The Evening Newspaper of Kansas

The Topeka State Journal.

WEATHER FORECAST for Kansas: Fair tonight and Tuesday; warmer tonight.

HOME EDITION — TOPEKA, KANSAS, MONDAY EVENING, MARCH 29, 1920—TEN PAGES — FOUR CENTS

GREAT HAVOC WROUGHT IN EIGHT STATES BY STORM

Death Toll from Sunday Tornadoes Mounts Steadily—Floods Are Adding to List of Killed, Injured and Homeless—Georgia Is Hit Hardest.

CASUALTY REPORT SHOWS HUNDREDS ARE MADE VICTIMS

Property Loss Will Mount Up to Many Millions.

Relief Parties Search Ruins for Bodies of Dead.

SOME TOWNS ARE WIPED OUT

Many Places Are Without Lights, Water and Wires.

Troops Are Called Out to Prevent Raids by Looters.

(By the United Press.)

Tornadoes which swept eight states on Sunday claimed a toll of approximately 125 lives, destroyed millions of dollars worth of property and left hundreds of families homeless.

Reports today showed there were two distinct storm areas—one in Georgia and Alabama, and the other in the middle west, starting at St. Louis and extending northeast to Lake Michigan. Fire followed in the wake of the storm in some cities, adding to the suffering.

Wood, hospital supplies, physicians, nurses and clothing were rushed to the stricken areas today. Injured were cared for in temporary buildings. The debris was combed in the hunt for missing.

La Grange, Ga., Hardest Hit.

La Grange, Ga., appeared to be the hardest hit by the storms. Between forty and sixty were reported killed there and 200 were homeless. West Point, Ga., reported five dead, and Agricola, Ala., five dead.

A telephone message received at Atlanta from La Grange stated the death list due to the tornado there was far greater than indicated in earlier reports. First reports stated sixty were killed.

The number of injured in the eight states were estimated at more than five hundred.

The western storm appeared first near St. Louis, where one was killed. It swept northward, branching out over Indiana, Ohio, Illinois and Michigan and extending into Wisconsin. It finally spent itself over Lake Michigan.

Towns Are Wiped Out.

Reports reaching the outside world ever badly crippled wires showed the following Indiana cities hit, with the toll of dead:

West Liberty, 7 dead; Union City, 8; Monroeville, 13; Edgerton, 1, and Zulu, 2. In addition, Geneva reported six lost.

The towns of West Liberty and Edgerton were reported practically wiped out.

The storm traveled northward down the Indiana-Ohio line. Van Wert, O., was hit. Two persons were killed by the fire which followed the windstorm. Greenville, O., reported two dead and twelve hurt. Nashville reported five dead. Practically all buildings in Nashville were leveled, dispatches said.

Reached Chicago at Noon.

The storm reached the Chicago district near noon, just as the crowds were leaving churches. Seven were killed in Elgin, seven in Chicago, and fourteen in the Chicago suburbs of Melrose Park, Maywood, Plainfield and Evanston.

One branch of the storm swept northward along the line between Ohio and Indiana, spreading death and destruction in its wake. Many towns were reported destroyed, and communication cut off.

Early reports indicate two dead and at least a score seriously injured at Van Wert.

Swept Wide Path.

The storm passed about four miles east of Van Wert in a southeast to northwest direction. It swept a clean path about one and one-half miles wide, demolishing everything in its way.

At Monroeville, Ind., unofficial reports were that thirteen persons had been killed and a large number injured. In one family of seven, five were killed instantly, it was reported. The storm passed just northwest of Monroeville. A steel bridge was torn and twisted from its abutments and crumpled like a piece of paper.

Fire Aids Windstrom.

Fire about noon Sunday threatened the town of Rolla. Burning brands from a residence showered surrounding buildings but volunteer fighters curbed the blaze after damage of $16,000 had been done.

The Masonic hall, P. B. Defighq's grocery, the Cleeton drug store and the Shields building were razed by fire at Clark, Mo. The damage was estimated at $50,000.

A number of residences and small buildings at Washington, Mo., were burned at a loss of between $25,000 and $30,000.

Troops Prevent Looting.

In Michigan, eight were reported dead, and Wisconsin, one.

The storm cut a swath 200 feet wide in Elgin, Ill., destroying a theater, two department stores, two churches and many residences.

National guard troops, former service men and armed citizens patrolled the streets in the stricken cities all night guarding property from looters.

