THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

VOL. XXXVII—NO. 288. OMAHA, TUESDAY MORNING, MAY 19, 1908—TEN PAGES. SINGLE COPY TWO CENTS.

BIG TALK BY HEYBURN

Idaho Senator Starts Filibuster Against Homestead Bill.

CONFERENCE AMENDS MEASURE

Change Would Allow Settlers 320 Acres of Any Lands.

REPORT FINALLY WITHDRAWN

Mr. Heyburn Threatened to Speak to End of Session.

BULKELEY PUSHES NEGRO BILL

Connecticut Senator Expects to Have Re-enlistment Bill Passed by Senate Before Adjournment.

WASHINGTON, May 18.—The senate today held a short legislative session nearly half of which was consumed by Senator Heyburn in a filibustering speech against a conference report on a bill to increase homesteads on non-irrigable lands from 160 to 320 acres, which he declared would apply to the richest farm land of Idaho. After proceeding for an hour, the objectionable report was withdrawn.

The conference report on the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill was approved by the senate.

Senator Bulkley (Conn.) spoke in favor of passing his bill to authorize the president to re-enlist the negro soldiers of the Twenty-fifth Infantry, and declared that if possible he would secure action on it during the present session.

Senator Heyburn (Idaho) today sent out an alarm that he would not talk to the end of the session rather than permit the adoption of a conference report on the bill "to provide an enlarged homestead." The bill as passed by the senate limited the increased homestead of 320 acres to non-irrigable, arid and semi-arid land, and the house struck out "arid and semi-arid land."

Mr. Heyburn charged that the bill was a land-grabbing measure, permitting a single settler to take 320 instead of 160 acres of non-irrigable land. Mr. Heyburn proceeded to make good his threat to talk the session to a close, and after an hour had passed, Mr. Nelson of Minnesota suggested to Mr. Smoot that the conference report be withdrawn, and that course was followed.

BADDER THAN MRS. GUNNESS

Wail of Guileless Farmer Who Sends His Money to "Widow" Who Needs It.

"She are a badder woman than Mrs. Ginness of Lopourte, Indiany," writes Paul H. Adams of La Seuer, Minnesota, to the postmaster of Omaha, in reference to a Mrs. J. C. Hallyday of Omaha, who has beguiled Paul Adams out of $[illegible] of hard earned cash. "I seen her advertisin in the Farmers' Tribune of schioux city Ioway," writes Mr. Adams. "She sayin she war a widoww and war lonsum and had about 2000 dollars an a farm. She wantin a companyoun. I write to her and she said send her 20, but a bad only 125 and I send her that. She said to meat her in sante pawul but she dont come. I wish you sho this letter to cheef of polis at Omaha and see if he cant found her. She are a badder woman than Mrs. Ginness of Lopourte, Indiany. I work for my money very hard. She is a frawd. Please have the cheef of polis found her. She lives in omawhaw. She are a serpent in the grass. Paul H. Adams, Le Seuer, Minn."

FEE GOES BEFORE COMMISSION

Attorney for Convicted Man Files Complaint Charging Insanity.

As a move to save James J. Fee, who was convicted of trying to extort $5,000 from Luther Drake of the Merchants National bank, from going to the penitentiary, his attorney, Sidney W. Smith, has filed an insanity complaint against Fee and his mental condition will be examined by the insanity commission. The complaint was filed Monday afternoon and a hearing will be had as soon as Dr. Tilden, the insanity expert of the commission, can make an examination of Fee.

At the trial an insanity defense was put up for Fee, but the jury disregarded it and returned a verdict of guilty. The offense carries with it a penalty of from one to three years in the penitentiary. Fee threatened to blow up the bank with a bottle he said contained nitro-glycerine, unless the money was paid him.

HIS WIFE WILL CARE FOR HIM

Marion Halloway is Released by Court as a Juvenile and Paroled to His Wife.

Paroled to his wife by the juvenile court Marion Halloway, Forty-seventh and Fort streets, is in a unique position. Halloway is only 17 years old, but was married on March 2 in Council Bluffs to a young woman of 18. Neighbors complained that he was in the habit of using very bad language toward them and he was brought into juvenile court, as he is still under the age limit. Judge Estelle lectured him and then decided his wife, clothed with proper authority, was the one to see that he behaved, so a formal order was entered paroling him to her.

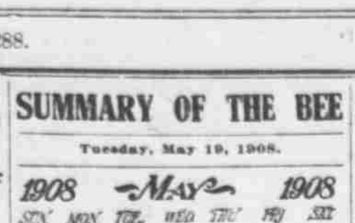
This case brought out the fact that the law gives an unusual advantage to girls. When a woman marries her minority ceases and the authority of the juvenile court over her ceases, but Halloway, though he is recognized as the head of a family, can claim no such advantage.

