

## Cooperstown Courier.

Fercy E. Trubshaw, Publisher.

COOPERSTOWN, N. DAKOTA

The oldest bank note is in the British museum. It was printed in China in 1368, 92 years before the birth of Gutenberg, the reputed inventor of printing.

So effective is the life-saving service of the United States that from disasters to 246 documented vessels on our coast during the last year, having 3,862 persons on board, only 20 lives were lost, and of the nine million dollars' worth of property put in jeopardy, but a little more than one million was lost.

Beginning one mile west of the head of the Galops canal, in Canada, and extending for over two miles, a channel has been cut 300 feet wide. By the use of this channel the largest vessels now navigating the St. Lawrence are saved the tortuous and dangerous passage by the south channel through American water.

The Farmers' Telephone Co. at Anderson, Ind., has adopted a general signal of distress for its patrons on party lines. Following the general alarm the exchange operator will give the number of rings indicating the house from which the alarm came, so that the neighbors may go direct to the place where assistance is needed.

The 4,000 telephone girls in Germany are government employees. Each must be of good character and live in a respectable family. The pay is 33½ cents a day, with an advance of six cents in two years, and those four years in service secure 71 cents a day. Applicants for these positions usually wait two years for an opening.

Patchouli, known for its penetrating odor, is derived from the leaves of the tropical herb, pogostemon patchouli. The plant in its wild state is found in East India, but is now also cultivated. The supply of leaves for the perfume industry comes mainly from Java and different sections of the Malacca peninsula; also from Coukol island, near Singapore.

Probably the first case of its kind—suit by an insurance company to recover from an electric lighting company on losses sustained through defective insulation—has just been decided by a jury in the supreme court at New York. Damages were awarded the insurance company, as several witnesses told of having seen the burning electric light wires.

At a recent examination of young men in England, three of the answers to the question, "What is the Monroe doctrine?" were: "The religion of America taught by Dr. Monroe on the transmigration of souls." "The doctrine that people may be married several times." "One that has to do with vaccination and smallpox; it was brought out by Prof. Monroe."

An ingenious contrivance has been invented by Tom Tod, supervising engineer of a railroad in Buenos Ayres, for use on his official trips of inspection. As the company is too poor to supply a locomotive and train for its officials, the inspector has to content himself with a poor handcar. This has been transformed into a boat on wheels. It is rigged up with a mainsail and jib. Mr. Tod has attained a speed of 40 miles an hour.

After a series of experiments with carrier pigeons for conveying intelligence, the German naval authorities have decided to erect permanent pigeon stations on the coasts of the North and Baltic seas. Every warship, except torpedo boats, leaving Kiel or Wilhelmshaven will hereafter carry a consignment of pigeons, to be released at varying distances from the land stations. It is estimated that the birds have sufficient endurance to fly home over a distance of about 186 miles from land.

The claim of Philadelphia women to the ownership of the Liberty Bell seems to be regarded by Gov. Pennypacker in the light of a joke. He laughed rather heartily at the suggestion, and evidently does not think it necessary to furnish facts and figures to refute the claim. Ex-Judge Thayer, the governor said, has rendered a decision which fixes the ownership of the bell. It belongs to the city of Philadelphia, and the city authorities are to determine when it is to be taken from Independence hall.

Buildings whose buildings are tumbling down and killing people might learn a lesson in construction from the old Dodd homestead of East Orange, N. J., which is being demolished. The Dodd house was erected 141 years ago, and its frame is found to be as strong and solid as when it was first put together. The house was built of heavy, hand-hewn, solid oak timbers, and every part has remained intact all these years. Fireplaces, chimneys, even the hardware fastenings of the old mansion are just as they were originally.

In one respect the Japanese differ greatly from the soldiers of other nations, especially those nations whose fighting men are gathered by conscription. He likes his job, and would rather be a soldier than anything else. Most soldiers are keen in time of war, but the Jap is even keen in time of peace. All able-bodied Japanese are soldiers in theory, for the "second landsturm" of the army is composed of all men between the ages of 17 and 40 who are not in any of the other branches of the naval and military service.