Three persons were killed in Elgin when the steeple of a church collapsed. Another was killed when the storm or 6.3.

STORM CASUALTIES HEAVY

Two hundred and twelve lives were lost in tornadoes Sunday. Revised figures at noon today were: Chicago and viconity, 31; Indiana, 27; Michigan, 5; Missouri, 1; Wisconsin, 1; Ohio, 20; Georgia, 60; Alabama, 40.

It was believed the list would be increased as wire communication was restored with small outlying towns. In Indiana, the situation was in some doubt, due to conflicting reports of large losses of life in isolated villages.

The property loss in Illinois alone will run into millions. At Elgin, where great destruction was wrought in the three minutes it took the tornado to bore thru the main part of the city, the property loss was estimated at $1,500,000.

A feature of the storm interesting meteorologists was the fact that tornadoes apparently were developed at different points from a storm area moving down from the northwest.

The storm dipped its destructive funnels at two, possibly three, points in Illinois, another in Michigan and still another in Indiana.

At the same time, destructive phenomena were observed in Oklahoma and Missouri. In Oklahoma, damage was confined to property. In St. Louis one life was lost.

demolished the Elgin Baptist church.

Nearly all cities hit by the tornadoes were without light, water or gas.

Georgia Hit Hard.

Atlanta, Ga., March 29.—Because of demoralized wire conditions, few additional details of last night's tornado which struck Georgia and Eastern Alabama had come in early today. The death list still stood at approximately forty with many hundreds injured, some seriously. There was no accurate estimate of the property damage but it was expected to run well into the millions.

La Grange, Ga., seemed to catch the brunt of the storm. Twenty-one bodies already have been found there and it was believed the total dead would be almost double that number. Of the bodies found fifteen were those of negroes. West Point, Ga., also was hard hit, ten persons being reported dead there. Agricola, a small settlement in Alabama, had a death list of five.

Floods Increase Disaster.

Reports from practically all over

(Continued on Page Two.)

ADDITION TO DEPOT

Santa Fe Plans Construction Costing Around $63,000.

Make Preparations for Freight Improvements Here.

Preparations for an extensive addition to the freight depot in Topeka are being made by the Santa Fe railroad company, according to local officials.

The new building will become a depot for both in-going and out-going freight, it was said, and will cost approximately $63,000. It will be located near the corner of Second and Adams streets. The McCleery-Dudley Lumber company received notification some time ago to remove their lumber warehouse located at that point.

Plans are now being drawn for the constructive work to begin in the near future, it was said.

TO ADVERTISE TOPEKA

C. of C. Committee Will Meet Tuesday to Outline Campaign.

The Chamber of Commerce industrial development committee will meet Tuesday noon at the chamber to consider progressive publicity for Topeka. In line with a movement to push Topeka, plans are being made to gather material that may be used as publicity and advertising for this city.

The chamber expects to do a considerable amount of advertising. The committee will consider the best methods to be adopted in putting over this project.

British Miners Vote on Hike.

London, March 29.—The mine workers' delegates in conference here decided today upon a ballot of the men as to whether the government's offer of a 20 per cent increase on gross earnings should be accepted or a strike called for the three shillings minimum increase demanded.

1920 CENSUS REPORT

Washington, March 29.—The census today announced the following 1920 population figures:

Kankakee, Ill., 16,721; Corsicana, Tex., 11,356; Marshfield, Wis., 7,394; Yankton, S. D., 5,024; Elkins, W. Va., 6,777; Winchester, Ky., 7,866; St. Augustine, Fla., 6,192; Bonham, Tex., 6,998; Bryan, Tex., 6,285; Hillsboro, Tex., 6,952 and Whitehall, N. Y., 5,258

Increases since 1910: Kankakee, 2,735 persons or 19.6 per cent; Corsicana 1,607 or 16.5; Marshfield, 1,611 or 27.9; Yankton, 1,237 or 32.7; Elkins, 1,517 or 28.8; Winchester, 710 or 9.9; St. Augustine, 698 or 12.7; Bonham, 1,164 or 24.0; Bryan, 2,163 or 52.3; Hillsboro, 837 or 13.7; Whitehall, 341

WOMAN LOOMS UP

Female of Species May Disturb Salina Convention.

Sudden Strength Shows Up Behind Mrs. R. R. Bittman.

SHAWNEE CROWD LEAVES

Largest Delegation Will Vote Solidly for Mulvane.

