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PRICE THREE CENTS.

MISSIONARIES KILLED.

TROUBLE IN KIANG-SE.

Outbreak Thought Local-Americans Reported Safe.

Shanghai, Feb. 26.—Somewhat confused reports have reached here of a massacre of misonaries at Nan-Chang, Province of Kiang-Si. As nearly as can be ascertained, six mission aries were killed and one child of an English

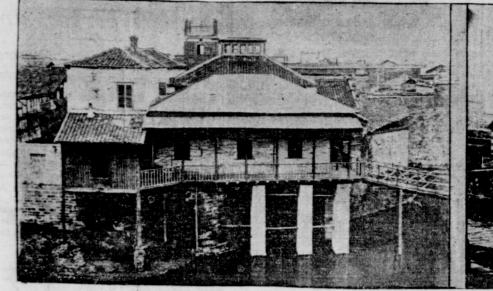
missionary was wounded. It is alleged that after long disputes between the Catholic priests and the Chinese magistrate of Nan-Chang the priests invited the magistrate to a dinner, where they tried to compel him to sign an agreement for the payment of a large indemnity for the destruction of Catholic ssion property. According to one report the magistrate became indignant and committed suicide, but the Chinese assert that a priest attacked and killed him.

The officials, fearing to arrest the priest, called a public meeting, whereupon the Catholics, according to the Chinese version of the trouble, set fire to their own premises. The public meeting of Chinese developed into a riot, in which, according to one story, six of the Catholics were killed, though a later account says the number of Catholics killed was four. H. C. Kingman, a Protestant missionary, and his wife also were killed and one of their two children was wounded, the other being rescued. The only Protestant mission buildings destroyed were those of the Plymouth Brethren

Fourteen Americans escaped in a boat. The Nan-Chang city gates are now locked.

Washington, Feb. 26.-Consul General Rodgers, at Shhanghai, informed the State Department by cable under to-day's date that the American mission station at Nan-Chang and Kiang-Se had been destroyed. The trouble was believed to be Telegrams received from those points said that the fourteen American missionaries at those places escaped, but the Kingham family (English), two adult persons and two children, were reported to have been killed.

The American gunboat El Cano at Nanking has been ordered to proceed immediately to Kiu-





THIS CHAPEL OF RED AND GRAY BRICK, WAS SITUATED IN ONE OF THE BUSIEST CHAPEL THAT WAS SITUATED JUST STREETS OF NAN-CHANG. THE PARSONAGE IS BACK OF THE EDIFICE.

OUTSIDE OF THE CITY GATE.

TEXAS WITNESS HELD

JORDAN A PERJURER?

Was Prison "Trusty," Guard Says-How Old Is Minnie?

Joseph Jordan, one of the Texas witnesses in the Albert T. Patrick case, was arrested by order of District Attorney Jerome on the charge of perjury yesterday afternoon. He was taken to Police Headquarters, and will be arraigned this morning. His arrest followed the statement made by William G. Murray, who was a prison guard in the penitentiary at Huntsville, Tex., from 1877 to 1882, that Jordan was a prisoner there in 1879 or 1880.

Murray testified that Jordan was known also Kiang, where she will probably arrive by as "Skinny" Martin, and was a "trusty" in the

penitentiary. Murray said he knew John F

viously identified Jordan as a prisoner. Follow-

ing the testimony, Mr. Jerome asked Recorder

they had only Jordan's word that it was a myth-

Mr. Olcott, counsel for Patrick, asked permis-

Recorder acted on Mr. Jerome's request. He

Murray said that he used to have blood-

hounds to hunt convicts and that "Skinny" Mar-

tin was used to train them. "I'd give him an

hour or so start," said Murray, "and then put

the dogs after him. When they got close to

Jordan asked permission to ask the witness

We were drunk together on Congress-st. know you, and you're sitting there like a d and lying for a few dollars.

