TO REACH THE BEST PEOPLE, ADVERTISE IN THE BEE

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

PEOPLE WHO READ THE BEE HAVE MONEY TO SPEND

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ON VERGE OF PEACE

Report that Both Belligerents Are Ready to Discuss Terms.

CZAR WILL CONSULT MINISTERS TODAY

Japan Will Submit Terms if Assured that They Will Be Considered.

NEGOTIATIONS [illegible] RESULT IN ALLIANCE

Two Powers O[illegible] that Have Direct Int[illegible] in Far East.

PEACE PART[illegible] RONGER IN RUSSIA

Growing Be[illegible] hat Prolonging the Struggle [illegible] Add to the Complications and Dangers at Home.

WASHINGTON, March 13.—When the czar calls the war council tomorrow he will be able to inform his ministers that the Japanese will welcome peace on reasonable terms and will promptly name its conditions provided it receives trustworthy assurances that that they will be seriously considered.

This, the emperor has learned from friendly chancellories in Europe, as well as the general terms acceptable to Japan.

These, it is said, include the retention by Japan of Port Arthur, a Japanese protectorate over Corea and an indemnity.

From a high official the Associated Press hears that Russia has recalled its second Pacific squadron.

An attache of a Russian embassy in Europe is quoted expressing the belief that Kouropatkin's recent defeat will force Russia to ask for peace.

Briefly, these were the reports current in the diplomatic corps today, and as a result of this important information official Washington believes tonight that Russia and Japan are on the verge of peace. If it be true that the second Pacific squadron has been recalled even the most optimistic of Russia's friends admit that this is a strong indication that Oyama's mighty blow has made for peace.

Cassini Says No.

Count Cassini, the Russian ambassador, is the notable exception in the group of foreign envoys here. "However generous the terms which Japan might offer," the ambassador said tonight, "Russian prestige is not among them. That is one thing for which the war will be fought to the end. Victory for the Russian arms will alone make for peace. If not at Tie Pass, then at Harbin. Russia will assemble another army mightier than before and with that army it will settle the issue. It may be six months, a year, or perhaps two years. Time will be no consideration."

At the Japanese legation it is declared that St. Petersburg and not Tokio is the capitol from which the world must hope for peace proposals. Mr. Takahira, the Japanese minister, said today in the most emphatic manner that Japan had no directly proposed peace. He did not deny that neutral powers, through their envoys from time to time, had sounded Japan as to the terms on which it would accept peace, but these, he said, necessarily changed with the progress of hostilities, the intimation being that Russia could have obtained better terms after the fall of Port Arthur than after the capture of Mukden.

Japan Asks Assurances.

If the Japanese government were assured that peace proposals would be considered by Russia there is authority for the statement that Japan would respond imediately. But it will insist that these assurances shall be of the most positive character. Japan's experience in the negotiations preceding the war, it is said, will make it exceedingly cautious in the future. It will insist that such assurances shall come from the Russian government and not from this or that party or this or that friend of the emperor.

Officials here expect that by tomorrow St. Petersburg will have fully comprehended the extent of Oyama's victory and then will make known its decision regarding the continuance of the war in the face of Mukden's fall.

Peace Party is Strong.

ST. PETERSBURG, March 13.—(1:27 p. m.)—The announcement made in the name of the government, in the face of the overwhelming disaster suffered by General Kouropatkin, that a fresh army would be raised and the war proceed, and the haughty attitude assumed by Japan may after all be simply a sparring for position which is the prelude of peace. So far as the public here is concerned, peace is the only thing talked of, the sentiment being that if diplomacy can now bring the warring powers into negotiation peace will follow. Many diplomatists believe that terms acceptable to both are only possible on the basis, not of ordinary peace, but more in the nature of an alliance which would distinctly define and guarantee the position of the respective powers in the far east in the future. It is certain, however, that Russia as yet has made no move. Here confusion still reigns in the higher circles and the emperor has not yet decided that he must yield. Nevertheless, the peace party has been greatly strengthened and is now taking the position that to attempt to continue the war would only court additional complications and dangers at home, with the chances of success for the Russian arms on the field of battle too remote to be worthy of consideration. But some of the emperor's advisers insist that the government is irrevocably committed to the war, that it would be harder to stop than to go on and that if the war is indefinitely prolonged the financial resources of Japan are sure to be exhausted before Russia's, while Russia's prestige abroad is irreparably gone if it now bends the knee.

Study Internal Effect.

The situation is not dissimilar to that which prevailed at the end of the Crimean war, when Nicholas I took a sudden decision to conclude peace on the best terms obtainable. The effect of the internal situation of either alternative will probably govern the final decision. The practical difficulties, not only in getting a new army to the front, but in actually mobilizing it, are fully appreciated even at the War office, where many officers reluctantly declare it is idle to hope for victory under the present circumstances. Another general mobilization might set the country in flames.

