Free to the Ruptured.

Dr. W. S. Rice, the Well-known Authority, Sends a Trial of His Famous Method Free to All.

Out of the clouds of obscure failure comes a new and startling cure for rupture. Dr. W. S. Rice, 428 N. Main st., Adrian, N. Y., has

MR. CHAS. LANGE.

invented a method that cures without pain, danger, operation or an hour's loss of time from the day's work. To avoid all objections of doubt he sends, for 30 days, without a penny, a free trial of his method and there can be no cheating or waiting, as any one, young or old, should not avail themselves of this generous offer. As an instance of this remarkable method, the case of Charles Lange, Morris, Ill., is a welcome one to all ruptured. Mr. Lange, who lives at 315 Jefferson street, Morris, Ill., was ruptured in the Chicago riots, 20 years ago, and had been obliged to wear a truss ever since, which, with its irritating pad, could cope with. After a short use of the Rice method the truss was laid aside and the right kind adjusted and worn in a few weeks. Today he is as sound as a dollar, wears no truss or other support, and his case is only one of hundreds of similar cures reported by those who use the Rice method. Send for this free trial. Don't be backward. It will surprise you what this wonderful power to heal. Act! If you know of other ruptured people ask them to write or write for them. Do not fail to write at once. Do so today.

JUMPED THROUGH A WINDOW.

How Mr. Finkenbiner's Burglar Made His Escape.

The family of J. S. Finkenbiner, a member of the Merchants' Exchange, who lives at No. 2224 Washington avenue, had an exciting adventure with a burglar a few nights ago, and are now mourning the loss of a plate-glass window, two watches and about $20 in cash.

About half past 7 o'clock, while the family were at dinner, a burglar entered the residence and began to search the upstairs rooms. After securing Mrs. Finkenbiner's pocketbook, which contained about $20, two chatelaine watches belonging to Mr. Finkenbiner's daughters, and several other trinkets, the intruder opened the door of a room where a pet dog was confined. The noise made at the intruder, and by barking attracted the attention of the family.

The burglar ran down the steps into the front hall, where he ran into a little son of Mr. Finkenbiner, who had come to see what was the matter with the dog. The child screamed, and the intruder broke for the front door. The latter was fastened with both a bolt and a night latch, and he was unable to open it. He ran to the front windows, but they were also locked, and he again tried the door, but at this juncture Charles Laidley, a son of Doctor Leonidas H. Laidley, who lives at No. 2238 Washington avenue, and had witnessed the maneuvers of the burglar, rang the door bell of the Finkenbiner residence.

By this time Mr. Finkenbiner had seized a large carving knife and made for the burglar, who was still trying to open the front door. When he was within a few feet of the burglar, the latter ran into the parlor and jumped through a plate-glass window, jumped over the front fence and escaped.

EMBEZZLEMENT CHARGED.

Joplin Man Arrested on Complaint of His Partner.

Charles P. Stevens, manager of the Rock City Coal Company of Joplin, Mo., was arrested by Detectives Howard and Gallagher at Union Station yesterday at the request of Constable Austin Harvey of Joplin, who telegraphed Chief Campbell that Stevens was wanted there on a charge of embezzling $191 from the Rock City Coal Company.

Stevens says he is innocent of wrongdoing, and is willing to return to clear the matter up. An officer from Joplin is expected to-day to take Stevens back.

"Edward S. Ault and I bought out the Rock City Coal Company in January," said Stevens. "We paid $750 for the plant. Ault advanced $450 and I paid $300. In further consideration I was to manage the business and devote my entire time to it. A few days ago I agreed to buy Ault out. I did not have the ready money, but knew I could get it from an uncle in Louisville, Ky. We had $191 in bank, and fearing Ault might draw on it while I was gone, I checked it out and started for Louisville. I suppose he charges me with stealing this money, but I have it on my person, and it is safe."

Mrs. Maud V. Turner's Estate.

