: ILLINOUS.

### CURRENT TOPICS

WELL START NATIONAL BANKS. Advices received by New York bankme interests from small towns and illings throughout the United States indicate that state banks in all sections of the country are preparing to take out charters under the national exstem as soon as the currency bill becomes a law. It was estimated today that any one with \$3,000 capital could start a national bank under the new system. All that is required is \$35,000 in 2 per cent government bonds, which could be secured at ruling rates for about \$27,750. These, representing the capital of the bank, could be sent to Washington, and circulation for the full amount of the capital immediately taken out. The erganiser of the bank then has \$2,750 tied up in the enterprise, but could take deposits in the regular way. Whether the system can be properly safeguarded under such requirements s not known.

THE SIBERIAN RAILWAY. The last rails have been laid on the

trans-Baikal section of Russia's great Mberian railway. This establishes complete steam communication befreen St. Petersburg and the extreme enstern limits of the Russian empire the Pacific coast. The section just anished is about 700 miles long, and it runs from the eastern shores of Lake Malkal to Stretensk on the River Shilwhich is a tributary of the Amur. Trains are carried across Lake Balkal an ice-breaking ferryboat. From Stretensk the river route must be used o reach Khabarovsk, and thence the Usuri section of the railway runs to Vladivostok. It is reported that considerable portions of the sections first built must be relaid with heavier rails.

MEGALLS TROOPS FROM MANILA. By direction of Acting Secretary Meiklejohn instructions have been cent to Major-General Otis to return to the United States some time in May one battalion of the Fourteenth, Eightconth and Twenty-third infantries. The withdrawal of these troops was recommended by Major-General Miles, who pointed out that the three regiments designated would have been two the Philippines in June next. to no doubt that the decision to theraw three battalions, which mber more than 1,200 men, is infrenced to some extent by the disorcontration of the rebel army, and the prospect that the American troops will no longer meet with resistance from an organized force.

INDIA'S GREAT FAMINE.

The famine in India now affects a contation of 60,000,000, of whom about 3,750,000 are already in receipt relief. The viceroy, at a recent neeting of the Indian council in Calmitta, expressed fears of cattle, water d food scarcity of a terrible character. He promised that the government would spend its last rupee, if necessary, to save life, but intimated that India would have to struggle with her difficulties alone, as the attention of Englishmen was concentrated on Bouth Africa. Three years ago, when dmilar distress prevailed, large contributions were made by Englishmen. a relief fund has been opened in London, but it grows slowly.

THE GOVERNMENT OF HAWAII. The bill for the government of Hawall, reported to the house of repreentatives by the committee on territories, proposes a territorial organiection closely modeled upon that of existing territories. The plan includes the appointment of a governor and secretary by the president, and of ther executive officers by the governor, the election of a legislature by the people, and representation in congress by a delegate. All classes of the copulation, except the Chinese and Japanese, are to be given rights of fitigenship. The bill makes the islands a customs and revenue district, and linces them under the tariff laws of the United States.

THE GOLD STANDARD.

The senate passed the gold standard by a vote of 46 yeas to 29 nays. The vote was a strictly party one, exthat one elected republican, Chandler of New Hampshire, voteainst the bill, and two elected emocrats, Mr. Caffery of Louisiana Mr. Lindsay of Kentucky, voted A free silver substitute was reby a vote of 28 year to 47 nays. complists and all the democrats Mesars, Caffrey and Lindsay for, and all the republicans

THE HAGUE TREATY. treaty of The Hague, which was cult of a peace conference last has been ratified by the senate. the conditions of the treaty is thin three months after its ratithe president shall appoint arists to represent the United the permanent board of arcreated by the treaty.

DOS AND ENDS.

