

Iowa State Bystander

Bystander Pub. Co.
DES MOINES, IOWA

Col. Greene declares that he lost \$4,000,000 in less than a week. What a loss!

Warney's now king is very hard up. He has only \$57,500 a year, with six young children to support.

A war correspondent says many of the Japanese private soldiers are nutty. All of them seem to be tough nuts.

Pepper is reported to be selling for \$1 a pound in the Klondike. The natives are probably not doing any more.

H. H. Rogers is in a position to prove that it is a mistake to suppose that a man who has \$75,000,000 can do as he pleases.

Tom O'Brien, king of the gold trick men, died the other day in a French prison. The queen of the tribe is in jail at Cleveland.

It will be remembered that those persons who tried to have fun with young Gould's celebrated grandparent generally came to grief.

An Ohio burglar remained concealed under a piano while a girl played for an hour. He was punished enough and ought to be turned loose.

People in large towns live three and a half years longer than people in the country. But if they live so much faster where is the advantage?

"Shall women run push carts?" asks a New York paper. If women must operate push carts, perhaps they should be limited to pushing them.

Countess Cassini, the daughter of the Russian ambassador, has been poisoned by something she has eaten, but a Japanese plot is not suspected.

Mr. Morgan showed poor judgment in paying \$5,000 for the oldest piano in the world. He could have got one every bit as bad for a great deal less money.

Arthur Sawtelle of Oakland, Me., is 29 years old and has just been shot accidentally for the fifth time. One might think he would be gun-shy by this time.

The Moscow zemstvo has decided to quit and go home. It's a wise move that knows when there's no use hanging around and running up board bills.

Harvard may not win very often at football or rowing, but when it comes to chess, it is Harvard, Princeton, Columbia, Yale. Now for the ping-pong championship.

It is not true that Arthur F. Duffey, the sprinter, is going to Australia to fight for the fast lane kangaroo. He is going to show the "no fear" fellows how to travel.

A town named Hoboken in New Jersey has pronounced another Mrs. Chadwick. The village should petition the legislature for authority to change its name to Hocus Pocus.

A nude man on the top of a heap of snow and armed with nothing but a crow-bar kept a dozen New York policemen at bay for half an hour. He must have been a cool one.

Maine's official game record shows that 4,471 deer, moose and bears were shot during the past season. The rest of the sport was furnished by six men who were mistaken for deer.

A pretty girl kissed Senator Culom the other day for saving her lover from going to the Philippines. Does anybody wonder that a senatorship is considered such a desirable berth?

The Japanese art of jiu-jitsu, it appears, is difficult of acquirement. It cannot be learned in a few easy lessons or from a correspondence school, as cooking or the French language can.

A visiting English earl finds an American murder trial very interesting. It is good to find earls interested in other things in America than the bank account of a marriageable young woman.

Down at Salem, Mass., a woman has sued for divorce because her husband kicked her with his wooden leg. He will no doubt set up the plea that he couldn't stand on his wooden leg and kick her with the other.

Dona Maria Francisca O'Reilly de Camara, Countess of Buena Vista, is suing to recover the legendary Havana monopoly of slaughtering cattle. A name like hers would make a great sign over a slaughter house.

A German court has decided that poker is not a game of chance. It certainly isn't when an innocent stranger sits down to take a hand in a friendly little game operated by gentlemen who depend on it for a living.

It is a pleasure to learn that all the soldiers in the vicinity of Mukden now have shoes. There are a great many things funnier than going barefoot in a country where snow and ice conspire to hide the green grass under about five feet of chaffiness.

The Bishop of London recently received a 25 note from an undertaker who contributed it as a thank offering because business had been so brisk. Why should there be any further doubt about the Englishman's possession of the sense of humor.

The news about the western railroad man who has resigned a \$30,000 place that he has held for fourteen years, to accept a \$15,000 place on another railroad, is also interesting as a reminder that there are big salaries paid to able men outside of politics.

FACTIONAL STRIFE BLAMED FOR FIRE

Town of Arispe, in Union County, Suffers Loss.