An inventory of the estate of Mrs. Maud Valle Turner, who died at her home in Normandy about two months ago, was filed in the St. Louis County Probate Court at Clayton yesterday. The estate was appraised by Wilson P. H. Turner, executor, Rene Poulin and William McBlair. In addition to $1,000 in cash the inventory shows that Mrs. Turner owned seventy-one shares of stock in the Iron Mountain Railroad, valued at $1,000 a share; sixteen shares of stock in the Chouteau, Harrison & Valle Iron Company, valued at $1,000 a share, and bonds to the amount of $129,150. The bonds consist mostly of railroad, county and municipal securities, the majority of which bear 6 per cent interest. They covered a wide range of territory, including counties in the States of Arizona, Arkansas, Illinois, Kansas, Idaho, Missouri, New Mexico, Oklahoma Territory and Texas. The total value of the estate is placed at $298,150. There is in addition about $5,000 worth of bonds listed as worthless.

ACTS GENTLY ON THE KIDNEYS, LIVER AND BOWELS

CLEANSES THE SYSTEM EFFECTUALLY, DISPELS COLDS, HEADACHES & FEVERS

OVERCOMES HABITUAL CONSTIPATION PERMANENTLY

TO GET ITS BENEFICIAL EFFECTS.

BUY THE GENUINE—MAN'F'D BY CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO.

LOUISVILLE, KY. SAN FRANCISCO, CAL. NEW YORK, N.Y.

FOR SALE BY ALL DRUGGISTS. PRICE 50C PER BOTTLE.

KERN COMPANY'S POSITION DEFINED.

Attorney Semple Makes a Statement in Reference to the Affairs of the Lighting Concern.

HOW HE EXPLAINS THE HITCH.

Intimates That Further Attacks May Be Met by Court Proceedings—Corporation's Plans for St. Louis Lamps.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

New York, March 14.—Court proceedings may be taken against persons who, it is claimed, are engaged in an attempt to discredit the Kern Incandescent Gaslight Company.

Officials of the Kern company in this city are thoroughly aroused by the effort to defeat the contract which the company hopes to secure to equip 11,000 street lamps in St. Louis with the Kern burner, and the opposition may soon be placed on the defensive in the courts.

A corrected statement of the company's position was made to-day by Mr. Semple of the law firm of Coudert Bros. He has handled the Kern case for the firm from the outset and is familiar with every detail of the organization and history of the company.

"The Kern Incandescent Gaslight Company," said he, "was incorporated last year with a capitalization of $12,000,000 to introduce the burner invented by Doctor Carmar Kern, of London, England. The stock of the company was divided in the usual way—$1,000,000 of 7 per cent preferred and $5,000,000 of common. Immediately after the organization was perfected the company turned over to Doctor Kern $750,000 of the preferred stock and the entire issue of common stock, receiving therefor the exclusive right to the use of the Kern burner in the United States, Canada and Mexico. This left $250,000 of the preferred stock in the company's treasury, which has been used as working capital. So much for the organization of the company.

"Now," continued Mr. Semple, "we come to the second chapter. Doctor Kern wished to realize on the stock handed over to him by the company and the usual course was pursued. An underwriting syndicate was organized to purchase Doctor Kern's holdings and it was arranged as between himself and the members of the syndicate that these latter gentlemen should buy his $750,000 preferred stock at par, receiving as a bonus two shares of common stock for each share of preferred stock so purchased. Thus, according to the terms of sale, Doctor Kern would have received $750,000 in cash and still would have retained $1,000,000 worth of common stock. The underwriting plan was accepted and Doctor Kern's preferred stock was subscribed for by the following gentlemen, among others: William Moore Robinson, $150,000; W. L. Stowe, $50,000; Charles Reed, $150,000; John Fox, $50,000; Samuel Goldenberg, $50,000; Lawson, Weidenfeld & Co., $250,000; Thomas L. Lawson, $250,000; E. C. Benedict, $100,000; Paul Fuller, $50,000; Frederic R. Coudert, $100,000; Frederic S. Rook, $50,000; Harry Keene, $50,000; Daniel J. Hogden, $50,000; F. J. Goodhart & Co., $25,000; J. Craig Havemeyer, Jr., $25,000; Dominick & Dickerman, $25,000; W. L. Brown, $25,000; Casimir Tag, $25,000; W. C. Squire, $25,000.

Cause of the Hitch.

"Under the terms of sale the purchasers agreed to pay 10 per cent in cash at once and the balance on call. The initial 10 per cent was paid, but subsequent calls, issued through Coudert Bros., were disregarded by some members of the underwriting syndicate, so that instead of $750,000 in cash we have collected and turned over to Doctor Kern only one-seventh of that amount, or approximately $500,000.