In Poland, whence it is announced another corps will be sent to the front, the mobilization of the last corps ordered to the war has had to be abandoned owing to the popular opposition to the government's policy. At home the elements which are trying to force the emperor's hand would employ either horn of the dilemma selected, whether peace or a continuation of the war,

(Continued on Second Page.)

STRIKE IS NOT YET OVER

Trains in New York Subway Are More Irregular Than Last Week.

NEW YORK, March 13.—That the conditions resulting from the strike on the Interborough Rapid Transit company's lines have not been adjusted was plainly apparent today. Although the strikers had been repudiated by their national organization and even advised by their local officers to make an effort to get back their old places, and the Interborough company had announced that the effect of the strike had passed, trains were more irregular and inadequate today than at any time since last Tuesday. Even in the subway, where the company concentrated nearly all its efforts for several days to perfect its force of operatives from among the strike breakers and where everything appeared to be approaching a normal basis last week, the service today was far from satisfactory. Trains were operated in fairly large numbers, but at reduced speed. All trains were greatly overcrowded.

It was on the elevated lines that the conditions were at their worst, however. The Ninth and Sixth avenue lines on the West Side, which were making fairly good time last week, were operated today apparently with great difficulty.

As far up town as One Hundred and Sixteenth street the cars became crowded, and a repetition of last week's scenes of packed trains, people unable to get aboard and men climbing to the roofs were repeated. Even during the rush hours from fifteen to thirty minutes would pass between trains.

On the Third avenue lines on the East Side conditions were as bad, if not worse, than at any time since the beginning of the strike. While the station platform at one point was crowded with people waiting for a long delayed train, forty empty cars were standing in the center track out of commission. A guard, one of the strike breakers, was asked why these cars were not used. He replied: "They are out of order. The company has 500 cars that cannot be run because their motors are out of order or something is the matter with them."

About 1,200 men applied for their old positions today and of this number 500 were put back to work. The remainder had their applications placed on file and will be notified when wanted to report for work.

LEGEND OF THE HOLY GRAIL

Father Stritch Illuminates the Story of "Parsifal" for Large Assemblage.

Creighton university auditorium was crowded almost to suffocation last night with an audience gathered to hear the address of Father Stritch on "Parsifal." His address was nearly two hours in length and treated of the story of the Holy Grail, the San Greal in its varied stages from the earliest times until the thirteenth century, when it began first to appear in epical form, down to the nineteenth century, or Wagnerian period.

Father Stritch gave a very interesting sketch of the legend as originating first from the earliest Catholic sources, and particularly of the Arthurian version which has been immortalized in the beautiful epic of Tennyson in the "Quest of the Holy Grail," wherein Sirs Galahad, Launcelot, Percival and Gawain are the leading heroes in the search for the holy cup. He likened King Arthur to the pope, surrounded by his twelve knights or bishops and cardinals, and that he had directed them to go out in quest of the Holy Grail and thus encompass the spiritual conquest of the world for Christ.

The Wagnerian version of "Parsifal" was but another version of the legend, and to Wagner is deservingly attributed the glory of producing a musical-drama-sermon showing the way to Christian perfection as being only through the San Greal, or blood of Christ, or through the holy influence of the Holy Grail, or sacred cup from which he drank at the Last Supper, and which afterwards received His precious blood from the spear thrust while on the cross.

Father Stritch's lecture was of the deepest interest and gave a new insight into the origin of the legend and its subsequent versions down to the present time.

Following his address Robert Cuscaden, assisted by Miss Miller on the piano, gave an extended sketch of the musical motifs of the drama, illustrated by various musical sketches on the piano and accompanied with a violin solo by himself, accompanied by Miss Miller on the piano.

DEPOSITION IN SANTA FE CASE

Freight Auditor of the Road Examined About Rates on Oil and Cotton.

TOPEKA, Kan., March 13.—The taking of depositions in the case brought on the relation of the attorney general against the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe was resumed here today. W. J. Healy, general freight auditor of the company, was on the stand. There was nothing in his testimony to show that there is any combine between the Santa Fe and the other Kansas railroads or between the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe and the Standard Oil company. The freight rate on hard and soft coal from Frontenac, Pittsburg and Midas, Kan., to Kansas City was discussed.

Mr. Monett made an attempt to establish by the testimony of Mr. Healy that there is a combination between the Santa Fe and other coal carrying roads in southern Kansas.

The answers from the auditor did not confirm this. An attempt was also made to prove a combination between the Santa Fe and the Kansas City Belt railroad, but nothing had been elicited bearing on this when the hearing adjourned at noon.

TEN INJURED IN A WRECK

Missouri Pacific Train Struck in Colorado and One Man May Die.

