

Downers Grove Reporter.

By WHITE & WILLIAMS.

DOWNERS GROVE, ILLINOIS.

CURRENT TOPICS

WILL START NATIONAL BANKS.

Advice received by New York banking interests from small towns and villages throughout the United States indicates that state banks in all sections of the country are preparing to take out charters under the national system as soon as the currency bill becomes a law.

THE SIBERIAN RAILWAY.

The last rails have been laid on the Trans-Baikal section of Russia's great Siberian railway. This establishes complete steam communication between St. Petersburg and the extreme western limits of the Russian empire on the Pacific coast.

REGALS TROOPS FROM MANILA.

By direction of Acting Secretary McElkhehna instructions have been sent to Major-General Otis to return to the United States some time in May one battalion of the Fourteenth, Eighteenth and Twenty-third Infantry.

INDIA'S GREAT FAMINE.

The famine in India now affects a population of 60,000,000, of whom about 3,750,000 are already in receipt of relief. The viceroy, at a recent meeting of the Indian council in Calcutta, expressed fears of cattle, water and food scarcity of a terrible character.

THE GOVERNMENT OF HAWAII.

The bill for the government of Hawaii, reported to the house of representatives by the committee on territories, proposes a territorial organization closely modeled upon that of existing territories.

THE GOLD STANDARD.

The senate passed the gold standard bill by a vote of 46 yeas to 29 nays. The vote was a strictly party one, except that one elected republican, Mr. Chandler of New Hampshire, voted against the bill, and two elected democrats, Mr. Caffery of Louisiana and Mr. Lindsey of Kentucky, voted for it.

THE HAGUE TREATY.

The treaty of the Hague, which was the result of a peace conference last year, has been ratified by the senate. The conditions of the treaty is within three months after its ratification the president shall appoint plenipotentiaries to represent the United States on the permanent board of arbitration created by the treaty.

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CURRENT MARKET PRICES.

GRAIN, PROVISIONS, ETC. Chicago Cash quotations were as follows: Wheat—No. 2 spring, 82 1/2c; No. 2 red, 81 1/2c; Corn—No. 2, 33 1/2c; Oats—No. 2, 25 1/2c; Soybean Oil—No. 1, 11 1/2c; Lard—Per 100 lbs., \$12.15; Short Ribs—Sides, loose, \$7.75; Clover—Contract grade, \$3.25; Butter—Strong; creamery, 18 1/2c; Fair, 16 1/2c; Cheese—Firm at 12 1/2c; Eggs—Firm; fresh, 16c; Indianapolis—Wheat—Firm; No. 2, 82c; No. 3, 81c; No. 4, 80c; No. 5, 79c; No. 6, 78c; No. 7, 77c; No. 8, 76c; No. 9, 75c; No. 10, 74c; No. 11, 73c; No. 12, 72c; No. 13, 71c; No. 14, 70c; No. 15, 69c; No. 16, 68c; No. 17, 67c; No. 18, 66c; No. 19, 65c; No. 20, 64c; No. 21, 63c; No. 22, 62c; No. 23, 61c; No. 24, 60c; No. 25, 59c; No. 26, 58c; No. 27, 57c; No. 28, 56c; No. 29, 55c; No. 30, 54c; No. 31, 53c; No. 32, 52c; No. 33, 51c; No. 34, 50c; No. 35, 49c; No. 36, 48c; No. 37, 47c; No. 38, 46c; No. 39, 45c; No. 40, 44c; No. 41, 43c; No. 42, 42c; No. 43, 41c; No. 44, 40c; No. 45, 39c; No. 46, 38c; No. 47, 37c; No. 48, 36c; No. 49, 35c; No. 50, 34c; No. 51, 33c; No. 52, 32c; No. 53, 31c; No. 54, 30c; No. 55, 29c; No. 56, 28c; No. 57, 27c; No. 58, 26c; No. 59, 25c; No. 60, 24c; No. 61, 23c; No. 62, 22c; No. 63, 21c; No. 64, 20c; No. 65, 19c; No. 66, 18c; No. 67, 17c; No. 68, 16c; No. 69, 15c; No. 70, 14c; No. 71, 13c; No. 72, 12c; No. 73, 11c; No. 74, 10c; No. 75, 9c; No. 76, 8c; No. 77, 7c; No. 78, 6c; No. 79, 5c; No. 80, 4c; No. 81, 3c; No. 82, 2c; No. 83, 1c; No. 84, 0c; No. 85, 0c; No. 86, 0c; No. 87, 0c; No. 88, 0c; No. 89, 0c; No. 90, 0c; No. 91, 0c; No. 92, 0c; No. 93, 0c; No. 94, 0c; No. 95, 0c; No. 96, 0c; No. 97, 0c; No. 98, 0c; No. 99, 0c; No. 100, 0c.

