

BY BYSTANDER PUBL. CO.

DES MOINES, IOWA.

The darkest hour of human misery comes just before the dawn of deliverance.

Boxing bouts which have been held in the basement of the South Division High school, Chicago, under the supervision of Principal Smith, have found favor in the eyes of the Board of Education authorities.

Who are the ten greatest men in the nineteenth century? This is a favorite conundrum just now across the water, but we have seen only one attempt to solve it in print.

Consular reform is brought perceptibly nearer than it ever was before by the action of congressional committees. Both in the Senate and in the House of Representatives a favorable report has been made upon bills dealing with the organization of the consular service.

In Europe there are many young men whom fate has destined to be the rich men of the next century. For a long time it was supposed that Lord Belgrave, who inherited the wealth of the Duke of Westminster, would head the list, but since the duke's death it is reported that his fortune has been greatly overestimated.

A recent review of the progress of the University of Illinois reveals the fact that there are six different colleges and four schools united under one head. These are the College of Agriculture, College of Literature and Arts, College of Science, College of Engineering, College of Law, College of Medicine, the School of Library Science, School of Pharmacy, School of Music and the Preparatory School.

There is a general desire for a decision by the Supreme Court of the United States to determine the question whether the new island possessions are a part of the United States, or its property. It was thought that a suit brought by a New York firm of importers to recover duties paid on Puerto Rican goods might furnish a basis for the desired interpretation.

The free town library, one of the best educational gifts to the nineteenth century to the world, bids fair in the twentieth century to become still more than it is now a stimulant to intellectual progress. Collections of books for the scholar and the rich there have been from the earliest times; but a library belonging to the whole community, rich and poor, learned and ignorant, laborer and professional man, is purely a product of the last half century.

To the dwellers in northern latitudes the coming of spring is like a release from prison. Barriers built by snow and ice are leveled, and doors sealed by the frost swing open.

PEOPLE'S PARTY.

Convention at Des Moines to Select National Delegates. Des Moines, April 25.—The people's party of Iowa held a state convention in Observatory hall yesterday to select delegates to the national convention, which is to be held at Cincinnati May 9.

WRIGHT FOUND GUILTY.

Muscatine Man Must Suffer for Murder of Mrs. Mary Crippen. MUSCATINE, April 27.—The jury in the case of George Wright returned a verdict of guilty of murder in the first degree and fixed his sentence for life in the penitentiary.

SUED FOR \$50,000.

Standard Oil Company Defendant in a Big Suit. DES MOINES, April 27.—Attorney F. S. Dunshie has filed in the district court a suit for \$50,000 against the Standard Oil Company for alleged damages sustained by the Crystal Oil Company, of Des Moines, in which the plaintiff alleges that amount of damages was brought on by the destruction of the plaintiff's business.

HE PREFERRED DEATH.

Stephen Triplett Cuts His Throat Rather Than Go to Prison. MARSHALSTOWN, April 25.—Rather than go to prison Stephen Triplett, who had pleaded guilty to the crime of incest, cut his throat with a razor in his cell in the county jail.

Rock Island Rushes Work.

DES MOINES, April 26.—Two hundred and fifty teams and 600 men are at work grading the Rock Island extension from Gowrie to Sibley. Work trains are engaged in hauling gravel from the pits at Grand Junction and ballasting the roadbed as fast as it is built.

Whirled to Death.

Oto, April 27.—While playing around the mill, George Henry's four-year-old girl was caught in a wheel shaft and killed almost instantly.

Drowned in a Tub of Water.

SIOUX CITY, April 27.—The 1-year-old son of William Metcalf, Hedges station, Morningside, fell into a tub of water and was drowned.

Frances Shebeck Ends Life.

WASHINGTON, April 22.—Frances Shebeck, who lived with her sister, Mrs. S. P. Ramsey, four miles west of Washington, took four ounces of carbolic acid. When her sister discovered her lying on the bed, she asked what she had done and the girl replied that she had taken carbolic acid and wanted to die.

HON. MATT PARROTT DEAD.

The ex-Lieutenant Governor of Iowa Dies Suddenly. WATERLOO, April 24.—After an illness of several months, Hon. Matt Parrott, ex-lieutenant governor of Iowa, died at 10:30 o'clock Saturday night at the sanitarium in Battle Creek, Mich., of Bright's disease.