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo., March 13.—Missouri Pacific passenger train No. 11, southbound, running on the Denver & Rio Grande tracks, collided with the Denver & Rio Grande passenger train No. 4, northbound, at Fountain, fourteen miles south of here, and ten persons were injured.

The most seriously injured are:

Conductor J. F. Creighton of the dining car, internal injuries, may die.

Charles R. Richardson, Buffalo, N. Y., seriously cut about head and shoulders.

Mrs. Richardson, arm broken and injured in back.

Train No. 4 was heading in from the south end of the side track to allow No. 11 to pass, that train having the right of way, but before it could make the main line No. 11 crashed into the dining car, overturning it, together with a tourist sleeper.

MAIN ARMY IS AT TIE PASS

Remnant of Kouropatkin's Force Reaches Refuge Among the Hills.

DANGER POINT IS NOT YET PASSED

Probability that Japanese May Attack on the Flank and Rear—How the Victory Was Won.

ST. PETERSBURG, March 14.—1:55 p. m.—Russia's "grand army," with the exception of the thousands killed or taken prisoners on the plains and mountains around Mukden, is gathering slowly behind the fortifications of Tie Pass, which were built as a refuge before the battle of Liao Yang, and is feverishly engaged in the work of reorganizing and further strengthening its lines. According to the general staff, the main body has already completed its retreat and the rear guard southward is falling back slowly, keeping in touch with the pursuing columns of Japanese. In the complete absence of further information yesterday, it is difficult to say whether the pursuit has slackened or is being conducted by only a portion of the Japanese and military officials here hope that, as after the battle of Liao Yang, Field Marshal Oyama has paused to give his weary troops a momentary breathing space, while extending his railroad and other lines of supply to his new position and preparing for the next blow.

May Be Outflanked Again.

To the Russian army every minute is now valuable and the footsore and disheartened detachments have been given scarcely an hour's rest before being set at work with spade and pick improving the defences of the pass. It may be, however, that even now they are being turned out of those positions. Rumors are current that a wide eastward flanking movement which was begun before the battle, is still in progress, and on the other side it is feared that columns are moving north of Fakoman to take a position in the Russian rear.

General Kouropatkin still holds command. An officer of the general staff said today that he probably will not retire until some semblance of order has been restored. The question of his successor is still undetermined.

There are indications that the food supply at Tie Pass is none too large, immense quantities having been burned at Mukden, and Russian correspondents telegraph that they have had nothing to eat for two days. The commissariat arrangements worked admirably during the battle and even at the height of the fight the soldiers received warm food.

Awful Loss of Russians.

Telegrams from the Russian side, though inadequate as a oasis for any detailed estimate of the Russian losses, show that they have been extremely heavy, enough to cripple offensive operations for many months. General Kouropatkin admits that 50,000 wounded were carried off, but says nothing as to how many killed, wounded and prisoners were left behind, and from his picture of a little handful of two officers and 150 men of the Imperial rifles marching off, led by their gallant colonel, clinging to their standard, can be derived some idea of the losses sustained by the regiments that bore the brunt of the fighting. The exploit of the 600 at Balaklava pales beside this. Even the losses in the "bloody angle" of the Wilderness and in the battle of Antietam are scarcely comparable.

Another tragic picture of the retreat is related in connection with the retirement of General Rennenkampff's detachment from Oubenepusa with barely one-third of its original strength, the brave soldiers breaking down and sobbing and kissing the blood-stained ground which they had been ordered to relinquish.

The losses of officers is said to have been especially heavy, and many of the higher and more capable officers were killed.

How the Battle Was Won.

WITH GENERAL KUROKI'S ARMY IN THE FIELD, Northeast of Mukden, Sunday, March 12, via Fushun, March 13.—Every hour increases the magnitude of the disaster suffered by the Russian armies. Tonight 25,000 dead are known to have been left on the field, making the casualties at least 100,000. Between 50,000 and 60,000 prisoners, some seventy guns and enormous quantities of ammunition and provisions fell into the hands of the Japanese. The Japanese losses do not exceed those of former great battles. Even General Kuroki's army lost only 5,000.

Field Marshal Oyama's plans completely deceived General Kouropatkin. The Russian commander misjudged the positions and strength of the Japanese. He at first thought that General Nogi's Port Arthur army was pressing his east flank and concentrated a great force there. This force he was afterward obliged to shift to Mukden, where it arrived in a state of exhaustion after a forced march and was unable to fight.

