Council Bluffs

Y. M. C. A. PATRONS ROBBED

Members of Business Men's Class Lose Watches and Money.

YOUTH WORKS SYSTEMATIC GAME

Alleging He is of Good Character Grows to Be Familiar Figure About Rooms and Loots Locker Room.

A young man, apparently 25 years old, who has been hanging around the Young Men's Christian association building for several days, suddenly disappeared last evening and is now accused of perpetrating a wholesale robbery in which nearly all of the members of the Business Men's gymnasium class are victims.

The robbery was executed about 5:30 last evening. The victims had left their street clothes in the locker room and in their gymnasium suits were taking their physical culture lessons under the instruction of Physical Director Pierson. The youth was observed in the locker room, but on account of the tales he had told about his good character and his long connection with the association at Paterson, N. J., nothing was thought of it.

When the members of the class got ready to don their clothes again they discovered that nearly all had been robbed, losing watches and every cent of money and other valuables contained in their pockets. Among those who reported losses were: C. H. Parks, Dr. Charles Woodbury, C. E. Walters, Ralph Walters, R. R. Otis and W. R. Orchard. All of these men lost watches of more than the average value and some of them considerable sums of money. Not a garment in the lockers was left unsearched.

The rapidity with which the rascal worked, and the smoothness of previously ingratiating conduct indicate that similar robberies are his regular profession. He carries a ticket in the Paterson association, which was undoubtedly the product of some other robbery.

The police were given an excellent description of him and full details of some of the watches.

LANA DITCH COMPANY BIDS

Willing to Take Big Ditch Work at Fraction Less Per Yard Than Lowest Bidder and Wins.

Without any supposed knowledge of what the lowest bid would be the Lana Ditch company, a new organization, entered the list of competitive bidders for the privilege of excavating the big Nishnabotna drainage ditch system with the intention of winning. It filed a bid of a hundredth part of 1 cent below the lowest bid, no matter what that might be. The lowest bid happened to be 6 cents per cubic yard, and the Lana company claimed the contract. The Board of County Supervisors at the meeting yesterday, held the bid to be good and awarded the construction company the contract. The engineer's estimate of the cost of the big canal was approximately $97,000, but this unexpectedly low bid will greatly reduce the cost to the farmers.

The Lana company's bid, based upon its own estimate of the cost, was 7.9 cents per yard, which was near, but still less than the figure of the engineer's estimate.

The 6 cent bid was made by a Council Bluffs firm, using the name of Sternberg, and they were represented before the board by Attorney John P. Organ. He advised the board that it was doubtful if a legitimate contract could be made with the Lana company under such a bid, but Attorney W. H. Killpack, former county attorney, and well advised as to ditch legislation, informed the board that there was no doubt about the legality of it, and that the Lana company was entitled to the contract. Eight bids were filed.

Real Estate Transfers.

Real estate transfers for April 7, furnished to The Bee by the Pottawattamie County Abstract company of Council Bluffs:

Cora B. Bellinger and husband to Luther E. Gillett, w½ sw¼ of 1 and s½ se¼ and nw¼ se¼ of 2 and ne¼ se¼ of 2-75-44, w. d.	$21,600
C. D. Dillin to Caroline Wiatt, lot 21, block 36, in Central subd. in Council Bluffs, Ia., w. d.	500
J. W. Squire and wife to F. T. True, lot 1 in Day's subd. of lot 25, block 14, in Ferry add. to Council Bluffs, Ia., w. d.	100
J. P. Greenshields and wife to F. T. True, part lot 10, block 4, Bayliss' 1st add., and lots 1, 2 and 3, block 2, in Grimes' add. to Council Bluffs, Ia., w. d.	
Henry H. Van Brunt and wife to Harry L. Van Brunt, part lots 1 and 2 Aud's subd. of part out lots 2 and 3, Jackson's add. to Council Bluffs, Ia., w. d.	1
subd. of part out lots 2 and 3, Jackson's add. to Council Bluffs, Ia., w. d.	1
Harry L. Van Brunt and wife to Henry H. Van Brunt, part lot 2, Aud's subd. of w498 feet of out lots 2 and 3, Jackson's add. to Council Bluffs, Ia., w. d.	1
Lester Cary and wife to Nathan Cary, n2 feet of lot 12, block 13, in Walnut, Ia., w. d.	1
A. T. Bates to James E. Bruce, n½ nw¼ and se¼ nw¼ and nw¼ ne¼ of 36-75-46, q. c. d.	1
Nine transfers, total	$22,212

