

RIDDLING FOR CHARGE MADE BY TOWNSEND

Counsel for Harvester Company Comes Back Hard.

MOST, PART IS UNTRUE

Held Corporation Maintains No Monopoly and Receives No Rebates.

Washington, Aug. 12.—Edgar Bancroft, counsel for the International Harvester company, filed today with the house "steel trust" investigating committee an answer to the charges made by Burdette Townsend, a special agent of the department of justice in 1908.

"Nearly every important statement of fact relating to the surprise to the investigation committee," the reply asserts, "is either grossly inaccurate or entirely untrue. The general inaccuracy of the report is shown by its misstatement even of the names of the president and chairman of the board of the International Harvester company, and of the names of the voting trustees."

NO PATENTS WHATSOEVER.
"The fundamental charge of a combination to create a monopoly is based by the report on a charge that the knotters in the self-binder is protected by patents and that the International owns the patents on all the best types of knotters. The truth is, there are no patents whatever on the essential part of any type of knotters, and there has not been any such patent in force since 1896, when the Appleby patent expired. Neither are there any existing patents upon any essential part of the grain-binding machine."

ALL EXPIRED IN 1896.
"The many basic patents had all expired in 1896, and there have been no substantial patented improvements since 1896—20 years ago, while the life of a patent, as is well known, is only 17 years."

The statement of the Townsend report that of nine different types of grain-binders purchased by the International, all but three had been abandoned, and that repairs are not furnished for any others, is branded by Bancroft as "notoriously and absolutely false."

HAS VIGOROUS COMPETITION.
"The report's charge of a binder twine trust is without any foundation whatever," declares the reply, which also states the International has had vigorous competition of one large and six smaller manufacturers in addition to seven state penitentiary twine mills. In reply to the charge that competition has been "largely suppressed," Bancroft cites the names of eight firms which he declares are all active competitors.

BUYS WHERE CAN DO BEST.
As to the charge that the International receives rebates from railroads and special concessions from the United States Steel corporation, the reply declares that the harvester company's "relation to the United States Steel corporation is not different from its relations with the competitors of the steel corporation," that during the past seven years it has bought from the steel corporation "10 per cent of its total need, while it has purchased 30 per cent from the competitors of the United States Steel, the balance of its needs having been supplied by the International subsidiary corporation, the Wisconsin Steel company."

PERENNIAL FALSEHOOD.
On the subject of foreign prices the "International denies that perennial falsehood that agricultural implements are sold abroad cheaper than at home, and declares that the government's own investigation, published in the daily consular and trade reports of February, March and April, 1909, shows that the prices for six-foot binders, which sold in America for \$125, are as follows: France, \$173.70; Germany, \$203; Denmark, \$167.50; South Russia, \$165.95; Great Britain, \$135.16, and that "the net prices received by the American manufacturer

GATES' FUNERAL IN PARIS TODAY

Paris, Aug. 12.—The funeral of John W. Gates was held today at Interdenominational American church. Two hundred Americans, friends of the family from all parts of the United States, were present. The body will be placed on board a steamer which will sail Wednesday for New York.

The Weather

Forecast Till 7 P. M. Tomorrow, for Rock Island, Davenport, Moline, and Vicinity.

Generally fair and warmer tonight and Sunday.
Highest temperature yesterday, 71; lowest, 62; at 7 a. m., 65.
Precipitation up to 7 a. m., .11.
Velocity of wind, 10 miles an hour.
Relative humidity, at 7 p. m., 83, at 7 a. m., 95.
Stage of water, 4.2; a rise of 2.8 in last 24 hours.
J. M. SHERIER, Local Forecaster.

ASTRONOMICAL EVENTS.
(From noon today to noon tomorrow.)
Sun sets 6:58, rises 5:04; moon rises 8:40 p. m.; 4 a. m., planet Mercury at greatest elongation east of the sun, distant 27 degrees 28 minutes therefrom; phase, 0.60; light, 82; plainly visible for several evenings, setting after the sun.

are greater on the machines sold abroad than at home."

NEW \$200,000,000 COMPANY.
As to the charge that the International is a "trust," the reply is that it was not a merger of existing corporations, but a new one in which \$20,000,000 was invested by persons not theretofore in the harvester business; that it has owned and operated "all the properties purchased without influence or control of the old companies, and that the great majority of the officers and stockholders in the old companies had no part in the management of the International, but sold out their business and retired."

TRIES TO PREVENT ADVANCES.
As to the charge of increasing prices, the International asserts that instead of increasing them its influence has been to prevent increases; that the self-binder sells at a very low price, relatively lower than that of any other farm implement or machine; that selling prices are freely fixed by dealers, and that terms of credit, facilities furnished and expert service are more liberal than ever before; that, although the price of raw materials has increased more than 30 per cent, its prices were not increased until 1908, and then only 7 per cent, and that for 1912 a reduction of 5 per cent was announced last month.