A retreat from Mukden began March 9. It became a demoralized flight when the Russians discovered that their egress was being blocked by Japanese infantry and artillery from the east. The rapid approach of the Japanese was a complete surprise to the Russians, who expected that their retreat would be harassed by Japanese cavalry from the westward. Yesterday (Saturday) morning one division of Japanese encountered several Russian regiments retreating along the road to Tie Pass. The Japanese descended from the hills upon the Russians, who attempted to break through the lines. After a sharp engagement, in which the Japanese guns did great execution, 4,000 Russians surrendered with ten guns. The Japanese lost 100.

According to stories told by the captured Russian officers and the appearance produced by their troops, the retreat lacks organization, every battalion shifting for itself.

Clearing Country of Russians.

TOKIO, March 13.—(11 a. m.)—Army headquarters makes the following announcement:

All our forces have advanced north, pursuing the enemy in all directions and inflicting heavy damage, and they have defeated the enemy, who attempted resistance at various places.

Our forces have completely cleared the enemy out of the districts twenty-five miles north of Mukden and on Sunday were still pursuing them.

The Russians abandoned countless carts of supplies and ammunition in the district for thirteen miles from the vicinity of Kaolitun, south of Chiulikotzu, west of the railway and sixteen miles north of Mukden.

No time has yet been had to count them.

One of the colors captured belonged to the 162d regiment from the Vilna district, which had been engaged in three previous wars.

Our Sinmintin garrison has arrested a paroled Russian officer from Port Arthur who broke his parole at Shanghai and proceeded to Sinmintin.

Additional stores intended for the Russians have been seized at Sinmintin.

As to Japanese Loan.

NEW YORK, March 13.—S. Uchada, Japanese consul general at New York City, today made the following announcement:

I am authorized to state that the issue of 100,000,000 yen exchequer bonds, announced in Tokio on February 27, being

(Continued on Second Page.)

MAY BOYCOTT ARKANSAS

National Board of Fire Underwriters Would Withdraw Unless Law is Repealed.

NEW YORK, March 13.—The National Board of Fire Underwriters at a special meeting here today resolved to recommend the withdrawal of all fire insurance business in the state of Arkansas. This action was taken because of the proposed enforcement of the anti-compact law by the Arkansas legislature. The bill becomes operative on March 23, and if not repealed by that date all policies written in the state of Arkansas will be cancelled.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., March 13.—The state senate today refused, 6 to 25, to pass a bill introduced by Senator Thomas W. Milan of Hot Springs defining conditions under which non-resident fire insurance companies may do business in Arkansas. Senator Milan declared that the measure was intended primarily for the relief of property owners in the burned district at Hot Springs. The bill provided that non-resident companies may do business in the state regardless of their membership in rating bureaus elsewhere which do not affect rates in Arkansas. The failure of the bill to pass is generally accepted to mean that the legislature will not repeal or even modify the new anti-trust law which goes into effect next Thursday.

J. F. CORDOVA IS ON TRIAL

Unfrocked Minister Accused of Assault Upon Wife is Now in Court.

NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J., March 13.—The trial of J. F. Cordova, the unfrocked minister and formerly pastor of the Conklin Methodist Episcopal church of South River, who is charged by his wife with assault and battery and abandonment, as a result of two sensational elopements with the daughter of the village blacksmith, was begun here today. Miss Julia Bowne, the young woman with whom Cordova twice fled, has persistently declined to forsake him and was brought into court today as an extremely unwilling witness. She has been kept in jail as a witness awaiting trial, steadfastly refusing to accept bail offered for her release.

The first elopement of the pair occurred last May, but they returned to South River soon afterward. A few weeks ago they again eloped, going to Washington, where they were apprehended and brought here under arrest. Miss Bowne still proclaims her fidelity to Cordova, and he has repeatedly declared his willingness to accept punishment if Miss Bowne is unharmed.

FIGHT AGAINST BEEF TRUST

Independent Packers Raise Three Million Dollars to Set Facts Squarely Before Public.

CHICAGO, March 13.—The Daily News today says war to the knife between the "big five" of the beef combine and twenty-six firms and corporations classed as independent packers, will, it is asserted, begin in Chicago on March 20, when the special federal grand jury begins its investigations of the affairs of the alleged beef combination. A fund of $3,000,000 has been raised to carry on the fight against the beef combine and set the claims of independent packers squarely before the public. The largest of the so-called independent concerns, Schwarzschild & Sulzberger, is concerned in the movement. The principal plants of the company are in Kansas City, but a large plant is operated by the same company in Chicago and a branch in New York. The independent packers are said to have held meetings in Kansas City to devise a plan of offensive and defensive action.

FUNERAL OF SENATOR BATE

Remains of Late Tennessee Statesman Laid to Rest with Simple Services.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., March 13.—Impressive, though simple services, participated in by the legislature, supreme court, state officials, United Confederacy bivouacs and state guards and the Washington congressional escort, was held in the hall of the house of representatives today over the remains of the late United States Senator William Brimage Bate. The religious services were conducted by Rev. Dr. C. D. Kelly, who was a colonel under General N. F. Forest, and Dr. Laning Burrows, a confederate veteran. The body of the soldier and statesman lay in state at the capitol all day yesterday and was viewed by fully 25,000 persons.