Minor Mention.

W. A. Diamant of South Omaha and Ella Salmons of St. Joseph were married last evening by Rev. Henry De Long at his home, 538 East Broadway.

The jury in the district court was dismissed yesterday until Monday. There was no session of court during the afternoon and there will be but a short one this morning.

In the district court yesterday James Wadding filed a suit against Anna M. Shaw and John H. Shaw. The action is to attempt to break the will of Eliza J. Wadding. He claims a half interest.

Yesterday being Friday, and supposedly unlucky for weddings, only one marriage license was taken out. Victor Wiles of Omaha, aged 23, and Miss Eleanor Turner, 20 years old, of Pacific Junction.

J. H. Hess has returned from Julesburg, Colo., where he has land interests that are rapidly increasing in value. While there he saw land sell for $175 an acre which only a dozen or more years ago could have been bought for $1 an acre.

Mrs. J. T. Kelly, 700 Perine avenue, is seriously ill at the home of her mother, Mrs. J. F. Murphy. Mrs. Kelly is affected with heart trouble and the terrible shock to all of the relatives caused by the acts of Dr. H. D. Kelly has been doubly severe upon her.

Excelsior lodge No. 259, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, will meet in special communication Saturday afternoon at 2:30 p. m., and evening for work in the third degree. All master Masons are invited to attend. A banquet will be served at the close of the session.

The water company yesterday closed its case before the condemnation court, and unless the city has something to offer in rebuttal, which undoubtedly it will have, no further testimony will be taken. The company rested with the close of the testimony of Engineer J. W. Alvord. Counsel for the city asked time to check over the testimony and the court adjourned for the day. It is probable that a brief session will be held today and an adjournment to Monday will follow.

The body of Mike Hughes, who died suddenly at Cherokee, Ia., from an attack of heart trouble, was brought to Council Bluffs last evening and taken to the Woodring undertaking rooms. He was the son of Mrs. Ann Hughes, 508 Franklin avenue, and was 37 years of age. His widow survives him. The body will be taken this afternoon to the residence of his sister, Mrs. Lucien Gillett, on Franklin avenue. The funeral will be held on Sunday afternoon at St. Francis' church, Father McManus officiating.

Police officers Thursday morning found a 16-year-old girl named Reavis of Independence, Kan., wandering on the streets in the chill of the morning carrying a 4-weeks'-old baby. The child-mother and her baby were in evident distress and they were taken to the police station for temporary care. After the unfortunate girl told her story they were sent to the Creche. She said she had been turned out of the Pangie Good Samaritan hospital for the reason that her money was exhausted. She had not a cent of money and was hundreds of miles from her friends with her tiny illegitimate baby in arms. The police also say the child was entirely without wraps, and the girl-mother had used her skirt for a mantle. Yesterday Chief of Police Froom went before the Board of County Supervisors and made a statement of the case, calling attention to the fact that the hospital held a state license. He asked the board to take up the matter with the State Board of Control and demand the revocation of the license upon the ground that the institution was bringing indigents into the community and abandoning them in a penniless condition.

