

The Weather.

Fair tonight and Tuesday; moderate temperature; minimum temperature tonight will be slightly below freezing. Temperature, 7 a. m., 21; 3:30 p. m., 34. J. M. SHERIER, Observer.

ROCK ISLAND ARGUS.

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PRICE TWO CENTS.

All the News
All the Time.
That's The Argus.

GREAT ILLINOIS CENTRAL DOCK AND ELEVATORS AT NEW ORLEANS BURN

Blaze From Hot Axle Starts Disastrous \$5,000,000 Fire.

FIGHTERS POWERLESS

Company Ready to Clear Away Ruins and Rebuild on Larger Scale.

New Orleans, La., Feb. 27.—The Illinois Central railroad states as soon as the ruins cool forces will be put to work to clear away the debris and the Stuyvesant docks and elevators destroyed by fire last night will be promptly rebuilt, on a more elaborate and substantial scale than before.

Division of Losses.

Conservative estimates figure the immediate loss as \$5,000,000 divided as follows:

Two elevators, warehouses, sheds, \$2,500,000.

Twenty three thousand bales cotton, \$920,000.

Seven hundred thousand bushels of grain, \$350,000.

Fifteen thousand barrels of sugar, \$300,000.

Cottonseed cake, \$97,500.

Lumber, \$16,625.

Cement, \$56,250.

Meal, \$10,000.

Sundries, \$150,000.

Five hundred freight cars, \$375,000.

Ships, \$50,000.

City fire department, \$15,000.

Private property otherwise damaged, \$216,000.

The railroad company carried its insurance. The contents of the various elevators and sheds were insured in local and foreign agencies.

No Lives Lost.

Apparently no lives were lost in the fire, though there were many narrow escapes among those engaged in fighting the flames.

In addition to the railroad property the fire destroyed the Crescent Ice company plant, and many small stores and a large number of small residences.

The fire will temporarily throw out of work a large number of employees.

Twelve Squares Burned.

The Stuyvesant docks extend from Louisiana avenue almost to Napoleon avenue, a distance of 12 squares. The wharves between these two points were covered with miles of track and steel and iron sheds ran the whole distance.

The two grain elevators were of the most modern construction, the upper one having a capacity of a million bushels. Thousands of bales of cotton, several hundred thousand packages of sugar, great quantities of cottonseed oil and oil cake, lumber and every conceivable variety of freight filled the warehouses and sheds. Practically all the export business handled by the Illinois Central was put aboard ships at these docks.

The docks and improvements have been under construction for 10 years past, elaborate extensions and immense investments having been made after the constitutional convention of 1898 made it possible for the road to invest permanently at this point.

Flames Quickly Beyond Control.

The fire was discovered shortly after 7 o'clock. It was said to have resulted from a journal that had not been sufficiently oiled. The whole plant was equipped with gigantic water tanks and fire extinguishing apparatus, but the blaze, small at the beginning, almost instantaneously got beyond control, communicating through the conveyors to the lower elevator and some of the sheds.

The response of the fire department was prompt, but owing to the fact that the terminals were not readily accessible because of fences and tracks the engines found difficulty in reaching the flames.

Largest Docks in World.

The Stuyvesant docks are the largest single docks in the world. They cost between \$8,000,000 and \$10,000,000. The two elevators on them are the largest on tidewater anywhere in the world. One has a capacity of a million bushels. The docks are 150 feet wide and nearly a mile long, the frontage on the river being 5,000 feet. In building them, a task which required over three years time, the piles were sunk to a depth of 120 feet and were specially treated with creosote.

Dock System Elaborate.

The Stuyvesant docks stretch 1,500 feet along the river front, from Dechaise to Foucher street. The docks are equipped with an elaborate system of grain carriers. Each elevator has a capacity of 1,000,000 bushels, or

STATE DEPARTMENT DISCLAIMS ALL EFFORTS FOR PEACE IN JAPAN'S BEHALF

Washington, Feb. 27.—To set at rest rumors which have been printed recently to the great annoyance of the Japanese legation here, respecting negotiations for peace, it was authoritatively announced today at the state department that: "The government

of the United States has never received from the Japanese government any request to lay propositions for peace before the Russian government and of course has never, in any manner directly or indirectly approached the Russian government on the subject."

SHOT IN THEATRE

Suicide of Young man Nearly Starts a Panic at Chicago.

FEARS OF CROWD ALLAYED

Singing of Pathetic Song Cause of Deed—Victim Was Insane.