[Matt Parrott was born in Schoharie county, New York, May 11, 1837. At thirteen years of age he left school and entered a printer's office to learn the trade. He went to Troy in 1857 and in a couple of years drifted west and worked in newspaper offices in Chicago, Burlington and Davenport.

MATT PARROTT'S FUNERAL.

Services Held in the Episcopal Church at Waterloo. WATERLOO, April 26.—The funeral services of Former Lieut. Governor Matt Parrott were held at the Episcopal church yesterday afternoon. Prominent men from all parts of the state were in attendance.

HULL WINS IN STORY.

Defeats Payne for the Congressional Nomination. NEVADA, April 23.—The Story county primaries, held in accordance with the primary system in vogue in Story county, resulted in a decided victory for Captain J. A. T. Hull for congress.

Des Moines Saloons Defeated.

DES MOINES, April 26.—Judge Bishop overruled the demurrer in the case of A. K. Campbell vs. the Polk county board of supervisors. The court held that inasmuch as the official notice was not published ten clear days previous to the date of the regular meeting of the board it was not acting within its jurisdiction.

New Railroad in Iowa.

DES MOINES, April 26.—The secretary of the executive council has on file figures showing an increase of 843,678 miles of railroad in the state during the past year.

REVIEWS.

A verdict of \$1,000 has been awarded Wm. H. Baily in his suit against the Des Moines street car company. He sued for \$25,000.

The Ottumwa Courier recently published a letter announcing the withdrawal of Hon. G. L. Waterman from the congressional race in the Sixth district on account of new business plans which will take him outside of the state most of the time.

Sioux City dispatch: A \$500 fine is probably all Ernest Meyer will have to pay for murdering his brother-in-law, Chris Bauer, on the night of March 10. The jury returned a verdict finding him guilty of assault with intent to commit great bodily injury for which the maximum penalty is \$500 fine or one year in jail.

Des Moines dispatch: H. B. Knowlton, administrator of the estate of the late Charles Downs, killed by an electric wire belonging to the defendant, has begun action against the Des Moines Edison Electric Light company demanding damages to the amount of \$25,000 alleged to be due him for the death of Downs. Plaintiff claims in petition that Downs's death was due to the negligence of the defendant.

Centerville, the county seat of Appanoose county, was visited a few days ago by a \$40,000 fire which for a time threatened to consume the entire business portion of the city. The fire originated in an implement house on the south side of the square, but in what manner is unknown.

CANADIAN CITY BURNED.

Only a Few Houses Remain Standing in Hull. OTTAWA, Ont., April 27.—Five square miles of territory burned over; more than 2,300 dwellings, factories, mills, stores and other buildings destroyed, entailing a loss estimated to reach \$20,000,000, and between 12,000 and 15,000 men, women and children homeless, is a summing up of the havoc wrought by the fire which has been raging at Hull and in Ottawa since 11 o'clock yesterday morning and at midnight was practically under control.

NET FAILED TO WORK.

Boers Leave Wepener and Escape to the North. LONDON, April 26.—It is now apparent that the chances of Lord Roberts catching the retreating Boers in a net are very slender. The Boers have everywhere retired at the first pressure of the British advance.

DE WET'S DORP OCCUPIED.

General Chermiside Takes Possession Without Opposition. LONDON, April 26.—The war office has received the following from Lord Roberts: "BLOEMFONTEIN, April 25.—Pole-Carew's division reported at Roodekop yesterday evening without casualties.

THE DEMOCRATIC ISSUES.

Anti-Imperialism and Anti-Trusts Leading Questions. NEW YORK, April 25.—Following is a summary of the replies from twenty-three democratic national committeemen to the Journal and Advertiser's questions regarding the campaign issues and candidates: "Anti-imperialism as the leading issue, 21; anti-trust as the leading issue, 21; the money question as the leading issue, 16; anti-militarism as the leading issue, 6.

BRITISH SUFFER DEFEAT.

Bulletin From Pretoria Give Boers the Best of It. PRETORIA, April 25.—An official bulletin issued here says: "The federals continue fighting at Wepener and have captured a herd of Brabant's cattle and horses. Dewet's losses at Dewet's Dorp were one killed and six wounded. Twenty British were captured. The British appear to be retiring beyond Dewet's Dorp. Cronje reports that with a strong command he has attacked the British northeast of Boshof. A heavy engagement followed and the British were driven from kopje to kopje.