"The Third Degree" will be the offering at the Dohany theater Saturday night, April 8. Seldom is a play seen which has so keen an interest in current topics to the public as "The Third Degree." Charles Klein's psychological drama, and the author has shown his best work in the treatment of the story. The inner methods of the police workings of "the third degree" are revealed in a convincing way. Miss Sarah Padden commands the height of attention in her interpretation of Annie Jeffries, the heroine. Other players who have won favor in various parts and who are still contributing their share to the success of the remarkable play are Ralph Ramsey, H. H. Forsman, Raymond Wells, Arda La Croix, Harry Farnham, Grace Lord, Joseph Garry, Florence Pendleton and others.

MINE MANAGER IS KILLED

Lifeless Body Found in Cage as It Reaches Surface Near Fort Dodge.

FORT DODGE, Ia., April 8.—(Special Telegram.)—Emerson Dawson, aged 32, manager of operation and part owner of the Craig & Dawson coal mine, was instantly killed this afternoon when defective machinery fell striking his head. He had been down in the mine and was entering the cage to be carried to the top. He released the machinery and started up to be discovered lifeless when the cage reached daylight. A widow and three children survive him.

Lien Against Atlantic Line.

HARLAN, Ia., April 8.—(Special.)—H. S. Rottenborg, C. A. Ross and C. D. Judd, a copartnership of Atlantic, has filed a lien of $43,791 against the Atlantic, Northern & Southern Railway company. The claim is for making the preliminary survey, soliciting stock subscriptions and carrying on the campaign for the voting of taxes in various townships.

Defendants Win Case.

CRESTON, Ia., April 8.—(Special Telegram.)—A sealed verdict in which the decision was in favor of the defendants was returned this morning in an action entitled Packers National Bank of South Omaha against O. W. and Guy Miller, brought in the Union county district court.

WOMAN CHOSEN MAYOR OF HUNNEWELL COUNTED OUT

Vote is Tie and Mrs. Wilson Gets Certificate by Casting Lots—Council Recounts the Ballots.

HUNNEWELL, Kan., April 8.—After winning the mayoralty of Hunnewell with a heavy handicap, Mrs. Ella Wilson has been counted out by the old city council, and the certificate of election given to her opponent, O. M. Akers.

When the vote was counted Monday night a tie was found to have been the result of the election. A law was discovered directing a casting of lots by the judges. When the slips were drawn, Mrs. Wilson won. The judges made a return showing her election.

When the ballots were counted by the council today, it is asserted, Akers was found to have one more vote than Mrs. Wilson. The council issued a certificate of election to him.

Mrs. Wilson has engaged lawyers to contest the case.

OFFICERS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR LIBELOUS PUBLICATION

New York Supreme Court Decides Officials of Corporation Are Not Personally Liable.

NEW YORK, April 8.—Officers of a newspaper corporation cannot be held personally responsible for the newspaper's publication of libelous matter. Such was the decision of the appellate division of the supreme court today in the case brought by John D. Rockefeller, jr., against S. S. Carvalho, president; Bradford Merrill, treasurer, and Edward H. Clark, secretary, of the Star company, publisher of the New York American. The court orders all proceedings against them dismissed. As officers of the newspaper corporation, Carvalho, Merrill and Clark were arrested on the charge of criminal libel. The newspaper articles for which it was sought to hold them responsible related to alleged abuses of workingmen of a corporation which, it was alleged, John D. Rockefeller,

OKLAHOMA CANNOT PREVENT PIPING GAS OUT OF STATE

ST. LOUIS, April 8.—The Oklahoma law, section 6, of the constitution, prohibiting the piping of natural gas out of that state, was declared unconstitutional by Judge Walter H. Sanborn of the United States circuit court of appeals for the Eighth judicial circuit, in a decision handed down late today.

An injunction obtained from the United States circuit court for the Eastern district of Oklahoma by W. F. Cowhan of Michigan, was sustained and made permanent, and prevents interference by the Oklahoma officials with the piping of the natural gas to other states.

Iowa

PUBLIC SERVICE BILL FAILS

Iowa Legislature Kills Measure for Commission.