FIRE CLEARLY INCENDIARY

Conflagration Starts in Arispe Mercantile Co. Store—One of Merchants Burned Out Was Refused Insurance Because of Bitter Feeling

Afton, Jan. 12.—The best part of the business portion of Arispe, a small town six miles south of here, was wiped out by a \$20,000 incendiary fire, which was first detected by the crew of a passing Great Western train at 1 o'clock yesterday morning. The flames were burning fiercely at that time and despite the energetic efforts of the citizens who hurried to the scene, two of the best business houses were totally destroyed and a third badly damaged.

The fire seemed to have had its origin in the back part of the store of the Arispe Mercantile company. Some one had evidently broken into the place and deliberately started the conflagration. Before the flames were finally checked the large double store of the Arispe Mercantile company was a total loss, as was also the general merchandise store adjoining, owned by C. E. Names. C. W. Dutcher's stock was badly damaged by fire and water and an attempt to remove it to a place of safety. The total loss will be in the neighborhood of \$20,000; the insurance so far as known is \$11,000.

The fire is the culmination of bitter factional strife which has raged in Arispe for some time past. Each of the factions is now accusing the other of starting the fire and feeling has run high of late.

The merchants have become very nervous over the situation and have carried all the insurance local agents would write. Only last week one of the merchants whose store was burned down yesterday morning came to Afton to get additional insurance on his stock, but on account of the tense state of feeling known to exist in Arispe no agent here would accept the business offered. The insurance companies will undoubtedly carefully investigate the situation before making good the losses.

HELD FOR MURDER.

Dan Shepperd is Accused of Atrocious Crime.

Fairfield, Jan. 12.—Dan Shepperd, the man seen by Mrs. Womelsdorf Thursday at about the time of her husband's murder at Brighton, was arrested at Washington yesterday by Sheriff Tetter of that county, was bound over to the grand jury after hearing and is now confined in jail here. It is claimed that damaging evidence has been secured against him. Shepperd's stepmother says that he told her that if she would secure chloroform for him he would see she would get enough to keep her the rest of the winter, that he often threatened to kill and rob and that he was out until 8 or 9 o'clock Thursday night, was very restless when he returned and has been so ever since. Shepperd's stepbrother said that Dan said that Womelsdorf had much money and that he would divide if his brother would help him. When his brother refused he claims that Dan said that he would do it alone. Some of the family testified that Dan said that he would knock Womelsdorf down, turn the horse loose, let the horse tramp him to death, get and fix the old woman and get all the money.

A pair of Womelsdorf's trousers were found in a wood shed two blocks from Shepperd's house. A whole suit was missing after the murder. The coat and vest have not been found yet.

Shepperd has been inside nearly every jail of southeastern Iowa.

MURDER ESCAPES.

Sioux City Man Killed on Street Corner by Unknown Man.

Sioux City, Jan. 12.—A man was murdered at First and Iowa streets at 4:15 o'clock yesterday afternoon by an unknown man. The men were seen to engage in a scuffle. Then the murderer backed few paces and pointed a revolver at O'Brien and shot him through the head and the left side. The murderer was followed for three blocks but turned down an alley and was lost sight of. The cause of the trouble is a mystery. O'Brien was arrested on October 15, 1904, for stealing an overcoat from the Pullman hotel and his picture is in the rogues' gallery at the local police station. A loaded revolver was found on his person, but no shots had been fired from it. The murderer is described as a man about 35 years old, light complexion, wore blue overalls and a duck coat.

ARREST AT COLFAX.

Chas. Branford Accused of Assaulting Slaughterer.

Newton, Jan. 11.—At the instigation of the members of the Slaughter family, officers arrested Charles Branford, a farmer living one-half mile west of the Slaughter home, for the assault of Mel Slaughter. He gave bonds for \$1,000, and his preliminary hearing will take place at Colfax, Monday. Branford is a cousin of Mel Slaughter. Once before the two men had a fight on the highway, and for some time, it is claimed, a family feud has existed between the Slaughter and Branford families. It arose over the disposition of the estate of the late Josiah Slaughter, who was quite wealthy, but whose will stipulated the leaving of the most of his property to his son's family and but little to the daughter, Mrs. Branford.