Chicago, Feb. 27.—Suicide in the balcony of a crowded theatre was the method of death chosen by an unknown man, about 22 years of age, who shot and killed himself at the Chicago opera house Saturday afternoon during a vaudeville performance.

Died Instantly.

The young man shot himself in the head. Death was instantaneous and the body fell into the lap of a woman occupying an adjoining seat. She and several other women fainted, but quickly revived. The young man shot himself during the singing of a pathetic song pictured in a country farm house. He had listened attentively and had applauded. At the third encore he stood up, hesitated a moment, and then quickly drawing a revolver, shot himself dead. The body was identified as that of Lowell Banes, a press feeder. His relatives said he had lately been confined in a hospital for the insane, but had been discharged as cured six months ago.

Ice Wrecks Kansas City Bridges.

Kansas City, Mo., Feb. 27.—Floating ice in the Kaw river has wrecked the pile bridges of the Kansas City Belt line and the Rock Island railroad. The railroads have not decided whether they will rebuild the pile bridges or hasten the construction of steel bridges.

Divorce Laid to Pancakes

Iowa Doctor Scowls So at Wife's Creations She Goes to Courts.

Sanborn, Iowa, Feb. 27.—Carrie Fields has been granted a divorce from Dr. L. S. Fields because the husband did not like her make of pancakes and ridiculed them. She testified that the expression upon the doctor's face when eating the cakes was such that it might work permanent injury to her health.

House Committee on Interstate Commerce Uncovered the Fact.

IN VIOLATION OF ORDERS

Army Appropriation Bill Safe—Bill in Senate to Prohibit Polygamy.

Washington, Feb. 27.—At the investigation of the Panama Railroad company before the house committee on interstate commerce today it was developed that for six months beginning last May the railroad company had acted as purchasing agent for the Isthmian canal commission and had purchased supplies without public advertisements for bids.

This is regarded as a violation of the paragraph 72 of Roosevelt's letter of instructions.

Passes Army Appropriations.

Washington, Feb. 27.—The house today agreed to the conference report on the army appropriation bill. This passes the bill. The sundry civil bill was then taken up.

Senate Also Agrees.

The senate agreed to the conference report on the army appropriation bill without debate. The bill carried a provision relating to retired army officers affecting the pay of Gen. Miles. The naval bill was then considered.

Hits at Polygamy.

Senator Dubois introduced today a joint resolution providing for a constitutional amendment prohibiting polygamy and polygamists cohabitants.

Statehood Again.

Washington, Feb. 27.—Senator Bailey today introduced as an amendment to the Indian appropriation bill a bill for creating one state of Oklahoma and Indian Territory.

Dies at 104.

Escanaba, Mich., Feb. 27.—Mrs. Catherine Gallagher of Beaver Island, aged 104, is dead. Her descendants, at one time numbered 183.

TURN FLANKS OF RUSSIANS

Japanese Repeating Tactics in Former Battles Against Kuropatkin.

GENERAL FIGHT IS RAGING

Heavy Guns Shelling Mukden—Preparations Made to Abandon the City.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 27.—A dispatch from Kuropatkin says: "The enemy is continuing the offensive move against the front of our Tsinkehen detachment and has turned both its flanks."

"The Japanese have also advanced against Kantiepass, turning our left flank but all his attacks on Tangu and Beydaling have been repulsed. His offensive movement against Bomahud has also been repulsed. At some positions our riflemen forced the Japanese outposts to retire."

"Col. Gorsky is severely wounded."

Largely "Imaginary."

The reported turning of the Russian right was largely imaginary but affairs on the left flank where the Japanese have several divisions concentrated are more serious.

Hold On Pass.

Madyadani, Feb. 27.—After fighting of the most desperate nature the Russians remained yesterday evening in possession of Che and Da passes, against which the Japanese had been flinging themselves madly from noon until dark. The Russians, who were greatly outnumbered, sustained repeated attacks, some units losing as high as 70 per cent in killed or wounded in hand-to-hand fighting with bayonets, to which they were reduced owing to having fired their last bullets. In order to hold the pass the last reserves were sent to the firing line.

Check the Japs.

The Japanese turning operation in the region of Gauto pass was checked by a battalion of Russian infantry and several squadrons of cavalry who repulsed the Japanese with heavy loss.

The Japanese also tried to advance on Nangou and Vanupuzi, but were repulsed.

The present operations commenced Feb. 19, when the Japanese made a night attack on Haba pass seven miles south of Tsinkehen.

Attack Vanze Pass.

