MINNESOTA NEWS.

Gentlemanly Burglar.

Another of those gentle and accommodating burglars entered the residence of Mrs. S. J. Reed, Minneapolis, ransacked all the rooms on the first floor while the family slept, and then began a search of the sleeping rooms, when he was asked to desist.

Mrs. Reed was awakened by some one coming quietly up the stairs, but hadn't time to investigate before a dark lantern was flashed in her face.

"Go away from here," said Mrs. Reed, "or my sons will shoot you."

"All right," said the burglar, and he walked quietly down the stairs and out of the front door.

The man had turned everything topsy turvy, but found only a few trinkets. He overlooked $50 in a cabinet. Mrs. Reed saw the man's face plainly and was able to give a good description of the man to the police.

Scoring Postponed.

W. W. P. McConnell, state dairy and food commissioner, has decided to postpone the May butter scoring contest and the first cheese-scoring test of the proposed six-months' contest, until the first week in June. It was originally intended to begin the cheese-scoring contest at the May butter-scoring, but many cheese factories were late in starting, and Mr. McConnell decided to give the cheesemakers more time.

The dairy and food commission will issue a circular explaining the cheese scoring contest. Prizes will be offered at each monthly test, $5 in cash for the cheesemaker making the highest score; $3 for the second best score, and $2 for the third best score. Costly silver cups will be awarded at the end of the six-months' contest to the three cheese-makers making the highest scores.

Attempted Suicide.

Soaked in blood which flowed from several jagged wounds in his throat, Hans Olson of St. Paul was found by a small newsboy, lying unconscious behind one of the large billboards on Wabasha street, just across from the new capitol.

In a determined effort to end his life, the man had gashed his throat in three or four places with a piece of broken glass which he had picked up on the street.

Some of the smaller arteries had been severed, the jugular vein laid bare, and the flow of blood from the wounds was so profuse that Olson must have died in a very short time had he not been given prompt attention.

Attractive Exhibits.

An attractive exhibit of buffalo bone and stone instruments manufactured by the Mandan Indians and found near the mouth of the Heart river in North Dakota will be installed in the Museum of the Minnesota Historical society in the new capitol. The instruments were exhibited by J. V. Brower of St. Paul at the meeting of the executive council at the capitol. In addition there will be an exhibit of 30,000 curios collected by Dr. Edward C. Mitchell in all parts of the world.

Indian Payments.

Maj. Scott, acting Indian agent, made a payment of $20,000 to the Red Lake reservation.

The amount secured from these logging corporations reached about $33,000. The whole of it was obtained for the Reds, but the major decided that, as there was no pressing need of the money on the part of the Indians, $20,000 would be sufficient for the present. The remainder will be turned over at the time of the annuity payments in November.

Postal Affairs.

Rural free delivery has been ordered established, June 1, in the state as follows:

Little Falls, Morrison county, routes 3, 4 and 5, population 1,735, houses 347; Royalton, Morrison county, routes, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, population 2,815, houses 553.

Carriers have been appointed, to commence service June 1, at Lake Benton, route 2, Archie G. Matthews, route 3, Budolph R. Jolitz.

Hurt by Dynamite.

A gang of men were blasting rock on West Seventh street, St. Paul, when they exploded an old charge of dynamite left in place by a former crew. Three men were hurt. Ealmissano Tasquale, left arm from wrist to elbow, flesh torn to the bone; Charles Vonchini, eye knocked out and badly burned about the arms and face; Wm. Solbig, arms and face burned.

News Notes.

A domestic at the home of A. Pfaff, of Crookston, while carrying a boiler of hot water, tripped and fell, scalding herself badly.

The state game and fish commission had a special meeting and opened bids for the buildings to be erected this summer at the new Glenwood fish hatchery.

The Sterling Land company of Duluth filed articles of incorporation. It is capitalized for $50,000, and the president is Alexander Macrae.

The state school of agriculture farm has been quarantined as a result of the diphtheria epidemic.

A babe was left on the doorstep of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Welch, at St. Charles. Pinned to its dress was this message: "I have come to keep you company this pretty May day. Please be kind to me." Mr. and Mrs. Welsh have no children and will adopt the little waif.

Hibbing youths between the ages of 14 and 16 have organized a volunteer fire department and are in training preparatory to entering the class of regular fire fighters.