After the ceremonies at the capitol the body of the senator was taken to Mount Olivet cemetery, accompanied by a military escort of confederate veterans.

ILLINOIS PIONEER PASSES AWAY

Death of Friend Causes Isaac G. Reynolds to Take to Deathbed.

PEORIA, Ill., March 13.—Declaring that he had nothing more to live for, Isaac G. Reynolds, a pioneer merchant, took to his bed after the funeral of Mrs. E. A. Havens last Wednesday and never arose. He passed away at the Cottage hospital early today.

Reynolds has been in business in Peoria since 1844. Some years since reverses overtook him and he was forced to retire from business and had lived at a home. He was 87 years old and was prostrated with grief at the death of Mrs. Havens, who had been his lifelong friend, and ordered her body buried in his lot at the cemetery.

BANK AT GENOA, O., ROBBED

Robbers Blow Open Vault and Carry Away Nearly Thirty Thousand Dollars.

TOLEDO, O., March 13.—Last night four men blew open the vault in the bank at Genoa, fifteen miles east of here, and secured between $25,000 and $30,000 in cash and carried away papers valued at $50,000. The men drove to Toledo, but when they saw the police, who were on the lookout for them, left their buggy and made their escape. The police and detective force of the city are searching for them.

GETS FIFTY CENTS FOR VOTE

Traveling Bill Poster Takes Part in Kansas City Election and Goes to Penitentiary.

KANSAS CITY, March 13.—W. H. Perry, who tried to vote illegally at the recent charter election, pleaded guilty here today and was sentenced to two years in the penitentiary. Perry, who was a circus bill poster, had accepted 50 cents to vote against the charter.

TALKS TO MOTHERS' CONGRESS

Principal Address at Evening Session is by President Roosevelt.

CORDIAL RECEPTION FOR CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Mrs. Frederick Schoff, President of the Congress, Discusses Necessity of Moral Training in Schools.

WASHINGTON, March 13.—An address by President Roosevelt was the feature of the evening session of the National Congress of Mothers, now holding its triennial convention at the Metropolitan Methodist Episcopal church. There was an immense crowd at the church, composed largely of women, and when Mr. Roosevelt, accompanied by Secretary Loeb, arrived he was given a cordial reception. He read his speech, but now and then interjected some extemporaneous remarks when he wished to emphasize a point.

The president spoke as follows:

In our modern industrial civilization there are many and grave dangers to counterbalance the splendors and the triumphs. It is not a good thing to see cities grow at disproportionate speed relatively to the country; for the small land owners, the men who own their little homes, and therefore to a very large extent the men who till farms, the men of the soil, have hitherto made the foundation of lasting national life in every state; and, if the foundation becomes either too weak or too narrow, the superstructure, no matter how attractive, is in imminent danger of falling.

But far more important than the question of the occupation of our citizens is the question of how their family life is conducted. No matter what that occupation may be, as long as there is a real home and as long as those who make up that home do their duty to one another, to their neighbors to the state, it is of minor consequence whether the man's trade is plied in the country or the city, whether it calls for the work of the hands or for the work of the head.

But the nation is in a bad way if there is no real home, if the family is not of the right kind; if the man is not a good husband and father, if he is brutal or cowardly or selfish, if the woman has lost her sense of duty, if she is sunk in vapid self-indulgence or has let her nature be twisted so that she prefers a sterile pseudo-intellectuality to that great and beautiful development of character which comes only to those whose lives know the fullness of duty done, of effort made and self-sacrifice undergone.

In the last analysis the welfare of the state depends absolutely upon whether or not the average family, the average man and woman and their children, represent the kind of citizenship fit for the foundation of a great nation; and if we fail to appreciate this we fail to appreciate the root morality upon which all healthy civilization is based.

No piled-up wealth, no splendor of material growth, no brilliance of artistic development, will permanently avail any people unless its home life is healthy, unless the average man possesses honesty, courage, common sense and decency, unless he works hard and is willing at need to fight hard; and unless the average woman is a good wife, a good mother, able and willing to perform the first and greatest duty of womanhood, able and willing to bear, and to bring up as they should be brought up, healthy children, sound in body, mind and character, and numerous enough so that the race shall increase and not decrease.

Duties of Man and Wife.