Boycott on Chicago's Dewey Day.

CHICAGO, April 27.—The long-talked-of boycott of the Dewey celebration by organized labor has taken form. The executive committee of district 8 of the International Association of Machinists issued an edict declaring the promoters of the celebration antagonistic to union labor and ordering members of the unions to take no part in it because the grandstands are being built by non-union labor.

Succeeds Roberts.

WASHINGTON, April 26.—William H. King, who served in the Fifty-fifth congress from Utah, has been sworn in as a representative of that state to succeed Brigham H. Roberts.

THE TURK AGREES TO PAY.

"Under Same Conditions as in the Case of Other Foreign Subjects." CONSTANTINOPLE, April 24.—The Porte has replied to the American demands stating that Turkey will compensate the American missionaries under the same conditions as in the case of other foreign subjects. There is the greatest interest in political circles regarding the attitude of the United States in the indemnity claim, and it is believed that the powers having similar claims will support the American action.

EXTRA PAY GIVEN OFFICERS.

Secretary Root Replies to Resolutions of the Senate. WASHINGTON, April 27.—Secretary of War Root sent to the senate his reply to the resolution of April 21, as to whether officers of the United States Army in Cuba or Porto Rico have received any compensation for their services there other than the compensation to which they were entitled by law to receive as salary and allowances; and if so asking the names and rank of the officers and the amounts received by them. The reply in part follows:

Pursuant to the orders of the secretary of war, dated respectively March 1, 1899, April 19, 1899, and May 9, 1899, copies of which are annexed hereto, allowances have been paid four officers of the army who have been required to live in the city of Havana and to perform important civil functions in connection with the administration of the government of Cuba, as follows:

To the military governor of Cuba, at the rate of \$8,500 per year. To the military governor of Havana, at the rate of \$5,000 per year. To the collector of customs for the island of Cuba, at the rate of \$1,800 per year. To the treasurer of the island of Cuba, at the rate of \$1,800 per year. These payments were in addition to the salary and allowances which the said officers were entitled to as such to receive out of the treasury of the United States.

QUAY DEFEATED.

Declared Not Entitled to a Seat in the Senate. WASHINGTON, April 25.—The resolution declaring M. S. Quay not entitled to a seat in the senate was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas—Allen, Bacon, Bard, Bate, Berry, Burrows, Butler, Clay, Cockrell, Culbertson, Hale, Harris, Heitfeld, Hawley, Jones of Arkansas, Lindsay, McBride, McCumber, McEnery, McMillan, Martin, Money, Platt of Connecticut, Proctor, Quarles, Ross, Simon, Teller, Tillman, Turley, Turner, Vest, Wellington—33.

Nays—Allison, Baker, Carter, Chandler, Clark of Wyoming, Cullom, Daniel, Davis, Deboe, Forsaker, Frye, Gear, Hansborough, Jones of Nevada, McComas, McLaurin, Mason, Morgan, Nelson, Penrose, Perkins, Platt of New York, Scott, Sewall, Shoup, Spooner, Stewart, Sullivan, Tallaferro, Warren, Wetmore, Wolcott—32.

Pairs were announced as follows, the first named in each instance being favorable to Mr. Quay and the second opposed to him: Pritchard with Gallinger, Depew with Hanna, Foster with Kean, Lodge with Thurston, Kenney with Caffery, Elkins with Chilton, Fairbanks with Mallory, Hoar with Pettus, Kyle with Rawlins.

BRITISH CLAIM A VICTORY.

Say Brabant and Hart Turn Position of Boers. LONDON, April 25.—The report that the siege of Wepener had been practically raised was apparently premature. The Boer attack upon Colonel Dalgely's northern position as described from Maseru, was probably a final attempt to rush the garrison before securing a safe retreat, and, as Colonel Dalgely successfully repulsed the attack, little further anxiety is felt on his account.

Boers Near Kimberly. LONDON, April 26.—A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Kimberly, dated Wednesday, says: "Yesterday the Boers formed a new laager near Windsorton. The force there consists of Campbell and Griguland rebels, about 500 strong."

DeWet Reports a Victory.

PARIS, April 26.—A dispatch from Pretoria says that General DeWet has General Brabant's horse isolated and has repulsed two attempts to relieve it, capturing fifty Britishers.