## LAND CAMPAIGN IS NEAR AT HAND

### MIKADO'S ARMY IS REPORTED NEAR WIJU AND LAND ATTACK EXPECTED.

Rumor That the Japanese Fleet Again Bombarded Fort Arthur—Another Report That China Will Join Forces with Japan.

London, April 2.—If reports which came from Tokio last night are correct the Japanese army last Tuesday was only 15 miles from Wiju. A telegram from Tokio says: "Information has been received here from a private source that the Japanese troops, after dislodging the Russians at Chengju, about fifty miles northwest of Pingyang, on March 28, rested for one day and then advanced to Yongchun, about forty-five miles west of Chengju. After a brief engagement here they drove the enemy farther north, the Russians retreating toward Unsan, a town 80 miles northeast of Yongchun."

Getting Close to Wiju. Yongchun is within 20 miles of Wiju, the base of the Russian army of the Yalu, and the point at which the first severe land engagement must be fought for the control of the mouth of the river and the capture of Antung. The Japanese front, from unofficial reports, extends from Kasan, on the coast west of Anju, in a semicircle to Pakchung and Unsan. Military experts here do not look for an immediate frontal attack on Wiju, although they admit that such an attack is within the possibilities. They believe, however, that the mikado's generals will attempt to turn the Russian flank by forcing a passage of the Yalu north-west from Unsan.

Rumor of Another Attack. A dispatch from Tokio says Vice Admiral Togo made another attack on Port Arthur during the night of March 30-31. The dispatch adds that it is understood the attack was for the purpose of taking soundings and ascertaining the effects of the last attempt to bottle up the Russian fleet.

China to Join Japan. Shanghai, April 2.—China will join forces with Japan. The only question is: How soon? The attitude of neutrality has been impossible from the beginning, and is daily growing more difficult to maintain. It was taken on the advice of Japan. Popular feeling is not only pro-Japanese, but strongly anti-Russian. The Chinese, in fact, are prepared to trust the Japanese, and to believe in their intentions to maintain China's integrity.

Russian Rule at Newchwang. Newchwang, April 1.—There is some local excitement about the proclamation of martial law at Newchwang. The American and British consuls asked the Russian administrator if he claimed the right to arrest British or American subjects. The administrator said yes.

### A FRIGHTFUL LEAP.

Man Jumps from Top Floor of Twenty-One Story Building in New York.

New York, April 2.—Sidney Johnston Hayden, of the Hotel Holley, yesterday jumped to the street from the top floor of the 21-story skyscraper at Broadway and New street. Nearly every bone in his body was broken. Hayden went into one of the unoccupied offices on the top floor of the New street side, raised a window, laid an umbrella he carried on the ledge and at once crawled out and jumped. His body made one full turn backward and struck the pavement with fearful force. Most of the persons who were passing in the street ran away in horror.

### Mountain Disappears.

Caribou, Me., March 31.—Bald mountain, for centuries a towering cone near the New Brunswick line, has vanished. Apparently it has sunk into the earth, for on its site there is now only a large lake of muddy water. It is believed the mountain was the cone of a volcano, which experienced an eruption March 21, causing the mountain to disappear, and an earthquake to be felt throughout New England.

### Were Murdered.

Boston, March 31.—Dr. F. W. Draper, medical examiner for Suffolk county, made an autopsy on the bodies of Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. Brown, of Rosindale, formerly of Chicago, who died from bullet wounds Saturday, and reported that both were murdered. At the time of the tragedy it was the accepted theory that Brown had killed his wife and taken his own life.

### Bryan Loses His Suit.

New Haven, Conn., April 1.—A finding that the sealed letter by which Philo S. Bennett expressed a wish that \$50,000 should be given to William Jennings Bryan and his family was not a part of the last will of Mr. Bennett was returned by the jury in the superior court, and Mr. Bryan is thus defeated in his contest.

### The Public Debt.

Washington, April 2.—The monthly statement of the public debt shows that at the close of business March 31 last, the debt, less cash in the treasury, amounted to \$915,422,101, a decrease for the month of \$2,612,533.

### Private Bank Fails.

Eldora, Ia., March 30.—The private banking firm of O. E. Miller & Son, of New Providence, has failed. Proceedings in bankruptcy have been begun. The cause of the failure is not announced.

## THE FLOOD SITUATION.

The Conditions Are Improving in Michigan, But in Indiana the Outlook Is Serious.