There are certain old truths which will be true as long as this world endures, and which no amount of progress can alter. One of these is the truth that the primary duty of the husband is to be the home-maker, the bread-winner for his wife and children, and that the primary duty of the woman is to be the helpmeet, the housewife and mother. The woman should have ample educational advantages; but save in exceptional cases the man must be, and she need not be, and generally ought not to be, trained for a lifelong career as the family breadwinner; and, therefore, after a certain point the training of the two must normally be different because the duties of the two are normally different. This does not mean inequality of function, but it does mean that normally there must be dissimilarity of function. On the whole, I think the duty of the woman the more important, the more difficult, and the more honorable of the two; on the whole I respect the woman who does her duty even more than I respect the man who does his.

Inasmuch as I am speaking to an assemblage of mothers I shall have nothing whatever to say in praise of an easy life. Yours is the work which is never ended. No mother has an easy time, and most mothers have very hard times; and yet what true mother would barter her experience of joy and sorrow in exchange for a life of cold selfishness, which insists upon perpetual amusement and the avoidance of care, and which often finds its fit dwelling place in some flat designed to furnish with the least possible expenditure of effort the maximum of comfort and of luxury, but in which there is literally no place for children?

The man is but a poor creature whose effort is not rather for the betterment of his wife and children than for himself; and as for the mother, her very name stands for loving unselfishness and self-abnegation, and, in any society fit to exist, is fraught with associations which render it holy.

The woman's task is not easy—no task worth doing is easy—but in doing it, and when she has done it, there shall come to her the highest and holiest joy known to mankind; and having done it, she shall have the reward prophesied in scriptures; for her husband and her children, yes, and all people who realize that her work lies at the foundation of all national happiness and greatness, shall rise up and call her blessed.

Address by Mrs. Schoff.

Preceding the president's speech Mrs. Frederick Schoff, president of the congress, delivered an address in which she spoke of "The Children of the Nation."

Mrs. Schoff strongly advocated moral training in the public schools and she favored the appointment of an interdenominational committee for compiling a practical, simple code of moral instruction that would be accepted by all faiths. She also set out the importance of the introduction of moral training and domestic science into all schools and said the greatest work that can be done for the children is to organize a parents' association in every school, with purpose of study of all questions relating to child and home.

Conditions in Utah.

Mrs. Schoff said there are various conditions prevalent throughout the country which are tending to undermine high standards of marriage. Regarding conditions in Utah she had this to say:

The superintendent of public instruction of Utah testified under oath that he had investigated the schools of Utah to learn whether the Mormon religion, including polygamy, was taught in them. He said that reports have not come from all of them, but that in over 300 of the 606 schools of Utah the Mormon religion was taught. Some of the teachers in these schools showed letters bearing the seal of the president of the Mormon church requesting them to teach this in the schools. The lives of Mormon polygamists were studied by the pupils. The lives of Washington, Lincoln and other great men in the world's history were entirely omitted. These conditions extend also into the states adjoining Utah. In the Brigham Young academy, where from 1,200 to 1,300 young men and young women attend, information has come to us that polygamy is taught there, and the head of the school is a polygamist.

PRAIRIE FIRE IN NORTH DAKOTA

All Buildings on a Tract of Three Hundred Square Miles Are Destroyed.

ELLENDALE, N. D., March 13.—Reports from the prairie fire make it clear that it was the most disastrous known in this section. The fire burned over a tract thirty miles in extent by ten miles wide, burning buildings, stacks and stock. The loss of hay was enormous. Some farmers lost everything they owned and are reduced to absolute poverty.

NEBRASKA WEATHER FORECAST

Snow Tuesday; Wednesday Partly Cloudy.

Temperature at Omaha Yesterday:

Hour.	Deg.	Hour.	Deg.
5 a. m.	23	1 p. m.	25
6 a. m.	22	2 p. m.	26
7 a. m.	22	3 p. m.	28
8 a. m.	22	4 p. m.	28
9 a. m.	23	5 p. m.	27
10 a. m.	24	6 p. m.	27
11 a. m.	24	7 p. m.	26
12 m.	25	8 p. m.	26
		9 p. m.	26

FIGHT FOR RATES ON GRAIN

Railroad Officials Will Try to Settle Dispute Between Chicago and Minneapolis Interests.

CHICAGO, March 13.—Efforts to adjust a rate controversy which has come up in connection with shipments of grain from points in Iowa and other states east of the Missouri river to Chicago and to Minneapolis, will be made here tomorrow at a conference of officials of the various lines.

The controversy is not one precipitated by the desire of the railroads to control business via Chicago or Minneapolis, but is really a controversy between the Boards of Trade of these cities and the grain shipping interests.

The Chicago grain men are anxious to have the rates from Iowa and points east of the Missouri river via Chicago made more nearly equal to those via Minneapolis, while the Minneapolis interests are appealing to the railroads to make them higher than at present. The rates via Chicago are 5 cents higher per 100 pounds on local shipments and 3 cents per 100 pounds higher on through shipments than they are via Minneapolis. The northern shippers ask that an additional 1½ per cent be added.