"The hitch is easily explained. Members of the underwriting syndicate, who subscribed for Doctor Kern's stock, are not investors. They are speculators who make a business of this sort of thing. Their plan was merely to make a 'turn' on the Kern stock, and coincident with their agreement to take Doctor Kern's holdings they assigned this $5,500,000 of preferred and $5,000,000 of common stock to Coudert Bros. for distribution to the public. It was agreed that in this second sale public purchasers should pay par, or $100 per share, for the preferred, with a bonus of one share of common stock for each share of preferred so purchased. In this way the underwriters figured that they would get their money back and still retain half of the common stock received by them from Doctor Kern. This was to be their profit.

"But," Mr. Semple added, "like many well-laid plans, this one failed of fulfillment. A reaction had set in against certain newly organized industrial companies and many promising enterprises suffered as a consequence. In this instance the public subscription was disappointing, as only $110,000 of the underwriters' stock was taken. That is why the underwriters failed to make good their obligations to Doctor Kern under the original purchase. They paid a percentage of the purchase price—$500,000—in the expectation that they would make a good profit by selling out to the public, but when the public subscription failed they permitted further payments to be to Doctor Kern under the contract to lapse.

"By adopting this course, the underwriters forfeit what they have already paid in and the company is left in precisely the same condition in which it was before the formation of the underwriters' syndicate. The only difference is that Doctor Kern is $500,000 ahead.

"Have the underwriters taken any measures to recover the money paid to Doctor Kern?"

"None whatever. They would have no status as complainants in an action of that kind. Their contract with Doctor Kern was clear and specific, and the gentlemen interested well understood its terms. I have never received the slightest intimation from the underwriters that would justify the stories recently published. They are disappointed, of course, but that is all. They merely assumed a business risk, and their plans failed of realization, as is frequently the case. The Kern Incandescent Gaslight Company meanwhile is unaffected by this transaction.

Status of the Company.

"The company itself was not concerned in the deal, which was simply a private arrangement between a stockholder (Doctor Kern) and a party of gentlemen who agreed to purchase his stock. As matters stand, Doctor Kern is the chief stockholder of the company, and, with $11,500,000 of the stock to his credit, he naturally controls its policies. The gentlemen of the syndicate are not stockholders at all. Possibly they might make some arrangement with Doctor Kern to complete their payments, and so qualify as stockholders, but unless they do this they can have no voice in the company's affairs."

Mr. Semple, in speaking of recent attacks upon the company, intimated that if these attacks were continued court proceedings would be taken.

"The facts in the case," he added, "have not been generally understood, and I am giving you this statement in order that everything may be made clear to the people of St. Louis. The Kern Company has furnished a bond for $200,000, drawn by one of the soundest surety companies in the world, to fulfill its contract obligations to the city of St. Louis, and it is prepared to proceed with the work of supplying 11,000 lamps there with the Kern burner. The city is secured against loss, and is in a position to enforce the contract to the letter. The company is perfectly willing that it should do so, else the $200,000 bond would never have been given."

In view of the statement made here and elsewhere that the Kern Company, in fixing a price of $22 per lamp in St. Louis would lose $100,000 a year, The Republic correspondent questioned an officer of the company on this point. He said that the company expected to make a profit of $4 per year on each lamp,—$44,000 a year on the contract.

Additional facts learned are that President Keene and three other officers of the company had to give the National Surety Company an indemnity bond before that company would bond the Kern Company for $200,000, and that the company has a very small working capital. Coudert Bros. say, however, that the company can get all necessary working capital as it is needed.

Vimont—Skinner.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Bloomington, Ill., March 14.—Thomas J. Vimont of this city and Mrs. Mabelle C. Skinner, who recently came from Decatur, Ill., will be married here to-morrow morning. Mr. Vimont was for many years in business in St. Louis.

Hotel Empire, New York, high-class hotel, moderate rates. See ad. on page opposite editorial of this paper.

NEW ASSOCIATION OF RAILWAY MEN.

First Convention of Engineering and Maintenance of Way Association.

AN INTERESTING PROGRAMME.

Topics to Be Discussed at the Meeting—Present Officers—Danville City Case—Railroad Notes.