Detroit, Mich., April 1.—Flood conditions all over Michigan are steadily improving, and it is thought that all danger from high water is over in the state. Rain fell in the Saginaw valley, but it has not had any effect on the fall of the rivers in the valley. At Grand Rapids the river continued to fall during the night, and conditions showed very material improvement. Five lives have been lost and probably upwards of five million dollars' worth of damage to property has been done by the flood in the state.

Indianapolis, Ind., April 1.—Heavy rains have increased the flood danger in the southwestern part of Indiana. Vincennes, Mt. Carmel, New Harmony, Grayville, Princeton, Evansville, West Port and all of Lawrence county, Illinois, are suffering from the high water. West Port has been completely abandoned. Hundreds of refugees are living in schoolhouses and barns. Live-stock is quarantined in haylofts and railroad traffic is at a standstill. The Belgrade levee broke in another place. The great fill at Hazelton, which was constructed at a cost of \$600,000, was swept away.

Wabash river is eight miles wide west of Princeton. One hundred and sixty people have been rescued, and are camped in the fair grounds. Forty thousand acres of wheat will be lost in southwestern Indiana. Thus far eight lives are known to have been lost in the floods and the property loss is estimated at \$10,000.

Crestline, O., April 2.—All the lower districts in Crestline and vicinity are under water, and for the second time within a month in nearly half a century the town has suffered great damage. Portions of 100 houses are under water.

### HEAVY FINE ASSESSED.

W. A. Heinze Must Pay \$20,000 as Punishment for Open Violation of Injunction by Court.

Butte, Mont., March 31.—W. Augustus Heinze, the Montana copper magnate, A. L. Frank, superintendent of Johnstown Mining company, and J. H. Trerise, superintendent of the Rarus mine, Heinze properties, were found guilty of contempt of court by Judge Beatty in the United States court yesterday in the action brought by the Butte & Boston Mining company against the defendants for entering the Michael Davitt lode claim and extracting therefrom valuable ore on what is known as the Ennargite vein. Mr. Heinze was fined \$20,000, while Frank and Trerise were fined \$1,000 each. All paid their fines.

### VICTIMS OF EXPLOSION.

Six Young Girls Known to have Been Killed, and Death List May Be Increased.

Scranton, Pa., April 1.—A number of girls employed in the Dickson Squib Manufacturing company's works at Priceburg, near here, were killed from an explosion yesterday. The number killed is estimated from 6 to 13. Eighteen or twenty girls were employed in the building at the time of the explosion.

The cause of the accident is a mystery. One story is to the effect that, previous to the explosion, one of the girls threw a squib into a stove and the explosion that followed was of sufficient force to wreck the building and set the structure on fire.

### Naval Officer Kills Himself.

Pensacola, Fla., April 2.—Lieut. Commander Edgar Townsend Warburton, chief engineer of the battleship Maine, now in this harbor, committed suicide in his cabin on board the vessel Friday. No cause is known for the act. He appeared to be in the best of health and spirits and within a few weeks would have been assigned to shore duty. Many of the officers expressed the belief that death was the result of an accident and that the commander had not committed suicide.

### Ran Into Open Switch.

Ashland, Wis., March 30.—Engineer Edward Hannon was killed and his fireman, a man named Thompson, and brakeman White, were fatally injured in the wrecking of a fast freight on the Milwaukee road by unknown persons between Spooner and Eau Claire Tuesday. The train ran into an open switch at Ferona, ten miles south of Spooner, 18 cars and the engine being derailed. The railroad authorities claim the switch was thrown open intentionally.

### Bandits Resentenced.

Chicago, April 2.—Judge Kersten Friday resented the car-barn bandits—Peter Niedermeyer, Harvey Van Dine and Gustav Marx—to be hanged at the county jail April 22, the date originally fixed and then questioned as to its legality. By this proceeding he clarified the previous sentence of technical errors and made impossible, the state's attorneys think, any chance for respite or escape from the gallows.

### Train Held Up.

San Francisco, Cal., April 1.—The north-bound Oregon express was held up by three masked men at Capley, near Keswick, Shasta county. The bandits blew up the express car and looted it. Messenger O'Neill was killed while trying to defend his car. The amount secured is not known.

