LAST EDITION.

TUESDAY EVENING.

TOPEKA, KANSAS, APRIL 1, 1913.

TUESDAY EVENING.

On sale by newsboys at TWO CENTS On trains and newsstands FIVE CENTS

LOOK FOR RECORD

City Election Vote at Noon Today Largest Known.

Ideal Weather May Bring Out 16,000 Ballots.

WOMEN TO POLLS IN FORCE

Telephone Campaign Aroused Their Interest.

"Stay-at-Home" Vote Will Decide Close Contests.

For Mayor.

J. B. Billard. R. L. Cofran. Commissioner of Finance and For Revenue.

P. Miller F. M. Newland.

For Commissioner of Streets and Publie Improvements. George W. Adamson. W. G. Tandy.

He Property. W. L. Porter.

E B Stotts. For Members of the Board of Education.

Margaret Bostic. P. W. Griggs. L. M. Jones. Annie Douglas Scott. C. B. Van Horn.

veteran judges at the polis late probate, civil, municipal and district this afternoon say that the vote at the courts. city election today will exceed all foraround the polls and the city hall, that the commission form of government, at least 16,000 votes will be cast before the doors are locked at 7 o'clock main issue has been municipal owner. fore the doors are locked at 7 o'clock main issue has been municipal owner-this evening. This will exceed the ship of the electric light plant. high water mark of 15,345 polled at the election two years ago when Billard and McNeal, with the city in an uproar, fought out the mayoralty bat-

coupled with a spurt of enthusiasm displayed by the women of the city last night, has sent thousands to the cinct in the city the vote at 9 o'clock But None Claims Its Originthis morning was higher than the vote at noon during the primary election

at noon during the primary election eight days ago.

The new vote today—the vote that did not come out to the primaries—will decide the fate of the doubtful candidacles. This is admitted by every man in the race. In all probability nearly 2 000 persons who did not

Heavy Women's Vote.

porters today—the female vote is being recorded more heavily than in any other city election. Billard is not and the women are rushing to the Sabines, who came with their wor polls—in carriages, automobiles, on The Romans seized the women foot and behind baby buggles.

wide appeal to the women over the telephones. Women were assigned to nearly every block in the city they talked with their friends and insisted that they enter the booths and place a cross behind the name of

It had its effect. It is estimated by conservative politicians that 7,000 women are voting today—and a big majority of this vote will go to

Billard Still Is Confident. Billard is confident of re-election

by 1,500 votes. He says he needs only one out of three of the eliminatand new vote to win. The day the primaries was disagreeable and the women did not turn out. This gives the new vote today to the women for a majority. Split this gain be-tween Cofran and Billard—and it will be seen that the mayor is needing every vote today to win.

It is possible that the vote between two candidates for mayor will be as close as the vote in the election two years ago, when Billard won by less than 200 majority.

Uphill Fight for Miller. The returns of the vote for commiswaterworks and electric lights will be watched with interest lights will be watched with interest by the visitors to the State Journal bul-letins this evening. Miller was more than 600 votes behind Newland, his winning opponent, at the primaries. In the last eight days Miller has been waging a wonderful campaign for the restoration of his lost support. To win from Newland he will have to procure a big percentage of the eliminated vote together with an even break on the new ballots today. It is much easier to find votes in the primaries than the election, all can-didates agree. If Miller forges ahead of Newland tonight he will have made

the fight of his life. Stotts is another candidate who has been the victim of mudslinging politics and who has been fighting on the defensive the last few days. He has tics and who has been lighting on the defensive the last few days. He has a comfortable lead on which to depend for a victory tonight—but the vote will be won by a narrow margin.

ELECTION BULLETINS.

The State Journal will post bulletins tonight on the Topeka city election. Returns will probably begin to come in soon after 8 o'clock.

votes are gathered by a corps of representatives from this newspaper. The boards are better acquainted with the work since the primary and the work of the 26 women clerks and

It will all be over after tonight. The official returns will be announced by the city canvassing board Friday—then for a new administration and peace until 1915.

Cairo, at Intersection of Ohio and Mississippi, in Danger.

Elections in St. Louis.