Two District Meets, in Seventh and Second, Today.

BY A. L. SHULTZ.

The female of the species may disturb an otherwise serene and beautiful situation at Salina. Sudden development of organized strength behind Mrs. R. R. Bittman of Independence may upset a few well laid plans before the Republican state convention. Mrs. Bittman is doped to enter the state convention with the entire Third district—a force of 135 delegates—behind her candidacy for a Big Four job.

Until the last week most of the conversation about women delegates to the Republican national convention has been in remote precincts, among persons disposed to complimentary remarks or where first hand political information seldom filters. But the Third district convention last week gave the woman cause a real impetus. The Third district delegation comprises some of the wisest men in the political game in the state—men who know the ground plan of organization—and they are going to Salina to carry out the will of the Cherryvale gathering. Mrs. Bittman was unanimously endorsed by the convention.

Keep Stanley to His Word.

Some weeks ago there was a flutter in the reading rooms of the women's clubs when Fred E. Stanley, national committeeman, and H. H. Motter, state chairman, asserted one of the Big Four places should go to a woman. At this time there are two women in the running—Mrs. Bittman and Mrs. Minnie J. Grinstead of Liberal. Now the Bittman forces may give Motter and Stanley a real opportunity to display their enthusiasm by delivering a few votes. Whether the Independence woman wins or loses, her candidacy with the Third district support will add some new color to the setting for a real lively state Republican gathering.

Mrs. Bittman is well known in women's club circles and has held offices in the D. A. R. She has been active in political affairs in the Third district. The unanimity of her endorsement removed all of the elements of factionalism from the fight in her behalf. She was recently endorsed by the women's auxiliary of the Republican state committee.

Mrs. Grinstead, who also seeks a place, is the first woman legislator in Kansas. She has been active in temperance campaigns for a number of years.

Sleeping facilities in Salina will be crowded tonight and Tuesday night if the delegates do not spend their entire time in the hotel lobbies. Nearly 2,000 men and women are expected to attend the convention. A total of 1,024 delegates will vote on candidates and the resolutions which may define a partial course for delegates. Four delegates at large and four alternates will be selected. Two presidential electors will also be nominated.

Give No Instructions.

No instructions will be given the Kansas delegates to the Chicago convention. The only definition of state policy may come in resolutions defining the party's stand on military training. A fight on resolutions is certain if the committee proposes a plank either supporting or opposing the military issue.

In addition to the two women whose candidacies are to be considered in Salina Wednesday, five widely known Kansans seek Big Four places. They include: David W. Mulvane of Topeka, former national committeeman and for many years a party leader in the state; Willis J. Bailey of Atchison, former governor and prominent banker; Harvey H. Motter of Olathe, state chairman; Emson Carey of Hutchinson, former state senator and wealthy salt manufacturer; W. W. Watson of Salina, founder of the first Kansas Wood-for-President club and wealthy merchant. All of the candidates for delegate-at-large will be in the milling late this afternoon and tonight.

Shawnee Crowd Leaves.

Several hundred delegates, including some of the most prominent party workers in the state, will arrive in Salina this afternoon and will arrange the setting of the stage for the big show. A majority of the Shawnee county delegation, as well as a large crowd of delegates from First and Second district counties, left Topeka at 12:25 this afternoon for the scene of activities—and possible hostilities.

It is probable that Fred Brinkerhoff, Pittsburg newspaper man, will be temporary chairman of the state convention, while the job of permanent chairman is likely to go to Harry

(Continued on Page Two.)

MUST REMEDY DEFECTS

U. S. Inspector Examines East Sixth Street Road—Hold Contractors.

Certain defects in grading and other work on the East Sixth street road, completed for a distance of five miles, must be remedied before the contractors will be released. That was the statement today by Shawnee county commissioners following a trip of inspection over the road by John A. Wonder, federal roads inspector.

"There was nothing of real consequence wrong with the road," said Henry McAfee, a member of the board of county commissioners, today.

McAfee explained that the contractors who had contracted to build the first five miles of the hard surfaced road were nearly ready to quit and the government inspector came to Topeka to look over the work for the purpose of satisfying the government that the money which Uncle Sam had given to aid in building a hard surfaced road had been well spent. The exact findings of the inspector would be written out in a short time, the commissioners stated.