### Walks Into the Rapids.

Niagara Falls, N. Y., April 2.—Otis White, of Ransomville, an old man, committed suicide at Prospect Point Friday by deliberately walking into the rapids where he sat down and was carried over the American falls.

## STRIKE CLOSES EVERY IOWA MINE

### OPERATORS AND MEN UNABLE TO AGREE AND 13,500 OUT OF EMPLOYMENT.

Failure to Arrive at Agreement Regarding Wages of Unskilled Labor Causes Strike—the Illinois Miners Come to an Agreement.

Des Moines, Ia., April 1.—Unable to agree to the arbitration of their difficulties, the Iowa miners and operators split in joint conference yesterday, with the result that every mine in the state will be shut down, throwing 13,500 miners out of employment. The conference adjourned a session covering a period of six weeks, the latter part of which was devoted to an attempt on the part of both to arrive at some amicable conclusion.

The split resulted from a refusal on the part of the operators to raise the wages of the unskilled and to lower the price of blasting powder demanded by the men.

### Nothing to Do But Fight.

President White, of the Iowa miners, said Thursday. "The miners have made every attempt to arbitrate, and were unable to reach an agreement. There is nothing else to do now but to fight it out to the end. I shall never sanction an agreement under the present conditions."

Leading operators say the position of

## THE NATIONAL CONGRESS.

Summary of Work Done in Senate and House by the Lawmakers at the Fifty-Eighth Session.

Washington, March 29.—The senate yesterday for three hours discussed the recent order of the pension bureau making old age an evidence of disability, and then passed the District of Columbia appropriation bill. The sundry civil bill was before the house, but debate took a wide range.

Washington, March 30.—The bill authorizing the erection of an additional executive department building in Washington was again the subject of spirited debate in the senate yesterday. The post office appropriation bill was reported. In the house the time was occupied in general debate on the sundry civil appropriation bill.

Washington, March 31.—The senate began the consideration of the post office appropriation bill yesterday and it was the signal for a revival of the democratic demand for an investigation into the charges of corruption in the post office department. In the house consideration of the sundry civil appropriation bill was resumed, and but few pages had been disposed of when a debate took place on the negro question.

Washington, April 1.—The attention of the senate yesterday was divided between the bill for the repeal of the desert land, the timber and stone and the homestead commutation laws and the post office appropriation bill. In the house consideration of the sundry civil appropriation bill was concluded and the conferees on the agricultural appropriation bill was agreed to.

Washington, April 2.—Yesterday was devoted by the senate to almost con-

## MAY TRANSFER CANAL CONCESSION

### REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA DEFEATED IN CASE AGAINST PANAMA COMPANY.

Last Obstacle to Transfer of Property to United States Removed—President and Attorney General Discuss the Matter Carefully.

Paris, April 1.—The first civil tribunal of the Seine has decided the case of the republic of Colombia against the Panama Canal company in favor of the defendants. The decision holds that the complaint of Colombia is not receivable and condemns the plaintiffs to pay the costs of the action. This decision has the effect of removing the legal obstacles in the way of the transfer of the canal concession from the company to the United States.

### No More Cause for Delay.

Washington, April 1.—President Roosevelt and Attorney General Knox had a conference subsequent to the receipt of the information that the government of Colombia had lost its suit in the French courts against the new Panama Canal company, and that there was no longer any reason for delay in the transfer of the company's concessions and property to the United States. They discussed carefully the facts of the situation. At the conclusion of the interview, Attorney General Knox announced that there was now no more reason for delay than might be occasioned by the transfer of a title of a 20-foot lot in Washington.

### All Obstacles Removed.

The attorney general said that the government had been proceeding on the assumption that the French court would take precisely the action it had taken and that at no time had very serious consideration been given to the proceeding instituted by Colombia. He added that the action of the French court had disposed of the last legal obstacle in the way of the transfer of the canal company's property.

### Matter of Courtesy.

As a matter of courtesy to the French court, the canal company had refrained from calling a special meeting of the stockholders until the case pending had been determined. The attorney general thought it likely that a call for such a meeting would be issued soon by the company. How long it might be before the meeting could be held under that call, he could not say, but the meeting would ratify the transfer of the property and concessions when it was held.