Milwaukee Lays Off Men.

MITCHELL, S. D., May 18.—(Special.)—The Milwaukee road has suspended operations in improving its trackage facilities between Mitchell and Chamberlain, owing to a general retrenchment that has been recently inaugurated by the eastern board of directors of the company. For several months past the company has been shipping heavier rails to this city and distributing them along the line of road to the west, and it had a large force of men at work putting in the rails. While the work was being carried forward an order was received to lay off the men and about 100, who had been engaged in laying the new rails were discharged. The new rails are about fifteen pounds to the foot heavier than the rails now in use, the heavier rails being made necessary by the heavier traffic that is now being conducted to the Black Hills country.

SUMMARY OF THE BEE

Tuesday, May 19, 1908.



THE WEATHER.

FOR OMAHA, COUNCIL BLUFFS AND VICINITY—Fair Tuesday; not much change in temperature.

FOR NEBRASKA—Tuesday probably fair.

FOR IOWA—Fair Tuesday.

Temperature at Omaha:

Hour.	Deg.
5 a. m.	63
6 a. m.	66
7 a. m.	68
8 a. m.	64
9 a. m.	66
10 a. m.	68
11 a. m.	69
12 m.	71
1 p. m.	74
2 p. m.	74
3 p. m.	75
4 p. m.	77
5 p. m.	76
6 p. m.	76
7 p. m.	76
8 p. m.	73
9 p. m.	70

ETC.

Grand [illegible] rte begins investigation o[illegible] mystery. Sheriff Smutzer [illegible] sluicing the ashes and inspe[illegible]ses. **Page 2**

Wreckin[illegible] legheny National bank at P[illegible] its closing Monday. Pitts[illegible] of cash for expenses and [illegible] a half million dollars tied [illegible] **Page 1**

Mae Wood [illegible]s stand in her divorce suit [illegible]tor Platt, tells of letters sh[illegible]e her. **Page 1**

Body of Mr [illegible] Vanderbilt is found in the Raritan canal. **Page 1**

Cashier of the First National bank of Chariton, Ia., spent half million with one grain firm trying to retrive his fortunes. **Page 1**

General conference of the Methodist church holds memorial for the bishops who died during the last quadrennium. **Page 1**

Seamen on a British vessel had a narrow escape when it blew up. **Page 1**

Rev. S. A. Coffman, a Methodist clergyman of Fairmont, W. VVa., killed his wife while suffering from a fit of temporary insanity, as he claims now. **Page 2**

Admiral Evans has been assigned to duty with the general naval board. **Page 1**

Southern Baptists oppose the liquor traffic. **Page 1**

St. Louis is granted authority by the United States supreme court to tax corporations for occupation of the streets. **Page 1**

Texas railroad tax of 1 per cent on gross earnings is declared void. **Page 1**

City of Omaha takes water works case to the supreme court. Appropriation for denatured alcohol exhibit at Omaha Corn show goes through. **Page 1**

NEBRASKA.

State Board of Assessment puts in day behind closed doors trying, without result, to agree on a secretary. **Page 3**

LOCAL.

Governor Brooks of Wyoming says there is no doubt but what the eastern buyers are taking advantage of wool growers and offering low prices for the clip because the growers are in debt for sheep bought last fall. **Page 10**

Ministers' committee of social service "serves notice" on mayor, acting mayor, chief of police and others, saying that the Sunday closing laws are being violated in the city of Omaha. **Page 5**

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

Live stock markets. **Page 7**

Grain markets. **Page 7**

Stocks and bonds. **Page 7**

MOVEMENTS OF OCEAN STEAMSHIPS.

Port.	Arrived.	Sailed.
NEW YORK	La Touraine	.....
ST. MICHAELS	Cretic	.....
QUEENSTOWN	.....	Lusitania
DOVER	.....	Kroonland

BY WIRELESS.

SABLE ISLAND, N. S., May 17.—Steamer Statendam from Rotterdam, for New York, 745 miles east of Sandy Hook, 9 a. m., will probably dock 10:30 a. m. Tuesday. Steamer Zeeland, from Antwerp for New York, was reported by Marconigram, southeast of Sable Island (distance not given) at 5:30 a. m.; will probably dock Tuesday forenoon. Cymric, from Liverpool to Boston, 560 miles east of Boston lightship at 5:15 a. m.

NEW YORK, May 17.—Steamer Carpathia, from Naples for New York, was reported 660 miles east of Sandy Hook at 8 a. m.; will probably dock at 7:30 a. m. Tuesday.