MULTITUDES FLOCK TO AGED HEALER "BROTHER ISAIAH" TO BE CURED OF ILLS

Photos show John Cudney, "Brother Isaiah," preaching to multitude near New Orleans and curing a woman paralyzed for years.

Thousands of persons have journeyed to the houseboat of John Cudney, called "Brother Isaiah" at his request, near New Orleans to seek his aid in being cured of ailments and afflictions. Many of his cures are said to be miraculous. He has cured blindness and helped many cripples to walk, say spectators. He says his cures are made through prayer and faith.

IN RUHR DISTRICT

German Armies Pay No Heed to Entente Refusal.

No Excuse for Invasion, Declares French Foreign Office.

Paris, March 29.—Absolute confirmation of the entrance of regular German army troops into the Ruhr district on the edge of the allied zone of occupation without permission from the allies has been received by the French foreign office, it was declared today.

The subject, it was stated, will probably come up before the supreme council in London. The French say they can find no excuse whatever for the sending of troops into this section.

Drastic Steps Threatened.

Berlin, March 29.—Energetic measures to restore order and to protect the German people from "illegal acts" will be taken by the government against communist forces operating in the Ruhr region, said a manifesto issued by the government today, if leaders of the communists fail by March 30 to give adequate guarantees to General von Watter, commander of government troops in that district.

The following stipulations are laid down as conditions upon which the government will refrain from taking drastic steps to punish those who have opposed its authority:

Unconditional recognition of constitutional state authorities. Restoration of official civilian and police services, providing they have not been implicated in the movement supporting the

(Continued on Page Two.)

BOLSHEVIKI TAKE NOVOROSSISK

Allied Shipping Makes Escape—Denekine Troops Go Over to Reds.

Novorossisk, Russia, March 29.—Occupation of this city by Bolsheviki forces occurred Saturday morning at 10 o'clock. Thousands of General Denikine's volunteer soldiers went over to the soviet side and most of the remainder went on board ship and departed for Crimea, with Denikine.

The only ships which resisted occupation of the city by the Bolsheviki were Russian, which fired a few shells at the soviet forces. The United States cruiser, Galveston, was the last warship to leave the harbor and was not fired upon altho British and French warships were under fire from Bolsheviki machine guns while departing.

Virtually all shipping of value was removed from the harbor before the Bolsheviki gained control of the city.

ASK FOR RECEIVER

Government Intervenes in Red River Oil War.

Upholds Oklahoma Claim in Petition to Supreme Court.

Washington, March 29.—The federal government today asked the supreme court to appoint a federal receiver for all the oil lands in the Red river valley claimed by Texas and Oklahoma valued at more than $200,000,000.

An injunction to prevent either state both of which have armed forces around the disputed land from interfering with the receiver's control of property was asked.

The government asks that the boundary line of the river as it existed on February 22, 1821, be the line of separation between the two states.

The position of the government sustains the contentions of Oklahoma, the brief asking that Texas be decreed to have no title to lands north of the old boundary line and Oklahoma no interest to lands south of it.

MAY CLOSE PACKING PLANTS

Strike of 900 Stock Handlers May Throw 50,000 Out of Job.

Chicago, March 29.—Nearly fifty thousand employes of packing companies here will be thrown out of work if the workers of the Union Stockyards and Transit company, who went on strike Saturday at midnight, remain out, packing company officials said today.

"We have enough livestock on hand for today," said an official of Armour & Co. "After that we must gradually close down if the strike continues, and a week will see all departments of the plant closed."

The Chicago Junction railroad has notified roads here that no livestock for the Chicago market, other than horses, will be accepted. Stock in transit to Chicago will be handled as conditions permit.

Packing company officials say that the number of men on strike is only about 900. This includes the stock handlers, the cleaners and the unloading men.

Dropped Dead While at Church.

Wichita, Kan., March 29.—General Manage. Nichols O'Brien, of the Orient railroad of San Angelo, Texas, died here Sunday of heart disease while attending mass. He was here attending a road conference.

Teach Chivalry and Courtesy At High School This Week

Under New Plan, Each Week Is Devoted to Instilling Desirable Qualities in Students' Characters.

That courtesy and chivalry are fast becoming unknown among the present generation is the conclusion reached by a number of thoughtful students and teachers of Topeka high school. It has been decided to devote one week to the attempt to instill such qualities into the students' characters, and this week is known as "courtesy and chivalry" week.