Chicago, March 14.—More than 140,000 miles were represented at the first annual convention of the recently organized Railway Engineering and Maintenance of Way Association that opened in Steinway Hall to-day. The above mileage constitutes more than five-sevenths of the total in the United States, and includes all the more important systems in the country.

The object of the new association, which was organized in Buffalo, N. Y., a year ago, is the advancement of knowledge pertaining to the scientific and economical location, construction, operation and maintenance of railroads.

The organization has 235 members, and the following are its first officers:

President, J. F. Wallace, Illinois Central Railroad, Chicago.

First vice president, R. A. Peterson, Canadian Pacific Railway, Montreal, Canada.

Second Vice president, W. J. Curtis, Southern Pacific company, San Francisco, Cal.

Secretary, L. C. Fritch, Baltimore and Ohio Southwestern Railway, Washington, Ind.

Treasurer, W. S. Dawley, Chicago and Eastern Illinois Railroad, Chicago.

Among the subjects on the programme for discussion are the following: Graduation of road beds, ballasting, ties, rails, tracks, buildings, bridges and trestles, masonry, signs, fences, crossings and cattle guards, signaling and interlocking plants, records, accounts and reports, uniform rules and organization, water service and yards and terminals.

The convention will close Friday night.

President J. F. Wallace called the meeting to order at 10 a. m., and read his annual address. Secretary Fritch reported that the membership of the association was rapidly increasing. The ten standing committees submitted reports outlining courses of study and investigation for the coming year.

The afternoon session was devoted to the discussion of practical railroad problems.

DANVILLE CITY CASE.

Decision Handed Down by the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Washington, March 14.—Commissioner Prouty, for the Interstate Commerce Commission, to-day rendered a decision in the case of the City of Danville and others against the Southern Railway Company, holding that the system of rate-making into Southern territory, under which on traffic from St. Louis, Chicago and other points the rates to Danville are the sums of locals to and from the Ohio River, and the rates to Lynchburg are made on a much lower joint-rate basis, is utterly unreasonable. If the carriers desire to make rates in that manner, the commission decides, they must so adjust their charges as not to annihilate the city of Danville.

It is held that rates to Danville must be adjusted with relation to rates to competitive localities, like Lynchburg, and the carriers from the point of origin to destination should pro-rate in these rates if they participate in either Lynchburg or Danville business.

Under all the circumstances and conditions, freight rates from Northern and Eastern cities from Western points of shipment and from New Orleans to Lynchburg may properly be somewhat lower than those to Danville, but the present rates to Danville, as compared with those to Lynchburg, are declared excessive. The rates from Northern and Eastern cities to Danville and those from New Orleans to Danville on sugar, molasses, rice and coffee should not exceed those to Lynchburg by more than 10 per cent. The rates between Danville and the West, including the rate on tobacco to Louisville, Ky., the opinion says, should not exceed those between Lynchburg and the West by more than 10 per cent.

The case is held open to await readjustment of rates by the companies interested.

TO THE GULF.

President E. H. R. Green Will Extend the Texas Midland.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Austin, Tex., March 14.—The Texas Midland Railroad, now operating from Paris to Ennis, Tex., is to be extended to the Gulf through this city, making its Gulf terminus at Alligator Point, south of Victoria, Tex. This property is owned and managed by E. H. R. Green, the son of Hetty Green, and whenever he wants a few millions to extend this road his mother will back him.

In addition to this alone with the case the Texas Midland must either be extended or be abandoned, for the reason that the recent action of the Frisco line in building into Denison will, when the extension is completed, permit the Frisco to deal with the Houston and Texas Central direct at Denison, instead of at Ennis, through the instrumentality of the Texas Midland, which is now used as a connecting link between the Frisco and the Houston and Texas Central, from Paris to Ennis on Gulf port shipments.

This new arrangement will leave the Texas Midland out entirely and hence it must fight for itself. To that end Green has closed arrangements with the citizens of Victoria by which he secures the grading already done on their proposed line from Alligator Point to Yoakum in consideration of the fact that he extend the Texas Midland from Ennis to that point through Waco and Austin. This will be done, thus giving the interior of Texas another Gulf port outlet. It is understood that work will begin within a very short time.

REDUCING FREIGHT RATES.