NOTES FROM THE CAPITAL.

DES MOINES, April 27, 1900. Governor Shaw has named the members of three of the six commissions created by the legislature last winter—the library commission, which is to promote the general library interests of the state; the commission to locate the positions occupied by Iowa troops at the battle of Vicksburg and the Shiloh commission which carries an appropriation of \$50,000 for the erection of monuments to mark the spots occupied by Iowa soldiers on the field at Shiloh.

The governor has signed the bill by Representative Miller of Fayette, requiring that teachers in the public schools shall be instructed in the rudiments of music. It is not necessary that they shall be singers or performers on any instrument, but they must understand the rudiments of the art of reading music.

The Vicksburg commission consists of one member of each of the Iowa regiments or batteries which fought on those fields, and three at large, making thirty-five; the Shiloh commission consists of one member from each regiment or battery, making eleven.

Treasurer of State Herriott reports that every cent of the Agricultural College endowment funds have been loaned out at 5 per cent. More than \$200,000 was on hand when the legislature adjourned, but the law passed by it allowing the trustees of the college to loan the money at the market rate resulted in the quick disposition of the funds.

Dairy Commissioner Norton says there is but a very small amount of bogus butter sold in Iowa and that under the present revenue laws there is little difficulty in absolutely knowing where it is sold. Last year, according to official revenue department statistics, there was imported to Iowa 79,000 pounds of oleomargarine; the same year there was made in this state approximately 90,000,000 pounds of regulation butter. Illinois leads in consumption of oleomargarine; no less than 18,000,000 pounds were used in that state, or about one-fifth of the entire product of the country.

The secretary of the executive council has completed computing the railroad assessments for the year 1900. Forty-five systems are included in the assessment, and it makes an aggregate of \$45,899,325. The assessments are of special interest this year because of the publicity given them by State Treasurer Herriott, who says they are unequally adjusted and not in conformity with the laws of the state. The largest assessments are as follows: Chicago & Northwestern, \$7,937,590; C. & N. W., \$7,130,169; C. M. & St. Paul, \$5,770,946; C. B. & Q., \$4,913,794; B. C. E. & N., \$4,864,628; Iowa Central, \$1,750,189; Dubuque & Sioux City, \$3,314,328; Chicago Great Western, \$2,200,899; Keokuk & Western, \$456,120; Wabash, \$411,420.

Attorney General Remley has handed down an opinion to the state board of control construing the pension law passed by the last general assembly and relating to the pension of members of the Soldier's Home. The board of control always declined to use any part of the pension funds and they accumulated under the rules of the trustees requiring all above \$6 to be sent to relatives or given to the state. The new law, the attorney general says, requires the pensioners to give one half of their pension money to their dependant relatives if they have any. The opinion was called out for the reason that a pensioner who had been sending his extra \$2 to his children in the Davenport home to keep from giving it to the state, wanted to retain all of his pension, whereas the law, as the board read it and as the attorney general construes it, forces him to give half of it, or \$2 additional, to his children, although they do not need it.

The question of paying the Iowa troops, at national guard rates, during the period of their service in the United States army, has been brought before the state auditor, and is now in a position which demands a ruling. For a long time some of the discharged troops have been claiming that they were entitled to national guard pay in addition to the United States army pay received from the government. A batch of claims have been filed with the auditor setting forth these claims on behalf of several members of Company M, of the Forty-ninth Iowa. The claims are filed by Elza C. Johnson, of Maquoketa, as attorney for the claimants. The names of the claimants are Arthur Larkey, John Nims, William L. Foster, Frank VanEmbureg, James D. VanEmbureg, George Hopius and Elza C. Johnson. Mr. Johnson was captain of Company M. Mr. Foster was quartermaster sergeant. Mr. Larkey was a private and Mr. Nims a private and artificer.

Fighting Resumed in Africa.

LONDON, April 21.—A special dispatch from Bloemfontein says that firing is reported to be in progress south of Karee siding, six miles north of Glen. The strength of the Boers is not known. British infantry, supported by artillery, hold a strong position on a large dam.

Russo-Korean Agreement.

SEOUL, April 21.—An agreement has been concluded between the Russian and Korean governments, Korea pledging herself not to alienate Kopje island, at the mouth of Sampho bay.