On Feb. 20 they attacked Vanze pass seven miles southeast of Tsinkehen positions which themselves are far in advance of the general front of the army. The Russians made a counter attack Feb. 21 and temporarily gained ground but in the evening of the 22nd in the fact of superior numbers they were flanked and retired on the fortified line at Tsinkehen.

Are Outflanked.

The Japanese stormed Beresneff bill throughout the 22nd simultaneously enfilading Tsinkehen positions with artillery and outflanking the Russian infantry. The Russians evacuated Tsinkehen the 24th and retired fighting a stubborn rear guard action and halting at Da and Che passes.

Doing Much Damage.

New Chwang, via Tien Tsin, Feb. 27.—(Evening).—According to a person who has just returned here from the front the Japanese are shelling Mukden with 11-inch mortars. The bombardment is reported to have caused great damage far behind the Russian lines.

Fighting is General.

Advices from Chinese sources say a general engagement is in progress all along the line. The heaviest fighting is reported to be occurring on the Japanese right and Kuropatkin is said to be sweeping far north and threatening to force the Russians back on the railroad.

A special force is reported to be moving from the south and east with the intention of cutting off the Russian communication by railroad with

Ready to Abandon Mukden.

London, Feb. 27, 3:30 a. m.—A dispatch to the Telegraph from Simning, 40 miles west of Mukden, says that the manager of the Russian bank at Mukden has been ordered to be ready to close the bank. There is much anxiety in Mukden. Forty thousand Japanese are reported to be at Fakumen, having marched there through the hills on the Mongolian border. Six thousand men with guns passed between Simning and the Liao river on Saturday. This report, if accurate, clearly indicates a movement on the west in cooperation with the eastward advance of the Japanese.

Russian Left Retreats.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 27, 1:30 a. m.—It is admitted that Gen. Kuropatkin's advanced left wing has been flanked, and that it is falling back on the main positions around Fushun, 12 miles east of Mukden. It is believed that the Japanese are aiming to get behind Kuropatkin's left army and, by making rapid marches, reach the

(Continued on Page Eight.)

SENATE BY LARGE MAJORITY CLEARS JUDGE SWAYNE OF EVERY CHARGE

PEORIA CONGREGATION DECIDES ON KIND OF PASTOR THAT IS WANTED

Peoria, Ill., Feb. 27.—The trustees of the Christian church, a large and influential congregation have decided the pastor they call to fill a vacancy in the pulpit must have the following seven qualifications: Not over 35 years old; must be married; evan-

gelist; a lodge man; a mixer, a crank and willing to assume the burdens of his flock. The man whom this paragraph is to succeed—if the trustees find him—is Rev. G. B. Van Arsdale, who recently resigned after a five years' pastorate.

KILL POLICEMEN

Wrath of Strikers at Warsaw Turns to Guardians of the Peace.

CAUGHT ALONE AND SLAIN

Said Practice Will Be Continued Till Slaughter of Workmen is Equaled.

Warsaw, Feb. 27.—Murderous attacks occurred today on solitary policemen or small patrols in the streets causing the gravest anxiety to the authorities who are at a loss to know how to protect the policemen. Reports are current today that the murders will be continued until the number of policemen killed equals the total number of persons killed in the January disturbances.

Railways Under Martial Law.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 27.—All the Russian railways except the Central Asian have been placed under martial law.

Gorki to Be Released.

London, Feb. 27.—A St. Petersburg dispatch to a news agency says Gov. Gen. Trepoft authorizes the announcement that Maxim Gorki will be released tomorrow.

Has Been Exaggerated.

Odessa, Crimea, Feb. 27.—The recent disturbances here have been greatly exaggerated. One Jew is dead as the result of street fighting growing out of an anti-government demonstration on the part of the Jewish strikers.

Strikes Are Political.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 27.—Evidence is increasing that the strikes throughout the empire, and especially those in St. Petersburg, are not economic in their origin but inspired by a definite political aim.

New Circuit Judge.

Milwaukee, Feb. 27.—States Circuit Judge Jenkins has resigned. District Judge Seaman succeeds Jenkins. Senator Quarles takes Seaman's place.

Twenty-three Perish When Gas is Accidentally Ignited.

IMPACT REPORT IS TERRIFIC

Number of Dead Would Have Been Larger Had It Been a Week Day.

Welch, W. Va., Feb. 27.—Fifteen men are known to be dead as a result of an explosion in the shaft of the United States Coal & Coke company. The number of dead may be greater but it is impossible to explore the mine because of the fire which is still burning.