During the ten minute period each morning which each class of students spends with its faculty adviser, the need of courtesy and chivalry will be discussed. Today "good manners and good form" was the subject of the ten minute "reform" period. Wednesday the value of courtesy and chivalry as business assests will be set forth. On Thursday some of the best students of the public speaking department will debate the question: "Resolved, that girls have more courtesy than boys."

Last week high school students went thru a get-acquainted campaign. On one day each student was tagged with his name and was required to speak to five students and to a member of the faculty whom he had not known personally before.

TO STAY ON JOB

Miners Must Work While New Agreement Is Made.

Union Leaders Agree to Keep Coal Coming After April 1.

SIGN NEW PACT WITHIN WEEK

Soft Coal Operators and Union Chiefs Meet in New York.

Miners Expect Wage Hike But No Cut in Hours.

New York, March 29.—Instructions will probably be sent miners in bituminous fields to remain on the job after April 1 when the present wage agreement with mine operators expires, John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers of America, said here today.

The statement followed a conference between union leaders. The men conferred this morning to discuss the demands which they will instruct their scale committee to make upon operators when the joint conference opens late today.

Lewis in opening the caucus of bituminous miners explained the international officers did everything they could to get the most favorable decision from the commission.

The miners seemed to expect no concession on hours but said they did expect more than a $1 a day increase recommended for day workers. They will ask the operators to make this award $1.35 as being more equitable in view of the 24 cents a ton raise for pick and machine workers, they said. The operators also held a caucus.

Will Sign New Agreement.

A new wage agreement based on the majority report of President Wilson's bituminous coal commission will be signed within a week, it is predicted by members of the general scale committee.

J. L. Lewis said that common sense would rule thruout the conferences and there would be no reason for further delay in clearing up the bituminous situation. He pointed out that the reward of the president's commission was to be used as a basis for a new contract and would not be written into a new agreement without discussion. He indicated that the miners would attempt to obtain further concessions from the operators as to working hours and wages.

The wine workers want at least a 31 per cent increase and a seven-hour day. The award of the commission gave them a 27 per cent increase and an eight hour day. The increase included the 14 per cent given the workers when they returned to work after the recent strike.

OLD SYSTEM DONE

Consolidation of Rural Schools Is Modern Need.

President of Hays Normal Addresses Normal Conference.

Emporia, Kan., March 29.—Consolidation of rural schools, the shortage of teachers and efficiency were outlined by Thomas W. Butcher, president of the Kansas State Normal school, as the principal subjects to be considered at the three day conference which began at the normal school here today.

"The tendency in the rural districts is for consolidation," said Mr. Butcher. "The old system of a school in every district is doomed. As to salaries of teachers, if efficiency is kept up salaries will be higher. We might as well lock the doors of our schools and nail the windows as to put incompetent teachers in our schools."

Three hundred school superintendents and members of boards of education are attending the conference.

Dr. Henry J. Waters of Kansas City and Hugh S. Macgill, field secretary of the National Education association, are on today's program. Governor Henry J. Allen of Kansas and Governor Charles H. Brough of Arkansas are speakers on tomorrow's program.

WANT NEW MOVIE BOARD.

Motion Picture Men Declare Kansas Censors Are Not Broad Minded.

Wichita, March 29.—Moving picture theater owners at the annual meeting of the Kansas Moving Picture Exhibitors association here today condemned the Kansas state board of censorship for moving pictures as not being broad enough and at time being unfair.

They delegated one of their members to ask the state authorities to name a new board. Only women are on the present board and the picture men ask that the board be composed partly, at least, of men.

D. A. R. TO ARKANSAS CITY.

C. of C. Promised Entertainment to Next Year's Delegates.

Arkansas City, Kan., March 29.—The 1921 convention of the Daughters of the American Revolution will meet in this city. Arkansas City extended an invitation for the next convention at the Manhattan meeting last week and because the Chamber of Commerce here had agreed to aid in the entertainment and the local Betty Bonney chapter had made great preparations for the meeting, Salina and Pittsburg, the other candidates for the 1921 convention, ceded the honor to this city.

VOTE PAVING ALLOWANCE.

City Commission Appropriates $12,000 To Be Paid to Kaw Company.

A resolution was passed this morning at a special meeting of the city commissioners allowing the Kaw Paving company payment of 80 per cent on the concrete base already laid in paving jobs in various parts of the city. The allowance will total about $12,000, it was said. Most of the work was begun last winter too late to be completed until this spring.

The Weather

GET OUT YOUR SPADE.