APPROPRIATION BILL REPORTED

Largest Amount Provided for in Some Years by the Legislature is Included—Clerk Whalen Gets His Discharge.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

DES MOINES, April 8.—(Special Telegram.)—The fight which has been waged for a commission to take over the public service corporations of the state and to have full control of all their business, came an end today, and was a failure. The scheme had been twice recommended by the governor, and a bill was put through the house to create a commission to handle the subject. Today Senator Sammis called it up in the senate and spoke for it two hours, after which, without further debate, the bill was laid on the table, by a vote of 34 to 21.

Big Appropriation Bill.

The appropriations committee completed work today and reported the big appropriation bill which carries over $1,500,000 for the three educational institutions and the institutions under the board control. The three colleges get an aggregate of $946,400, and the other institutions $557,650. This is a much larger appropriation than for a number of years.

Railway Clerk Loses Place.

John Whalen, railway mail clerk, has been discharged by the Postoffice department. No reason for the action was given. Whalen is the first Postoffice department employe in Iowa to be summarily dismissed. Whalen does not know of any specific reason for his dismissal. He has been active in the ranks of the clerks who have been seeking reforms in the department.

Forbidding False Weights.

The house this morning passed a bill which will give the state dairy and food commissioner the right to investigate and inspect all weights and measures in the state and if any are found to be below the standard to prosecute the offenders.

The house passed a bill to provide for special terms of court in vacation where a prisoner desires to plead guilty.

Commerce Counsel Bill.

It is understood that the committee in charge of the commerce counsel bill and seeking to reach a finish on that bill will report it out in favor of having the commerce counsel named by the railroad commission instead of the executive council. The committee is divided, six being for the railroad commission and two for the bill as it stands.

State Aid for High Schools.

The house sifting committee has reported out for passage the senate bill to give state aid for high schools that give normal instruction and providing for the additions, subjects to be taught in the said schools, and the bill was passed. The same committee has also reported out the bill for an appropriation for a commission to investigate and report on the need of a workman's compensation act.

Effort to Legalize Notaries.

The governor today called a halt on an effort made to legalize the acts of notaries public who were without commissions prior to March 17. A bill slipped through both houses and came to the governor to this effect. He protested and threatened a veto, whereat the bill was recalled from him. The bill, it is understood, was for the purpose of effecting the legalizing of the saloon consent petitions in Des Moines where a notary public acted without authority, and it is now feared that the failure of the bill will close all saloons.

Passed Fire Marshal Bill.

The senate today passed a fire marshal bill with some amendments from the house draft. The senate cut out a provision which was that the fire marshal could hold private and secret inquisitions and force persons to give testimony under penalty. The bill provides for a state fire marshal and deputies to have general supervision of the insurance and fire protection business of the state.

The senate once more put an end to the hope of organizing trust companies in Iowa to carry on a fiduciary business. A bill was introduced early for this purpose and the committee on banks fixed it up so as to be in best possible shape. Today the senate refused to adopt an amendment giving to savings banks the same right to act as trustees, administrators, etc., as proposed for the trust companies, whereupon the enacting clause was stricken out and the bill killed, 28 to 18.

Supreme Court Decisions.

The following decisions have been rendered by the supreme court:

State against Percy Patterson, appellant, Polk county, assault to commit murder, affirmed.

Catherine Bradford, appellant, against Frank H. Heisell et al., Clay county, redeem from execution sale, affirmed.

J. P. Matthews against Bert E. Nash, appellant, Pottawattamie county, suit to set aside land contract, affirmed.

Cecil M. Stewart against R. C. Hall, appellant, Polk county, question of new trial, affirmed.

J. M. King, appellant, against Alwilda Bolt, Montgomery county, action to quiet title, affirmed.

W. T. O. Larson against Postal Telegraph company, appellant, Shelby county, action for damages, affirmed.

Sara C. Snyder, appellant, against Nathaniel Richey, Buena Vista county, petition of real estate, reversed.

