THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

VOL. XXXVII—NO. 271. OMAHA, WEDNESDAY MORNING, APRIL 29, 1908—TWELVE PAGES. SINGLE COPY TWO CENTS.

ENGINEER FOR ROADS

Congressman Pollard Hopes to Have Some Work in His District.

WRITES TO COUNTY BOARDS

As Yet Has Received No Answers Indicating Services Are Wanted.

KINKAID IS FOR FREE LUMBER

Proposes to Introduce Bill, but Little Chance for Its Passage.

OPPOSITION TO VREELAND BILL

Nebraska Members Especially Dislike Two Provisions of the Measure and Will Not Sign Call for Conference on the Measure.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, April 28.—(Special Telegram.)—Congressman Pollard, who has become interested in the subject of good roads and has made a study of the methods in vogue for the building of roads in the clay and sand districts of the United States, succeeded in having incorporated in the last appropriation bill, being a member of the agricultural committee, a provision that engineer officers should be sent to cooperate with county boards and give them the benefit of both their engineering and practical knowledge looking to the construction of better roads. Mr. Pollard today addressed a letter to the chairmen of the county boards in his district, calling attention to a previous letter written by him and to which no reply had been made, regarding the best improved and thoroughly up-to-date methods of improving the public highways of the country. While the congressman expressly indicated that he did not wish to be understood as appearing in the light of interfering in any way with the policy of the county boards in his district, he called attention to the fact that he could have sent to the various county seats, without cost to the county boards, a skilled engineer who will confer with the county board in an advisory capacity as to the best methods of building public roads.

The Washington bureau of good roads is carrying on co-operative work throughout the south, east and far west, which has resulted in decided improvement of their public highways. Congressman Pollard very naturally, having been instrumental in securing an appropriation for the good roads bureau of the Department of Agriculture, wants some of the public funds used in Nebraska, and especially in his district.

To the chairmen of these county boards, Mr. Pollard in his letter says: "The agricultural bill now pending in congress carries an appropriation of $20,000 which is to be used in carrying on a co-operative demonstration of work in improving the highways of the various states of the union. Until the present time there has not been a dollar spent in Nebraska. This service that I have suggested will not cost your county a penny, unless, of course, you desire to co-operate with the government in improving your highways. I shall be very glad indeed to have you advise me whether I can send one of these engineers to consult with your county board along the lines indicated."

Bill for Free Lumber.

Congressman Kinkaid will tomorrow introduce a bill for free lumber, and, as he said today, he will fight for it through to the end. The bill will provide for everything in the building line and everything used on the farm in the way of lumber. The possibility, however, of the congressman getting his bill reported is about as remote as an invention for controlling the tides of the sea, as a general revision of the tariff this session is considered wholly out of the question.

Nebraskans Oppose Vreeland Bill.

Nebraska delegation is not pleased with the Vreeland currency bill, two features of the bill in particular, the bond proposition and the failure to guarantee deposits, being particularly obnoxious to the house members from Nebraska. At a meeting of the delegation last Saturday, held in Judge Kinkaid's office in the house building, the Vreeland bill was the subject of serious consideration, and it was decided that the Nebraskans would refuse to attach their names to the call for a conference of republican members of the house, as is now being agitated.

Wayne Gets Old Cannon.

Senator Burkett today received a letter from General Crozier, chief of ordnance, informing him that his request for cannon and obsolete shells for the grand army post at Wayne, Neb., had been granted. The request for condemned cannon was made to Senator Burkett, through the commander of Casey post, No. 5, Wayne, Neb., who desires this trophy for ornamental purposes, and the cannon to fit their wishes has been discovered at the Rock Island arsenal in the form a of three-inch parrott gun, and this and three projectiles will be shipped to Wayne. General Crozier in his letter to Senator Burkett cautioned him to advise his Grand Army friends in Wayne not to attempt to load and fire the cannon they are about to receive, as it might prove disastrous to the surrounding territory and its people.

Minor Matters at Capital.

An extension of seven months has been granted James Munn of Deadwood, S. D., within which to complete his contract for the erection of structures in connection with the distribution system of the Lower Yellowstone irrigation project in Montana and North Dakota.

Bids were opened today for the construction of the public building at Watertown, S. D., the lowest bidder being the Northern Construction company of Milwaukee, at $72,00.

Otto Schnliger has been appointed postmaster at Johnstown, Brown county, Nebraska, vice K. E. Denton, resigned.

Rural route No. 2 has been ordered established June 1 at Frankfort, Spink county, S. D., serving 80 people and eighty-three families.