BRYAN CONTROLS WASHINGTON

Johnson Men Completely Wiped Off Map in Western State—Platform Today.

SPOKANE, Wash., May 18.—With Bryan men in control and Johnson forces practically wiped out by the adoption of the unit rule in counties, the democratic state convention met here today under the leadership of former United States Senator George Turner, who had been agreed upon as temporary chairman.

Absolute harmony on national issues is offset by discord on a state problem—the republicans having declared strongly in its favor.

Under the new direct primary laws no convention to nominate state officers will be held and today's convention must frame the platform for Washington's democracy.

Confirmation by Bishop.

SIOUX FALLS, S. D., May 18.—(Special.)—Rt. Rev. Thomas O'Gorman, of this city, Catholic bishop of the eastern diocese of South Dakota, will on Wednesday of this week visit Elk Point for the purpose of confirming a class of sixty. This will be the largest class to be confirmed in that city for some years. It has been four years since Bishop O'Gorman conferred the sacrament of confirmation in Elk Point. The visit of the bishop will be an event of importance among the Catholics of Elk Point and vicinity. High mass will be celebrated at 10:30 o'clock Wednesday morning, after the arrival of Bishop O'Gorman, by Father Charles Robinson of Jefferson, assisted by a large number of priests from the extreme southern part of South Dakota, who will gather at Elk Point for the occasion.

Granger to Be Abandoned.

GREEN RIVER, Wyo., May 18.—(Special.)—It is reported here on good authority that the Union Pacific and Oregon Short Line roads will shortly abandon the present town of Granger and establish a new town at a point one mile east of the present site. This will be done in order that ample yard facilities may be secured, Granger being the junction of the two roads.

Mayor Cannot Be Forced.

CHICAGO, May 18.—The appellate court today affirmed the decision of the lower court in declaring that the mayor of Chicago cannot be forced to close the saloons on Sunday in conformity with the statute.

CASHIER WRECKS HIS BANK

Allegheny National Closes with Two Million Shortage.

STATE AND CITY FUNDS TIED UP

Unless Payments Are Available Bonds Will Have to Be Issued to Provide Revenue for Town—Receiver Named.

PITTSBURG, May 18.—With more than $1,500,000 of its funds tied up indefinitely, as a result of the suspension of the Allegheny National bank today, the city of Pittsburg finds itself confronted with the possibility of being forced to issue bonds to raise money to meet current expenses. A formal effort to withdraw the money was made by City Treasurer Steel after the announcement of suspension was made, but the check was not honored.

The suspension of the bank leaves the city with practically no immediately available funds.

The following notice was posted on the door shortly after 9 o'clock by National Bank Examiner William L. Folds:

Closed by the order of comptroller of the currency and placed in charge of William L. Folds.

That the bank would not open today was generally stated in the morning papers. For days it has been apparent that the cashier's alleged misdeeds had seriously crippled the institution and the actual suspension this morning caused little or no excitement. Quite a number of depositors were gathered on Fifth avenue opposite the bank and when the order of suspension was posted all read it and then quickly disappeared.

Cashier Montgomery, who is in the county jail accused of embezzling $40,000 and the abstraction of securities valued at $125,000, will be arraigned in the United States court this afternoon on the first charge.

While Montgomery's peculations are officially placed at $584,000, it is said the bank's shortage is close to $2,000,000.

Half Million State Funds.

Robert Lyons, a national bank examiner, has been appointed receiver of the Allegheny National bank.

State Treasurer John O. Sheatz and Deputy Attorney General Jesse E. B. Cunningham arrived here today from Harrisburg. State funds to the amount of $522,477 were carried in the bank and these officials will take immediate steps to recover the money. The state fund, however, is secured by bonding companies to the extent of $4,500,000.

Shortly after the bank closed City Treasurer John F. Steel presented a check for $1,546,362.34, the amount of the city's deposit, but it was not honored.

Some Who Are Liable.

William Stewart, president of the defunct bank; Walter Chess, one of the directors; Thomas Evans of the MacBeth-Evans Glass company; Robert McAfee, secretary of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and William Montgomery, the defaulting cashier, are security for the city deposit, and each liable to the amount of $500,000.

As to the length of time the funds will be tied up cannot be learned. When asked if it would be a year or two Examiner Folds said he did not know. Should the city's deposit be tied up very long it will be necessary to issue bonds to raise money to meet current expenses.

The Fidelity and Trust company of Maryland and the United States Fidelity and Guarantee company are under bond to the state for its deposit.