W. H. Ware against Herman M. Leffert, appellant, Council Bluffs, superior court, action on contract, reversed.

C. F. Jones, appellant, against George DeMoss, Greene county, action for rent, reversed.

Christian Stokes, appellant, against Sac county, damages for personal injury, reversed.

L. H. Wair against Wabash Railroad company, appellant, Superior court Shenandoah, damages, reversed.

Iowa News Notes.

IOWA CITY—George Lennardis of Iowa City today started suit against the Rock Island railroad for $6,500 damages for his broken leg. He claims the company interpreter flung him from a handcar.

IOWA CITY—The Perkins scholarship to Harvard university, open to any student in any college or university of Iowa, was awarded today to Floyd Thomas of Iowa City, Ia., a senior in the State University of Iowa.

WEST LIBERTY—A man whose name has been ascertained as Frank Butleus was found mangled and dead on the Rock Island tracks just north of Columbus Junction, south of here, last night. Friends or relatives cannot be located.

DENISON—Much interest is felt here over the coming oratorial contest to be held at Colfax, Friday, April 14, when representatives from the high schools of Iowa will compete. Denison has a contestant in Miss Ruth Cole, who is in the humorous class.

INDIANOLA—Yesterday the Simpson college sophomore class elected its board of editors for the college annual "The Zenith" for 1912. Elbert Martin of Melrose, Ia., was selected as editor-in-chief and Robert Miller of Shannon, city business manager.

IOWA CITY—Major William Jepson, head of the Fifty-sixth regiment, Iowa National guard, hospital corps, has refused to accept a station in Texas on the occasion of the recent Mexican unpleasantness, owing to duties at the hospital of the State University of Iowa.

LOGAN—At the county camp of the Modern Woodmen at Woodbine, Ambrose Burk of Missouri Valley, W. J. Blair of Mondamin and X. H. Houstane of Dunlap were selected as delegates to represent the county camp at Des Moines, May 3, at the state camp meeting.

IDA GROVE—The opera house here is to be enlarged to double its present size and the stage so improved that it will be able to handle the scenery for the larger companies which it is hoped can be secured for a lay-over here on the route from Des Moines to Sioux City.

COLFAX—The Iowa state declamatory contest will be held in this city next Friday evening, April 14. Many of the leading educators of the state will be in attendance and forty-eight high schools will be represented by speakers in the contest for the state gold medal in oratory.

MARSHALLTOWN—The following delegates to the state camp of the Modern Woodmen of America were elected today at the triennial county convention of the order, which was held here: L. O. Cross, Marshalltown; W. H. Bollenbacher, Melbourne, and A. A. Richards, Le Grand.

NEWTON—The new $200,000 Jasper county court house was formally dedicated with appropriate ceremonies Thursday. Judge Horace E. Deemer of the supreme court delivered the principal address. The new building is artistic in architecture and the equal of any county court house in the state.

FORT DODGE—Rev. O. S. Bryan of Fonda, only active surviving charter member of the Northwest Iowa conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, has resigned his charge because of ill health. He will be succeeded by J. O. Crawford, a student from the Garrett Biblical institute of Chicago.

FORT DODGE—Mrs. Bridget Miller, wife of M. L. Miller, promoter of the once proposed Fort Dodge & Spirit Lake interurban and the Des Moines & Sioux City interurban, is suing for separate maintenance in the Webster county courts. She alleges cruel and inhuman treatment, nonsupport and desertion. Mr. Miller is now in Alabama.

IOWA CITY—"Black Hand" letters of a murderous type were received today by Frank Morgania, a Greek, assistant foreman on the Iowa City-Cedar Rapids Interurban railway. They threatened death to him if he continued work in his present capacity later than Sunday of this week. Eight men were arrested today, but later released.