NONE OF PLANTS CLOSED.
Finally, the International denies that "any plants purchased by it were closed or abandoned, but states that all plants were enlarged and improved and have employed more men than ever before; that several of the properties purchased were bankrupt and practically out of trade. It declares that outside of harvester lines it has not more than 40 per cent of trade in any line and that in most of them it has less than 25 per cent."

AVIATION MEETING OPENED IN CHICAGO

Thirty-five Flyers From United States and Europe Entered in Contests.

Chicago, Aug. 12.—A dark, dismal morning with frequent thunderstorms and showers, threatened to mar the opening of the international aviation meet here this afternoon. Nevertheless 35 aviators, best known in this country and Europe, were up at daylight making final preparations. At noon the rain ceased, following which a trial flight was made. It was then announced the program scheduled to open at 3:30 p. m. would be carried out despite muddy grounds.

ESCAPED CONVICT IS STILL AT LARGE

Smith and Companion Steal Pair of Horses to Aid in Flight—Guard May Recover.

Anamosa, Iowa, Aug. 12.—An all night search failed to find a trace of the convict, Charles Smith, and the man who aided him to escape. Smith and his companions stole two horses near Springfield last night. The animals were found two miles from Marion this morning. It is believed the men are still hiding in the woods. Reports from Cedar Rapids say Guard Hamaker may recover.

STEWART GOODRELL DEAD

For Many Years Head of Iowa Insurance Department.

Paulsboro, N. J., Aug. 12.—Congressman Henry C. Loudenslager is dead.

Des Moines, Iowa, Aug. 12.—Stewart Goodrell, for many years head of the insurance department of the state of Iowa, and well known throughout the state, is dead.

The Hague, Aug. 12.—Joseph Israel, the famous Dutch painter, is dead.
Springfield, Ill., Aug. 12.—State Mine Inspector Thomas Weeks of Bloomington, inspector for the Fourth district, died today of pneumonia.

McAlpin Chief Scout.
New York, Aug. 12.—The election of General Edwin A. McAlpin as national president and chief scout of the American boy scouts was announced today at the national headquarters of the organization.

STRIKE TOLL A HEAVY ONE

Week's Tieup in London Costs People \$7,700,000.

LIVING TO BE HIGHER

Increase Will Result From Meeting Wage Demands of Dockmen and Carriers.

London, Aug. 12.—The settlement of the strike released a flood of supplies which today were rushed out to replenish the empty stores. It is estimated the week's strike of dockmen and carriers cost the metropolis at least

MANDAMUS TEST ON CIVIL SERVICE

State Treasurer and Secretary Contend Certain Employees Are Not Affected.

RUSSELL TO BE CANDIDATE

Effort to Bring Him Under Merit Law for Purpose of Disqualifying Him.

Springfield, Ill., Aug. 12.—Mandamus proceedings to test the validity of the new state-wide civil service law probably will be filed in the circuit court here within a short time as the result of the contention of State Treasurer Mitchell that Assistant Treasurer Andrew Russell, Chief Bookkeeper Bacon and Cashier Lenros are not under civil service.
The civil service commission says that the three men are not clerks and hence are not exempt under the clause

AIM PLOT AT AGED WOMAN

Chicago Blacklegs Try to Mulct Mrs. A. M. Billings.

THREATS IN A LETTER

Detectives Wait at Intended Victim's Home and Arrest Follows.

Chicago, Aug. 12.—Mrs. A. M. Billings, the mother of C. K. G. Billings, financial head of the People's Gaslight and Coke company, was made the intended victim of a \$500 extortion plot yesterday. Mrs. Bil-

FINDS DEAD WIFE TO BE A BIGAMIST

Strange Discovery Made by J. B. Lawrence, Tazewell County Farmer.

BEEN MARRIED 26 YEARS

Property is Now Involved, and Courts Are Asked to Straighten the Tangle.

Peoria, Aug. 12.—Married 26 years without knowledge of the fact that his wife never secured a divorce from her first husband, is the strange apocalypse revealed in a bill for relief filed in the circuit court by John B. Lawrence, a wealthy fruit grower in Tazewell county, formerly of Peoria Heights.

The petition in the peculiar suit, brought to recover lands, Lawrence deeded to his wife and claimed by her son of the first marriage, is one of the strangest on record in this county.

This bill of particulars was filed by Lawrence's solicitors, Attorneys Cameron & Cameron, and is directed against Harry Ostler, Mrs. Lawrence's son, Gilbert Ostler her first husband, Delmond Lawrence, and Robert Patton, the latter the administrator of the estate of Mrs. Lawrence.