#### CURRENT MARKET PRICES.

GRAIN. PROVISIONS, ETC.
Chicago—Cash quotations were as follows: Wheat—No. 2 spring, 646664c; No. 2 red, 6746684c. Corn—No. 2, 3346234c; No. 2 yellow, 334c. Oats—No. 2, 2346 234c; No. 2 yellow, 334c. Oats—No. 2, 2346 234c; No. 2 white, 25626c. Barley—No. 2, 38629c. Mess Pork—Per bbl. 30.70610.65. Lard—Per 100 lbs. \$5.12465.774. Short Ribs—Sides, loose, \$5.7965.85. Clover—Contract grade, \$8.25. Butter—Strong; creameries, 18624c; dairies, 16621c. Cheese—Firm at 12613c. Eggs—Firm; fresh, 16c. Indianapo.is—Wheat—Firmer; No. 2 GRAIN, PROVISIONS, ETC. Indianapo.is-Wheat-Firmer; No. 2 red, 69c, track; 68%c on milling freight; No. 3 red, 65@68c; wagonwheat, 69c. Corn—Steady; No. 1 white, 34c; No. 2 white, 34c; No. 3 white, 33%c; No. 4 white, 31 @33c. Oats—Steady; No. 2 white, 27c; No. 3 white, 26c; No. 2 mixed, 24%c. Hay-Quiet; No. 1 timothy, \$11.50612; No. 2 timothy, \$10.50@11.

LIVE STOCK. Indianapolis—Cattle—Good to prime steers, \$565.00; fair to medium steers. \$4.50@5; stockers and feeders, \$204.60; helfers, \$364.50; yeals, \$5.5067.50; calves, \$3.7565.50. Hogs—Good to choice medium and heavy, \$4.8564.90; mixed and heavy packing, \$4,80@4.85; good to choice lightweights, \$4.75@4.85; common light-weights, \$4.30@4.65; roughs, \$3.80@4.65. Sheep—Good to choice lambs, \$6@7; common to medium lambs, \$566; good to choice sheep, \$464.50; fair to medium sheep, \$3.50 @3.75; common sheep, \$2.50@3.25; bucks,

per 100 lbs. \$2@3. Chicago-Cattle-Good to prime steers \$5.30@6; poor to medium, \$4.10@4.30; stockers and feeders, \$3.40@4.75; cows and heif-ers, \$3@4.60; Texas-fed steers, \$3.90@5. Hogs-Mixed and butchers', \$4.65@4.90; good to choice heavy, \$4,80@4.90; rough heavy, \$4.65@4.75; light, \$4.65@4.82½; bulk of sales, \$4.75@4.82½. Sheep—Sheep, \$4.50 @5.90; lambs, \$5@7.40.

Milwaukee-Hogs-Light, 160 to 200 lbs. common to choice, \$4.50@4.75; rough to good heavy packers, \$4.50@4.75; good to choice packers, \$4.75@4.80; plain to good medium weights, \$4.6064.75, Cattle-Good to choice beef steers, 1,060 to 1,250 lbs average, \$4.25@5; fair to medium, 950 to 1,050 lbs average, \$3.75@4; helfers, fair to good. \$3673.50; helfers, good to choice, \$3.50@ 4.15. Sheep-Fair to choice, \$3.75664.25; poor to fair, \$2.50@3.75; bucks, \$2.75673.50; lambs, common to good, \$1.75@6.25; good to choice, \$6.25@6.50.

GRAIN IN FARMERS' HANDS. Mrrch Report of the National Depart ment of Africulture.

The March report of the statistician of the department of agriculture will show the amount of wheat remaining in farmers' hands on March 1 to have been about 158,700,000 bushels, or 29 per cent of last year's crop, as compared with 198,000,000, or 29.3 per cent of the crop of 1898 on hand March 1. 1899. The corn in the farmers' hands is estimated at 773,700,000 bushels, or 37.2 per cent of last year's crop, against 800,500,000 bushels, or 45.1 per cent of the crop of 1898, on hand on March 1, 1899. The proportion of the total crop of last year shipped out of the country were grown is estimated at 16.8 per cent, or about 348,000,000 bushels. The proportions of the total crop last year that was of a merchantable standard is estimated at 86.9 per cent. Of oats there were reported to be about 290,900,000 bushels, or 36.5 per cent, of last year's crop, still in farmers' hands, as compared with 283,-000,000 bushels, or 38.7 per cent of the erop of 1898, on hand March 1, 1899.