"There is absolutely not the slightest doubt of the state receiving every penny of its deposit at the Allegheny National," said Treasurer Sheatz. "It is up to the bank and the surety companies to determine who shall pay the money. That is a matter between them and has no interest to us."

ARMOURS' DENIAL OF INVASION

Winston Churchill Says in Commons He Has Found Story Untrue.

LONDON, May 18.—The fears of British butchers and meat salemen that Armour & Co., of Chicago are contemplating importing their meat and conducting a retail business in this country were considered in the House of Commons today, when Winston Churchill, president of the Board of Trade, replied to a question asked by Charles W. Bowerman, who represents the meat market district in the house.

Mr. Churchill said that he had been informed by Armour & Co., that they had no intention of opening retail shops here or in the provinces.

EMPEROR'S HEALTH NOT GOOD

Francis Joseph Indisposed and Puts Off Audiences He Had Arranged.

VIENNA, May 18.—Emperor Francis Joseph is again slightly indisposed, and this has made necessary the postponement of the audiences arranged for today. Court officials say there is no reason for anxiety, but after the tiring duties connected with the recent visit to Vienna of Emperor William and the German princes, together with some slight symptoms of catarrh, it is necessary for his majesty to be careful.

Alfonso's Anniversary.

MADRID, May 18.—President Roosevelt is among the chiefs of state who yesterday cabled congratulations to King Alfonso on the occasion of the twenty-second anniversary of his birth.

BELIEF PLAGUE HAS SPREAD

Several Cases of Disease Exist at Porto Cabello—Yellow Fever Suspected.

PORTO CABELLO, Venezuela, Saturday, May 16.—(Via Willemstad, Curacao, May 18.)—It is believed that the bubonic plague, which has been prevalent at La Guaiara, has broken out here, although, the exact nature of the disease which started here has not yet been determined. There have been three new cases of malarial fever and one has resulted fatally. Some persons declare that this case had all the symptoms of yellow fever.

SPECIAL DUTY FOR ADMIRAL

Secretary Metcalf Will Assign Evans for Service with General Naval Board.

WASHINGTON, May 18.—Secretary Metcalf has detailed Admiral Robley D. Evans, late commander-in-chief of the Atlantic fleet to duty with the general board of the navy, which has to do with the preparation of plans for naval campaigns for use in time of war.

After the admiral's retirement in August, it is probable that he will be detailed for "special duty" with the board

BODY OF WOMAN IN RIVER

Searchers Find Miss Bertha Vanderbilt Dead—Mystery Surrounds Case.

PRINCETON, N. J., May 18.—The body of Miss Bertha Vanderbilt, the assistant in the library of Princeton university, who disappeared Wednesday afternoon, was found today floating in the Raritan canal, a short distance from here. The body was found by William Balke and J. Millwood Salte, two boy campers who live in Trenton, N. J., while they were rowing up the canal.

Although parts of the girl's clothing are missing, there appeared to be no signs of foul play. A few scars of a slight character, which may have been received during the five days the body had rolled along the bed of the stream, were found on the face and forehead.

W. G. Chase, an uncle of the girl, ordered the body removed to his home in Princeton. An autopsy will be held this afternoon.

Miss Vanderbilt was last seen about 5 o'clock Wednesday afternoon at the Carnegie Lake aqueduct, and it is supposed that she was drowned in an attempt to ford the stream, which flows under the canal.

Miss Vanderbilt's parents live in Amsterdam, N. Y.

NEW YORK, May 18.—Bertha Vanderbilt, the young librarian, disappeared last week. Mrs. William Robinson has told the police of Princeton that on the night Miss Vanderbilt disappeared, she saw her in an automobile with another young woman and a man. The man is said to have been a Princeton graduate, who was a suitor of Miss Vanderbilt while in college. He came to Princeton last Wednesday to attend the Cornell-Princeton base ball game.

MEN NOW IN ARE GAINERS

President of Cleveland Road Refuses to Arbitrate Upon This One Point.

CLEVELAND, O., May 18.—The first attempt by the members of the State Board of Arbitration today to bring about peace between the Municipal Traction company and its striking employes resulted in a failure.

President Dupont conferred with Members Bishop and Owens of the board in regard to the strike settlements, and while he agreed to arbitrate some points he would not concede the one thing for which the men stand determinedly.

"In no case will I arbitrate the reinstatement of the men at the expense of those now employed," he said. "I shall stick for the seniority of runs, those now working getting preference."

President Dupont was asked whether he would arbitrate all other points. He replied that he would arbitrate no point until the lawlessness had ceased.

Vice President Behner of the car men's union said:

"We are willing to enter into a fair arbitration. We want to do that at once, if they do. We are not willing to wait until our union is knifed in the back. There has not been one desertion from our ranks. Six crews of the Municipal Traction company have deserted."

