldwell of Clay is not causing so officials as the commodity rate bill. The Caldwell measure is copied in large part and its passag is not as much anticipated as the commit-

tee measure.

Speed Bill Troublesome, Another bill over which the railroads are annoyed is the bill introduced by Senator Gould of Greeley, providing certain increased rates of speed for freight trains. It will come up for action in the senate in a connection with the packing house district day or so. Railroad men declare that the speed exacted by this bill simply is impossible on certain branch lines if not on main lines, and for that reason ought not to be tolerated. It is classed as a prohibitive

> The Omaha Water board bill will come up in the senate for passage. As it has been amended in the senate it will have to go back to the house, where it originated, if it passes, and let the lower branch have the last say. Some half-dozen amendments have been tacked on to the bill, calculated to bring it nearer the bounds of reason,

H. R. 255, the omnibus bridge bill, introduced by the house committee on roads and bridges, will come tumbling into the forum before the week is over, as it is pretty well up on the general file and when it does strike that body something is going to happen. If the bridge lobby can prevent it the bill will certainly not get nice treatment. On the other hand, a very determined fight will be made by the friends of the measure, who claim everything good for the bill. It embodies the Kyd bill, which met an untimely fate in the house, and besides contains many new features. The committee has seen fit to offer two amendments to the bill and the enemies of the measure will take this as the basis for arguing that the whole bill is defective.

Engineer Bill in Hard Lines.

The county engineer bill has one more finning in the house. This is the celebrated S. F. 8, by Beghtol of Lancaster, which less. Voluntary subscriptions from the the house, in committee of the whole, last week recommended for indefinite postponement and then at the suggestion of Speaker day bringing visitors from adjacent cities Rouse and on motion of Jackson of Antelone gave another chance of life by voting a reconsideration of the vote. But even Speaker Rouse, who was censured for making this suggestion, since he was originally a friend of the bill, declares the bill cannot possibly pass. The speaker made this suggestion, he explained to the house, because he felt the responsibility of the bill's defeat since he had inadvertently placed the senate files that day ahead of the house rolls on general file. The senate, he said, raised a furore over the defeat of its bill.

H. R. 256, the bill to remove the Home for the Friendless from Lincoln to Milford and operate it in conjunction with the Girls' Industrial school there, promises to precipitate a struggle on the floor of the house this week. There is terrific opposition to this bill on moral lines. Those who are fighting it contend that it would be a shame for the state to throw the young girls of the Milford home and the once fallen women of the Lincoln home together. Women's clubs and various other rganizations are resisting the bill with all their might.

INSTITUTE AT GRAND ISLAND Farmers of that District Listen to

Good Program. GRAND ISLAND, Neb., Feb. 26 .- (Spe cial.)-Though the attendance at the first two sessions of the Farmers' institute, held in this city Friday evening and yesterday, was very light, the last session yesterdas afternoon was attended by over 150 farms

ers in the Grand Island district. The topics discussed were "Soil Tillage," by O. Hull of Alma: "Economic Pork Production," by C. M. Lewelling of Beaver City; "Wagon Tracks," a narrative or travels among the ranches of Mexico, by Joseph Wing of Mechanicsburg, O.; "Feeding Baby Beef," by Mr. Wing; "Diseases of Farm