St. Louis, April 1.—At 6 o'clock this morning the voters of St. Louis started to cast their ballots for the candidates for municipal offices from mayor to members of the house of delegates and council. The Democrats, Progressives, Republicans and Socialists have full tickets in the field.
Thirteen members of the board of

free holders also will be chosen to re-vise the city charter. The leaders of each party predict a light vote. Dr. John H. Simon, former health commissioner is the Democratic candi-

For Commissioner of Parks and Pub-

Voting in Wisconsin. Milwaukee, April 1.—Voters of Wis-consin today voted for state superintendent of schools and a justice of the supreme court. For the first named as far away as Cincinnati, while some A. Parsons of Cairo, that the water position, Charles P. Cary, the incum-tributaries were reported rising. It is bent, competed with William Kittle. R. M. Siebecker was unopposed to succeed himself as justice of the supreme court. In Milwaukee six school directors were Veteran judges at the polls late voted for and justices of the circuit.

Heavy Vote in Duluth. mer ballot records in the history of Duluth, April 1.—Duluth today exer-Topeka. It is predicted freely both cised their first voting privileges under

Bright, ideal spring weather, It Is Ancient Holiday of All Nations.

A Mystery Unsolved.

ery man in the race. In all probability nearly 3,000 persons who did not go to the poils at the primaries will vote today. Three thousand ballots will decide at least three of the places on the city commission. The "stayat-homes" will decide this city election. may be an old Druid custom, it may

other campaign prediction. If Cof- Feast of Fools?" The wily Romans ran is elected today, it will be the solid female support that does it— in honor of Neptune. They invited the and the women are rushing to the Sabines, who came with their women. foot and behind baby buggles.

The windup of the Cofran campaign was climaxed last night by a little wide appeal to the women over a li

question. Poor Robin's Almanack, published in England in 1760, contains a quatrain dedicated to the 1st of April: "The first of April, some do say Is set aside for All Fools' Day; But why the people call it so

The day is still in observance. An English urchin waylays a gentleman in frock coat, top hat and gaiters. "Say, mister, your coat's full of holes."
"Holes," cries the gentleman, anxisly examining it.

Nor I, nor they themselves, do know.

'Yep," chorties the youngster, "but-

In Scotland an old joke is employed successfully every 1st of April. Andy is sent to a distant farm for a hoe; he carries a folded note saying. is the first of April. Hunt the gowk another mile." Andy is hustled from farm to farm, and his wits are measured by the miles he trods.

holiday is almost universal h Europe and is called "Un The through Poisson d'Avril" in France. The Parisan gammins consider it their special property. Napoleon L with his custotion, married Maria Louisa upon April , and was criticized by the entire em-

pire because of it. In the United States All Fools' Day is second only to Christmas as a romp for the children. Jokes of all kind, but inevitably poor, are propounded upon long-suffering elders. The fun lasts until April 2, and is only quelled

to by the antiquated chant: 'April Fools is gone and past, 'And you're the biggest (mother won't let me say it, but you know what I

BEGINS SENTENCE.

mean) at last!"

Wealthy Edna Adams Is Surrou by Many Luxuries.

pend for a victory tonight—but the vote will be won by a narrow margin.

It was not until the first car came down town the morning after the primary last week that the results were known. It will be as late when the vote is counted after this election—at least the election commissioner cannot promise an earlier result. The ballot will be shorter for the election, 'tis true—but the names counted will be in the ballot boxes.

The earlier and more important precincts will be reported on the State

Journal bulletin board as fast as the

Anxiety Felt by Residents of Ohio River Valley.

Slides Interfere With Levee Protection Work.

the work of the 26 women clerks and BIG FORCE OF MEN AT WORK

Stations Crowded With People Who Are Leaving City.

Cairo, Ill., April 1.-Conditions here today along the Ohio river levee appear incredible to the oldest citizens. They have battled with flood waters for years but the present situation they time. The water is rising at the rate the levee. While this situation is not encouraging, the reports to the weather bureau here of up-river and tributary conditions were enough to cause alarm. No reports came of receding waters generally believed that the high stage will not be reached today and probably before Wednesday night or Thursday. The rise of the river is much faster

than last year.