THE WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Boer Forces Are Fleeing to the North Country.

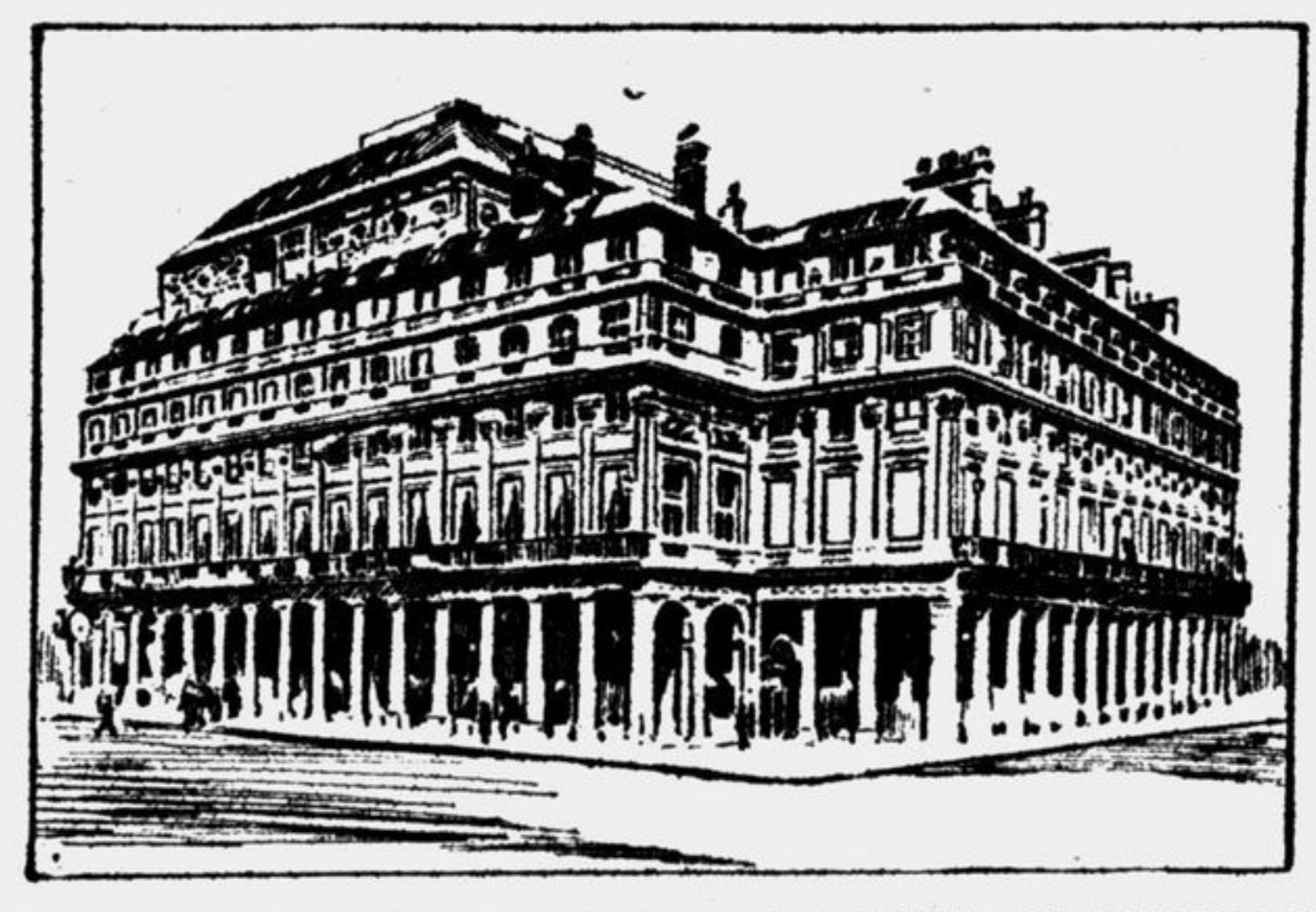
END OF THE WAR SEEMS NEAR

Stories of Intervention and Mediation Are Being Circulated in Europe—Krugger Said to Have Asked for an Armistice—British Nonvict Losers.

Roberts sent 40,000 men in a bold sweep around Boer left at Oostfontein, making center and right untenable; Boers abandoned positions fifteen miles long across his path and retreated northward. British loss, 50. White said his defenses were fourteen miles long and 200 men to the mile. British now across Transvaal border, moving towards Babango. Rising in western Cape Colony spreading. Edinburgh students broke up peace meeting. Buller officially thanked his troops. Cronje may be sent to St. Helena.

Thursday, March 8. Gen. Lord Roberts has approached fifteen miles nearer Bloemfontein.

DESTRUCTION OF A WORLD FAMOUS THEATER.



THE THEATER FRANCAISE OF PARIS DESTROYED IN THURSDAY'S FIRE.

History of the Theater Francaise. Opened as Hotel Bourgogne 1548. Reopened as Theatre du Marais 1679. Named Comedie-Francaise by Louis XIV. 1689. Known as Maison de Moliere 1700. Museum of the Francaise created 1773. Voltaire's bust received 1780. Located in Rue Richelieu, present site 1799. Annual salary list \$160,000. Annual receipts, approximately \$450,000. Annual government subsidy \$48,000.

Boers now concentrating at Abraham's Kraal, thirty miles from the Free State's capital. German-Americans in pro-Boer mass-meeting at Auditorium adopted resolutions asking United States to stop the war. Secretary Reitz said Cronje's surrender will not discourage the burghers. Clements seized Norval's post. Garrison at Mafeking in sore straits.