A postoffice has been established at Imogy, Pennington county, South Dakota, with Reuben C. Bartmess as postmaster.

The Farmers' National bank of Kingsley, Ia., has been authorized to begin business with $25,000 capital. Mason J. Fort is president; Allen Harrod, vice president, and R. B. Lyle, cashier.

Murray Takes Oath.

WASHINGTON, April 28.—Lawrence O. Murray, former assistant secretary of the Department of Commerce and Labor, today took the oath as comptroller of the currency. Mr. Murray succeeds William B. Ridgely, recently elected president of the National Bank of Commerce of Kansas City.

SUMMARY OF THE BEE

Wednesday, April 29, 1908.

THE WEATHER.

FOR OMAHA, COUNCIL BLUFFS AND VICINITY—Probably fair Wednesday and not much change in temperature.

FOR NEBRASKA—Wednesday, partly cloudy.

FOR IOWA—Partly cloudy Wednesday and continued cool.

Temperature at Omaha yesterday:

Hour.	Deg.
5 a. m.	29
6 a. m.	26
7 a. m.	28
8 a. m.	31
9 a. m.	37
10 a. m.	38
11 a. m.	41
12 m.	44
1 p. m.	46
2 p. m.	47
3 p. m.	47
4 p. m.	46
5 p. m.	45
6 p. m.	41
7 p. m.	43
8 p. m.	42
9 p. m.	41

Congressman Kinkaid seeks to interest members of county boards in question of road improvement. Kinkaid to introduce a bill for free lumber. Nebraska members of congress opposed to the Vreeland currency bill. **Page 1**

Colorado republicans in convention declare for Taft. **Page 1**

New Jersey democratic convention sends a delegation to Denver which is opposed to Bryan. **Page 1**

New York Catholics commence the celebration of the centennial of the establishment of the diocese. **Page 1**

British torpedo boat sunk and one of the crew drowns during night maneuvers. **Page 1**

NEBRASKA.

John Slattery is put off a Burlington train at Grand Island and loses a leg and suffers a fractured skull. **Page 3**

Bert M. Taylor assaults two girls at Minden and escapes. Posse has him surrounded near Bloomington and capture is imminent. One of his victims likely to die. **Page 1**

Edward Fenner of Nebraska City kills himself because his wife and daughter leave him. **Page 3**

Former Judge Holcomb returns to Broken Bow from Seattle to make Nebraska his home. **Page 3**

State commission's investigation of grain rates brings out showing of discrimination against Omaha and in favor of Kansas City. **Page 3**

LOCAL.

B. C. Fox of Lincoln is elected grand regent of the grand council, Royal Arcanum, at meeting which closed Tuesday evening. **Page 2**

Fruit men assert danger of damage to fruit by present cold spell is past. **Page 4**

Omaha business men appear before State Railway commission protesting against mixed carload and 100 pound minimum rates. **Page 4**

Omaha lumbermen have organized to protest against lumber rates railroads will put in force June 1. **Page 4**

Intercity Base Ball league formed and opening games will be played Sunday afternoon. **Page 11**

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

Live stock markets. **Page 9**

Grain markets. **Page 9**

Stocks and bonds. **Page 9**

MOVEMENTS OF OCEAN STEAMSHIPS.

Port.	Arrived.	Sailed.
NEW YORK		
NEW YORK		
QUEENSTOWN	Slavonia	
GENOA	Friedrich Der G.	
PLYMOUTH	K. P. Wilhelm	
GIBRALTER	Kaiserin Luise	
DOVER	Vaderland	

MURDER BY RELIGIOUS FANATIC

Wife of Child's Slayer Insists Killing is the Act of God.

ALLENTOWN, Pa., April 28.—A report of a murder by a religious fanatic in the borough of Alliance, near here, reached this city today. Councilman Henry Smith's little daughter, aged 6, was killed by the former's brother-in-law, Robert Bachman, of Nazareth, Pa.

Bachman was the head of a new praying band, and last week he got the Smiths interested. They went to Bachman's house last Saturday, prayed and held services, and then decided to remain until the spirit told them to leave. Late last night, under Bachman's direction, Smith, in fighting the devil, broke three doors, kicked in the footboard of the bed and jumped on the bed, smashing it. Meanwhile Bachman was in an adjoining room with Smith's only child, May Irene. When Mrs. Smith entered that room she found her daughter's dead body on the floor and Bachman on his knees in a religious frenzy. The forehead and upper portions of the child's body were bruised and scratched.

This afternoon Bachman was arrested. His wife told the coroner that the child had been killed by God and that her husband was God.