Flora Predicts Ideal Weather for Gardening This Week.

WEATHER FORECAST FOR KANSAS: Fair tonight and Tuesday; warmer tonight.

TODAY'S TEMPERATURE.

7 o'clock	36	11 o'clock	54
8 o'clock	40	12 o'clock	57
9 o'clock	49	1 o'clock	58
10 o'clock	52	2 o'clock	59

Real spring weather returned today and will prevail during the next twenty-four hours, according to S. D. Flora, state meteorologist. Mild weather, the finest sort for gardening, is scheduled for the entire week.

The temperature was 35 degrees at 6 o'clock this morning. A light frost occurred. The temperature had risen to 51 degrees at 9:30 o'clock. Flora predicts a temperature of 45 tonight rising to 65 degrees tomorrow afternoon. No rain is in sight and fair weather with plenty of sunshine is indicated.

The lowest temperature on the weather map was 16 degrees, reported this morning from Winnipeg, Canada. Montana reported an average temperature of 36 degrees and 35 degrees was reported in Kansas this morning.

(Continued on Page Two.)

ASK COURT STAND

Legislative Candidates Will Be Quizzed by Labor.

Unions to Organize City Election Machine Tonight.

Legislative candidates will be asked to answer questionnaires from either the county or state central committee of organized labor as to whether they will or will not support the industrial court. Answers to these questionnaires will determine organized labor's attitude toward their candidacies.

That was a statement made today by J. O. Stevic, Topeka labor leader, prior to a mass meeting of laboring men at Labor hall at 8 o'clock tonight for the purpose of outlining labor's policies in the coming election as decided upon at the state meeting at Emporia last week. The entire strength of organized labor will be directed against the industrial court and those candidates favoring the Allen plan, Stevic stated.

In Topeka, many believer, labor, if united, can cut big inroads into a vote one way or another. The only question raised is whether there is not a large silent vote in labor's ranks that favors the attempt of the big majority, the public, to bring the quarrel between capital and labor before a court of justice.

Stevic stated today positively that legislative candidates would be indorsed in accordance with their expressed opinion on the industrial court. The attitude of labor toward other candidates for county offices will be announced later, he stated.

The meeting tonight will be for the purpose of outlining the Gompers plan in politics, which involves the curtailing of another third party movement and an organized effort to support candidates favoring labor in either of the major parties. Also, an attempt will be made tonight to make tentative plans for precinct organization thruout the city and each labor union in the city will be instructed to name two men who will represent labor in a county central committee.

"Either the state or the county committee will send questionnaires to legislative candidates," Stevic said today.

The ten planks in labor's platform will be outlined and explained. Exhortations from labor leaders for unity in voting in the election will be heard and an announcement will be made that there will be a First district congressional labor meeting held at Horton April 11.

WON'T REDUCE NEGRO'S BOND

Policeman Accused by Kansas Girl Still Held for $50,000 Bail

Chicago, March 29.—Judge Kersten, of the criminal court, today refused to interfere with the bonds of $50,000 set by the grand jury for Dorsey Chambliss, former colored policeman, and Mrs. Emma Ross, charged with conspiracy as the result of death bed charges made by Bertha Wiebeck, 16, of Pawnee Rock, Kan.

Attorneys for Chambliss and Mrs. Ross asked that the bonds be reduced. The case was referred to Judge Fam, who is to act as trial judge. Judge Fam will hear the pleas later in the day.

Chambliss is alleged to have taken the young girl to the home of Mrs. Ross, when she was found wandering about a depot, following her arrival here from the west. She is said to have been mistreated and died as a result.

Topeka Family, Homeless, Plan to Live in Car

A few weeks ago a young Topeka man was considering whether to buy a new watch and keep his old car or buy a new car and get an Ingersoll watch.

Today he is figuring on the possibility of living in the car. His landlord informed him this morning that the house was sold and that he must move in four days. Four days to find a house and get his furniture and family moved.

"What's the use of even trying," he says. The car is wired and electrically lighted thruout. Cabinet makers, he believes, will be able to figure out some way of constructing folding bunks inside of the car.

To find a place to park the car at night will be the only difficulty. It is against the law to stand it on the street or in an alley, so it is probable that he will have to run out into the country, sort of "commute" for the night, enjoying the advantages of both country and city life.

GIVE AN INCREASE

First Order in Wage Controversy by Industrial Court.