Child Attacked by Pet Wolf.

Council Bluffs, Jan. 11.—The four-year old son of John Einnal, a farmer living near Woodbine in Harrison county, was attacked by a pet wolf which had broken its chain. The animal sprang at the boy from the rear and bit him severely in the face and neck, inflicting injuries from which the child may not recover. The animal had to be killed before the child could be drawn to safety.

CARMEAN HELD INNOCENT.

Case That Agitated Marshalltown People Ends.

Des Moines, Jan. 11.—N. A. Carmean, a prominent buggy manufacturer of Marshalltown, is relieved of a sentence of two years' imprisonment by virtue of a decision of the supreme court yesterday morning. Carmean was the junior member of the Rhode-Carmean Buggy company of Marshalltown. They sold a large quantity of buggies to Roehmer & Miller of Hampton and accepted a note in payment therefor. This note was transferred to a third party. Subsequently it was found that the company had received \$385 of Roehmer & Miller to apply on the note, and had failed to so apply it. Carmean was charged with responsibility and found guilty of embezzlement, resulting in a two-year sentence. He appealed to the supreme court. In deciding the validity of the sentence, the supreme court asserts that there was no evidence at all that Carmean was directly responsible for the failure to credit the money on the note, and that it was admitted that he was without his knowledge and due to the mistake of a clerk or bookkeeper. It was admitted to be shown that Carmean was responsible for the use of a system of bookkeeping that rendered it impossible for a subordinate to make such a mistake, and that he was, therefore, criminally responsible. The supreme court takes no stock in this theory. It holds that his liability cannot be criminal, but civil, that it is not on the same status as that of a banker who receives money after he knows his institution is insolvent, or who misappropriates it.

CLAIM FUNDS ARE MISSING.

Worth County Co-Operative Concern Starts Action.

Mason City, Jan. 10.—Suit was instituted at Northwood yesterday by the Farmers' Mutual Co-Operative Live Stock association of Kentworth, Worth county, to recover \$25,000 which Manager F. E. Lillingston, Bookkeeper T. S. Bakken and Treasurer Haugen are alleged to have misappropriated. The affair has caused a great sensation in Worth county on account of the prominence of the men charged with the wrongdoing. Nearly four hundred leading farmers are members of the association.

The matter was brought to a crisis at the annual meeting which was held at Kensett Saturday. Nearly all the members were present when the report of the expert accountant, Horst Francisco, who had been engaged to examine the books, was read. He became wildly excited. Francisco claimed that there was a shortage of about \$7,000 when there should have been a surplus of \$19,000.

Ellingson and the others were represented at the meeting by Attorney Johnson of Northwood. First, Mr. Johnson asked the members to elect officers, but the farmers refused. Then he pleaded to have the case adjusted out of court. The farmers would not listen to this, and adjourned without taking definite action. Some of the leading members evidently got together after the meeting, for the suit was filed yesterday.

BANK OF IRWIN WINS.

American Express Must Pay for Money Stolen.

Des Moines, Jan. 12.—By a decision of the supreme court yesterday, the victory of the Bank of Irwin over the American Express company, in the famous case of the theft of \$2,000 in transit, the bank's winning it clinched and the decision of the Shelby district court is affirmed. Judge Sherwin wrote the opinion. The money was shipped from the Des Moines National Bank. The Express company, in support of its appeal, undertook to show that the bank had been losing money through thefts by some one of its employees prior to the date the package was shipped. When the package was shipped the Express company gave it most favorable consideration and said it would be submitted to the council of ministers. "I am convinced," said Admiral Doubassoff, "of the immediate necessity for the reconstruction of our fleet at all the Russian and foreign shipyards for the purpose of securing strength sufficient to command supremacy at sea. This is absolutely indispensable if we are to expect victory from the next war with Japan. The remainder of our fleet is hardly more than debris and entirely unequal to Japan's naval strength."