The city is sending its women and children out on every train. Two baggage cars were filled with trunks and enough remained to fill another. The weather continued beautiful today, a condition counted a blessing by the hundreds working to save the town.

Louisville, April 1.-The Ohio river gauge today registered 44.7, a rise four-tenths of a foot.

Memphis, April 1.—The Misissippi river registered 36.8 feet today, a rise of eight-tenths in 24 hours.

Cincinnati, April 1.-The Ohio river has risen two-tenths of a foot during the night. Early today the stage was 69.8 feet. Weather Forecaster Dever-eaux said he expected the river to rise another tenth, after which it probably would recede. The fall he said would be slow at first because of the large amount of water above. Up-river points reported the river

Cairo, Ill., April 1.-Flood waters or the Ohio river continued to rise steadily throughout last night and at 7 a. m. today stood between 53.2 and 53.3 the population was early astir, and the fact that the water had substantially passed the 52 foot mark caused con-

siderable anxiety. All expected that the day pected to reach here today and if the levees hold, it was the belief that the worst would be over. Much trouble "I am greatly distressed at the news porters today—the female vote is being recorded more heavily than in any other city election. Billard is not being benefited by the women ballots—tand his supporters know it. This fearand his supporters know it. This fearand his supporters know it. This fearand be supporters know it. This fearand his supporters know it. The fearand his supporters know it. The fearand his supporters know it. The fearand his fearand cabled:

Asiatics, Europeans, English and Scotch have dedicated a day to All Scotch have dedicated a day to All fools, but none claim t... honor of originating it. One of the first references is found in Plutarch, who questies, "Why do they call Quirinalia the other campaign prediction. If Coffeels," The will Romans of carloads of sandbags were placed of carloads of sandbags were placed in your misfortune." about the weak spots, and serious trouble was averted. Water seeped through under the concrete wall, and stood in the main street of Cairo today but the levee showed no signs of weakening. A big force of men worked all night placing sand bags and other holdbacks along the city front. Colonel Dan Moriarity, in charge of the troops, planned to attend a meeting of citizens today to devise means of proceeding. It was expected the mayor and sheriff would give him complete control of the situation and in this way all idle men might be put to work if necessary by force. Word was received from Major General Wood at Cincinnati, by the general relief committee that the situation would be handled the same as last year. The sheriff has requested Governor Dunne to appeal to the war department to move three large boats from the Mfssissippi around in front of Cairo to be used in emergency. Refugees continued to leave the city

all night, and crowds are still waiting at depots to get out.

Waters Rise Rapidly.

The water today rose much more rapidly than yesterday and the de-mand for more workingmen became urgent. At 9 a. m. the gauge read 53.5 and was constantly creeping up. The surface in the Ohio then stood

one foot higher than the highest street level which is the main thoroughfare of the town and immediate on the levee. In case of a break, the flood waters would not rise to more than one or two feet in the buildings on the street, but all of the town back of this street, but all of the town back of this street becomes gradually lower and most of the houses would be completely submerged. Already the situation is desperate.

A large subway which was the only passageway from Cairo into the drain-

age district has been blocked to save this city. The place was boarded up and dozens of carloads of sand bags

One of the purposes of closing all places of business that do not handle goods needed for necessities was to give opportunity to get out the strongest working force possible, employees of closed concerns have responded nobly for duty and have reinforced to a great extent work along the river

Rev. M. H. Love of the Methodist the top. Great confusion prevailed church, who has had charge of relief among the refugees but the troops on work in former years, is again at the hand prevented any disorder, head of the relief committee. A temporary hospital has been aranged on a umbus, Ky., a town of 1,200 p wharf boat in the river.

The danger here may be more clear-ly understood by a description of the location of the city. Cairo is situated on lowlands at the fork of the Ohio and Mississippi river. Safety depends absolutely on levees from all sides. There is no way by which people walking or on trains could escape except by going back into the drainage All trains running into Cairo

the edge of the district. Consequently the greatest hope is placed in hoats in case of great trouble. One half of the population has left the city already. They were chiefly women and children, and it is believed should an avalanche of water sweep over the city. lanche of water sweep over the city small loss of life would result.