Deeds of violence continued to be reported on the part of strike sympathizers throughout the day.

TAFT GREETED BY FRIENDS

Secretary of War So Busy He Cannot Talk to the President.

WASHINGTON, May 18.—Secretary of War Taft returned to Washington from Panama today. The secretary reached Charleston yesterday on the cruiser Prairie and made a brief stop in that city.

Soon after his arrival the secretary went to the White House and talked with the president for half an hour, but did not discuss the results of his trip to the isthmus because of the presence in the executive offices of a large number of visitors, who insisted on shaking hands with the secretary and congratulating him on the outlook for his nomination for the presidency. The secretary stated that he would confer with the president tonight and also talk with Secretary Root during hte day about the boundary dispute between Colombia and Panama. He declined to discuss this phase of his visit to Panama, but expressed the hope that a solution was in sight.

The secretary has an engagement to speak before the Tennessee Bar association on May 22.

BALLOTING FOR PRESIDENT

Alabama Democrats Are Selecting Man to Be Their Choice for Nomination.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., May 18.—Early morning balloting in many sections of the state show that the vote will be heavy in the state democratic primaries today. Local contests and the fight of the Johnson forces against what seemed a Bryan certainty have served to create unusual interest. It is the first time in the history of the state that the voters in a primary express a choice direct for a presidential nomination.

The vote cast today will be canvassed within ten days by the state committee. There will be no state convention, the nominees of the primary being thus chosen direct for Denver.

SEAMEN BARELY SAVE LIVES

Take to Boats When British Vessel Blows Up Near Santa Elena, Peru.

NEW YORK, May 18.—Six seamen who, with twenty-five others, had a narrow escape from death when the British steamer Cacique blew up and sank off the Peruvian coast last month, arrived here today on the steamer Finance from Cristobal. The other members of the crew, all of whom escaped, remained in Peru. The Cacique was bound for San Francisco with a cargo of naphtha. When 150 miles off Santa Elena, Peru, it caught fire, the naptha exploding and the thirty-one men on board rushed for the boats. They reached the Peruvian coast three days later.

SECOND SUIT TO BREAK WILL

New Effort Will Be Made at Bloomington to Get Colonel Snell's Money.

BLOOMINGTON, Ill., May 18.—A second effort to break the will of the eccentric Colonel Thomas Snell, the millionaire who cut off his only son with $50 per year began today with a new jurist, Judge Solon Philbrick, on the circuit court bench. The former judge, W. D. Cochran, was said by the plaintiffs to have been unfair in ruling out the celebrated letters reputed to have been written by Mabel Snell, the alleged grand niece of Kansas City, to whom Colonel Snell willed such a large portion of his wealth, and who was his favorite relatiy

WATER WORKS CASE GOES UP

City Asks Supreme Court to Review Findings of Lower Court.

OMAHA CORN SHOW GETS EXHIBIT

Supreme Court Decides Case Regarding Use of Indian Funds for Sectarian Schools Adverse to Rosebud Sioux.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, May 18.—(Special Telegram.)—John L. Webster, on behalf of the city of Omaha today filed a brief in support of a petition for a writ of certiorari in the case of the city of Omaha against the Omaha Water company. The court has taken the petition under consideration and will have its final meeting on June 1, when the decision may be handed down.

Looking Up Express Cases.

Attorney General W. H. Thompson and L. E. Wittling of Lincoln arrived in Washington this morning. Mr. Wittling comes east with the attorney general to aid in taking depositions in the Nebraska express company cases.

Tomorrow the attorney general and Mr. Wittling have an appointment with Statistician Adams of the Interstate Commerce commission, from whom they expect to obtain much valuable data to back up the contention of the state in these cases.

Hinshaw to Speak at Stromsburg.

Representative Hinshaw has accepted an invitation to deliver an address at Stromsburg on Memorial day, May 30, feeling confident that congress will have adjourned before that date and he will thus be free from his congressional duties here.

Rice Gets Another Chance.

Robert E. Rice of Central City, who was appointed by Judge Boyd to take the examination for midshipman at Annapolis, and who passed a splendid mental examination, was found deficient physically on account of weakness of an eye, has been granted a re-examination on application of his sponsor. Mr. Rice, it is thought, impaired his vision on account of close application to study, and it is believed that with a rest of a week or so he will be able to meet the physical requirements of the navy examining board.

Corn Show Gets the Exhibit.