NEW YORK GALLANTS ACTIVE

Suffragettes Hooted and Jeered by the Men of Manhattan for Trying to Speak.

NEW YORK, April 28.—The representatives of the suffragette movement, Mrs. Hoorsam Wells, the English enthusiast, and Miss Josephine Casey of Chicago, were put to rout in Harlem last night. Miss Casey began an impromptu address at Seventh avenue and 125th street and soon had an audience of 1,000 or more listening to her. Undaunted by calls of "get the hook" and other impolite remarks from the crowd, the Chicago speaker persisted and by the time she was ready to introduce Mrs. Wells the crowd which had gathered blocked traffic on the busy street and an extra force of police was called for. The crowd absolutely refused to let the English speaker proceed and after declaring herself through with Harlem for all times Mrs. Wells and her companion abandoned the field and permitted the police to escort them to a car.

GROVER CLEVELAND IMPROVING

Former President Still Ill at a Hotel at Lakewood, New Jersey.

LAKEWOOD, N. J., April 28.—Grover Cleveland, who is ill at a hotel here, was reported today to have passed a good night and to be improving daily.

CENTENNIAL FOR CATHOLICS

Hundred Years Progress in New York Celebrated with Pomp.

POPE AND PRESIDENT SEND NOTES

Notable Assemblage of Prelates at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Where Cardinal Gibbons Preaches the Sermon.

NEW YORK, April 28.—As early as 8 o'clock this morning hundreds of priests and dignitaries and thousands of men, women and children were on the way to St. Patrick's cathedral to join in the imposing thanksgiving service in honor of the completion of a hundred years of Catholic progress in New York. While the services did not begin until after 11 o'clock, the cathedral was filled to overflowing long before 10. Before the service began there were fully 6,000 persons gathered in the beautiful edifice and as many more on the outside.

Headed by a deacon bearing aloft a processional cross, the clergy and prelates who participated in the ceremony marched in solemn procession from the Cathedral college on Madison avenue to the main entrance of the cathedral, in Fifth avenue, and thence up the long aisle into the spa sanctuary. There were surpliced clergy, prelates attired in the flowing vestments of their several ranks, and heads of the numerous religious orders attired in their simple garb of black, brown or white. First in line were the leaders of the church in America: Archbishops Ireland of St. Paul, Glennon of St. Louis, Keane of Dubuque, Moeller of Cincinnati, O'Connell of Boston, Blenk of New Orleans, Ryan of Philadelphia, Quigley of Chicago and Farley of New York. They were followed by the head and America's representative in the Sacred college, Cardinal Gibbons. The very last and the chief personage in the celebration, since he was celebrant of the mass, was Cardinal Logue, primate of Ireland.

Message from the Pope.

The mass began promptly at 11 o'clock. Cardinal Gibbons preached a long sermon, in which he reviewed the history of the church in New York from its earliest days until the present. A message was received from Pope Pius X, congratulating Archbishop Farley and the Catholics of New York.

The pope's message follows:

To Our Venerable Brother, John M. Farley, Archbishop of New York—Venerable Brother: Health and apostolic benediction. The occurrence of the memorable events in the history of any diocese is at all time an occasion of joy, and the 100th anniversary of the foundation of the archdiocese of New York, where development has been extraordinary, must call for unusual rejoicing, because the constant increase in the harvests of a hundred years bears ample testimony that the highest expectations have been abundantly fulfilled.

It seems proper, in view of these consoling results, that on the solemn centennial celebration of the see of New York we should renew our fervent supplication to God that he may vouch safety to a more plentiful supply of His celestial gifts and more copious resources to accomplish things even more laudable.

For these reasons, and as a mark of special honor, it affords us great pleasure to tender to you and to your devoted flock our heartfelt congratulations. For assuredly you and your loyal brethren have rendered many distinguished services to the church and to the state, and we cherish the hope that these, our words, may be an incentive to persevere in that vigilance and zeal of which you have thus given such signal proof, and thus bring glory to America and stand as an example for the entire world.

As an augury of heavenly favor and an evidence of our good will, we most lovingly impart to you and to your faithful people the apostolic benediction.

Given at St. Peters, Rome, the 9th day of April, 1908, in the fifth year of our pontificate. PIUS X, Pope.

President Sends a Note.

Scores of communications reached the archbishop from ministers and laymen of all denominations, including Bishop Greer, Rabbi Silverman and Rev. Dr. C. L. Jefferson.

President Roosevelt wrote as follows:

My Dear Archbishop: Let me take occasion, on the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the diocese of New York, to extend to you my hearty congratulations and my earnest good wishes for the future of yourself and of your diocese.