### Transfer of Stock.

W. A. Davis and Charles W. Russell, the assistant attorneys general who have gone to Paris to assist in the transfer of the property will remain there until the transfer shall have been completed. They will supervise, for the department of justice, the holding of the stockholders, and the transfer of the stock. They likewise will obtain a complete inventory of the property of the company which is to pass to the United States.

### Payments at Same Time.

The dissolution of the Panama Canal company, so far as the transfer of the property to this country is concerned, probably will take place in the latter part of April. The payment of \$40,000,000 to the company will be made about that time. It is not likely that the payment of the \$10,000,000 to the Republic of Panama will be made prior to that to the canal company. It is the view of the president and the attorney general that the two payments should be practically concurrent. This is their interpretation of the legislation bearing upon the matter and of that ratified with the government of Panama.

### Died of Strange Disease.

St. Louis, April 2.—William Combs, aged 34, died at the City hospital from an infirmity that had turned his blood white. His ailment was diagnosed as "splenic leukemia." Combs was as yellow as a Mongolian and frequently had been mistaken for one. The disease was painless and first attacked him 25 years ago. The case had attracted much attention from the local medical fraternity.

### A Negro Party.

East St. Louis, Ill., March 31.—W. T. Scott, a negro, has announced that preparations have been completed for a national convention for the nomination of a negro candidate for president. The convention will be held in St. Louis, July 6, the date set for the national democratic convention. The name of the new party is "The National Civil Liberty party," and a platform will be adopted.

### Joy Was Short-Lived.

East St. Louis, Ill., April 1.—After contesting his wife's will, which cut him off with \$50 and left \$50,000 to European relatives, and winning the suit two weeks ago for \$25,000, John Thornberg rejoiced to such an extent that he broke his leg and on Thursday died from blood poisoning. There being no children, the \$50,000 estate will go to relatives here and in Europe.

### Danger of Fuel Famine.

Des Moines, Ia., April 2.—Des Moines and the entire state of Iowa are confronted with a coal famine as a result of the lockout which closes every mine in the state and that section of Missouri included in the territory embraced by the affected district. Not a pound of coal is to be had for sale in Des Moines and other cities of the state are similarly affected.

### HE'S A "CORKER," ANYWAY.



the miners is untenable, and that they cannot reach them so long as they cling to their present position. It is believed the lockout may be the beginning of a long and hard struggle.

### Mines Inclosed.

The strike and lockout will include mines in Appanoose, Mahaska, Keokuk, Wapello, Marion, Jasper, Polk, Boone and Webster counties, Iowa, and those in Putnam county, Mo. In Polk county there are 4,500 miners, while more than \$2,000,000 is invested in the business in this county alone.

There are about a million tons of coal in storage, while the railroads have a considerable supply. The miners have from \$70,000 to \$80,000 in their strike fund, enough to last about six weeks.

### To Keep Mines Dry.

Des Moines, Ia., April 2.—A truce for 15 days has been declared between the coal operators and the striking miners, and the latter are furnishing enough men to keep the engines and pumps going at each mine in the state, so that they may keep dry.

### Illinois Miners Yield.

Springfield, Ill., April 1.—When matters looked darkest for a settlement of the difference between the coal operators and miners of Illinois, and a strike seemed imminent, the miners gave way and acceded to the ultimatum of the operators. Thus all danger of a strike has been averted by reason of the conservative action, by the miners' organization.

### Shot from Ambush.

Pineville, Ky., March 30.—Richard Jenkins, known as "Dead Dick," has been shot and instantly killed on Buck creek, 20 miles from here, by unknown parties from ambush. Jenkins played a prominent part in the feuds which raged so desperately in the mountains several years ago. He is credited with having killed eight men, but for the last few years had been living a quiet and peaceable life. He was well known throughout the mountain section of southeastern Kentucky.

### Post Office Robbed.

Bellefontaine, O., March 29.—The post office at De Graf, ten miles from here, was entered by robbers and the safe blown with nitroglycerin. The building was partially wrecked. One thousand dollars in money and stamps were secured.

### Killed in the Senate.

Des Moines, Ia., March 31.—The state senate killed the Crossley primary election law by a vote of 25 to 19. The bill had been heralded as the most important piece of legislation to come before the present session.