Friday, March 9. Boers seem to be thinking of seeking peace. Dispatch from Pretoria editor, censored by Boer government, said if England is waging war of conquest Transvaal and Orange Free State will fight to a finish, but otherwise peace terms guaranteeing independence would be considered; English press ridiculed demand. British will invade Free State with 70,000 men; White will lead one party; Boer forces believed to be 35,000. London Times declared demonstration in honor of queen proved popularity of war.

Saturday and Sunday, March 10-11. A censored dispatch from Pretoria states that Kruger has asked Salisbury for peace, conditional upon independence of Transvaal and Free State and amnesty of colonial rebels. Kruger asked consuls of powers at Pretoria to urge their governments to intervene. Roberts nearly at Bloemfontein. Five regiments encountered Boers in strong position in Dreifontein kopjes; after stubborn resistance burghers fled, leaving 102 dead and twenty prisoners. Roberts officially informed Kruger and Steyn he had seen Boers disregard white flag and had found explosive bullets after each battle. One report that Mafeking was about to surrender; another that siege had been raised. Subscription books of Boer relief fund opened in New York; aims to raise \$1,000,000.

Monday, March 12. President Kruger has appealed to President McKinley to mediate between the Boer republics and Great Britain. Lord Roberts is within fifteen miles of Bloemfontein; an army of 12,000 Boers is on the direct road. The parliamentary war secretary says money is to be expended on the basis of six months' active war. It is reported in London that Salisbury has rejected peace overtures; Mr. Balfour promises to make the facts public soon.