Twenty-Three Believed Caught.

Bluefield, W. Va., Feb. 27.—As a result of an explosion in shaft No. 1 of the United States Coal & Coke company at Wilcoe yesterday 23 miners are supposed to have lost their lives, and it is possible that the number will exceed this. Fifteen bodies have been taken from the shaft. It is barely possible that some of the entombed miners will be rescued alive.

The explosion was of terrific force, and shattered glass windows a mile distant. Immediately after the shock many miners who were off duty rushed to the shaft to find great clouds of smoke and dust gushing from its mouth.

Relatives Plead for Rescue.

Mothers, children, and other relatives soon were weeping and pleading for the rescue of those dear to them entombed in the mine. The officials of the mine, including General Manager Reis, were soon on the ground, and the work of rescue began.

The company usually works in this shaft about seventy-five miners, but yesterday being Sunday the men were

Acquitted on Each Article by Vote of About 47 to 35.

IS LITTLE VARIATION

End of Famous Impeachment Proceedings—How Members Were Recorded.

Washington, Feb. 27.—The voting on the impeachment case of Judge Swayne began at 10:10 today on the first article, which charged Swayne with certifying a false claim for expenses. The vote was guilty 33, not guilty 49.

Vote in Detail.

The detailed vote follows:

Guilty—Bacon, Bailey, Bard, Bate, Berry, Blackburn, Carmack, Clark, (Montana); Clay, Cockrell, Culberson, Daniel, Foster, (Louisiana); Gorman, Kittredge, Latimer, McCreary, McCumber, McHenry, McLaurin, Mallory, Martin, Money, Morgan, Nelson, Newlands, Overman, Patterson, Pettus, Simmons, Stone, Tallaferro, Teller—23.

Not guilty—Alger, Allison, Ankeny, Ball, Beveridge, Burnham, Burrows, Clary, Clark, (Wyoming); Crane, Cullom, Dewey, Dick, Dietrich, Dillingham, Dooliver, Dryden, Dubois, Ellkins, Fairbanks, Foraker, Foster, (Washington); Frye, Fulton, Gallinger, Gamble, Gibson, Hale, Hansbrough, Heyburn, Hopkins, Kean, Kearns, Lodge, Long, McComas, Millard, Penrose, Perkins, Platt, (Connecticut); Platt, (New York); Proctor, Quarles, Scott, Smoot, Spooner, Stewart, Warren—49.

Second Vote Similar.

The vote on the second and third articles, being similar charges, resulted in each case 32 guilty and 50 not guilty. Clark, of Montana, voted not guilty on the second and third articles.

On Use of Private Car.

The fourth and fifth articles related to Swayne's use of a private car of the Jacksonville, Tampa & Key West Railroad company. The vote was guilty 13, not guilty 69.

The senators who voted guilty were: Bailey, Berry, Blackburn, Carmack, Cockrell, Culberson, Daniel, McLaurin, Martin, Money, Morgan, Newlands and Pettus.

Non-Residence Charge.

Washington, Feb. 27.—The sixth article charged Swayne with non-residence in the district. The total for not guilty was 51.

On the seventh article, which was similar to the sixth, the vote was 19 guilty, 63 not guilty.

Cleared On All Charges.

Articles 8, 9, 10 and 11 related to the contempt cases of Davis and Belden. The vote on all was: Guilty 31, not guilty 51.

The 12th and last article was the contempt case of O'Neal; Guilty 35, not guilty 47.

This acquitted Swayne of all charges.

Entered on Records.

At the conclusion of the voting Presiding Officer Platt directed the secretary to enter the acquittal upon the records and the court adjourned without delay.

Judge Swayne was not in the senate during the roll call, but in the president's room just back of the chamber. The result of each ballot was sent him by his attorneys.

GREAT CATHEDRAL FORMALLY OPENED

Many Prominent Churchmen Attend Ceremonies of Lutherans at Berlin.

Berlin, Feb. 27.—The Evangelical cathedral here was consecrated today in the presence of a most brilliant assemblage among whom were delegates from all the Protestant nations. Many American clergy sent lengthy telegrams of congratulation to the emperor.

BETROTHAL IS ANNOUNCED

Princess Victoria Will Wed Prince Oscar of Sweden and Norway.

London, Feb. 27.—The betrothal is officially announced of Princess Victoria, of Connaught, to Prince Oscar, the eldest son of the crown prince of Sweden and Norway. The announcement states that the engagement has the entire sanction and approval of King Edward.