The admiral further said it was necessary to recognize these conditions, however painful they might be to national self love. "Therefore," he added, "I do not hesitate to say that we tend toward the far of peace. We will leave the Japanese Port Arthur and the territory they now occupy in Manchuria. We will set ourselves resolutely at work to prepare a powerful invincible navy, as this peace will be but temporary and the next time we shall be simply prepared."

The official views is that Admiral Doubassoff's statement is expressive of the growing sentiment within Russia favorable to peace. Reports show that the movement has made notable progress in recent days, particularly at Moscow. Emperor Nicholas has not shown a disposition to check the movement, although personally he disapproves of its opportuneness.

PORT ARTHUR A NAVAL STATION

Tokio, Jan. 8.—The Japanese intend to establish a naval station at Port Arthur. Vice-Admiral Shibayama will probably be placed in charge of it.

The military administration at Port Arthur will retain only a small garrison as soon as the prisoners are withdrawn and it is restored.

The fleet is busily engaged in clearing mines, but owing to their great puny navigation will be unsafe for a long time. Only government craft will be allowed to enter the harbor. It is probable that Dalny will soon be opened to neutrals. Japanese companies are preparing to establish weekly services to Dalny. It is proposed shortly to float a fourth domestic war loan under the same conditions as the third was negotiated.

HURRYING HER PREPARATIONS

Russia Prepares Another Batch of Warships for Far East.

TO SAIL LATE IN JANUARY

Is the First Division of Third Pacific Squadron—Russians Had Engines of Destruction Within Radius of Forty Miles From Port Arthur.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 11.—The Russ confirms the Paris Temps' report that the first division of the third Pacific squadron will leave Liza at the end of January, and will consist of the warships Sonjavin, Gen. Admiral Apraxin, Admiral Oushakov and Nicholas I, and the cruiser Vladimir Monach, and several torpedo boat destroyers and torpedo boats.

In a lengthy review of the military situation, the Novoe Vremya urges the immediate reinforcement of Vladivostok, the island of Sakhalin and Kamchatka. The paper says: "There is little probability of the Russians being caught as unprepared at Vladivostok as at Port Arthur, but the moral responsibility rests upon the government to see that nothing in the way of defensive preparation is overlooked. Sakhalin and Kamchatka are both harder to defend, and have a scantier population, but both are rich in mineral and other resources, and are especially tempting to the Japanese to whose scheme of national expansion they are necessary."

Continuing, the Novoe Vremya points out that it is possible to send reinforcements and supplies to Sakhalin and Kamchatka while the ice lasts independent of sea power, and begs that this should be done at once. Touching on the general peace talk in the foreign office the Novoe Vremya summarizes the list of Russian reverses in the present war, and asks if it is possible to consider the cessation of peace without substantial Russian victories.

RUSSIA'S PLANS FOR WAR.

More Ships Going to East—Must Protect Vladivostok.

Tokio, Jan. 11.—The navy department says that the district covered with submarine mines had a radius of 40 miles outside of Port Arthur. It reports the destruction and explosion of 495 of these mines to date.

Ten additional survivors of the third expedition of the Japanese to blockade the entrance to Port Arthur have been found in Russian hospitals. They have been transferred to the Japanese.

General Nozi reported additional prisoners of war, as follows:

Major General Kikita and Rear Admiral Wires. The paroled besides General Stoesel include Major General Kise, Novosil and Kozlov and Rear Admiral Prince Oskomsky, Gregorovitch and Roslitski and Engineer-in-Chief Rindbeck.

SAYS PEACE IS APPROACHING.

Russian Admiral Gives Significant Interview.