The conference report on the agricultural bill was signed by the conferees of the senate and house today leaving intact that cuause having reference to a demonstration on the part of the bureau of chemistry of denaturizing of alcohol. The report cuts down the allowance for the bureau of chemistry as made by the senate in a small degree. It reduces the appropriation for the forestry bureau from $1,000,000 to $800,000 and generally is a victory for the senate over the house. With the clause as to authority to the Agricultural Department to make demonstrations for denaturizing alcohol the Omaha Corn exposition is assured of an exhibit next fall.

Sioux Indian Case Decided.

In an opinion by Chief Justice Fuller against the appellants in the case of Reuben Quickbear, Albert Eagle Feather and all the other members of the Sioux Indian tribe of the Rosebud agency in South Dakota against Indian Commissioner Leupp and Secretaries Garfield and Cortelyou, the supreme court of the United States today practically held that the sections of the Indian appropriation bills in 1899 and 1900 apportioning the use of appropriations for the benefit of sectarian schools on the Indian reservation are not applicable to treaty and trust funds. The case grew out of an effort on the part of the Indians to enjoin the payment of $24,000 from their treaty fund and $3,000 from their trust fund to the St. Francis Catholic Indian mission school on the Rosebud reservation under a contract made by the commissioner of Indian affairs in 1905. The Indians contended that the provisions in the appropriation bills of 1899 and 1900 had the effect of prohibiting the use of any Indian funds in the interest of sectarian education, but the court of appeals for the District of Columbia held the sections to be applicable only to the money directly appropriated by the bills of which these sections formed a part and not to funds otherwise established. The supreme court accepted this view and affirmed the verdict.

Minor Matters at Capital.

Louis C. Coufal has been appointed postmaster at Able, Butler county, Neb., vice F. J. Reh, resigned.

The City National bank of Wymore, Neb., has been authorized to begin business with $50,000 capital. Charles G. Anderson is president; J. A. Reuling, vice president; J. S. Jones, cashier.

Charles L. Saunders of Omaha arrived in the capitol today on his way to New York for a short visit.

SOUTHERNERS OPPOSE LIQUOR

Baptists at Hot Springs, Ark., Pass Resolution Against the Traffic.

HOT SPRINGS, Ark., May 18.—The Southern Baptist convention today adopted resolutions condemning the liquor traffic in all its phases.

Officers of the national government are requested not to issue privilege taxes in states where the sale of liquor is prohibited by the state law. Congress is urged to inhibit the shipment of liquor into dry territory.

ST. LOUIS LOCATES A PICKUP

United States Supreme Court Upholds Right to Tax Street Railroad Companies.

WASHINGTON, May 18.—In an opinion by Justice Day, the supreme court of the United States today decided favorably to the city the St. Louis Transit company cases involving the right of the city of St. Louis to exact license fees from its street railroad companies. The decision will bring $1,000,000 into the city treasury in back taxes and $250,000 a year hereafter.

Development of Oil Land.

LANDER, Wyo., May 18.—(Special.)—An English syndicate is soon to take over the oil wells, lands and other property of the Belgo-American Oil company in this vicinity. The purchasers will build a pipe line, for which surveys have already been made, from the wells on Little Popo Agie to the Northwestern tracks in this city. Contracts are to be placed for a daily delivery of 20,000 barrels of oil at the railroad for a period of five years. It is expected the operations of the English syndicate will cause a revival of activity in the local fields.

The Independent company has been idle for several weeks waiting for material ordered in the east.

The Natrona-Fremont company is sinking its casing still deeper to tap a stronger flow of oil known to exist below the present depths.

CASTRO'S HOLD UPON PEOPLE

Minister Russell Says it is Strong—He Minimizes Venezuelan Situation.

NEW YORK, May 18.—W. W. Russell, American minister to Venezuela, arrived here today on the steamer Caracas. Mr. Russell was accompanied by his family. He is home on leave of absence and will go to Washington tomorrow. Mr. Russell said little information was obtainable at Caracas regarding conditions at La Guaiara, which is under close quarantine as a result of an outbreak of bubonic plague.

Reports of serious differences between President Castro of Venezuela and Minister Russell were denied by Mr. Russell. The minister said that while it was true that he and President Castro were not in perfect accord on all subjects, there had been nothing in the nature of serious troubls in their relations. Mr. Russell said reports of President Castro's ill health have been considerably exaggerated; that the president appears to be in excellent physical condition and rides out every day.

Mr. Russell said there appears to be no doubt of Castro's hold upon his power. The rank and file of the army is loyal to him, he said, and the officers are his friends. "The people of Venezuela must be in sympathy with their president, too," said the minister, "else they would not submit to his direction of governmental affairs."

BISHOPS' MEMORIAL IS HELD

Services at General Conference for Leaders Who Died During Quadrennium.