Sincerely yours, THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

At the close of the mass, Monsignor Falconio, who represented the vatican, imparted the papal blessing. There will be pontifical vespers this evening, the apostolic delegate will be celebrant. Archbishop Glennon will preach. The clergy of the archdiocese will give a dinner this afternoon to the visiting prelates. Among the bishops now in town are Fitzmaurice of Erie, Canevin of Pittsburg, McFaul of Trenton, O'Connor of Newark, Donahue of Wheeling, W. Va. There will be a reception tomorrow night at the Catholic club.

BOOKS ORDERED PRODUCED

Judge Lacombe Issues Order in Manila Paper Combine Investigation.

NEW YORK, April 28.—Refusal to produce before the federal grand jury, which is investigating the fibre and manila paper trust, certain books and papers demanded by the grand jury resulted today in three witnesses being sent before Judge Lacombe in the United States district court charged by the grand jury with contempt. The recalcitrant witnesses were Dr. J. H. Campbell of the Sulphide Paper company, Dexter, N. Y.; James Outerson of the Degrafs Paper company, Carthage, N. Y., and Louis F. Haupt, secretary of the Munising Paper company, Munising, Mich. Judge Lacombe, after listening to the excuses offered in behalf of these three men by counsel for the defense, gave Dr. Campbell and Mr. Outerson until next Friday to produce the books and other papers wanted by the grand jury. He dismissed the matter with regard to Secretary Haupt, saying that the latter being only an employe, was not at fault.

MONEY FOR THE SQUARE DEAL

One Official of Oil Company Testifies that Another Subscribed to Kansas Campaign.

TOPEKA, Kan., April 28.—H. H. Albert, advertising manager of the Uncle Sam Oil company, testified in the trial of H. H. Tucker, Jr., secretary of the company, charged with using the mails to defraud, yesterday afternoon. Mr. Albert said that he and Tucker attended a meeting in 1906 of the Stubbs faction of the republican party of Kansas in Topeka, when Tucker subscribed $300 to the so-called square deal campaign in Kansas. He promised in addition $1 for each of the 2,000 Kansas stockholders of the Uncle Sam Oil company. The $300 was paid, but the $2,000 is still due.

A. W. Stubbs is a prominent politician who has been spoken of at different times both for governor and United States senator.

BRITISH INCLINED TO OBJECT

Belief Japan is Going Too Far in Its Peaceful Conquest of Manchuria.

PEKING, April 28.—The British government, through its diplomatic and consular representatives in China, is making a quiet investigation of the causes of the increasing antagonism of China to the Japanese. The British press in China has recently published a series of careful arguments to show the seriousness of what it terms Japan's abuse of the Anglo-Japanese alliance, namely, the maintenance of the integrity of China. It is held here that Japan has violated the equal opportunity clause of the Anglo-Japanese alliance, and it is declared that Great Britain is not satisfied with Japan's fulfillment of article 1 of this agreement; furthermore, it is said that the British government considers that Japan has violated article iv of the treaty of Portsmouth, which provides that Japan and Russia shall not obstruct any general measures common to all countries, which China may take for the development of the commerce or industry of Manchuria.

The rapidity with which Japan is carrying on its peaceful penetration of Manchuria has made Great Britain anxious concerning all incidents that furnish a precedent to Japan, such as the question of the British control of the municipality of Harbin. It is believed here that China as a result of friendly suggestions, will appeal to The Hague to deprive of legal force the interpretations of the secret protocols and agreements that Russia and Japan are imposing upon it.

BRITISH TORPEDO BOAT SUNK

Another Collision During Night Maneuvers Costs One Life and a Vessel.

HARWICH, England, April 28.—The British torpedo boat destroyer Gala was cut in two and sunk early today off Kentish Knock, in the North sea, by the scout Attentive. The torpedo boat destroyer Ribble also was involved in the collision and returned to Sheerness with two compartments full of water. The flotilla was engaged in night maneuvers when the accident occurred. Engineer Lieutenant Frank A. Fletcher of the Gala, who was in his bunk at the point where the destroyer was struck, went down with the vessel. There was no other loss of life.

The accident of today resembles in many respects that which was met by the torpedo boat destroyer Tiger, which collided with and was sunk by the British cruiser Berwick while engaged in night maneuvers off the Isle of Wight on April 2. The number of lives lost on that occasion, however, was thirty-six.

Later reports said that four men had been severly and one slightly injured.

SPAIN TO OBSERVE CENTENARY

Hundredth Anniversary of War for Independence to Be Observed.