Paris, Jan. 12.—The declaration made by Vice Admiral Doubassoff, the Russian member of the international commission to inquire into the North Sea incident, in an interview to the effect that an honorable peace between Russia and Japan is likely to be made is considered highly significant. The admiral, who is chief of naval construction, says he submitted to Emperor Nicholas last Thursday a plan to complete the rehabilitation of the navy. Doubassoff says the emperor gave it most favorable consideration and said it would be submitted to the council of ministers. "I am convinced," said Admiral Doubassoff, "of the immediate necessity for the reconstruction of our fleet at all the Russian and foreign shipyards for the purpose of securing strength sufficient to command supremacy at sea. This is absolutely indispensable if we are to expect victory from the next war with Japan. The remainder of our fleet is hardly more than debris and entirely unequal to Japan's naval strength."

GENERALS LOSE CONFIDENCE.

Russian Generals Said to Be Growing Discontented.

Tokio, Jan. 11.—Information which has reached certain reliable quarters here, state that the Russian generals in Manchuria are losing confidence in General Kuropatkin and that the Russian situation around Mukden is a serious one. It is feared that if Kuropatkin attacks the Japanese position along the Hahke river he will court disaster and that his further retreat will mean the demoralization of his army.

This information goes on to say that there is constant bickering at Russian Manchurian headquarters, and that the soldiers are discontented, dissatisfaction beginning with reports of retreats after the battle of Telisu (Yafangow) and the withdrawal from Liao Yang, when it was believed it was possible to hold that place. The climax came with the Russian defeat at the battle of Shalke river, following Kuropatkin's strongly worded order directing the forward movement dated October 2. This defeat brought a storm of criticism upon the commander-in-chief and resulted in discord among the officers.

Long inaction, the information alleged, is undermining the morale of the Russian army, and it is pointed out that recent skirmishes and outpost brushes indicate that the Russian soldiers are becoming disheartened, as they do not show their former fighting spirit or qualities.

MISS DENEEN OPERATED UPON.

Chicago, Jan. 12.—Governor Deneen's daughter, Dorothy, who was operated on for appendicitis Tuesday evening, is progressing favorably. The physicians reported today that she was doing as well as could be expected.

REPUBLICANS OPPOSED TO REVISION.

Washington, Jan. 11.—The canvass of the house to test the sentiment on tariff revision proceeded today. It is being made by states, and has proceeded far enough to indicate that a majority of the republicans are opposed to revision. Worry in the worst wolf that comes to our door's.

DIGNIFIED PEACE CONFERENCE

Russia Will Prolong the Fight Against Japan.

RUSSIA IS MUCH CONFUSED

Her Interior Affairs Are in Very Bad Condition—General State of Distrust Responsible for Shaken Confidence in Government's Affairs.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 13.—The government seemingly is about to make the irrevocable decision that the situation at home necessitates the continuation of the war till peace with dignity is possible. Beyond this point, however, confusion exists, especially regarding the immediate development of the interior situation. Emperor Nicholas is still apparently vacillating as to whether he shall allow M. Witte full sway, in the meantime declining to permit Prince Sviatopolk-Mirsky to retire. The latter is little probability of the Russians being caught as unprepared at Vladivostok as at Port Arthur, but the moral responsibility rests upon the government to see that nothing in the way of defensive preparation is overlooked. Sakhalin and Kamchatka are both harder to defend, and have a scantier population, but both are rich in mineral and other resources, and are especially tempting to the Japanese to whose scheme of national expansion they are necessary."

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CONGRESS.

Washington, Jan. 6.—Senate—Senator Bard today occupied the entire time of the senate given to the joint statehood bill. He made an argument against the union of Arizona and New Mexico on the ground that the people of the two territories do not desire it. Several bills of minor importance were passed.

House.—The house today passed the fortifications bill and adjourned until Monday.

Washington, Jan. 9.—Senate.—After the passage of the omnibus claims bill and fixing January 25 for the delivery of addresses in memory of the late Senator Hoar, the senate devoted today to the statehood bill. Mr. Morant spoke for two hours against the bill.

House.—The senate resolution providing that the inaugural ball shall be held in the pension building was passed. Representative Hepburn of Iowa introduced a bill today, appropriating \$111,000 for the construction of a lighthouse on the Midway islands.