FRAUD IN LAW.

In the contest that is being waged between Lawrence and young Ostler, Lawrence claims he did not know his wife never obtained a divorce from her first husband; that if he had known the circumstances he would not have deeded his property over to her and that a fraud in law was practiced upon him.

The fruit grower avers there is "in the neighborhood of \$5,000 worth of property involved and asks that the court allow him his rights."

The story of the tangled affairs of Lawrence as set out in the petition is a peculiar one.

According to the bill Lawrence married Mrs. Emma Ostler in July, 1883, after she had been separated from Gilbert Ostler, her first husband, for a long period of years.

ANTE-NUPTIAL AGREEMENT.
On Nov. 7, 1909, Lawrence and his wife entered into an antenuptial agreement or contract in which both agreed that both should work for the common good of each; that at their deaths, all farm lands were to go to Harry Ostler and all city property to Delmond Lawrence. That is the property in their possession at the time of death.

The warrants were to be drawn without leave to sell for a term of years, at which time their heirs would have the privilege to sell at will. The intent was to provide for a heritage for ninety years.

Prior to their marriage, Lawrence alleges Mrs. Lawrence represented to him that she had secured a divorce from Gilbert Ostler. He claims he believed that she had done so, married her and lived with her as man and wife. Lawrence avers Mrs. Lawrence died Dec. 21, 1909, and it was not until after her death he learned that the divorce had never been secured. He claims she was deceived by her former husband, who said he had divorced her.

OSTLER'S SON SUES.
Lawrence goes on to cite the different pieces of property he accumulated while living with his wife and sets out the places he deeded to her. He avers if he had known the circumstances he would never have deeded over his property.

Harry Ostler, the son, lives at Coshocton, Ohio. After the death of his mother he began proceedings in Tazewell county asking for the appointment of an administrator of her estate. Robert Patton was appointed. In this action Ostler set up the fact that his mother was never legally married to Lawrence, and now claims he has a right to all the property the fruit grower deeded over to his wife.

It was then planned that an operative from the agency go to the residence and remain there until the demand in person for the money was made. The missive stated that a man would call to ask for a position as houseman, and the widow was to hand him the money wrapped in a newspaper.

NEGRO APPEARS.

It was shortly after 11 o'clock when the detective in the front part of the old Billings mansion saw a negro walk in the front gate and go around the house to the back door. He warned the maid there was a man coming and a moment later the doorbell rang. Arrests followed.

HUSBAND SLAYER IS HELD

Mrs. W. A. Rush, Who Killed Through Jealousy, Bound Over. Mason City, Iowa, Aug. 12.—Mrs. W. A. Rush was bound over to the district court yesterday for the murder of her husband, the agent of the Rock Island railroad at Sheffield. Bonds were fixed at \$10,000 which she secured. Jealousy, it is said, led to the murder.

STEPHENSON NOW SUBJECT FOR INQUIRY

Manner of Wisconsin's Election to be Probed.

TO BE HELD IN RECESS

Resolution Providing for Investigation Is Adopted in the Senate Today.

Washington, Aug. 12.—The senate today adopted a resolution for an investigation of the election of Senator Stephenson of Wisconsin. The investigation was authorized to take place during the recess of congress. The action followed a recommendation of the elections privileges committee.

FLINT FOLLOWS BAILEY.

Following Bailey's resignation from the national monetary commission Vice President Sherman today received the resignation of former Senator Flint of California. No reason was given for his resignation from the commission. A vote is to be taken by the senate next Monday on the Cummins bill providing that the monetary commission make a final report Dec. 4 and then dissolve.

RATIFICATION RECOMMENDED.

The senate foreign relations committee today agreed to recommend ratification of the general arbitration treaties with the elimination of the paragraph conferring upon a joint high commission of inquiry the right to determine what international questions are justifiable under the terms of the treaties. President Taft, however, informed the committee members he would do his utmost to insure the inclusion of this paragraph.

HOUSE COTTON BILL UP.

The senate today took up the house cotton bill. Cummins offered an amendment revising the iron and steel schedule of the tariff bill. The arbitration treaties with Great Britain and France were considered by the senate in executive session today. Much opposition developed. No result was reached.

QUARTET ACCUSED OF KIDNAPING IS HELD

Chicago Italians Admitted to \$10,000 Bail Each—Law Provides Death Penalty.

Chicago, Aug. 12.—Carlomel Niccolosi and wife, Paulina, Joseph Niccolosi and Mrs. Blanca Cudrona, arrested in connection with the kidnaping of Angelo Mareno, were arraigned before Judge Baldwin today and admitted to \$10,000 bail each. Their hearing was set for Sept. 22. The death penalty is punishment for kidnaping by the laws of Illinois.