Arguments in the Case Against the Nebraska Board of Transportation.

Omaha, Neb., March 14.—Judge Munger of the Federal Court to-day is hearing arguments in the case brought by the railroads to restrain the State Board of Transportation from reducing rates. It is contended by the roads that the order, previously issued by the Circuit Court of Appeals, acts as an estoppel to the board and that it cannot reduce rates without first securing an order from the Court of Appeals modifying the injunction.

The Attorney General contends that the board has a perfect right to prescribe reasonable rates under the law of 1887, and that the injunction decree in the maximum rate case expressly affirmed that right.

It will require another day to complete the argument, and considerable time is expected to elapse before a decision is rendered.

BREAKERS AHEAD.

Agreement to Maintain Rates and Abolish Commissions in Danger.

Chicago, March 14.—The meeting between passenger agents of the Western railroads and representatives of the Canadian Pacific called for the purpose of settling differences over transcontinental rates came to an end without result. The Canadian Pacific refused all propositions for a settlement submitted by the Western roads, including one to arbitrate the differences. This refusal places in imminent peril the presidents' agreement to maintain rates and to abolish commission payments.

Inspection Party at Cleveland.

Cleveland, O., March 14.—President King of the Pittsburg and Western Railway, Traffic Manager Galbraith of the Cleveland Terminal and Valley Railway and the freight and passenger agents of those two lines and the Baltimore and Ohio inspected the property they are interested in here to-day. Improvements of the passenger service on the Cleveland Terminal and Valley will soon be made.

Manager Britton Takes Charge.

F. H. Britton, who has just been appointed acting general manager of the Cotton Belt system, arrived in St. Louis from Tyler, Tex., yesterday morning and at once assumed the duties of his new position. As Mr. Britton was general superintendent of the system before his promotion, his first official act of importance will be the appointment of his successor. This will be done probably within a few days.

Missouri and Iowa Southern.

Marshall, Mo., March 14.—A meeting was held here to-day in the interest of Missouri and Iowa Southern Railway. Mr. Strong was present and asked the citizens of this county to subscribe for stock to the amount of $15,000 and furnish the right of way through the city. Much interest was manifested and citizens have strong hopes that the road will be built during the coming summer.

Canadian Pacific Earnings.

Buffalo, N. Y., March 14.—The annual report of the Canadian Pacific Railway shows gross earnings for 1899 of $29,204,938.26, working expenses, $16,999,772.15, and net earnings, $12,239,165.49.

Personal and Current Notes.

—The Southwestern Passenger Bureau announces reduced rates to the following meetings: Women's Home Mission Society, M. E. Church, South, at New Orleans, April 11 to 19; Industrial Convention at Chattanooga, May 8 to 11.

C. L. Hilleary, assistant general passenger agent of the Big Four, has returned from a trip to Mexico.

—S. H. Hughes, chief clerk in the passenger department of the Frisco, has returned from Chicago, where he attended the Western passenger meeting.

—George R. Warfel, assistant general passenger agent of the B. & O. S-W., was in Chicago yesterday.

—F. L. Harris, general agent of the Mobile and Ohio, has gone for a trip on the road.

—Vice President and General Manager Ramsey of the Wabash is in New York and is expected home Saturday.

—K. Macdougald has been appointed general agent of the Southern Railway, with headquarters at the City of Mexico.

The Alarm.

St. Louis agents for Alarm smokeless powder, the best in the world. Try it. Rawlings Sporting Goods Co., 629 Locust st.

SOLD TO THE TRUST.

Tannery of N. R. Alles Sons Taken in for Four Million Dollars.

Kenosha, Wis., March 14.—It is reported here to-day that the tannery belonging to N. R. Alles Sons has been sold to the leather trust. The consideration is said to have been $4,000,000. The tannery employs 1,300 men.

No torture compares to that of a Rheumatic. Prescription No. 281, by Elmer & Amend, quickest relief of all.

Jurden—Foster.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Marshall, Mo., March 14.—Miss Dollie Foster of Marshall and Mr. J. L. Jurden of Weeland, Hickory County, were married to-day.

"Hunger is the best sauce." You will have a good appetite if you take Hood's Sarsaparilla.