At a special election held at LeSueur bonds were voted to build a $12,000 school building.

ELECTRIC SPARK PROVES DEADLY

CAUSES EXPLOSION OF LARGE AMOUNT OF POWDER IN AN ILLINOIS MINE.

Five Workmen Are Instantly Killed, One Body Being Torn to Pieces—Three Others Are Fatally and Several Seriously Hurt.

Carbondale, Ill., May 12.—In an explosion Wednesday at the shaft of the Big Muddy Coal & Iron company, in Herrin, five men were killed outright, five seriously injured and 20 others slightly injured. The dead are: John Miller, Dick Reins, Fritz Seiberg, Evan Williams, Thomas Green.

Fatally injured: John Swofford, Frank Lazonia, Angelo Scaronia.

The Cause.

The disaster was one of the most serious in the history of the coal industry in this section for many years. Six kegs of powder had been placed in the mine during the time intervening between the night and day shifts, for distribution to the men in the morning. John Miller, a driver, had charge of the distribution of the explosives. Ten minutes after Miller was supposed to have accomplished his task, the electric current which runs the machines was turned on, and the explosion followed. It is supposed that through some mistake the current was switched on before Miller had distributed the powder.

Body Torn to Pieces.

Preparations were hurriedly made by the men on top to learn the fate of their 40 or more companions below. On reaching the passageway they were met by a frightful sight. The body of Miller, the driver, was literally torn to pieces. Evan Williams was found only a short distance from Miller, and four of those whose injuries may prove fatal, were found in the same vicinity. The three others killed were farther from the pit and not so badly disfigured. The injured men were found in all parts of the mine. The dead and injured were taken to the top as readily as possible, the dead to an improvised morgue and the injured to their homes or boarding houses.

COLONISTS MASSACRED.

Awful Slaughter of Men, Women and Children by Rebels in British North Borneo.

Victoria, B. C., May 13.—Missionaries, passengers on the liner Empress, of India, bring advices of an atrocious massacre at a little colony on the west coast of British North Borneo, at Kawang railway station, midway between Jesselton and Paper, on March 31. A band of rebels from the interior are credited with killing 130 men, women and children, most of them Chinese coolies, but a few English, wounding many others, and burning the houses and huts. The rebels swept down upon the colony at 10 o'clock at night. The band divided into two parts, one of 100 concealing themselves in a reserve on the top of a hill, while the others rushed upon the settlement. The wife and children of the station master and the English railway driver and his wife were among those killed. The rebels first attacked the inmates of the Chinese shops, the carnage finally becoming general, and the men, women and children being butchered indiscriminately. After burning the village, the rebels departed.

Bank Robbed.

Metz, Mo., May 16.—The Farmers' bank here was entered by burglars. The safe was blown open and the entire contents, $2,000, carried away. There were three of the thieves and they left town in a rubber-tired buggy, headed for Fort Scott, Kan.

Life Term for a Woman.

Steubenville, O., May 16.—Mrs. Jennie Owens was sentenced to imprisonment in the Ohio penitentiary for life for the murder of her husband six months ago. Owens was found dead in an attic with a gunshot wound in his side.

Another Call on Banks.

Washington, May 12.—Before leaving for Iowa Wednesday Secretary Shaw ordered a third call on the depository banks, directing them to transfer to the treasury on or before May 25, approximately $10,000,000.

Aeronaut Drowned.

Van Buren, Ark., May 16.—E. E. Limbecker, a professional aeronaut, made a parachute leap, alighted in the Arkansas river and was drowned. His body has not been recovered.

GIVEN FINE POSITION.

John F. Wallace Is Made Chief Engineer of Panama Canal at Munificent Salary.

Chicago, May 11.—John F. Wallace, general manager of the Illinois Central railroad, has been tendered and accepted the position of chief engineer of the Panama canal. The appointment takes effect June 1, and the salary is to be $25,000 a year.

President Fish, of the Illinois Central Railway company, was very unwilling to have Mr. Wallace leave the service of the company, but the appointment having been tendered, left the decision entirely with himself. In reaching the conclusion to accept, Mr. Wallace gave up his prospects of promotion, and a much higher salary than $25,000 a year, but by taking the position of chief engineer of the Panama canal his name will be attached to the greatest piece of construction ever undertaken.