as a marvellous similarity between Jordan and

stand was the real convict, and declared that

there was no question but that deliberate per-

an objection, arguing that it would hurt his

case if Jordan should be arrested at this time

Recorder Goff said he was reluctant to take

any action where he might hereafter act as a

trial judge, and told the District Attorney to

make an application to a police magistrate. Jor-

Miss Minnie Gaillard, the Texan school teach-

er, proved a particularly evasive witness when

District Attorney Jerome asked her age. She

refused to answer until Recorder Goff threat-

"I have already answered the question," said

"I don't want to admonish you again," said

"I don't think a lady ought to be compelled to answer after she has answered once."
"Unless it would degrade or incriminate you you must answer, or I shall be obliged to declare

you in contempt and commit you to prison."
"Well, I am between thirty-nine and fifty."
Her age was finally fixed at about forty-five.
The winness said that Jones spent a good deal of
money after his return from New-York, and
that thousands of dollars had been offered him
to upset the Rice "plan" or will. Miss Galllard

that thousands of dollars had been offered him to upset the Rice "plan" or will. Miss Gaillard said she learned this from a letter which Mrs. Jones had read to her. Mr. Jerome asked her if she didn't know that Mrs. Jones couldn't read. The witness replied that Mrs. Jones was a "finely educated women." and that she had heard her read several things.

Mr. Jerome asked Miss Gaillard if she had heard Jones say anything about chloroform, to which the witness replied in the affirmative, adding that he said "he didn't intend to kill Rice, but he thought it might be used to 'dope

but he thought it might be used to 'dope

The witness, pressed further by Mr. Jerome

House was their counsel.

ened to cimmit her for contempt of court.

don was then arrested.

the witness.

Recorder Goff.

the alleged cousin who Jordan said on the

'Skinny' he shinned up a tree.



MAP OF THE LOWER YANG-TZE-KIANG VALLEY. Showing the chief cities and the scene of the latest outbreak against Christians.

Wednesday. The scene of the trouble is about

four hundred miles up the Yang-Tse River. Another dispatch from Mr. Rodgers said that the inland British missions were reported safe. A later dispatch from Mr. Rodgers said that the reports of the Nan-Chang trouble were conflicting. It was reported to have originated in a dispute between the French Jesuits and officials. A Chinese magistrate was at first said to have been stabbed by a Catholic missionary, but afterward it was said that the magistrate

stabbed himself. In the riot which occurred vesterday six Jesuits and two members of the Kinghanm family, according to these advices, were killed. Chinese troops were protecting the refugees, who were going to Kiu-Kiang. The American mission building was understood to have been saved and order was restored. Mr. Rodgers added that

all was quiet in Shanghai. The officials here accept Mr. Rodgers's sugrestion that the trouble at Nan-Chang is local, es has been the case with the last two preceding attacks upon foreign missions in China. It is believed, however, that the incident justifies such preparations as are now under way he asked where Murray saw him on Christmas from a military point of view. The report Day, 1881. Murray said he didn't remember. that English subjects have been killed is the Jordan then said: most serious phase of the affair, for it is said that this fact may be made the basis of forcible measures on the part of the British government which might inflame the entire Chinese popu-

Nan-Chang has about 1,000,000 inhabitants. It lies on the shores of Lake Poyang, in the rthern part of the Province of Kiang-Se. The Yang-Tse River and the lake are navigable for warships of considerable size.

The Chinese Minister has received a cable dispatch from the Viceroy at Canton saying that the boycott agitation has subsided and that no meetings to spread a boycott movement have been held lately. He reports everything quiet.

Peking, Feb. 26.-The British Legation here has received notice that four English missionaries, a man, his wife and their two children, have been massacred at Nan-Chang, in the Province of Kiang-Se. The city is the prefectural capital, and with the troops there foreigners should be assured of protection. No details have been received.

The American Methodist mission has a station at Nan-Chang.

PANIC AT THE PALACE.

Empress Dowager Closely Guarded

in the Forbidden City.

Peking. Feb. 26.-According to a high Chines official, the finding of dynamite in the street utside the gate leading to the Royal Palace on February 23, followed by the receipt of a warning against revolutionist students arriving in Peking, has caused a panic at the palace. The reception of many newly appointed officials scheduled for Saturday was hurrledly countermanded for fear of revolutionists among them. Military precautions were taken, and whenever the Empress Dowager has walked in the Brounds of the Forbidden City since Friday she has been escorted by a guard of eight soldiers. Many of the palace attendants have been armed

and the police have been equipped with rifles. The reports of a quarrel between the Empress Dowager and the Emperor are said by the official quoted to be untrue. The relations between the two remain unchanged.

The Empress Dowager recently degraded the chief eunuch, Li, who was considered to have great influence over her. He had long held the lost and had grown immensely wealthy by

FEARS ITALIAN "REDS."