MADRID, April 28.—Elaborate festivities commemorating the centenary of the war for Spanish independence will begin May 1 with a grand musical festival in front of the royal palace at Madrid. The celebrations will conclude May 3 with a series of bull fights for the people.

After the festivities King Alfonso and Queen Victoria, accompanied by their court, will go to La Granja, where the queen will remain until the birth of her next child. In the meantime King Alfonso will make a trip to the eastern provinces of Spain, going later to San Sebastian and Bilbao for the yacht races. In the fall the queen will go to Cowes to visit her mother, Princess Henry of Battenburg.

DUKE LIES AMONG ANCESTORS

De Chaulnes Buried at the Family Chateau with Only Private Ceremony.

DAMPIERRE, France, April 28.—The body of the Duke de Chaulnes, the young French nobleman, who was married a few months ago to Miss Theodora Shonts of New York and who died suddenly in Paris last week, was today interred at the chateau here of the De Chaulnes family. The body was brought down from Paris yesterday. This morning a private mass was celebrated in the chapel of the chateau. Only the immediate members of the duke's family were present.

KURDS ON WAR TRAIL AGAIN

Armenians Flee Into Russian Territory to Escape Their Mohammedan Neighbors.

TIFLIS, April 28.—Reports have just been brought in here that the Kurdish population of the Armenian provinces bordering on Russia have become aggressively active and are indulging in disorder and massacre. The Armenian population is fleeing into Russian territory.

EXPLOSION ON BRITISH SHIP

Several Men Injured on Board Battleship Brittania Off Portsmouth.

PORTSMOUTH, April 28.—According to a wireless report received here there has been a boiler explosion on the British battleship Brittania in which several men were injured. The Brittania is expected to come into Portsmouth this evening.

RAISULI ESCAPES ASSASSINS

Bandit Was Ambushed by Tribesmen, but They Fail of Their Purpose.

TANGIER, April 28.—It has been learned definitely that the report in circulation yesterday that Raisuli had been assassinated is untrue. He was ambushed by the Elkmes tribesmen, but escaped.

Porto Rican Council.

SAN JUAN, P. R., April 28.—The American Federation of Labor has petitioned Governor Post to recommend the appointment of an independent to fill one of the vacancies in the native membership of the executive council. The council now includes two unionists, two republicans, and one independent. The governor proposes to eliminate the independent and to recommend the names of two more unionists. The federation has submitted three names. The matter will be taken up with President Roosevelt.

Belle and Anna Busy.

NAPLES, April 28.—Prince Helie de Sagan and Mme. Anna Gould and her party have made arrangements to leave here tomorrow morning for Rome, where they have engaged apartments at the Grand hotel. One of Mme. Gould's automobiles has been sent to Nice, and it is believed that Mme. Gould intends to spend some days in the Riviera.

COLORADO IS OUT FOR TAFT

Centennial State Adds Ten Votes to Leader's List.

ROOSEVELT AND BUCHTEL LAUDED

Resolution of Commendation for President and Governor Adopted by the Convention in Session at Pueblo.

PUEBLO, Colo., April 28.—The republican state convention called to select delegates-at-large to the national convention at Chicago, was held here today without a contest so far as the nomination for president was concerned. The entire state delegation will go to Chicago as a unit for Secretary Taft.

Delegates-at-large to the national convention were chosen as follows: Crawford Hill, Denver; Dr. Hubert Work, Pueblo; William Lenox, El Paso; Robert C. Breckenridge, Monte Vista; Thomas F. Walsh, Arapahoe; W. A. Drake, Larimer.

A slight hitch in the program came in an attempt to secure the endorsement of Clarence C. Hamlin of Colorado Springs for United States senator, but State Chairman John F. Vivian did not permit the senatorial question to disturb the harmony of the convention. The administration of President Roosevelt was endorsed as was the handling of the reins of the state government by Governor Henry A. Buchtel.

After commending President Roosevelt, the platform says:

For his successor we recognize William H. Taft of Ohio as the most logical and the most available candidate. He has the confidence of the people. His learning is deep; his ability unquestioned; his character above reproach and his experience in administrative affairs varied, comprehensive and successful; as the administrative head of our national government we are confident that he will faithfully carry out the principles of our party, that he will preserve the confidence of the people, protect the right of all classes, promote our industrial welfare, and continue the peaceful and honorable relations now existing between our country and the other nations of the earth.

We therefore do now instruct our delegation to the republican national convention at Chicago to vote for the nomination of William H. Taft as the republican candidate for president of the United States.