Big Banqcet of Nebraskans.

Nebraska republicans are arranging for the most elaborate banquet and political function ever given in the history of the state. Gov. Shaw of Iowa and Lieut,-Gov. Woodruff of New York will be the guests of honor and also the chief speakers. March 24 is the State's capital. German-Americans in date. The fact that both gentlemen are prominently mentioned as possible selections for McKinley's running mate adds interest to their simultaneous participation in the gathering. Covers will be laid for 1,000 persons.

To Ask Sharretti to Resign.

At a meeting of the opponents of Bishop Sharretti it was decided to appoint a committee of four to call on him to protest respectfully against his presence in Havana. The protest wil not be against him personnally, but officially. Gen. Maximo Gomez was made chairman of the committee, but It is not known yet whether he will

Benton Harbor Citizens Indiguant.

Citizens of Benton Harbor, Mich. notified the Pere Marquette railroad officials that unless steps are taken immediately toward building a new depot here the railway will be boycotted and goods will be shipped over other roads. President Miller of the board of trade states that the pres ent structure will not be tolerated for a station any longer.

Mamy Sine Washed Away. There was a great baptizing at the Mount Olivet Baptist church (colored) in West Fifty-third street, New York, Sunday. One hundred and eightyfour of the 408 persons who have been added to the church by the revivals of the last few weeks were dipped in the marble font of the church.

British Losses in the War.

The latest official figures of casual ties in South Africa show that the British total in killed, wounded and missing is 14.636, to which about sev enty are addable. According to the latest official figures of 565 officers and 7,108 men wounded only 347 died, and of a total of 2,900 deaths only about 800 were due to disease.

Totedo Commercial Sold. The Toledo Commercial has been sold by John R. McLean, who held an option from S. M. Heller and others, to H. P. Crouse and J. H. Eoff, of Findlay, Ohio, and will be changed to a straight republican administration paper. The change will be effective about April 10.

Business Part of Clarion Burned. Fire destroyed the business section of Clarion, Pa., early Tuesday, and resuited in the death of former Judge W. W. Barr, who dropped dead from excitement. Fourteen business houses were destroyed. The icas will amount to \$150,000.

Body of a Suleide Found. The lifeless body of Claude Kergall of Pierce was found at the home o hin father, Dent B. Kendall in Sycamore, Ill., Sanday, by his brother Earl. The young man had committed suicide

### 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-Kruger Said to Have Asked for a Armistice-British Heaviest Losers.

Roberts sent 40,000 men in a bold sweep around Boer left at Osfontein. 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 S. fifteen miles nearer Bloemfontein, there.

DIES AT HIS POST.

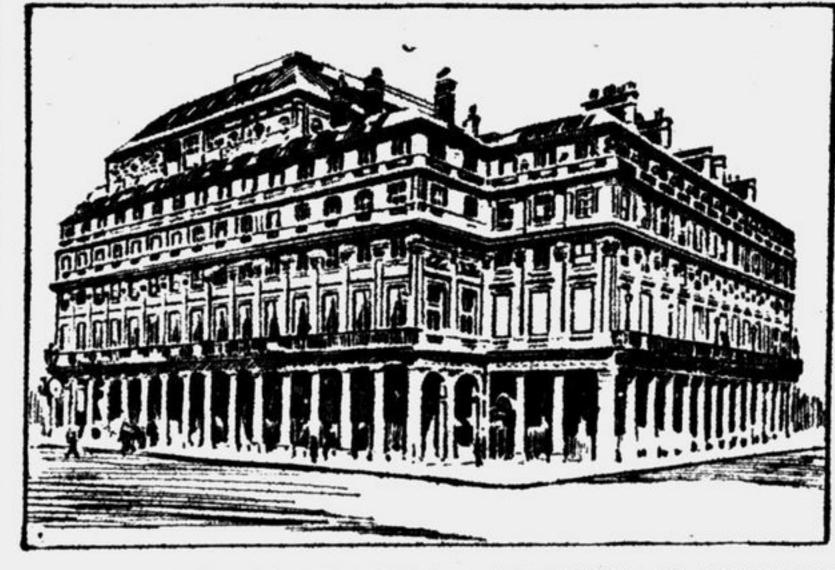
His Cab

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

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 establish-Gen. Lord Roberts has approached ing and maintaining American bars

was horrified to find that he was dead.