Levee Is Holding. Mount Vernon, Ill., April 1 .- The levee at Shawneetown was intact at 5 o'clock this morning and conditions there were not threatening, according to news received here today

Fire in Huntington. Huntington, W. Va., April 1.—Fire broke out in the flooded residence dis-trict today and threatened an entire city block, but the flames were check-ed by the use of dynamite. Eleven persons were rescued from the burn-ing buildings. Fire engines placed on barges pumped water on the flames.

Many Are Homeless Charleston, W. Va., April 1.—Addi-tional state troops were called to duty this afternoon by Governor Hatfield. They willb e sent to Parkersburg and Point Pleasant to assist in relief work. It is estimated 25,000 persons along the Ohio river are in need of food and

Town Under Water. New Richmond, April 1 .- The entire town of New Richmond was under foreign office handed the Ottoman acwater today. The people have taken up quarters on the hills surrounding the town. Provisions have been redate for mayor and Henry W. Kiel is stands two feet and eight inches from the Republican mayoralty candidate. Frank H. Gerhardt heads the progression of the concrete wall built at dead or missing. Fifty houses have dead or missing. Fifty houses have been washed from their foundations at Moscow, near New Richmond.

Large Flood Expected. Springfield, Ill., April 1 .- Adjutant General Dickson today received a telephone message from Mayor George was flowing over the top of the Big Four embankment, known as the drainage district levee, and that the company had abandoned hope of preventing the flooding of the district venting the flooding of the district.
The flooding of the drainage district,
which is above Cairo, will probably
relieve the pressure of water on the
levee which protects the city, but will
flood a territory ten miles each way The with from five to fifty feet of water.

ay, a The overflowing of the embankthe ment cut off railroad communication with Cairo

Hickman Under Six Feet of Water Hickman, Ky., April 1.—Telephone reports today from Columbus, Ky., a town of 1,000 inhabitants, said water from breaks in the Mississippi levee had covered the greater part of the village four to six feet. The ma-jority of the population is encamped on hills and although there is food enough for several days, consider

Foreign Rulers Sympathize With Flood Sufferers.

Kings and Emperors Send Messages to President Wilson.

Washington, April 1.-Messages continued to come to President Wilprove the crucial one in the fate of the son today from foreign rulers express-city. The crest of the flood was exing sympathy for sufferers in the

> The president replied: "Allow me in the name of the peo-

> ple and the government of the United States to express deep appreciation of your majesty's kind message of con-King Emmanuel of Italy cabled:

> 'On hearing the news of the floods that have devastated prosperous regions and made so many victims, I beg you to believe in the sentiment sincere and deep sympathy with which I join in your country's mourn-

President Wilson responded: "Your majesty's touching words of sympathy in the terrible loss of life and property which has befallen many American homes are a real solace to the government and people of the United States."

From Sultan Ahmed Kadjar of Persia came the following: "Deeply shocked by the terrible catastrophe that has befallen the United States by reason of the flood. I hasten to offer your excellency and the American nation the expression of my most earnest and sincere con-

President Wilson replied:
"On behalf of the American people and in my own name I thank your majesty for your kind words of sym-pathy in the direful calamity which befallen so many American families."

SITUATION IS SERIOUS

The main levees on the Ohio at Cairo com- and Shawneetown, Ill., were holding today with the exception of a few small breaks, but with the water rising the situation appeared to be serious.

At Cairo the river has passed the 53foot mark and every inch of water puts a heavy strain on the overburdened levees which are liable to break at any minute from the additional pressure. All persons have been warned to leave the lowlands and there is little probability of loss of life should a break occur, but the property damage would

be heavy.

Hundreds of men worked all night placing sacks of sand on the levees to prevent the water from rushing occurred in the levee last night at Columbus, Ky., a town of 1,200 population on the Mississippi river a few miles below Cairo. A number of persons were marooned in the upper story of dwellings, but the majority fled to the hills back of the town. On the upper Ohio river, the situation was expected to improve today when the crest of the flood passes.

Weather Forecast for Kansas. must back out again into the Y. at the big Illinois Central bridge which is on day unsettled.

Government of Turkey Accepts Proposals of Powers.