Dragged Half a Mile by a Train. James McGonegle, 19 years old, was dragged for half a mile by a Chicago & Northwestern passenger train at Evanston, Ill., Friday night before his cries for help were heard by the train crew and the cars stopped. He was painfully injured, but will probably recover. As the cars slowed down, McGonegle let go his grip of the handrail and fell. Both his shoes were torn to shreds and his trousers were missing from the knees down. Both feet and the right leg were badly bruised from pounding over the ties.

DIES AT HIS POST.

Engineer on Illinois Central Dies in His Cab.

Joseph E. Hoffman, engineer of a passenger locomotive on the lowa division of the Illinois Central, died at his post of duty Friday night with his hand on the throttle. Hoffman's train was due in Chicago at 12:30 Saturday morning. When it arrived at Hawthorne the speed was not lessened, as is the custom, and the fireman glanced across the cab at Hoffman in surprise, for at Hawthorne there are a number of switches. It chanced that the track was clear. The fireman noticed that something was wrong with the engineer, and crossed the cab. Hoffman sat upon the seat, his hand was on the throttle, and his face was turned toward the track ahead. The fireman was horrified to find that he was dead.

American Bars at Paris. The American Distributing company has been incorporated at Trenton, N. J., with a capital stock of \$100,000. The company has secured a concession from the commissioner-general of the United States to the Paris exposition for the exclusive privilege of establishing and maintaining American bars there.

TRIPLE TRAGEDY IN OMAHA.

Man Murders His Wife, Murders a Minister, and Shoots Himself.

At the residence of the Rev. A. F. Nelson in Omaha Tuesday evening, Frank Steele murdered his wife, shot the minister, who sprang to her rescue, and blew out his own brains. The tragedy was the result of a domestic quarrel. The woman had gone to the home of the minister to seek protection and secure advice. The husband followed and broke into the house, revolver in hand. The terrified woman fled to the rear of the residence, and the minister jumped in front of the infuriated husband. Steel fired at the minister, wounding him in the arm. He then followed his wife into a corner, and, grabbing her by the hair, shot her repeatedly. When she sank to the floor he turned the revolver on himself. Steele came to Omaha from Chicago several years ago as a clerk in Armour's packing-house. The nature of the domestic troubles remains a secret. The minister ran from the house after being shot and secured a physician. When the police reached the house Steele and his wife were dead.

SUFFERING IN MAFEKING.

Defenders of the Town Are Despondent but Determined.

A dispatch from Mafeking, dated Feb. 18, which in some way reached Lourenco Marques on March 5, and was forwarded from there, says: "The defenders are despondent, but determined. Typhoid malaria has broken out in the women's laager, which the enemy is deliberately shelling. Dysentery is rife, and the garrison is reduced to horse flesh. The hospitals are full to overflowing, and the children's cemetery grows week by week. The natives have been reduced to a handful of meal a day. The enemy is raking the streets, and it is impossible to dodge the bullets. Like the saints we cry out, 'How long, O Lord; how long.' Our losses up to date have been 232."

Greivous Tale Disproved.

What promised to be a big sensation turned out to be a "fake" when the coroner and police exhumed the remains of Mrs. Suzanne Hanyrzewski, who was thought to have been buried alive at South Bend, Ind. From apparently reliable sources the story was heard that she had been buried while in a trance, and that when such discovery had been made the remains were in a terrible condition. The story was that after the body was placed in the grave, thirty-six hours after death, the hole was only partly filled; that next day, when the sexton went to finish his work, he discovered the box half turned and the coffin broken, while the remains were distorted, the hair pulled from the head, and the fingers bitten off. When the remains were disinterred this afternoon they were found to be in good condition and the story was proven to be untrue.

Kills Woman and Himself.

John Hammond of Buffalo, N. Y., arrived at Stone's Landing, fifteen miles north of Tacoma, Wash., Friday, and went to the home of Mrs. Guy Gale, wife of a prosperous rancher. He was Mrs. Gale's rejected lover. Two years ago she turned a deaf ear to his protestations of love, back in New York state. Having followed her 3,000 miles across the continent, Hammond demanded that she leave her home and fly with him. Mrs. Gale indignantly refused. She declared she did not love him and rebuked him for daring to meddle in her affairs. Hammond shot her dead and fired several times after she had fallen. He then shot himself dead.