THE CHAPELS DESTROYED IN NAN-CHANG.

Defer Incognito Visit.

The proposed visit of the Queen Dowager, Margherita, of Italy, on an automobile trip to this country, announced exclusively in The Tribune some time ago and confirmed by recent cable messages, may possibly be deferred on account of certain anarchist meetings held recently in this and neighboring cities.

It was learned last night from a man who is in touch with diplomatic circles in this country and in Europe that as soon as the news of Queen Margherita's proposed visit was published, activity was noticed in anarchistic societies in Paterson and Springfield, Ill.

Information regarding the meetings held by these anarchists has been communicated to the Italian Consul in New-York. So far as could be learned last night, the anarchists did not advocate any harsh measures against the Queen Dowager, but it was thought that a great quantity of offensive pamphlets might be scattered all over the country.

The only grievance against Queen Margherita that the anarchists could have is that she is the widow of King Humbert, who was not particularly loved by the anarchists. A friend of the Queen Dowager said last night that she had never interfered with the government and that she was the best Queen in Europe. It may be said on authority that if the Queen

Dowager should come to New-York some of the best officers of the Secret Service of Italy will be sent here to assist the detectives in the pay of the Italian consulate of New-York. of the Italian consulate of New-York.

The Queen Dowager will come to New-York incognito, if she comes this spring, and her name on the passenger list will be Countess of Moncalieri. Moncalieri is a royal castle near Turin, the birthplace of the Queen Dowager. If these anarchistic demonstrations do not dismay the Queen Dowager, she will come, accompanied on her trip by the Marquis Guiceli, the Marquise Calabrini and daughter, Colonel Cartelolato, a chauffeur and a mechanic.

SLEUTH FACTORY CLOSED. Frame, another guard in the prison, who pre-

Goff to commit Jordan for perjury, saying that A Chicago Concern That Made Sherlock Holmeses While You Waited. ical cousin and not himself who was the pris-

Washington, Feb. 26 .- "The American Indesion to cross-examine the witness before the pendent Detectives," a concern which turned out sleuths in Chicago while you waited, has temporarily suspended business, and a large Q.—Did you ever see any other Joseph Jordan?
A.—Never saw one like him. He was a character.
Q.—How did you come to be a witness? A.—Captain Baker asked me if I knew a convict named Jordan. I said I did, and he said the District Attorney in New-York wanted me.
Q.—Captain Baker is one of the executors of the Rice estate, is he not? A.—I believe so. following of enthusiastic boys throughout the rural districts will wait in vain for their silver badges and certificates of authority. Chief Wilkle of the Secret Service received word today that W. B. Willowitch, the superintendent the correspondence school of Sherlock Holmeses, had been arrested in a Halstead-st. saloon while attempting to arrest the bartender for the alleged theft of his watch. Willowitch entered the place, flashed his badge, and attempted to arrest the drink dispenser. Luckily for the bartender, there happened to be a couquestion. The court gave him permission, and ple of real detectives, "plain clothes men," in the place at the time. One look at the star on Willowitch's manly chest satisfied them of his character, and they placed him under arrest. When searched the missing watch was found in Willowitch's pocket, and in his room were found a great many interesting documents. Among Mr, Jerome reviewed what he characterized these were letters from scores of confiding young men who had sent him money for tuition as detectives. A number had paid him fees for the purpose of getting places in the United States Secret Service. It was for the latter offence that Willowitch was turned over to Captain People and examined the witnesses. On advice jury had been committed. Mr. Olcott entered

Willowitch's literature, a great quantity of which has been sent to Chief Wilkie, proves how easy it is to make real detectives-on paper. Prominently displayed in the circulars of the 'school" are pictures of the star and "credentials given to a graduate." The star is described as being "the handsomest and most heavily silver plated" worn by any detective anywhere, and the "credentials" certificate is said to be "six inches long by ten inches wide." The credentials grant the holder "all the rights and privileges appertaining to membership in the American Independent Detectives," and the graduate may retain the certificate as long as he remains "in good standing and does not violate any laws." One of the circulars contains a number of thrilling pictures of Willowitch as a detective in pursuit of a murderer. The first picture shows Willowitch with revolver and dark lantern in hand, "visiting the scene of the crime in search of the slaver." Naturally the slaver would reof the slayer." Naturally the slayer would remain where he did the slaying until Willowitch got there. The second picture shows Willowitch studying one of his own lessons, which shows you how to catch a murderer. The third picture shows the murderer inside a cell and Willowitch on the outside posing in an attitude

DERELICT IN PATH OF STEAMERS.