BALTIMORE, Md., May 18.—Memorial services in honor of the bishops and officers of the general conference of the Methodist Episcopal church who have died during the last quadrennium, occupied today's sitting of the general conference. These bishops were Isaac W. Joyce, Charles C. McCabe, James N. Fitzgerald, Edward G. Andrews, Samuel M. Merrill and Charles H. Fowler and Rev. Dr. James M. King, secretary of the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension.

PITTSBURG, Pa., May 18.—Consolidation with the Methodist Episcopal Congregational and United Brethren churches was considered at today's session of the general conference of the Methodist Protestant church.

The committee appointed by the general conference of the Methodist Episcopal church held at Baltimore, composed of Bishop H. W. Warren, the Rev. Dr. J. S. Gouher, president of the Woman's college at Baltimore, and United States Senator J. P. Dolliver of Iowa, appeared before a committee of thirty-three members of the Methodist Protestant general conference, bearing fraternal greetings and appealed to the conference to send them back with encouraging news.

WHITLOW'S TRIAL FOR MURDER

Iola, Kan., Man Accused of Killing Young Woman Infatuated with Him.

IOLA, Kan., May 18.—Samuel Whitlow, a school teacher, married and the father of a family, was placed on trial here today for the murder of Miss May Sapp, a daughter of J. N. Sapp, rich retired farmer of Morsn, Kan.

The murder of Miss Sapp was most brutal. Wealthy and talented, as the state alleges, during her school days she fell in love with the schoolmaster. Later he married, but she continued to meet him. On the night of September 27, complaining of being ill, Miss Sapp left the home of her father, saying she was going for a walk. A few minutes later her mother heard a cry from the back yard of the Sapp residence and then the voice of her daughter calling "oh, mother." Rushing into the yard Mrs. Sapp stumbled over the prostrate form of her daughter. Her throat had been cut from ear to ear and death resulted in a few minutes.

The state charges that Samuel Whitlow had continued his relations with Miss Sapp after his marriage and finally tiring of them, met Miss Sapp by appointment the fatal night and murdered her.

FLEET OFF FOR PUGET SOUND

Vessels Leave San Francisco at Noon in Drizzling Rain for Northern Trip.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., May 18.—The Atlantic battleship fleet, under command of Rear Admiral Sperry, weighed anchor at 11:10 o'clock this morning and sailed out of San Francisco bay in a drizzling rain for Puget Sound.

The flagship Connecticut headed the column, which was made up of the following ships: The Nebraska and the Wisconsin taking the places of the Alabama and Maine:

First squadron, first division—Connecticut, Kansas, Minnesota and Vermont.

Second division—Georgia, Nebraska, Rhode Island and New Jersey.

Second squadron, third division—Louisiana, Virginia, Ohio and Missouri.

Fourth division—Wisconsin, Illinois, Kearsarge and Kentucky.

Captan Wainwright commands the second division and Captain Schroeder the fourth division.

The fleet is scheduled to reach Puget Sound May 21.

GOVERNOR SUGGESTS REFORM

Executive of Louisiana in His Inaugural Opposes Track Gambling—For High License.

BATON ROUGE, La., May 18.—Race track gambling to be suppressed absolutely and local option, combined with high license, to regulate the liquor traffic, were two of the most salient recommendations of Governor Sanders' inaugural message to the legislature today. Other fetaures of the message were: The eradication of lobbying at the state capitol; recommending extension of the period of exemption from taxation of factories; prohibition of concubinage between white and negroes; and the prohibition of state or federal officers from acting as election commissioners or clerks.

HALF MILLION TO ONE FIRM

Cashier Crocker of Chariton, Ia., Sank Money by Wholesale to Save Himself.

CHARITON, Ia., May 18.—It has just been disclosed that in the two or three years preceding his suicide, the late Cashier F. R. Crocker of the defunct First National bank, paid more than $500,000 to one firm in Chicago and New York in his stock gambling operations. The greater part of this was during the last few days of his life, when he poured money into the stock market for speculation at the rate of $30,000 to $40,000 daily, in the hope of saving himself.

MAE WOOD ON STAND

Former Omaha Woman Testifies in Suit Against Senator Platt.

SHE ASKS FOR ABSOLUTE DIVORCE

Says Marriage Ceremony Was Performed in New York Hotel in 1901.

CERTIFICATE IN EVIDENCE

Letters from the Aged Senator Also Submitted to Court.

CONTAIN TERMS OF ENDEARMENT

One of Them Refers to Her as "My Little Bride to Be"—History of Suit Filed Here is Gone Into.