Linemen for Edison Company Get 7½ Cents an Hour More.

POINT OUT COST OF LIVING

Judge Huggins Tells of Problems Laboring Men Face.

Company Offered to Grant Raise of 2½ Cents an Hour.

The Kansas court of industrial relations today issued an order granting linemen for the Topeka Edison company an increase in wages from 60 cents an hour to 67½ cents an hour. This was the first order in a wage controversy handed down by the court since its establishment.

The men asked for an increase of 10 cents an hour. The company offered them an increase of 2½ cents an hour. The order affects only three linemen but the action of the court in taking cognizance of testimony relative to a 125 per cent increase in the cost of living since 1913 when the men were receiving $2.75 a day and the general tenor of the court's action in granting the increase was looked upon as being of state-wide importance. The linemen were members of Local Union No. 841, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

When the complaint was first filed, the linemen demanded a settlement relative to a basic eight-hour day. This was settled during the hearing, which continued for two days, to the satisfaction of the company and the employes.

Higher Cost of Living.

Judge W. L. Huggins, chairman of the court, in writing his opinion granting the wage increase, points to the ever increasing cost of living that workmen must face. He said:

"One of the workers testified that he had bought none but working clothes for the past four years; that a pair of working shoes he formerly paid $2.50 for last year he paid $6 for and that this year they cost $9.

"The evidence shows that the cost of the coal used by these employes in 1916 and 1917 was $4.50 a ton, while during the past winter the price of the same coal was $10.50 a ton. The evidence also shows that decently habitable houses in the city of Topeka rent for from 30 per cent to 50 per cent more than they did a few years ago. It is only fair, however, to state that the evidence shows a slight decrease in the price of some food products within the last month or six weeks and it is hoped that there will be further decline in these unprecedented and exorbitant prices."

Judge Huggins points out that while the wages for such work in Leavenworth, Atchison, Manhattan, Junction City and Pittsburg are less in most instances, that in Kansas City, Kan., and in Wichita linemen get $6 per day.

"These towns," writes Judge Huggins in his opinion, "are smaller towns where fewer men are employed and probably not as comparable with Topeka as are Wichita and Kansas City.

Employment Continuous.

During the hearing it was pointed out that inside workmen doing similar work in wiring houses were receiving $7 per day.

"The evidence," writes Judge Huggins, "shows that while the employment of these outside linemen is practically continuous, the inside or building trades men are engaged in work which is more or less seasonal in its character and not continuous."

Judge Huggins also points to the danger of this employment, mentions casualties which have befallen linemen here and brought out the fact that the men involved in the application are all experienced linemen. Referring again to the high cost of living he writes:

"Speaking approximately, the price of food has increased by November, 1919 over November, 1912, 100 per cent; clothing 155 per cent and furniture and furnishings, 156 per cent."

WRITING TOO MANY MEMOIRS.

German Officers' Prolific Writings Cause Pencils to Go Up Here.

Practically all 5-cent pencils have jumped to 10 cents, according to O. A. Ridlon, of Zercher's store.

Some pencils are 10 cents straight, but cheaper grades are retailing at two for 15 cents. There are a few of the cheapest grade of 5-cent pencil that have not been affected by the increase, Ridlon says.

Ten-cent darwing pencils have gone up to 20 cents.

Salesmen for big pencil houses forecast the increase several months ago. They explained the increase in cost as being due to the large number of pencils taken off the United States market for shipment to foreign countries.

Germany shows a tendency to a large increase in writing. All the important German officers are writing memoirs, explanations of what caused the war and why it stopped when it did. Ludendorf, Hindenburg, Von Tirpitz and others are using quantities of pencils in explaining their views, it is said.

HUNT FOR WIFE SLAYER.

Waylaid and Shot Spouse on Way to Another Man's Home.

Oklahoma City, March 29.—Police and county officials this morning were searching for Bill Rector, alleged to have ambushed and shot his wife, Ethel Rector, and her companion, Henry Wilkerson, as they were on their way to Wilkerson's parents' home.

Rector is said to have opened fire as the couple passed a dark corner about 6 o'clock last night. Both were struck by bullets but their condition is not believed to be serious.

Kansas City Autos Deadly.

Kansas City, Mo., March 29.—Three persons were killed and twenty-two injured in auto accidents in Kansas City the past week. Vigilence committees have been organized to curb careless driving.

Democratic county convention, April 1. See official notice on classified page.—Adv.