CRESTON—Word was received here yesterday of the critical illness of S. W. McElderry at Washington, D. C. He was formerly of this county, where he practiced law, but for the last twenty-five years has been employed in the pension bureau at Washington. The dispatch stated he had been stricken with paralysis and there is no hope for recovery.

FORT DODGE—Domestic science will be introduced into the Fort Dodge public schools next autumn, according to the decision of the new school board at its initial meeting this week. The new board, with C. F. Duncombe as president, also will make it a chief aim to make the high school a "poor boys' college," introducing practical courses, including stenography, bookkeeping and typewriting.

COLFAX—William Bauer, a Colfax young man, who had been arrested for embezzlement of funds while secretary of a local miners' union at Zeigler, Ill., and made his escape from jail at Benton, was recaptured here Wednesday evening and taken back to Illinois. The amount of money appropriated is said to be nearly $2,000. The young man is 24 years old.

FORT DODGE—David Rhinehart, a Washington state real estate dealer, who is associated with the Alaska Land company, much before the public, claimed an Iowa bride last night, Miss Cora Ebersole of Manson. Mr. and Mrs. Rhinehart went east for an extended trip. They will journey westward to Los Angeles, their first coast stop. Before taking up their permanent residence in Seattle they will also take a foreign trip.

VINTON—A clean sweep of Vinton's municipal appointments was made by the newly elected preacher-mayor, Rev. A. W. Caul when he took office Monday night. One exception was made in the case of the deputy marshal or night watchman. The new city marshal is Frank W. Burk, succeeding Frank Boyden. It is announced that Vinton is to be made to walk straight under the new administration.

LAKE CITY—The Lake City auxiliary of the Christian Women's Board of Missions of the local Church of Christ has been notified that Lake City is one of the three towns in the northwestern district of the state to be chosen by the State board of the Christian Church to entertain one of the jubilee rallies that are being held by the national workers throughout the state of Iowa during this month, Lake City having the dates of April 22 and 23.

CRESTON—The new $200,000 court house of Jasper county was dedicated yesterday. The structure is said to be the most beautiful county capitol in the state. It is 130 feet long, eighty feet wide and fifty-six feet from the grade line to the cornice. It is surmounted by a fifty-six-foot tower in which is placed a magnificent great clock and the court house is built entirely of cut Bedford limestone lined with brick.

IDA GROVE—At a meeting of the school board it was determined to add a course in agriculture to the high school and to make it of such a high standard of excellence that students will come here from all parts of the country and surrounding counties to take the course. A specialist will be employed to have charge of the department and it is proposed to spare no expense or pains in making it the greatest county agricultural school in northwest Iowa.

DENISON—Mr. George A. Richardson, one of the best known residents of the county, died here today of Bright's disease. He was for some time postmaster at West Side, Ia., where he engaged in the drug business. Elected county treasurer he came to Denison and has resided here since. After going out of office he studied law and opened a law and insurance office. He was prominent as a Mason and that order will take part in the funeral services Sunday afternoon.

IDA GROVE—On the John Smith ranch west of Ida Grove there were four mules and four horses mixed up in a big runaway. The four mules hitched to a disk were following the four horses hitched also to a disk when the mules became frightened and ran. The horses also ran away, but the mules caught them and ran over them, the four mules and four horses becoming tangled into a terrible mess. The drivers were not hurt by some miracle, and only one of the horses was badly cut.

VIOLATES LIBRARY RULE, SCHOLLE GOES TO JAIL

He Clips a Newspaper to Add to His Scrap Book, but an Officer Was Watching.

George Scholle, being of a literary bent, wandered into the public library Friday forenoon to regale his intellect with pabulum gleaned from the teeming pages of a local paper. A certain article appealed to George and he cut it out, intending to add it to his scrap book, but Special Officer Samuelson, who patrols the classic aisles of the reading room, remembered that it was against the law to deface or destroy books or newspapers in the public library, so he gathered George in and lodged him in the conservatory at Eleventh and Dodge streets.