Attempt to Tow the Dunmore Out of Track of New-York Liners Fails.

The witness, pressed further by Mr. Jerome, said she oberheard Jones telling about a check. said she overhead Jones telling about a check. Rice was not forced to sign a check, but that he had moved the decimal point to make it thousand. The witness did not know the amount of the check. Mr. Jerome asked her if she had told anybody about the conversation she had overheard between Mayor Rice and Jones before she testified about it on the stand. She said she had talked to Judge Railey about it. Pressed further, she said she had spoken to Mr. Olcott about it, and he had called it 'pretty steep.''

At the beginning of the hearing Mr. Olcott said he had not seen his client in regard to whether he was prepared to waive his professional privilege in allowing Frederick B. House, former counsel for Patrick, to testify as to conversations he had with Jones and Patrick while House was their counsel. Bremen, Feb. 26.-The British steamer Bylands. from New-Orleans on January 25, reports that on February 7, in latitude 40 degrees north and longitude 55 degrees west, she boarded the British ary 19 in latitude 38 degrees north and longitude 59 degrees west. The Dunmore apparently was slowly sinking. After attempting to tow the Dunmore out of the track of New-York liners, the vessel being a dangerous derelict, the Bylands was obliged to abandon her, owing to the severity of the weather and the fact that darkness had set Captain Souter and the crew of the Dunmore

were rescued by the German steamer Breslau and

were landed at Bremen on January 27.

INSURANCE HEADS MEET

Queen Dowager Margherita May A SECRET CONFERENCE.

Peabody, Orr, Morton and Dryden Go Over Situation.

An important conference on insurance matters was held yesterday afternoon at the office of Paul Morton, president of the Equitable Life Assurance Society, in which the presidents and actuaries of the Equitable, the Mutual and New York Life Insurance companies, the Prudential Insurance Company of America and possibly other companies took part. The meeting was intended to be a secret one, and those who attended agreed to give out no statement regarding the discussion. An effort was made first to deny that such a conference was being held, and, when that failed, to belittle its importance by declaring that it was just an informal gathering.

President Charles A. Peabody of the Mutual and his actuary, Emory McClintock, were the first to reach Mr. Morton's office after the luncheon hour. Then came Vice-President Buckner of the New-York Life and that company's actuary, Rufus A. Weeks. It was understood that Vice-President Buckner represented President Alexander E. Orr, who is not a practical life insurance man. When United States Senator John F. Dryden, president of the Prudential, appeared, the real importance of the conference was realized. Actuary Vancise and Second Vice-President Tarbell, of the Equitable, joined the other officials, and several hours were spent in discussion.

"Simply talking over the weather," said one of the officials as he left the meeting room "You may say we talked over the latest piece

of fiction." answered another "By that do you refer to the Armstrong insurance report askei a Tribune reporter. "Nothing to say," said the official, hurrying

Messrs. Peabody and Morton refused to discuss the conference. Mr. Morton, indeed, was not quite sure whether or not there had been a

It is learned on good authority, however, that the officials went over the entire insurance situa-They discussed the matter of limitation of business if the Armstrong re get a permanent place on the statute books.

The question of policy forms also came up, and the actuaries were consulted on the matter of standard premiums under the new conditions which will shortly confront the companies. It could not be learned definitely if the officials talked over the question of sending representatives to Albany to fight the Armstrong recommendations when they come up for discussion on March 9. After the conference President Morton

stand in this matter: We have made no criticism of the Armstrong committee's report. If after carefully digesting the report we find that we disagree with any of the con-clusions reached by that committee, we will say so

issued the following statement on the Equitable's

We will not have any representative of this so-ciety as a member of the "third house" in Albany, and no agent of the Equitable, as such, will be per-mitted to appear there against insurance legisla-tion. We think the committee is entitled to great credit for its exhaustive work, and we will be glad to conform to any laws the legislature in its wis-dom sees fit to exect. dom sees fit to enact.