A minority report signed by the democratic members of the house committee on appropriations was filed today on the pension appropriation bill. The minority propose "executive order No. 78," providing for the payment of pensions to old soldiers who have reached the age of 62 years. This order, the report states, has resulted in a demand from the commissioner of pensions for a deficiency appropriation of \$4,500,000. Under this order, the number of claims filed, according to the commissioner's testimony before the committee, number 45,852. Of these 30,055 have been allowed.

Washington, Jan. 10.—Senate.—The senate today continued consideration of the joint statehood bill, the chief accomplishment being the acceptance of most of the amendments suggested by the committee on Indian affairs. Speeches were made by Messrs. Stewart of Newlands, the former advocating an amendment for the protection of the interests of the Indians in Indian Territory, and the latter favoring limitation of the area of lands to be sold to individuals.

House.—The session of the house today was given over almost entirely to discussion of the bill, reported by the committee on banking and currency to "improve currency conditions."

Washington, Jan. 11.—Senate.—The attention of the senate today was divided between the statehood question and governmental regulation of railroads. Mr. Newlands made a formal speech on the railroad subject and at its close engaged in a spirited controversy over the points involved with Senators Spooner, Foraker and others. All amendments to the statehood bill except that relating to honor traffic in Indian territory, were agreed to.

House.—The army appropriation bill was under consideration. Hull offered an amendment, providing that retired officers above the grade of major should not receive the full pay of their grade when assigned to duty with the militia of the several states. Several members declared that the amendment was directed especially at General Miles, but Mr. Hull insisted that he had no such thought in mind and argued that the best results were obtained from officers of the lower grades. Cochrane declared that it was simply penalizing superior officers to the advantage and profit of inferior officers. After a lively debate, the amendment was adopted.

Washington, Jan. 12.—Senate.—The legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill was today read at length in the senate and there was considerable discussion of the civil service question and the provision for an investigation of foreign trade conditions by the department of commerce. The bill for the encouragement of the merchant marine was reported to the senate and Mr. Bailey made the point that the commission had been pledged to report in favor of discriminating duties, and not in favor of ship subsidies.

The suggestion was combatted by Senators Callinger and Lodge, who were members of the commission.

Purley Rinker of Seymour, the Iowa university representative in the Chicago Hamilton club oratorical contest, accused by the Hamilton club committee of plagiarism, has been expelled from the university by the faculty. The committee showed that Rinker used phrases from the oration of the Michigan representative two years ago. Rinker did not deny the charges.

Jens Veersmerch, an aged man, lies at his home at Clinton in a critical condition as the result of an assault made on him by his son-in-law, Chris. Christopherson, who deserted his wife a daughter of Veersmerch, last fall. Christopherson returned to Clinton and went to the home of his father-in-law, where his wife was staying with her parents. He was denied admission to the house by his father-in-law. He became enraged and struck the old man on the head with a piece of iron. The old man lunged forward and fell with such force that his arm was broken. Christopherson was later arrested. His wife and three children were witnesses of the tragedy.

The Woman—"No, I can't give you a meal." The tramp—"I didn't think you could, mum; you look too young and inexperienced to know how to cook."—New York Sun.

Church—"I see the attorney-general is going to stop all this guessing business in the newspapers." Gotham—"Whom do you suppose that's aimed at? The weather bureau?"—Yonkers Statesman.

Lucky stars—"I've had a very successful season," said the professor, looking theatrical manager. "Well, you can thank your stars for that." replied the seedy-looking manager.—Yonkers Statesman.

Old Friend—"Is your part very difficult to play?" Barnstormer—"Well, rather; I'm living on one meal a day and playing the role of a man with the gut!"—Detroit Free Press.

Atlas was holding up earth. "Ha!" he chuckled, "this makes Mrs. Chadwick's game look small." Giving it a little jolt to see whether Port Arthur would fall, he continued his work.—New York Mail.

"Let me see, a cynic is a man who is tired of the world, is he not?" the young student of language asked. "No, my child," replied the following tutor; "a cynic is a man of whom the world is tired."—Pick-Me-Up.

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