ARMOUR THEFT WAS $150,000

Value of Stocks and Bonds Fifty Thousand Dollars More Than at First Supposed.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., April 8.—The value of the stocks and bonds stolen from Mrs. S. B. Armour was $150,000 instead of $105,000, as originally reported, it developed today. Mrs. Armour's loss will not be any larger than it was reported to be when the story first become public, however. The $45,000 worth of securities, the theft of which has just come to light, were never sold. The thief told their hiding place and they were recovered.

Thus far Mrs. Armour has recovered about $120,000. What the goods in storage, jewelry, works of art, rugs and silverware will bring is not known. It would appear from figures now available that Mrs. Armour will not lose more than $15,000 or $20,000.

Friends of the woman who stole the securities recalled today that the first theft was committed within a few weeks after she had recovered from a severe case of typhoid fever. Her illness was regarded as dangerous, she being delirious much of the time she was ill.

Mrs. Armour still steadfastly refuses to permit any action to be taken against the guilty person.

MADERO WILLING TO RESIGN

Insurgent Leader Would Allow New Provisional President.

CONCESSION TO SECURE PEACE

Insurrecto Head Asserts no Peace Overtures Are Received by Him—Will Not Move to Receive Commissioners.

MEXICO CITY, April 8.—By a majority of 140 the Chamber of Deputies tonight voted to grant the application of Vice President Ramon Corral for an indefinite leave of absence, but later reconsidered the resolution and his leave of absence was limited to eight months.

Francisco I. Madero's proposition to resign from the "provisional presidency" in favor of some member of the Diaz cabinet came to government officials as a distinct surprise.

When the news was transmitted to Minister of Finance Limantour it elicited no comment, but a request to call on him tomorrow.

Similar answers were given at the homes of other officials. None was prepared to make a statement, nor could a statement be obtained at the home of the president.

Madero Willing to Step Aside.

MADERO'S CAMP, BUSTILLOS' ESTATE, near CHIHUAHUA, MEX., April 8.—What he declared to be his ultimatum on the question of peace was delivered by Francisco I. Madero today. While still insisting that President Diaz must retire and the country be given a new election, Senor Madero said he was willing to resign as "provisional president," and if necessary allow a provisional president to be selected from Diaz's cabinet.

The tenor of Senor Madero's interview was rather to descredit the possibility of immediate peace. He said no peace overtures had been received by him. He did not intend to move camp toward the border or anywhere else with a view of receiving any peace commissioners.

The report that his father was in El Paso and preparing to enter the insurrecto country to see him, interested him, but would have no influence on his actions, he said. It was the first formal interview Senor Madero had given since the complete text of President Diaz's message was received in camp. As for the reforms promised in the message, Senor Madero dismissed them with a smile, saying the promises were no more than President Diaz had previously made.

Statement of Madero.

Senor Madero dictated a statement which he said might be accepted as a definite expression of his views. The statement follows:

"I know the great damage which the war is doing to the country and if it were possible by negotiations to settle the war I would be pleased, though it would be necessary to make some concessions on both sides. I am disposed to make all personal concessions and I will ask only the necessary guarantee to have a new election perfectly free and open to every voter.

"I will not consider as a guarantee the promises of General Diaz because he has never fulfilled his previous promises. To have peace in Mexico it is absolutely essential that General Diaz shall retire. In such a case a provisional president will have to be selected by both sides.

"It is not necessary that I or any of my friends be chosen. I would accept as provisional president a member of the Diaz administration, if chosen by both sides and if we are granted the right to select a few provisional governors.

"This to us means great concessions, which we will make to settle the war. If the ambitions of General Diaz oblige us to continue the war, I am sure very soon we will have been victorious, and it will be better for the country in the end to have all my program developed, because that will mean a most radical change.