The platform continues:

We endorse and applaud the record of our republican United States Senator, Simon Guggenheim. He has been earnest, active and successful in his efforts for the best interests of the state. We also indorse the actions of our republican members in the lower house of congress.

In lieu of a further declaration of principles at this time, we endorse the fearless, able and energetic administration of President Roosevelt and declare ourselves in favor of a continuation of the wise policies he has inaugurated.

NEW JERSEY DEMOCRATS IN ROW

Bryan Man Who Wanted Instructions Left Off Delegation.

TRENTON, N. J., April 28.—The democratic state convention, amid a great deal of disorder late this afternoon selected former United States Senator James Smith, jr., State Senator John Hinchliffe, former Mayor Frank S. Katzenbach of Trenton, and former Judge Howard Carrow of Camden as delegates-at-large to the Denver convention. There were seven candidates, those defeated being Robert Davis of Hudson county, a Bryan man; James Maritine and James B. Birch, sr.

Former Judge Carrow was agreed upon as the new national committeeman to succeed William J. Gourley, who resigned some months ago.

The delegates agreed upon by the various congressional districts, are as follows:

First—William H. Davis of Camden and D. E. Grossacup of Gloucester.

Second—Clavence L. Cole of Atlantic City, and Mulford K. Ludlam of Cumberland.

Third—W. Parker Runyon of Middlesex, and Melvin H. Rice of Monmouth.

Fourth—Charles H. Gallagher of Mercer, and James M. Pidcock of Hunterdon.

Fifth—William E. Tuttle jr., of Union, and William W. Cutler of Morris.

Sixth—Frank J. VanNort of Passaic, and Archibald Hart of Bergen.

Seventh—John R. Hardin and John F. Sinnot of Essex.

Eight—James R. Nugent and Walter I. McCoy of Essex.

Ninth—Otto Wittpon and Robert Hudskelte of Hudson.

Tenth—James A. Hamill and Robert Davis of Hudson.

ARKANSAS WILL BE FOR TAFT

Opposition in Convention to State-Wide Prohibition.

HOT SPRINGS, Ark., April 28.—A large attendance of delegates and visitors was on hand when the republican state convention was called to order here today. Conspicuous among the delegates was General Powell Clayton, formerly ambassador to Mexico. Captain C. N. Rix of Hot Springs was elected temporary chairman. He addressed the convention, deploring factional fights in the party and urging unity.

There are several contests and the convention will probably not get down to nominations until late this afternoon or tonight.

That the convention will instruct its delegates-at-large to the Chicago convention for Secretary Taft is the opinion of a number of the delegates. It developed today that many of the leaders will oppose a statewide prohibition plank and advocate local option.

Connecticut Democrats.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., April 28.—Delegates to the democratic state convention which will meet here this evening for the selection of delegates to the Denver convention began to arrive early today, most of them having interest in the meeting of the state central committee which has been called for this afternoon to hear arguments over contested delegations. The convention promises to be an unusually quiet one. As the opposition to instructing the delegation for any particular presidential candidate seems to be very strong, it is thought that the platform will not commit the convention in this respect.

MEETING OF STEEL COMPANY

Officers Are Re-Elected and Usual Dividends Declared—Big Increase in Earnings.

NEW YORK, April 28.—Directors of the United States Steel corporation today declared a quarterly dividend of 1¾ per cent on the preferred stock and one-half of 1 per cent on the common stock. These are unchanged from the last previous quarter. The net earnings of the United States Steel corporation for the quarter ending March 31 were $18,229,000.

The earnings for the quarter show a decrease of $29,925,487 as compared with the corresponding quarter last year. The surplus for the quarter was $7,865,000, a decrease of $3,676,711.

The unfilled orders on hand March 31 amounted to 3,964,343 tons, a decrease of 4,228,515 tons as compared with March 31, 1907, and a decrease of 828,210 tons as compared with December 31, 1907.

All the officers of the corporation were re-elected.

HITCH ON MAKEUP OF BOARD

Southwest Miners and Operators in a Deadlock as to Arbitration Court's Composition.

KANSAS CITY, April 28.—When representatives of the coal miners and operators of the southwest met here this morning in joint conference with T. L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers of America, in attendance, both sides were positive that something definite would be done today.

The report of the subcommittee appointed from the joint scale committee will be presented to the conference. It records a disagreement. If it is accepted the strike will go on indefinitely. If it is rejected new negotiations will be begun. The general disagreement has been over the question of arbitration. Both sides, apparently, would agree to such a course, but each has separate and distinct ideas of the make-up of an arbitration board. The operators want a tribunal to consist of two members each from the miners and operators, the fifth and deciding member to be named by a judge of the federal court. The miners will not agree to this.