At the Criminal Courts Building three of the officials of the Mutual Reserve Life Insurance Company, including President Burnham, were on the grand jury rack. Ex-Assistant District Attorney Rand appeared as their counsel. Assistant District Attorney Nott appeared for the Porter, the Chicago agent of the Secret Service of counsel, they refused to answer a number of questions. They are to return to the grand jury room to-morrow, and it is understood that Mr. Nott will again ask them questions. If they still refuse it is possible that an official order compelling them to answer will be obtained. They may still refuse to reply by declaring that such answers would tend to incriminate them.

It is understood that charges of larceny and possibly of forgery have been laid against certain officers of the company. The grand jury was looking into these charges when the officials were subpænaed. It is not likely that any indictments will be handed down before Wednes-

The tangled affairs of the Mutual board of trustees remained unchanged yesterday. Four friends of Stuyvesant Fish, who are expected to follow his lead-Cornelius Vanderbilt, Elbridge T. Gerry, James Speyer and Dudley Olcott, the president of the Mechanics and Farmers' Bank. of Albany-would not say yesterday that they had sent President Peabody their resignations. Mr. Dudley said that his resignation would

depend on future developments. At the office of Cornelius Vanderbilt the impression was Gerry and Speyer refused to discuss their probable course.

Wall Street held a persistent rumor yesterday that William Waldorf Astor was about to take a hand, indirectly, in the Mutual situation. Charles A. Peabody is his legal representative in this country and Stuyvesant Fish is his personal friend. The Astor interference is said to be on the ground that Mr. Peabody's insurance business is taking up too much of his time, and that he will soon be asked to choose between it and the Astor estate management. When asked about the report yesterday after-noon, President Peabody laughed and said that

noon. President Peabody laughed and said that he knew nothing of it.

DeLancey Nicoll, attorney for the McCurdys and John S. Wise, who will represent Thebaud and Raymond, said yesterday that they had not yet been served with copies of the complaints in the suits which the Mutual trustees are to bring on the advice of Joseph H. Choate. The legal department of the company stated that it was department of the company stated that it was

Continued on second pa

OIL MEN MUST TALK.

MISSOURI COURT RULES.

Questions Like Those Rogers Evaded Must Be Answered.

Jefferson City, Mo., Feb. 26.-The Supreme Court to-day held that witnesses were compelled to answer questions in the Standard Oil hearing in St. Louis. The same point was involved when H. H. Rogers declined to answer questions at the hearing in New-York. The St. Louis hearing was discontinued a week ago, until the Supreme Court's decision on the point involved should be

Henry Wollman, New-York counsel for the State of Missouri, announced last night that he had just received a telegram from Attorney General Hadley of Missouri, giving the foregoing decision.

The questions which the witness, Adams, in Missouri, refused to answer were along the same ine as those which Henry H. Rogers, who appeared as a witness in the same proceedings before Commissioner Sanborn in this city, refused to answer.

Justice Gildersleeve has suspended an entry of an order in the Rogers case, awaiting the decision of the Supreme Court of Missouri with reference to the witness Adams. Application will be made immediately by Mr. Wollman to Justice Gildersleeve to sign the order requiring Mr. Rogers to answer the questions without fur-

Kansas City, Mo., Feb. 25 .- Herbert S. Hadley, Attorney General of Missouri, and Rush C. Lake, Assistant Attorney General, left here today for Oklahoma City to take depositions for use in the proceedings to oust the Standard Oil and allied companies from this State.

WILL LEAVE MISSOURI.

Four Life Insurance Companies to Quit State on March 1.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.] Jefferson City, Mo., Feb. 26 .- Four insurance companies informed W. D. Van Diver, the Missouri Insurance Commissioner, to-day that they would withdraw from the State on March 1 when the present licenses expire. These companies are the Bankers' Life Company, of New-York; the Mutual Reserve Company, of New-York; the Cosmopolitan Life Company, of Freeport, Ill., and the Northwestern National Life Company, of Minneapolis.

The announcement of the withdrawal of the Mutual Reserve Company, of New-York, was contained in a letter of nine typewritten pages from George D. Eldridge, the company's first vice-president. Mr. Van Diver stated to-day that the withdrawal notice saved him the trouble of ousting the company from the State for refusing to make a statement of its business for 1905. The other three companies withdrew of their own volition.

A \$5,000,000 PENALTY.

Anti-Trust Law Decision May Drive Express Companies from Texas.