NEW YORK, May 18.—Mae Catherine Wood was on the witness stand all day testifying in her suit for absolute divorce from United States Senator Thomas C. Platt, before Justice O'Gorman in the supreme court. In support of her assertion that she had been secretly married to Senator Platt at the Fifth Avenue hotel, November 9, 1901, her counsel introduced in evidence a marriage certificate, which she said had been handed her by the minister, who performed the ceremony and copies of a number of letters alleged to have been written to her by the senator addressed in terms of endearment. On cross examination Miss Wood told how she came to give up the papers and letters she relating to Senator Platt, alleging that she did so under duress and was compelled to sign a receipt for $10,000 in settlement of all her claim against the senator. Miss Wood in her suit named as correspondent Lillian Janeway, who Senator Platt married in 1903. Senator Platt was not in court today.

Senator Denies Allegations.

Miss Wood in her complaint declares that she was married to Senator Platt in this city on November 9, 1901. She named as co-respondent in her suit Mrs. Lillian Janeway, who was married to the senator in 1903. In his answer to the complaint the senator declares that Miss Wood's allegations that he married her about November 9, 1901, in New York are absolutely false.

"The plaintiff never made any claim to me that she was married to me until December, 1906," says Senator Platt in his answer, "nor did I ever hear of her making any claim of marriage prior to that time, except that in June, 1906, an article appeared in a Chicago newspaper containing an interview purporting to come from her, in which she stated that such a marriage had taken place, and that article was accompanied by a picture or alleged fac simile of a wedding certificate containing my name in association with the plaintiff's."

The senator declares that the certificate reproduced in the newspaper was a forgery. He charges that since 1906 Miss Wood has tried to get money from him by threats that she would sue him for breach of promise of marriage.

Miss Wood gave testimony in the suit today. The young woman was smartly attired and self-possessed. She identified copies of several letters which she said were received by her from Senator Platt. They were mainly of an affectionate nature, but in several thers were interesting sentences on other affairs. In one communication was the phrase:

Your letter has cheered me up so that I am almost reconciled to Odell's election.

A picture of the senator was shown, upon the back of which was written, "To my little wife." Telling how this was written, Miss Wood said:

Well, I was sitting on his lap. Part of the time he held my hand and part of the time I held his hand. We wrote it together. The words "little wife" were written by him, I think.

Miss Wood said that the senator came to her room in her hotel with two men and that he formally acknowledged her as his wife before these men.

Senator Platt was not in court today.

First Promise to Marry.

Miss Wood was the first witness. She testified that Mr. Platt first promised to marry her at Manhattan Beach. "He said the marriage must be secret, as he was an old man," and added, "I demurred and told him that he knew nothing about me, but he said he knew all my past life."

Miss Wood said she had two letters from Senator Platt, but that one of them was demanded from her by J. Martin Miller and another man in October, 1906, and that she had never seen it since. Her counsel showed the witness a typewritten copy of a letter and she identified it as containing practically the contents of the missing letter. It was offered in evidence and admitted despite the objections of John B. Stanchfield, Senator Platt's counsel. The copy was dated Friday, November 8, 1901, and read in part as follows:

My Little Bride-to-Be: I have made all arrangements. You are not to say anything to anybody. You are to obey my instructions implicitly. I enclose card to the hotel. You will be there at 4 o'clock and have room 155. I am an old fool, but you shall never regret this step. Lovingly,
(Signed) TOM.

Told to Await Signal.

Another letter of the same date was offered in evidence, in which the writer advised Miss Wood that he would not reach the hotel until after 6 o'clock and that she was to go to her room and await a signal from him.

The witness said she waited as directed; that Senator Platt came to her room with two men; that he embraced her and introduced her to the men. "I took his hand," said Miss Wood, "and one of the men began the civil ceremony by saying, 'you take this woman to be your lawful wedded wife and you take this man to be your lawful wedded husband?'"

Miss Wood said that Platt gave her a wedding ring, and she displayed the ring in the court. It bore no inscription. She declared that she thought the man who performed the ceremony was a minister, and that he gave her a marriage certificate. This alleged certificate was offered in evidence.

Following the ceremony the witness said she remained at the hotel for three days, and then returned to her duties. The marriage, she said, was not made public, because Mr. Platt wanted it to be kept secret. "He would not let me have a lady friend, even," said Miss Wood, "for," he said 'what two women know is no longer a secret.' "He wanted me to live in the next room to him and say that I was his secretary, but I refused."

Several copies of letters alleged to have been written by Mr. Platt were then read by Miss Wood's counsel. They were addressed in terms of endearment and signed "Your Tom."

In a letter from Washington, dated No-