CODY CASE IS NEARLY FINISHED

Sister of Buffalo Bill Repeats Story that His Wife Intended to Give Him a Drug.

DENVER, March 13.—The allegation that Mrs. Cody threatened to give her husband, Colonel William F. Cody (Buffalo Bill) a drug to bring him under her control has been repeated in a deposition made in this city by Mrs. Helen Cody Wetmore, a sister of the colonel, to be filed in his divorce suit in the Wyoming court.

"Mrs. Cody told me," said Mrs. Wetmore, "that she had obtained a drug of some character from a clairvoyant, and that she intended to give it to Colonel Cody in order to get control over him; that she thought herself a better manager for the property than the colonel, and that she wished to get control of all property at all hazards."

This is the statement upon which Colonel Cody bases his charge that Mrs. Cody attempted to poison him.

The trial is practically finished, with the exception of taking one or two depositions in Nebraska, before the matter is laid before the court at Sheridan on March 20. Several witnesses will be put on the stand at that time and the arguments in the case will consume several days.

NEW CANDIDATE IN MISSOURI

Neidringhaus Republicans Will Cast Their Votes for Judge Spencer for Two Days.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., March 13.—At a caucus tonight attended by fifty-three republican members of the legislature, in an endeavor to break the deadlock over the selection of a United States senator, a resolution was adopted binding the members to vote at the joint sessions of the legislature for two consecutive days for the candidate who receives forty-seven votes in the caucus balloting.

This means that the members of the legislature are released from the caucus action where Thomas K. Niedringhaus was nominated for the senatorship. The Kerens republicans took no part in tonight's caucus and it is regarded as extremely improbable that they will agree to desert Kerens for any selection the Niedringhaus men may make for a compromise candidate.

The balloting resulted in the selection of Judge S. P. Spencer as the choice of the caucus and according to the agreement the ballots of the fifty-three republicans present at the caucus tonight at least will be cast for him for the next two days.

ANTI-TRUST LAW IN ILLINOIS

Proposed Measure Covers Combinations of Insurance Companies and Imposes Penalties.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., March 13.—In the lower house of the state legislature tonight Representative McKinley of Chicago introduced an anti-trust bill, drawn by Attorney General Stead and indorsed by Governor Deneen. The definition of a trust is enlarged to include both life insurance companies and underwriters. The bill provides a system of graduate fines for corporations violating the act, a similar system for the officers of the corporations, and it is especially provided that any person or corporation injured by the operation of a trust shall be entitled to sue and recover two-fold all damages sustained.

WOUNDED MEN MAY RECOVER

Victims of George Shissler Who Killed Two at Denver Still Alive.

DENVER, March 13.—Police Captain William Bohanna and Police Surgeon Frank Dulin, who were shot yesterday by George Shissler, when about to arrest him after he had killed Mr. and Mrs. Kay Sill, neighbors, are still alive today and probably will recover. Mrs. Shissler, who suffers from heart disease, lay unconscious many hours after hearing of the deed of her husband, but revived today. It is still undetermined whether Shissler killed himself or was wounded by one of the posse. Shissler is believed to have been temporarily deranged.

Movements of Ocean Vessels March 13.

At New York—Arrived: Umbria, from Liverpool.

At Marseilles—Arrived: Perugia, from New York.

At Plymouth—Arrived: Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse, from New York.

At Genoa—Sailed: Citta di Napli, for New York. Arrived: Weimer, from New York.

At Gibraltar—Arrived: Konig Albert, from New York. Sailed: Princess Irene, for New York.

At Dover—Arrived: Kroonland, from New York, for Antwerp, and proceeded.

At Glasgow—Arrived: Laurentian, from New York. Sailed: Pretorian, for Halifax.

At Liverpool—Sailed: Iberian, for Boston.

At Hamburg—Arrived: Bluecher, from New York.

At Bremen—Arrived: Breslau, from New York.

At Boulogne—Sailed: Pretoria, for New York.

AGER FIGHTS BACK

Veteran Lobbyist Replies to Signed Interview with Representative Ernst.

FLATLY DENIES SOME OF THE CHARGES

Asks to Have Names of Men Who Are Influenced Made Public.

MEMBERS OF HOUSE MUCH OF SAME MIND

Ager Also Alleges Ernest Has Been Greatest of Pass Solicitors.

SOME PROSPECTS OF AN INVESTIGATION

Man Who Started It All Not Willing to Mention Names and Inclined to Hush the Whole Matter Up.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

LINCOLN, March 13.—(Special)—"Mr. Ernst has drawn more heavily upon me for trip passes than any other member of the legislature."