MAY WRIGHT SEWALL, President, 622 N. Pen. St., Indianapolis, Ind.
REV. ANNA HOWARD SHAW, Vice-Pres., 1839 Diamond St., Philadelphia, Pa.
LOUISE BARNUM ROBBINS, Cor. Sec., 75 Broad St., Adrian, Mich.
FRANCES STEWART MOSHER, 1st Rec. Sec., Hillsdale, Mich.
HELEN FINLAY BRISTOL, 2d Rec. Sec., 128 Vermont Ave., Quincy, Ill.
HANNAH J. BAILEY, Treasurer, Winthrop Centre, Maine.

National Council of Women of the United States.

ORGANIZED 1893 — NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN OF THE UNITED STATES — INCORPORATED 1898

AFFILIATED WITH THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT,
MAY WRIGHT SEWALL,
633 NORTH PENNSYLVANIA STREET, INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

January 20, 1900.

Warner's Safe Cure Co.,
Rochester, N. Y.

Gentlemen:--

I take great pleasure in acknowledging the benefits which I have received from the use of Warner's Safe Cure. From the continual change of food and water my stomach refused to perform its work, and severe pains across the back showed me that my kidneys were also affected.

My physician prescribed for me, but it did not seem to help me, and I asked him what he thought of my trying Safe Cure, and he said that he knew of several patients who had spoken highly of it, so I tried it.

Before I had finished the second bottle, I felt a remarkable improvement, and being greatly encouraged, I continued its use for about two months, when I considered myself entirely cured.

I am indeed most grateful to you for placing the means before the public of restoring health to the afflicted.

Louise Wolcott
New York City

(Miss Louise Wolcott was one of the earliest members of "Sorosis," of New York City; is also Vice-President of Daughters of the American Revolution, and granddaughter of Governor Wolcott, of Connecticut.)

The Great Home Treatment.

271 Jos. Campau Ave., Detroit Mich., Feb. 14, 1899.

I have taken one bottle of Wine of Cardui, and it has done me so much good that I have secured a second bottle. I have been suffering for years, but have really had great relief from this one bottle of your medicine. I have taken all kinds of medicine and spent $200.00 for doctors, but have never had anything to help me as Wine of Cardui has.

Miss MAGGIE E. SMITH.

Few women have $200.00 to throw away unnecessarily. Before you waste your money on unsuccessful treatment try a bottle of Wine of Cardui, and a small package of Black-Draught.

One of the nice things about these medicines is that they cure women's ills in the privacy of the home, without offensive private examinations and expensive treatment. Doctors usually do their best, but they are very busy—they treat many different diseases in a day, and in their haste use the knife much too often. Wine of Cardui and Black-Draught do but one thing, and that perfectly. One cures all forms of stomach and liver disorders, and the other all female complaints. Taken together the result is wonderful. When you use either Wine of Cardui or Black-Draught you know just what it will do—you know that it will cure—and just what it will cost. There is no doubt about it, instead there is absolute certainty.

McELREE'S Wine of Cardui

If you think any special directions are needed in your case, write a letter describing your symptoms, and send it to the "Ladies' Advisory Department," The Chattanooga Medicine Company, Chattanooga, Tenn., and you will receive all desired information. You can be cured of any female trouble quickly, cheaply, privately. Druggists keep $1.00 bottles Wine of Cardui and 25c packages of Thedford's Black-Draught.

IN CHINESE WATERS.

United States Will Establish an Eastern Squadron.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Washington, March 14.—Announcement is made by the Navy Department that a squadron will be established in Chinese waters, and that Rear Admiral Kempff, now commandant at the Mare Island Navy Yard, will be sent to Manila to take command of this squadron for cruising off the Chinese and Japanese coasts. Rear Admiral Remey, in charge of the Asiatic Station, will maintain the naval base at Manila and direct the operations of the fleet under Rear Admiral Kempff.

It is understood that Rear Admiral Kempff's squadron will consist of the Oregon, Baltimore, Iowa, Philadelphia, Marblehead and Montgomery. Great Britain's reply to peace overtures clearly indicates that her intention is to establish a vast empire in South Africa, and Russia and France are expected to seek compensation in China, Persia and the north coast of Africa, hence it is inferred that this Government, in sending a fleet to China, intends to enforce the "open door."

The formation of the Chinese Squadron by the United States is to be a spectacular warning to Russia and France that American interests are involved in any change in the conditions in China. Presumably Germany will make a similar demonstration.