Mr. Wallace is to take charge of the work June 1. It is estimated that about two years will be required to complete the surveys, make the estimates of cost, and decide on the final plans. In round figures the canal will cost $200,000,000, and will require ten years to complete. Aside from the engineers, machinists and other skilled labor, the constructive work will give employment to 50,000 men. It is probable that all the skilled labor and semi-skilled labor, supplies and stores will be drawn from this country, and doubtless largely from the Mississippi valley. The unskilled labor will probably be drawn mostly from Jamaica.

CLARA BARTON RESIGNS.

Mrs. John A. Logan Succeeds Her as President of the Red Cross Society.

Washington, May 16.—Mrs. John A. Logan became president of the American Red Cross society Saturday. Clara Barton resigned her position at the head of the organization, and Mrs. Logan was placed forthwith at the head of the society. The change was effected at Mrs. Logan's residence. Miss Barton had prepared a special letter for the occasion, which was in itself a review in part of the work of the organization since its inception 23 years ago. One of the sentences in Miss Barton's letter was: "It is a waste of time to remind you of the years and the occasions in which your weary president has sought to lay her weary burdens down. Year after year she has offered her resignation to boards and committees. But now, once for all, most honored officers and friends, I tender my resignation as president of the American National Red Cross, which resignation, being absolute, calls only for acceptance."

The resignation was then formally accepted in a letter from the executive committee to Miss Barton, regretting the circumstances that caused it, and assuring her of the never-failing confidence, love and appreciation of the society.

Bishops Retired.

Los Angeles, Cal., May 16.—The Methodist general conference on Saturday performed one of its most delicate as well as painful duties. It retired from all active participation in church work five of its venerable bishops. They are Bishop Edward G. Andrews, of New York; Bishop John M. Waldron, of Cincinnati; Bishop John H. Vincent, of Zurich, Switzerland; Bishop Willard F. Mallaliu, of Boston, and Bishop Cyrus D. Foss, of Philadelphia.

Assassinated.

Denver, Col., May 16.—Lyte Gregory, an ex-policeman, was assassinated early Sunday morning when he was returning home from a social visit with friends. His body was riddled with bullets and he died in his tracks. It is believed that the assassin used a repeating rifle and his aim was true, for in all ten bullets penetrated the murdered man's body. No positive trace of the assassin has been found.

Many Deaths from Plague.

Washington, May 12.—A. C. Lambert, vice consul general at Daitotei, which is a new name for Tamsui, the old capital of Formosa, reports to the state department that during the month of March there were 558 cases of bubonic plague on the island, with 369 deaths.

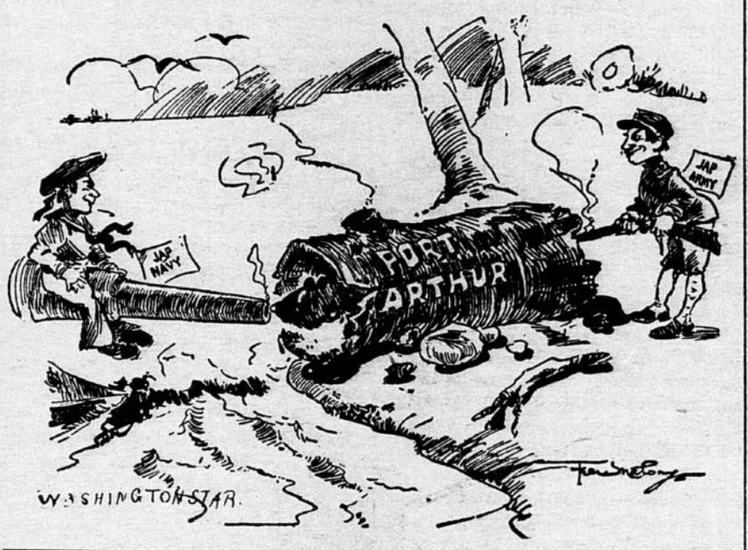
Renominated.

Canton, O., May 12.—The republicans of the Eighteenth district, known as the old McKinley district, renominated James Kennedy, of Youngstown, for congress by acclamation.

To Speak for Good Roads.

Washington, May 14.—Secretary Wilson will go to St. Louis to speak at the good road convention May 19.

NO "MASTERLY RETREAT" POSSIBLE HERE.



JAP SHIP STRIKES A HIDDEN MINE

DISPATCH VESSEL BLOWN UP IN KERR BAY AND TWO MEN ARE KILLED.