Action Will Result in Peace in the Balkans.

THANKS EXPRESSED

Ottoman Empire Tenders Note

to European Powers. Declares That Terms Are Ac-

cepted Without Reserve.

Constantinople, April 1.-The Turkish overnment today declared that it unreservedly accepted the terms of peace proposed by the European powers. The centance to the dean of the diplomatic corps this morning, accompanied by an

Body of Late J. P. Morgan Prepared for Removal to Home.

Secretary Bryan Suggests Funeral Service in Rome.

April 1 .- The body of the late J. Pierpont Morgan, after being wiously stated but is kept closely embalmed and dressed, was today enclosed in a walnut coffin lined with embalmed and dressed, was today en-closed in a walnut coffin lined with white brocade. This was placed in a leaden casket, and finally in a third case of heavy walnut with gold and case of heavy walnut with gold and ing on the people to support the Za-pata movement.

The United States ambassador has offered to hold a funeral service at

Taft Pays Tribute. New York, April 1.—Former President Taft paid a tribute to the memory of J. P. Morgan at the home of his brother, Henry W. Taft, shortly after his arrival from Augusta, Ga. "I knew Mr. Morgan personally," said Mr. Taft, "but our relations were never intimate. However, he always impressed me as a man of remarkable administrative force and executive ability. He was without doubt the greatest financier that America has of the impressive world figures of his time. I regret his death exceedingly."

Appreciations in Paris. Paris, April 1.—Appreciations of Mr. Morgan are published in most of Mr. Morgan are published in most of the Paris morning papers, which call attention to his higher position in international finance, his benevolence

Wielded Great Power.

Berlin, April 1.—The Berlin morning papers devote columns to Mr. Morgan's death gan's death and unite in declaring him to have been the world's greatest financier. "No living man has held financier.

such financial power as Mr. Morgen," says the Tageblatt, which ascribes the development in the United States chifly to him. "His enterprise overshad-owed the deeds and successes of all the other financial giants of the Unit-ed States," says the Naction Zeitung. The Morgen Post save that he she ished competition as a principle of big American business. All the papers praise him as a great art patron refer to the emperor's friendship for him. They add that his death will not affect the bourses.

FLANNELLY OR POLLOCK

United States Court to Decide Juris diction of Gas Case.

The gas case will be given another inning Friday before Judge Walter H. Sanborn, presiding judge of the United States circuit court of appeals in Kansas City. This action is to determine whether Judge Flannelly of Independence or Judge John C. Pollock of the Kersen Judge J the Kansas district of the federal jail and is in a precarious condition court has jurisdiction in the case. Both sides have intimated that they will appeal in event they are defeated in the hearing before Judge Sanborn. Judge Flannelly and Judge Pollock

each named receivers for the Kansas Natural Gas company. The Montgomery county judge claimed that he had jurisdiction by virtue of a prior suit in his court. Should Judge Sanborn hold that Judge Pollock has jurisdicceeding further on the grounds that is blowing at the rate of twit has not independent or prior jurisan hour from the southeast diction; and for the further reason

TEXT BOOK COMMISSION

Held First Meeting Today to Outline Work.

The new commission to have charge of the publication of school text books by the state, held their first meeting today in the office of the state superintendent of public instruction. until the next meeting, probably be held some meeting, which eld some time month will a secretary to the via Chicago Great Western Railroad.-commission be elected. There are six Adv

candidates for the office, which pays a salary of \$2,000 a year. Aside from a careful study of the new text book printing law, members of the commission transacted very lit-tle business at today's session. Opin-ions were secured from the attorney general concerning the operation of the law and the powers of the commis-

Some time this month, perhaps, the commission will elect a secretary. At present there are six applicants for the place. They are S. P. Rowland, Hutchinson; W. G. Gamble, Tonganoxie; Mrs. Ella Burton, Topeka; Benjamin Harrison, county superinendent of Sumner county; E. B. Cowgill and Z.

WILL FIGHT REBELS

Mexican Government Preparing for Campaign in South.

Rebel Successes in Northern Regions Cause of Activities.