Pneumatic Tubes for Mails.

A hearing was given by the house committee on postoffices and post roads Friday on the pneumatic tube mail service. Ex-Senator Faulkner, who represented a syndicate which controls the patents on pneumatic tubes, offered to put in the pneumatic tube system in the twenty-seven leading cities in the country, including New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago and Cincinnati, for \$2,500,000 a year. This service would include the transmission of all mails between postal stations and the main offices and between the railroad stations and the main offices.

Flnds Fortune in Zinc Mining.

Marx Carl has just returned to Anderson, Ind. from Joplin, Mo., where he went a few months ago and invested \$10,000 in lead and zinc mining leases. Before leaving Joplin he was offered \$40,000 for one of his leases, which is now yielding him a royalty of \$250 per week. Mr. Carl has sunk a shaft through rock ninety feet, striking very rich paying zinc and lead ore.

Federal Officials Fight a Duel.

United States Commissioner Douglas Wight and Horace H. Blanton, an attorney of Nevada, Mo., fought a street duel with pistols Friday afternoon. Wight received a scalp wound and Blanton was shot in the abdomen. The trouble arose over the approaching mayoralty election.

Hannah S. Solomon Chosen.

The Council of Jewish Women at Cleveland, Ohio, Thursday, re-elected the old officers. These are: President, Hannah G. Solomon; first vice president, Sophie Beer; second vice president, Babette Mandel; corresponding secretary, Gertrude Berg; treasurer, Bertha A. Seiz. Some unimportant changes were made in the constitution. A resolution regarding Sabbath observance was taken up, and by vote it was decided to leave the question to the consciences of the individuals.

Spring Medicine Hood's Sarsaparilla. There's no season when good medicine is so much needed as in Spring, and there's no medicine which does so much good in Spring as Hood's Sarsaparilla. In fact, Spring Medicine is another name for Hood's Sarsaparilla. Don't delay taking it. Don't put it off till your health tone gets too low to be lifted.

DO YOU COUGH DON'T DELAY TAKE KEMP'S BALSAM THE BEST COUGH CURE. It Cures Colds, Coughs, Sore Throat, Croup, Whooping Cough, Bronchitis, Asthma, a certain cure for Consumption in its stages, and a sure relief in advanced stages. Use all once. You will see the excellent effect after taking the first dose. Sold by dealers everywhere. Large bottles 25 cents and 50 cents.

From Factory to USER. ONE Profit. Our High Ann Meller sewing machine has all the up-to-date improvements, including automatic attachment, and is made of the finest materials. It is light, portable, and easy to use. It is the best sewing machine in the world. Price \$10.00. Write for catalogue and price.

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TOWER'S FISH BRAND SLICKER WILL KEEP YOU DRY. Don't be fooled with a mackintosh or rubber coat. If you want a coat that will keep you dry in the hardest storm, buy the Fish Brand Slicker. It is not for sale in your town, write for catalogue to A. J. TOWER, Boston, Mass.

EXCURSION RATES. To Western Canada and particularly as to how to secure 100 acres of the best wheat-growing land on the continent can be secured on application to Sup't. of Immigration, Ottawa, Canada. Fully conducted excursions will leave St. Paul, Minn., on the first and third Tuesday in each month, and specially low rates on all lines of railway are quoted for excursions leaving St. Paul on March 26 and April 4 for Manitoba, Assiniboia, Saskatchewan and Alberta. O. J. Broughton, 1223 Monmouth St., Chicago, Ill., or T. O. Currie, Stevens Point, Wis.

INVENTORS. Send to-day for our hand-drawn engraved patent work on patents FREE. DR. J. H. HARRIS, 214 N. WABASH ST., CHICAGO, ILL. Patent Lawyers.