"When I left the United States there was no talk of peace negotiations, for which reason I did not name any peace commissioners.

"Notwithstanding that it is natural that my father and friends have taken advantage of the first opportunity to consider the matter, I approve their efforts, because I consider them patriotic patriots. If any peace negotiations were actually opened I undoubtedly would appoint my father as one of the commissioners.

"If we are described in the United States as being unfriendly to law and order, I wish to tell you that in war we attempt to be kind and considerate. We pay no salaries to any one, but to the families of those fighting in our ranks we distribute food and supplies. All of the land we have taken has immediately been subject to civil government."

"President Diaz's message raised one's risabilities," he said in a conversation. "It will have no influence on us. It will probably be thought that now when we have all our demands promised we will show only selfish ambition if we continue, but these promises are just what we heard before. Especially do I wish it understood that I am not fighting for personal aggrandizement. I would sacrifice myself and everything I possess for the good of the country.

Would Persuade Madero.

"We intend it as no affront to the United States when we say we care for no foreign interference. This is a family matter. We desire peace as much as anyone, but we have not and will not retrench from our just demands."

EL PASO, Tex., April 8.—It was learned tonight that peace negotiations, temporarily in eclipse by reason of misdirected telegrams and code message confusion, have not been abandoned, but with the clearing up of communications loomed larger than ever.

The two Maderos, respectively, father and brother of Francisco I. Madero, jr., the insurrecto commander-in-chief; Rafael Hernandez, the go-between, and Roque Estrada, attorney for Don Francisco, the younger, maintained their silence of the last week, but from an authentic source it was learned that they will leave here by automobile for San Andreas, Chihuahua, within the next seventy-two hours. At this place the rebel leader has established headquarters.

The government has furnished perfectly satisfactory assurances of their safety. The authority for the foregoing points out that the visit is absolutely unofficial.

The quartet, in their personal capacities only, will seek to impress the insurrecto leader with the broad view, which, in the field among his own enthusiastic following, he scarcely can be expected to retain.

Primarily, it will be necessary to impress him with the view that, to prevent anarchy, Diaz must remain at the head of the government for some months at least.

Convict Blackmailer Despite Organization in Court in Illinois

Government Wins First Case in Fight to Drive Ring From Chicago—Judge Landis Threatened.

CHICAGO, April 8.—The United States government today won its first case in its fight to drive out of Chicago a ring of Italian blackmailers, known as members of the Black Hand, and said by the police to be responsible for nearly fifty dynamite outrages and many murders.

Gianni Alongi was found guilty of using the mails in sending threatening letters, the jury in the United States district court bringing in the verdict, after Judge K. M. Landis and Postoffice Inspector James E. Stuart had received threats of death should Alongi be convicted.

Alongi was accused of having written threatening letters to Carmilo Marsala, a meat dealer, in the northwest side Italian section, near "Death Point," where many explosions and murders have occurred. Marsala refused to pay the tribute demanded and five bombs were exploded near his shop before Alongi was arrested.

Extraordinary efforts were made to prevent the conviction of Alongi.

HORNET'S OWNER ON TRIAL

Arguments Begun in Circuit Court in Case of Government Against Beer and Captain Johnson.

NEW ORLEANS, April 8.—Arguments were begun this afternoon in the United States circuit court in the case of the government against Joseph W. Beer, former owner, and Captain Charles Johnson, former master of the steamship Hornet, charged with violation of the neutrality laws in fitting out a filibustering expedition against Honduras.

Captain Johnson testified that as the agent of Mr. Beer he sold the Hornet to Chief Davids at Ruatan for $1 cash and $20,000 in notes, taking a mortgage on the steamer. He denied that he saw machine guns or rifles on the Hornet until after the vessel reached Three Points, off the Guatemalan coast, where they met several sloops with men and arms.

The case was given to the jury late this afternoon, with instructions to render a sealed verdict, which will be announced tomorrow morning.