Mexico City, April 1.—The breaking off of all negotiations for peace with Zapata has forced the government to mobilize a strong force for a campaign against the southern rebels been done in spite of the fact that rebel successes in the north have made imperative the dispatch of a large part of the regular army to that re-

ernment troops will begin moving to-day in those districts occupied by Zapata followers. This concentration will continue until an army of 10,000 men has been gathered.

General Pascual Orozco, Jr., and many of his old chiefs will participate in the southern campaign. Dispatches today from Huautla said Pascual Orozco, Sr., was not killed as was pre-

offered to hold a funeral service at the embassy in pursuance of instructions received from Secretary of State Bryan. No definite arrangement has yet been made for conveying the body to America, but it is understood accommodation has been offered on board the Koenig Albert, leaving Naples April 4.

Prepare for Attack.

Monterey, April 1.—The federal troops, commanded by Genera Trucy Aubert, have been divided into two columns, one of which has left here in the direction of Nuevo Laredo to make an effort to recover the towns of Lampasas. The other column has departed for Saltillo to serve as a guard for the workmen engaged in Prepare for Attack. guard for the workmen engaged in the reconstruction of the national

TALKS WITH WILSON.

Formation Laid for Currency Legislation in Congress.

tion in Congress.

Washington, April 1.—Senator Owen, chairman of the new senate currency committee had a talk with President Wilson today about currency legislation. Senator Owen said afterward they discussed no details, but laid the foundation for future conferences. He expressed the opinion that would be clothed with administration on the bond account and support. Attention of the administramorgan's death will cause sincere sorrow to France. The French museums possess many proofs of his generosity and the government intended to confer upon him the high distinction of Grand Officer of the Legion of Honor on his next visit to France."

Wielded Great Power.

Berlin, April 1.—The Berlin morning papers days of a great days of a great favors of the sum of the administration of the sum of the ground of the gas company to operating expenses. "Such bookkeeping is unusual," says the commission in its decision, "and is accounted for by the gas company to operating expenses. "Such bookkeeping is unusual," says the commission in its decision, "and is accounted for by the gas company to operating expenses.

"Such bookkeeping is unusual," says the commission in its decision, "and is accounted for by the gas company upon the tariff and tonight Representative Underwood will have a second conference with the president on the new bill. Mr. Witson has had the measure before him for a week, has studied it carefully and heard some protest, principally against putting sugar on the free list. So far as can be learned the president likewise has reported no de-cision as to whether the income tax capital, the assets will be clear profit feature of the bill should provide for and under the system of bookkeeping

a flat tax or a graduated system. FIGHT IS CONTINUED.

Women Active in Case of American Suffragist in London Prison.

London, April 1.-The campaign was continued today with more energy than ever on behalf of Miss Zeelie Emerson of Detroit, the militant suf-fragette, who is andergoing two nonths imprisonment in Holloway jail for window breaking.

A cablegram, sent to Theodore

Roosevelt today by Beatrice Harraden, the author, says:
"I cannot believe that American men, a number of whom expressed to me during my recent visit to Ameri-ca their horror at the system of for-

Ideal April Weather. Real April weather was the order of things today. Fair weather is expected tonight by the local observer, but conditions will be unsettled Wednesday There is just the possibility of an April

shower Wednesday The mercury climbed up close to the record mark for heat this afternoon. noid that Judge Pollock has jurisdiction in the case, the state of Kansus will probably take the case direct to the United States supreme countries to the thermometer reading the state of the thermometer reading the state of the thermometer reading the state of the application for a writ of prohibition temperatures averaged twelve degrees application for a writ of prohibition temperature to prevent the federal court from pro- above normal for this date. The wind For year 1911... ceeding further on the grounds that is blowing at the rate of twelve miles For year 1912...

The first corn and wheat region bulthat the federal court does not and letin for the season was issued today could not have jurisdiction in the case, by T. B. Jennings, section director, even though it showed priority in the It read: "Pleasant weather with sea-It read: "Pleasant weather with seasonable temperatures and no precipitation has prevailed in Kansas and gregating \$351,721.56. In 1907-09-11, profits aggregated \$908,702.89, while in 10.19 losses totalled \$1,260,424.45. this morning."