There is a possibility that in the event of a complete severing of negotiations the State Board of Arbitration may step into the breach and attempt to bring about an agreement.

The joint committee was still in session at noon. T. L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers of America, coming from the conference room, said:

"The operators practically submitted the same proposition today that the miners rejected last week, only it was couched in different terms. Today's proposition was deceptive in its entirety. The miners will not accept it.

"Last week the operators wanted a permanent arbitrator, or umpire, appointed by a federal judge. The miners rejected this. Today they asked for an arbitrator, but they have receded from their stand as to how he shall be selected. The miners will not accept the proposition."

ANARCHISTS MAY BE INDICTED

Judge in New Jersey Instructs Grand Jury to Take Up the Case.

PATERSON, N. J., April 28.—Justice James E. Linturn of the county court, in a charge to a new grand jury called upon them to indict the editor, publisher and person responsible for the circulation of the anarchist paper La Questione Sociale, which was recently suppressed after attention was called to it by President Roosevelt.

"Two presidents have already fallen victims to individuals who were led on to commit murder by reading just such articles," said the justice to the jury. "Within your knowledge and mine, a reverend clergyman, formerly of this city, who went to another state to administer to the people there, lost his life at the hands of a misguided individual who had been a reader of incendiary literature."

Justice Linturn said that such offenders could be indicted under the common law or under an act of the legislature, which makes it a high misdemeanor to publish articles of an incendiary character.

COMMODITY BILL HELD UP

Culberson Will Object to Consideration Unless Car Shortage Bill is Reported.

WASHINGTON, April 28.—In the senate today Senator Culberson indicated his purpose to object to the consideration of the bill for the repeal of the commodity clause of the railroad rate law unless the car shortage bill could be reported and acted upon. He said that the latter bill had been before the committee on interstate commerce for two years without being acted upon, and stated that if the bill was not reported soon he would move to discharge the committee from its further consideration. Unless the commodity repeal measure is acted upon by Friday the whole commodity clause, prohibiting railroads from transporting articles manufactured by themselves will go into effect.

OREGON DITCH IS NOT READY

Practically No Water Available for Farming Operations This Year.

SHERIDAN, Wyo., April 28.—(Special Telegram.)—The state engineer, returning from an investigation, says there is practically no water for the big Oregon basin project until next year. The canal is only half finished. The State Land board decided to allow the drawing May 12, but all money must be paid to the state and title held in escrow until the company makes good. The promoters are still advertising the opening in the east and many will come expecting to farm this season. Many citizens are protesting against the alleged misrepresentation and Wyoming is sure to be injured.

FOUR BURNED IN THEIR BEDS

Mother and Three Children Victims of an Incendiary's Devilish Work.

LA PORTE, Ind., April 28.—Mrs. Belle Gunnerson and her three children are believed to have perished today in an incendiary fire which destroyed their home in the country north of here. Joseph Maxoon, a hired man, barely escaped with his life. Mrs. Gunnerson has had trouble for several months with a young man who was annoying her. He cannot be found. The children were two girls and a boy, the youngest aged 5 years and the oldest 11.

NO ONE BLAMED FOR COLLISION

Coroner's Jury Exonerates Officers and Crew of Steamer St. Paul.

SOUTHAMPTON, April 28.—The steamer St. Paul, which was in collision with the British cruiser Gladiator last Saturday, was drydocked today. Beyond straining, the St. Paul does not appear to have sustained serious damage below the water line.

At Yarmouth today the coroner's jury returned a verdict saying the men who lost their lives in the collision came to their deaths accidentally and that nobody is criminally liamable.

WRECK ON TRACTION LINE

Limited Car Collides With Local Near Ypsilanti and Six Persons Are Killed.

DETROIT, Mich., April 28.—Six people were killed and a score or more injured, several of them fatally, when a limited car, east bound, on the Detroit, Jackson & Chicago Electric road, generally known as the Ann Arbor line, collided with a regular car four miles east of Ypsilanti, near Denton, today.

POSSE PURSUES MAN

Bert M. Taylor Brutally Assaults Two Young Women Near Minden.

ONE OF THEM IS LIKELY TO DIE

Victims Are Sisters of the Deceased Wife of the Assailant.

STARTS FIRE TO CONCEAL CRIME

Younger of Girls Drags Unconscious Sister Out and Gives Alarm.

PURSUIT IS STARTED AT ONCE

Criminal Rides Away on Bicycle, but is Compelled to Abandon It Near Bloomington, Where He is Now Surrounded.