(By Telegraph to The Tribune.) Austin Tex. Feb. 26 -- In accordance with a decision by the Supreme Court of Texas to-day the Pacific, the United States, the American and the Wells-Fargo Express companies and fifty of the principal railroads of the State will have to pay to this State \$5,225,000 in penalties for violations of the anti-trust law, which forbids agreements or contracts being entered into in

restraint of trade and to stifle competition American Express had with the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railroad Company to operate over its line in Texas excluded all other express companies from that road, and that the express company and railroad company are both guilty of violating the Texas anti-trust act and shall solve the state penalties at the rate of \$50 a day from March 31, 1903, to the time of the final termination of the suit. There are forty-nine similar suits pending in the court, and penalties are running against all of the defendants. The case will be appealed to the United States Supreme Court. It is expected that the effect of these decisions will be to drive the express companies out of business in Texas. Ex-Governor Hogg is already organizing an independent express company to take

TOLL GATES FOR AUTOS.

Jersey Would Collect Cent a Mile for Each Person. [By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Trenton, N. J., Feb. 25 .- Senator Minturn has introduced a bill providing for the establishment of toll houses and gates at intervals of ten miles on the main highways. They shall be connected by a telephone system, and as each automobile passes a toll house ten cents toll for each person riding shall be paid, and the number of the auto and the time shall be telephoned to the next toll station. These tolls shall be turned over weekly to the Township Collector.

The moneys shall be used for road repairs. If any automobilist appears to be exceeding the speed limit the tollkeeper may summon the nearest constable and arrest the offender, who shall be taken before the nearest justice of the peace and required to furnish bail. If on trial he is convicted the automobilist's license shall he revoked for a year. The State license fee automobiles shall be \$5 a year, a share of money to go to the countles for road repairs.

BANK ROBBED OF \$37,500.

Ten Men Break Into State Institution at Helsingfors.

Helsingfors, Feb. 26 .- Ten men forced an entrance into the Russian State Bank last night, shot the guardian and got \$37,500. The robbers have not been captured. The robbery was committed in broad day, in

the principal street of the city. The robbers given that he had practically resigned. Messrs. drove the unarmed employes, after getting the keys of the safe, into a room, warning them that on any attempt to escape two "bombs" placed against the door would be exploded. The "bombs" were empty tomato cans. The robbers remained in the bank for ten minutes, packing the plunder in bags. Their leader held a short conversation over the telephone with some unknown person, after which he cut the telephone receiver from its cord, and the band decamped.

The body of the guardian, who was shot while

he was rushing into the room, was mutilated with a knife by one of the robbers, who are thought to be revolutionists from the Baltic.

SHOCK OF 30,000 VOLTS-MAN LIVES.

Saratoga, N. Y., Feb. 26.-Clifford H. Frake, an electrician for the Hudson River Water Power Company, accidentally received to-day a she 20,000 volts of electricity. He was badly burned and injured, but, it is believed, will recover.

MINERS TO MEET AGAIN

LETTER FROM PRESIDENT

Mitchell Decides to Call National

Convention-Concessions Reaffirmed

President Mitchell of the United Mine Workers of America announced yesterday that it had been decided to call a national conver the organization, to meet on March 15. This action followed the announcement by Vice-President Lewis on Sunday that there would be no strike, the operators having made substantial concessions. The bituminous operators present equiesced in the decision, after listening to the following letter from President Roosevelt, which was read by Mr. Mitchell:

I note with very great concern the failure in your late convention on the joint interstate agreement to come to a basis of settlement of the bituminous mining scale of wages. You in this business have enjoyed a great industrial peace for many years, thanks to the joint trade agreement that has resulted in the action of your successive conventions.

your successive conventions.

A strike such as is threatened on April 1 is a menace to the peace and general welfare of the country. I urge you to make a further effort to avoid such a calamity.

You and Mr. Robbins are joint chairmen of the trade agreement country.

the trade agreement committee of the National Civic Federation, and it seems to me that this imposes an additional duty upon you both and gives an additional reason why each of you should join in making a further effort.

John Mitchell was among the first of the

nembers of the sub-committee of the scale committee of the anthracite mine workers to put in an appearance at the Ashland House, the headquarters of the committee, yesterday. A dispatch from Indianapolis, attributed to Vice-President Lewis, of the United Mine Workers which declared that there would be no genera strike of mine workers on April 1, was shown him. His comment was:

"I guess that's right."