FIGHTING RUMORED NEAR LIAOYANG

Report Received at Washington Says Great Battle Is Imminent—Mikado's Troops Destroy Railroad—Attack on Port Arthur Planned.

Tokio, May 17.—The Japanese dispatch boat Miyako was destroyed in Kerr bay by striking a submerged mine.

The Miyako was lost while assisting in the operations of clearing the Russian mines from Kerr bay, northeast of Talienwan bay, on which Port Dalny is situated. Admiral Kataoka, commander of the Third squadron, returned there Sunday with a detachment of his squadron, protecting two flotillas of torpedo boats which had been detailed to complete sweeping the harbor by the removal of mines. Five mines were discovered and exploded, and the work was being suspended for the day when the Miyako struck an undiscovered mine, which exploded with tremendous force under stern, on the port side, and inflicted immense damage on the hull. The Miyako sank in 22 minutes. Two sailors were killed and 22 men were wounded. The rest of the crew were rescued.

The news of the loss of the Miyako has been sorrowfully received in Tokio. The dangerous character of the work in which the Miyako was engaged is generally appreciated, but it was thought that the loss of torpedo boat No. 48 under similar circumstances Thursday last would serve as a warning to those engaged in the work to exercise the greatest care.

Russian Fort Shelled.

Admiral Kataoka reports that the Russians withdrew from Robinson Point, northeast of Kerr bay, which adjoins Talienwan bay, May 12, but they erected a temporary fort on a height northeast of Taku mountain, where they mounted six guns and constructed protecting trenches. The vessels of Admiral Kataoka's squadron shelled the Russians throughout Sunday, but the latter stubbornly retained their position.

The Miyako was a steel cruiser of 1,800 tons displacement and 6,130 indicated horse power, completed in 1901, and having an estimated speed of 20 knots. She was 314¾ feet long, had 36 feet beam and drew 13¼ feet of water. Her armament consisted of two 4.7-inch quick-firing guns and ten 1.8-inch guns and four torpedo tubes.

Japs Destroy Railroad.

St. Petersburg, May 17.—The Japanese evidently are determined that there shall not be any further rail communication between Gen. Kuropatkin and Port Arthur. Official advices received here Monday by the general staff say the Japanese have destroyed 50 miles of the railroad north of Kinchou. No resistance was made by the Russians, who are gradually abandoning it. On the Japanese approach Col. Spiridorof, of the Amur railroad battalion, is seeking to render the railroad as useless as possible to the enemy by removing the switches and otherwise disabling the road. The Russians are retiring because of the approach of the Japanese columns sent westward by Gen. Kuroki immediately after the occupation of Fengwangcheng.

Rumor of Fighting.

Newchwang, May 17.—There is an unconfirmed native rumor here that heavy fighting took place in the direction of Liaoyang Sunday. The report of big guns were faintly heard east of Newchwang Monday morning.

Says Battle Is Imminent.

Washington, May 17.—An intimation has reached the officials here to the effect that a great battle is imminent in the vicinity of Liaoyang, where the Russians are determined to make a stand. The rumor cannot be traced to its source.

Russians Attack British Mine.

Seoul, May 17.—An unofficial dispatch has been received here saying that a Russian force, estimated to number 300 men, has appeared at the British mines at Wunsan, northern Korea, where they seized the belongings of the Japanese and Chinese employes. They did not touch British property. Some of the Japanese escaped while others are reported to have been captured.

Attack on Port Arthur Expected.

Chefoo, May 17.—A combined land and sea attack on Port Arthur is expected to take place between May 20 and May 23. The Japanese hope to occupy Port Dalny within a few days. Dalny is not fortified, the only fort in the vicinity being one midway between Talienwan and Kinchou. After the destruction of the submarine mines at Talienwan the Japanese intend to land additional troops there and commence an attack on Port Arthur.

Hostile Chinese Action Feared.

St. Petersburg, May 17.—Dispatches given out by the general staff state specifically that the Chinese have begun hostilities against Russia. A dispatch from Liaoyang says that 800 Chunchuses descended from the hills on Friday and attacked 100 Russian frontier guards near Yantai, a station between Liaoyang and Mukden. The Russians were hurriedly reenforced and the brigands routed with a loss of 70 men killed and wounded. Sixteen prisoners were taken. The Russians suffered no losses. It