FIND WOMAN'S BODY ON FARM; A MYSTERY

Sioux City Authorities Have Evidence of Murder Committed Three Weeks Ago.

Sioux City, Iowa, Aug. 12.—Evidence of a murder that occurred probably two weeks ago were discovered last evening when the mangled body of an unidentified woman was found on a farm near the city. The lead was crushed and there were bullet wounds in both the arms and chest.

Train Kills U. S. Engineer.

Spring Valley, Ill., Aug. 12.—John L. Dolan, an engineer on the government dredge boat at Chillicothe, on his way home to Bloomington, Ind., was killed at Bureau by a Rock Island train. The body was identified by means of an Elks' traveling card.

DRESS, WORN 11 TIMES, USELESS?

New York, Aug. 12.—A decision of the state court here in a fire insurance suit establishes a ruling that no woman's dress has a money value in law after it has been worn 19 times. According to that theory every gown owned by the plaintiff, who sued to recover the full value of clothing destroyed by fire, had outlived its usefulness before the fire came along to contemplate its destruction, and with the exception of a trifling sum, representing the actual worth of the old material, the insurance company is absolved from its obligations.



\$7,500,000. The increase in wages which has been conceded by the strikers will considerably enhance the already high cost of living in London.

GET 10-HOUR DAY.

London, Aug. 12.—The strike of dockmen, lightermen, coal porters, and carmen, which for several days has seriously disturbed all business in London and resulted in a shortage of foodstuffs, petrol, and other necessities, was ended with the settlement of the lightermen's strike. The men were conceded a ten-hour day, and an increase of about 25 per cent in wages. It is now expected that all will return to work on Monday. Until the agreement was reached, however, the situation appeared critical, and troops were being held in readiness to proceed to London.

LIVERPOOL SITUATION WORSE.

Liverpool, Aug. 12.—The shortage of coal resulting from the dockers' strike necessitated the closing of a number of factories today and so added greatly to the crowds of idle men. Additional cavalry and infantry were brought into the city, and authorities are hopeful of being able soon to relieve the congestion at the piers and railway stations.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION MOVE TO GET ATTENTION OF DEMOCRATS

BY TAV.
(Special Correspondence of The Argus.)
Washington, Aug. 10.—One of the matters that is apt to claim a great deal of attention from the democrats next winter is workman's compensation. Democratic leaders here say that next to the tariff this legislation will be made a stronger feature of the next democratic platform than any other.
Thus far the strongest worker in behalf of workmen's compensation has been Representative A. J. Sab-

ath of Illinois. Mr. Sabath has made this question a specialty ever since he has been in congress and at present he has probably the most comprehensive bill yet introduced on the subject. Since Mr. Sabath introduced his first bill four states have taken up the question, and are now carrying on investigations to determine its feasibility. These are: Illinois, New York, Minnesota and Wisconsin.

BAR TO ENTERING POLITICS.
The main reason for the objection, it is said, is the fact that Andrew Russell intends to make the race for the republican nomination for governor. If he is under civil service he cannot get into active politics.

Mr. Mitchell sent the names of his employees, including the three mentioned, to the state auditor. The auditor refused to honor the vouchers for the pay until the civil service commission had countersigned them. The names of the three employees already had been sent by the commission to the auditor and he was acting under the provisions of the law.

POPE PIUS IS HOLDING UP

Condition Today Pronounced "Relatively Satisfactory."

Rome, Aug. 12.—At noon today the general condition of the pope was described by his physicians as "relatively satisfactory." The pontiff appeared somewhat stronger. His temperature was slightly above normal. Pains in the knee continued, but were less severe.

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lings is 89 years old.

Two men now are under arrest at the Desplaines street police station as the result of the extortion scheme. The police are looking for others believed to be concerned in the plot to wring money from the widow by means of a threatening letter.

Word of the attempt was telegraphed to Mr. Billings, who left Cleveland last evening for New York.

TWO MEN IN CUSTODY.

John Hendricks, a German, 27 years old, and John Mills, a negro, 39 years old, are the men in custody. Mills made what he declared to be a complete statement of his connection with the crime to Inspector Dorman and accused Hendricks of sending him to the Billings residence.

Hendricks, who was picked out of a crowd of 20 persons at West Madison and Clinton streets by the negro, denied Mills' story. When closely questioned by the police the German insisted he could not understand English.

\$500 IS DEMANDED.

Mrs. Billings received a letter demanding \$500 by mail on Thursday and although so ill that she has been in bed for the last two weeks, she immediately planned to trap the

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