The hourly readings: 7 o'clock 47 11 o'clock 69 8 o'clock 53 12 o'clock 71 9 o'clock 58 1 o'clock 73 o'clock......64 2 o'clock......

Cut Rates.
Write H. B. Bryning, District Passen. ger Agent, C. G. W. R. R., 800 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo., for particulars Not St., Kansas City, Mo., for particulars will about very low fares to Pacific Coast, this Montana. North Dakota and Canada

Utilities Commission's Decision in Famous Case.

Finds That No Cause Exists to Raise Rates.

KANSAS NATURAL'S BIG PROFIT

Commission Doubts Financial Stress and Gas Shortage.

Paid \$6,500,000 on Bond Account and Charged to Expense.

Gas rates in Kansas will remain at 25 cents per one thousand cubic feet under the decision today of the public utilities commission, which concluded the 60 day hearing regarding the application of the Kansas Natural Gas company for a mandatory increase in rates to individual consumers. In addition to denying the increase in rates, the commission questions seriously either the financial stress or the inadequate supply of gas as pleaded by the Kansas Natural and from the volimes of figures finds that the big corporation should be in a fairly healthy condition. Forty Kansas towns and cities are affected by the decision. More than 5,000 words are contain-

ed in the opinion in the case. And from the hearing which dragged through eight weeks, more than 10,-000 typewritten pages of evidence was taken. From this massive document, taken. the utilities commission holds that it has jurisdiction in the case and that in view of the evidence the Kansas Natural and its subsidiary companies are not entitled to an increase in rates. Throughout the decision is a clean cut

verdict against the gas company.

It was after the Montgomery county district court found that the Kansas Natural, the Kansas City Pipe Line company and the Marnet Mining company were acting in violation of the anti-trust laws that receivers for the Kansas Natural were named by Judge John C. Pollock of the federal court. Following this action, the receivers sought an order from the utilities commission granting them the right to increase the rates to consumers to a price between 50 and 65 cents a thousand feet for the same gas which had previously been sold for 25 cents.

No Cause for Complaint. But the commission finds that prior to December 31, 1912, the gas com-pany had no real cause for complaint, although it was in the hands of re-

years.
And then, there is that alarming

pally against putting sugar on the free list. So far as can be learned the president's mind is still open both on the sugar question and whether the tariff should be revised schedule by schedule or in a single bill. The president likewise has reported no department on account of the business. Admitting the contention, it follows as a matter of contention and content

adopted by the gas company, must go to that account." In Good Financial Condition. The commission then points to the fact that at the end of ten years the gas plant of the Kansas Natural will be worth four million dollars—salvage value—and that already 51,45 per cent of the total bond issue of the company has been cleaned up. So, the commission figures thus: \$2,058,— 000 as 51.45 per cent of four million 000, as 51.45 per cent of four million, should be carried in the profit account at the end of the present year. Added to this is a sinking fund which now amounts to \$466.916.68, which gives a balance of \$3,493,458,16 of receipts over expenditures at the close of the 1912 business. The commission adds that this is not an unsatisfactory showing, and intimates that it is hardly one on which to base an application for increased rates.

for increased rates. The Kansas Natural statement shows four million in first mort-gage and three million in second mortgage bonds. But the commission points to the fact that the statement doesn't say one word about the money realized from the sale of bonds of the Kansas City Pipe Line company does it mention money realized from Marnet Mining company bonds. Then the commission calls attention to the fact that in nine years the com-pany has soid gas in the amount of

to the fact that in nine years the com-pany has sold gas in the amount of \$24,823,199.73. The total revenue— omitting sale of bonds—totalled \$25,-241,024.89. For the sale of gas alone For year 1910.....

Have Earned Ten Million. During the years from 1907 until the present time, the commission finds that the gas company has met losses ag-

Yet in view of this fact the commission reminds the gas company that it has regularly made charges for interest, sinking fund and rentals just as they matured and that when these charges are all paid, that the company will then have its plant free and clear of in-cumberance and without having one penny invested. The commissioner's engineer, Mr. Witt, finds that the pres ent salvage value of the plant is \$5,-260,251,00, with a present physical valua-tion of \$10,275,047.33.

(Continued on Page Two.)