ENGLAND'S MOVE.

SPECIAL BY CABLE.

London, March 14.—(Copyright, 1900, by W. R. Hearst.)—The British China fleet is being strengthened. The Government is taking precautions to meet Russia in the Far East. The cruiser Argonaut has been ordered into commission and dispatched immediately to Chinese waters, and the Terrible has been ordered to proceed to the same place from Durban. These are the finest and most powerful cruisers in the British Navy.

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES.

The strengthening of England's fleet in Chinese waters is a part of her answer to the peace proposition of the Boer Republics. Lord Salisbury realizes that England's enemies never have had so good an excuse for making trouble for her as they have now. Should the Boer Presidents appeal to the Powers against the Premier's ultimatum and ask them to interfere to prevent the political annihilation of the Republics, the opportunity of Russia and France would have come.

These Powers would, very likely, notify England that they would not consent to the taking away of the Boers' independence. And that would mean war. For England would allow no such interference in what she regards as her private affairs. Russia and France have important interests in China—the one in the North, the other in the South. Russia has been unwontedly aggressive of late. Hence the dispatch of two such powerful warships as the Terrible and the Argonaut to reenforce the Chinese Squadron, already stronger than that of any other Power in Pacific water.

What may have a direct bearing upon this phase of the situation is the determination of our own Government in Washington to dispatch a fleet under Rear Admiral Kempff to Chinese waters. The ostensible reason for this is the protection of American interests, but England's enemies, who have been jealously watching the growing friendship between Washington and London, will certainly regard it as a demonstration favorable to Great Britain.

STEAMER WOLCOTT LOST.

She Struck a Rock Ten Miles From Kodiak.

San Francisco, Cal., March 14.—Advices to the Merchants' Exchange from Seattle say the steamer Excelsior has arrived there from Alaska with news of the loss of the steamer Wolcott. The crew, passengers and most of her cargo were saved by the Excelsior. On January 31 the Wolcott struck a rock ten miles from Kodiak. She is a total loss.

All transfer points, owl-car time-tables and routes of all street railroads given in The Republic's book of "Street Car Facts." Get one free at Republic Office, Seventh and Olive Streets.

Eight Buildings Burned.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Nashville, Tenn., March 14.—Fire at Mount Pleasant to-day destroyed eight of the principal business houses, entailing a loss of $60,000; insurance, $25,000. Several persons had a narrow escape from death.

DESPERATE EFFORT TO DIE.

Pistol Failed to Act After Two Shots Were Fired.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Poplar Bluff, Mo., March 14.—N. P. McIntosh, a negro man of family and means, attempted suicide last night. Three attempts were made with a Derringer revolver. The first ball entered the forehead, where it lodged in the skull bone. The second ball glanced from the top of his head. The third time the revolver failed to fire. The bullet in the forehead was extracted. McIntosh has been sick with pneumonia for several weeks. His wife thinks he is mentally unbalanced.

Baseballs.

A boy's league ball for 25c. Rawlings Sporting Goods Co., 629 Locust st.

SMITH—ANDERSON.

Wedding Followed After Three Days' Acquaintance.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Bloomington, Ill., March 14.—Mr. Albert J. Smith, who recently came to Bloomington from the Klondike with a fortune, and Miss Anna A. Anderson of Bloomington were married this evening by the Reverend H. K. Denlinger, pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church. The young couple met for the first time only three days ago.

Parks—Sutton.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Monticello, Mo., March 14.—Mr. L. B. Parks and Miss Laura Sutton were married at the Christian Church in La Belle this afternoon by the Reverend Mr. Corwine.

White—Wallace.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Monticello, Mo., March 14.—Mr. William White of Maywood and Miss Florence Wallace of Argola were married to-day by the Reverend Mr. Jones of La Grange.

Golden Wedding Celebration.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Chrisman, Ill., March 14.—Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Clouse of Cherry Point, Ill., a village two miles west of this place, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary to-day.

Fall—May.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Sedalia, Mo., March 14.—Mr. John Fall and Miss Myrtle May were married to-day.

ADVANCE SPRING STYLES

INVITE YOUR INSPECTION.

MESRITZ TAILORING CO.

215-217 N. Eighth St.