This statement was made today by J. H. Ager, the veteran lobbyist for the Burlington railroad, in a written interview, provoked by charges from Representative Ernst of Johnson county, that railroad passes and theater tickets and other forms of favors have interfered with the passage of good laws at this session of the legislature.

"Have you anything to say in reply to this statement from Mr. Ager?" was asked Mr. Ernst this afternoon.

"No;" he said, "I have not seen the statement in print yet and, anyway, did I name anybody in my statement?"

He did not.

A correspondent for The Bee was informed by a member of the house this afternoon that a resolution would be introduced tomorrow calling on Mr. Ernst to make good his charges by naming the corporation men who have sought to influence legislation and the members who have listened to the siren voice. This resolution is drawn up now and there is a lively sentiment for its introduction.

Asked if he would furnish the house with the desired information, Mr. Ernst replied: "I have nothing to say today."

Would Drop Matter.

Tonight Mr. Ernst expressed a very earnest wish that the house order no investigation or command to him to make good his charges. He is said to have prevailed upon one member whom he understood would introduce such a resolution to recede from such determination and for the sake of the republican party stir up no such furor as a resolution of this kind would provoke.

This member and others believe that unless Mr. Ernst publicly informs the house that he is unable to furnish the evidence, a stigma inevitably rests upon the entire membership.

"So long as the names of the individuals against whom Mr. Ernst directed his charges are not disclosed the public is left to judge or censure every member," said a prominent member tonight. "The sentiment is favorable either to a full retraction by Mr. Ernst or a complete confirmation of his charges with names.

"If such shameful practices as Mr. Ernst points to have been in progress and he knows the guilty persons, it is his duty to name them so that action might be taken," said this member.

What Provoked Storm.

After announcing his purpose and desire faithfully to serve the people by doing his part toward the [illegible] of laws calculated properly to regulate the railroad rate and transportation situation and other matters pertaining to corporations and avowing his belief that the majority of the house are honest men, but that somehow, try as hard as they may, "certain corporations have been able to hoodwink and confuse the members," Mr. Ernest states over his signature:

The trouble seems to be that so many of the members who really desire to pass laws for the interest of the whole state are new to the ways of legislatures, while the men who are sent here and paid to manage us have had long experience. After forty days of the hardest work I have ever done in my life I begin to see how it is that these corporation lobbyists have been able to prevent the passage of the laws that the people demand. By flattery they win our confidence; with railroad passes and free tickets to the theater they put us under obligation to them; with devilish cunning they work to keep members who want to do something apart from each other and from coming to an understanding as to the things they ought to do for the people. They even go so far as to try to entice members into debauchery with wine and women in night orgies, where they compromise their character and tie their hands from future usefulness to their constituents. They encourage distrust among us. We have failed because we are unorganized.

But it is not too late yet to change this. We may yet be able to give the state some needed legislation in spite of the opposition of the railroads, the bridge lobby and other interests that have allied themselves with these. I cannot be satisfied without asking the members of both houses of the legislature who really want to have something to show for their winter's work when they go home to their constituents to make one more effort to stand together and pass some of the bills now under discussion which are in the interest of all the people.

Ager Takes Up Gauntlet.

True, no name is mentioned in the entire Ernst statement, but Mr. Ager takes up the gauntlet upon his own motion and says:

Many interests as legitimate as those that he claims to represent, with no man in either body who has voice or vote upon proposed legislation vitally affecting their business, are by their officials and employes trying to enlighten the members who (confessedly uninformed themselves) upon the effect proposed restrictive legislation would have upon the operation and revenue of such business, and it is wholly right and proper that they should be permitted to do so; indeed, no man can justly represent the people of any district in the legislature who does not welcome any or all information obtainable concerning any interest to be affected by his vote, provided it is imparted in a straightforward, honest and legitimate way, and he should thank the person who gives it, whether he be railroad, telephone, telegraph or bridge man.

Personally, I am in ignorance as to the provisions of any of the so-called "bridge bills," and Mr. Ernst's charge that the railroad and bridge interests are allied for the purpose of affecting legislation is absolutely untrue.

As to "theater tickets," the end of the session will show that I have spent during the winter for these not to exceed $25 and they were used in entertaining members and others who with their wives are old and valued friends of myself and wife; and we do not intend to be debarred from the privilege of exercising common courtesies toward our friends, even though such friends be members of the legislature, or because I happen to be an employe of the Burlington railroad.

In regard to "passes." Previous to the convening of the legislature I (in accordance with the custom of many years) sent the members annual passes over our lines in the state, and on the personal solicitation of members have since given them a number of trip passes for the use of their families and friends; more than 90 per cent of the latter of whom were farmers desiring to visit the legislature. Without a single exception, Mr. Ernst has drawn more heavily upon me for trip passes than any other member of the legislature. He