Mr. Mitchell refused to say anything more Mrs. Mitchell arrived here yesterday morning from her home at Spring Valley, Ill., and is expected to remain during the further negotiations. Francis L. Robbins, chairman of the director of the Pittsburg Coal Company, and chairman e the committee of bituminous operators, reached this city in the morning to confer with Mr Mitchell and others. His visit was thought significant, as he has been backing President Dolan of the Pittsburg district, who has been at outs with President Mitchell. When asked to make some comment on Vice-President Lewis's statement of yesterday, that there would be no general strike on April 1, Mr. Robbins said:

There is absolutely no change in the soft coal situation. I see no prospects of averting a strike on April 1. No meeting of the operators has been held, and I, as chairman, would be the man to call one. Even in case such a proposition were made, Mr. Mitchell would have to re-

fer it to the miners' convention There could be no change of front on the part of the operators without a conference among them. Because the miners are willing to accept the 1903-'04 scale that is no indication that the soft coal operators are willing to yield.

President Mitchell and his advisers went into onference at the Waldorf in the afternoon with Mr. Robbins, W. C. Perry, of the South western Coal Association, and B. F. Bush representing the soft coal interests allied with the Gould railroads. This conference is the first Mr. Mitchell has held with representatives of these interests. He has been in close touch with Harry A. Taylor, representing the Illinois, Indiana and Ohio soft coal operators, who are opposed to the interests represented by Messrs. Robbins. Perry and Bush. After the conference had lasted about an hour, it broke up, while the conferrees had luncheon, and then resumed its deliberations. Another recess was taken at 2 o'clock, and the participants said they would resume their discussion at 5 o'clock. None of them would talk about the conference.

ALASKA PLAGUE BOUND. Famine, Disease and Madness

(By Telegraph to The Tribune 1 Seattle, Wash., Feb. 26 .- "Natives starving to ieath in the Kuskokwim district of Alaska. Dying by the score as a result of an epidemic of diptheria. Malamutes or native dogs, maddened by starvation, attacking and devouring Indian women and children. Insanity rife among half dozen tribes," is the message of death and desolation sent to the outside world from the snowbound interior of Alaska's desolute wastes today. Frenzied by the pangs of starvation, a horde of malamute dogs, owned by the Indian village at the mouth of the Kuskokwin River, attacked and devoured one native woman. The

Scourging Kuskowim District.

the dogs, tying them to trees in the forest, and left them to die of starvation. Diphtheria is also scourging the native camps and men, women and children are dying by scores. Insanity has also added its horror. Unless aid is soon sent it is predicted that hun-

attack of the animals was so sudden and fierce

that several members of the tribe standing near

were powerless to aid. The Indians then leashed

dreds will either due from disease or be killed by Indians insane from suffering. Indians insane from suffering.

Zero weather, shortage of food and lack of fuel Zero weather, shortage who have absolutely no hope until spring and warm weather allows relief expeditions to enter the country.

TO LIMIT BANK INQUIRY.

Senate Committee to Report Resolution with a String.

Albany, Feb. 26.-The sub-committee of the Senate Finance Committee, consisting of Senators Grady, Stevens and Allds, the latter substituted in place of Raines, met to-night and discussed the charges against State Superin tendent of Banks Kilburn, and the proposed bank investigation resolution. It is understood that the committee will recommend to-morrow to the Finance Committee the adoption of the Assembly resolution, amended so as to provide for an inquiry into the conduct of the State Bank Department, but limiting the scope of the investigation to the department itself. If this resolution is reported by the committee and adopted by the Senate it will have to return to the Assembly as amended for concur

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE TO KAISER.

Congratulations on Anniversary-Emperor Refers to White House Wedding.

Berlin, Feb. 26.-Ambassador Tower presented to-day President Roosevelt's message congratulating the German Emperor and Empress on their silver wedding anniversary. The Emperor, in expressing his thanks, mentioned the recent wedding of Alice Roosevelt to Nicholas Longworth, and the marriage of the Duchess Sophie Charlotte of Oldenburg to Prince Eitel Friedrich to-morrow said he hoped these young people would be as happy as he and the Empress had been.

Mrs. Krupp, widow of the great steel manufacturer, has given \$250,000 to charity in recognition of the imperial wedding anniversary.

DEWEY'S WINES AND GRAPE JUICE.

Twenty trains a day between New York and H. T. Dewey & Sons Co., 138 Fulton St., New York -Advt.

Continued on second page.

To-morrow, fair; brisk northerly winds.