Description of Criminal.
Name, Bert M. Taylor.
Age, 36.
Height, 5 feet 9½ inches.
Weight, 155 pounds.
Complexion, dark.
Hair, black.
Eyes, grey.
Wears long, black mustache, is square-chested; had on black suit of clothes, light hat and overcoat. Heavy drinker.

MINDEN, Neb., April 28.—(Special Telegram.)—Bert M. Taylor, 36 years of age, criminally assaulted Pearl Taylor, his 17-year-old sister-in-law, assailed with his fists her sister, Ida, 13 years of age; set fire to their house after leaving them, as he though, dead, to burn in the flames that were intended to cover his crime and shield him from punishment of an outrage that has shaken this community with unspeakable indignation.

The criminal is at large, but is surrounded by a posse and his capture seems certain. His victims are alive, but up to this afternoon Pearl Taylor has rounded by a mob and his capture seems not recovered consciousness. Ida, however was never insensible, as her assailant believed, but only feigned so as a means of escaping death and being able, if possible, to rescue her sister, who was strangled almost to death.

Notice of the crime has been sent in all directions with descriptions of the man and civilians and officials are bending every effort to secure his arrest. The father of the girls is taking an active hand in this procedure.

Romance Interwoven with Crime.

Underlying the hidiousness of the crime is a stratum of romance which serves only to make the deed the blacker and intensify the embittered feelings for the fugitive.

Though of the same name, the only relation between the girls and Taylor is that Taylor married their eldest sister, who died in the very house where these depredations were committed. It had been the home of Bert Taylor and wife. It was the birthplace of their little one, and when Mrs. Taylor died he sold the home to Douglas Taylor, his wife's father, who also took the baby to rear. Douglas Taylor lives on his farm five miles east of Minden.

The two Taylor girls were occupying this house while attending school in town. They had been living there by themselves and had not feared molestation, particularly from their own brother-in-law, who had never betrayed any but the best attitude toward them. He had lived around Minden for fifteen years and had never been implicated in any sort of crime before that is known of. Though a heavy drinker, he was a hard worker, being a painter and paperhanger far above the average. When the shocking news of his crime was spread this morning it fairly shook the town and surrounding country with a mingled feeling of bewilderment and indignation.

Little Girl Tells the Story.

The story of the outrage was given to the officers and the public by Ida Taylor, younger of the sisters. Her courage and presence of mind throughout the ordeal are matters of general comment.

"Sister and I were aroused from our sleep a little past midnight," says the girl, "by someone knocking on the front door. We asked who it was and the reply came that it was a negro who was crazy. That scared us and we didn't know what to do. Suddenly the man burst in the door and grabbed us both by our throats. He told me if I screamed he'd kill me. Then he dragged Pearl into the kitchen and made me stay on the bed in the room where we were sleeping. He brought Pearl back to my bed.

"When Bert came back to my bed I could scarcely realize it was he. He had been my oldest sister's husband and I couldn't believe that he would do us such harm.

"'Pearl is dead,' he said, 'and you might as well be, and you will be if you don't look out.'

Awful Climax Resorted to.

"Then he said he had a good notion to kill himself. Then he beat me terribly four or five times and I laid there as if I were dead. He thought I was and went and got a lamp and spread the oil all over the bed and took a match and lighted it, and the second he had done that he dashed out of the door. I knew this was my chance, so I jumped out of bed, grabbed hold of my sister and managed to drag her out on the porch. I supposed, of course, the house would be burned down and hoped that Pearl was alive and I might get her out of the burning house."

The little girl in her night clothing, beaten and bruised by this brute, appalled at the motionless body of her sister lying, for all she knew, lifeless, in the stillness of night or early morning, rushed through the penetrating wind to the home of Mr. Woodrick, a neighbor, to give the alarm. The Woodrick's lost no time in reaching the house and taking the girls into their own home and extinguishing the flames, which had not made as much headway as it was feared.

Dr. J. A. Martin was immediately summoned and every effort was set in motion to save the elder girl. The doctor worked on her constantly up to 8:30 and she showed no sign of reviving.

Officer Anderberry Gets Busy.

Without delay Officer C. P. Anderberry was notified of the terrible affair and he set the machinery of the law to work and instituted immediately a systematic campaign for the apprehension of the desperado, who he knew well enough to describe minutely, and this description he caused to be spread and sent in all directions.

Bert Taylor has a brother in Los Angeles and it is believed he may possibly head in that direction. Some years ago he had a cousin, Billy Smith, shot and killed