DESTRUCTION OF A WORLD FAMOUS THEATER.



THE THEATER FRANCAISE OF PA RIS DESTROYED IN THURSDAY'S FIRE.

History of the Theater Francaise. Reopened as Theatre du Marais ...... 1670 Located in Rue Richelleu, 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 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 pont. Garrison at Mafeking in sore straits.

Friday, Mrrch 9.

Boers seem to be thinking of seeking peace. Dispatch from l'retoria editor, censored by Boer government, said if England is waging war of conquest Tranvaal 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 Sanday, March 10-11. A censored dispatch from Pretoria states that Kruger has asked Sallsbury 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 Hatf a Mile by a Train. James McGonegle, 19 years old, was dragged for half a mile by a Chicago & Northwestern passenger train at Evenston, 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, Mc-Gonegle let go his grip of the handrail and fainted. 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 trom pounding over the ties.

Tells of Hidden Treasure.

Knowing that he was going to die Hezekiah Williams of Delaware, Ohio, called his two sons to his bedside and told them that if they would go to the little log house, in which the family formerly resided, they would find an oaken box containing silver and gold. The sons followed the old man's directions and brought the box to the house. It was opened and the family sat about the dying man's bed and counted the money, which amounted to \$2,600. When they announced the amount, the old man nodded his head in assent and died.

Answer to a Girl's Suit.

Sam Strong, the Cripple Creek millionaire mine owner, has filed his answer to the \$200,000 breach of promise suit brought by Miss Nellie Lewis, He denies the existence at any time of any marriage contract, but alleges that the plaintiff had at various times since 1893 sustained relations to him with the knowledge of her parents. Miss Lewis is reported to be 20 years old. while defendant is 38. Feb. 6, the day of Strong's marriage to Miss Regina Neville, a like suit for \$250,000 damages was brought against him by Miss Vance of Goldfield.

One Kiss Cost Him 810. Joseph Whitelaw, a well-known merchant of Akron, Ohio, aged 60, and father of Jennie Whitelaw, who has won fame in grand opera in Europe this season, was arrested Wednesday charged by Nora Strong with assault and battery. Miss Strong is a pretty collector for a laundry, and alleged that when she entered Whitelaw's store to collect a bill he seized and kissed her. He pleaded guilty, saying the woman encouraged him. He was fined \$10 and costs.

Pennsylvania Extension.

A report has reached Indianapolls that the Pennsylvania Railroad company will at once build a road from that city to Kokomo. For many years the company has held a lease on the Lake Erie & Western, under the terms of which its Chicago trains have been run. The report indicates that since the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern has purchased the Lake Erie & Western, the Pennsylvaria will take steps to secure an independent line between Indianapolis and Kokomo.

Authors' Estates Proved.

The returns filed at the probate office show that the estate of R. D. Blackmore, the author who died recently, is valued at £16,963. The value of the estate of Canon T. Wells, the hymn writer, is placed at £85,289.

San Francisco Pante Over. As the monkeys, guinea pigs and rats which were inoculated with bacillus from the dead Chinaman's glands showed no signs of having bubonic plague the quarantine on Chinatown, San Francisco, has been lifted.

TRIPLE TRAGEDY IN OMAHA.

leter, 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 terrifled woman fled to the rear of the residence, and the minister jumped in front of the infurlated 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 292."

Grewsome Tate Disproved.

What promised to be a big sensation turned out to be a "lake" when the coroner and police exhumed the remains of Mrs. Suzanne Hanyrzewsk!. 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., ar rived 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

Pheumatic Tubes for Malla A hearing was given by the house committee on postoffices and 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 preumatic 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. Finds Fortune in Zine Mining. Marx Carll 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. Carll has sunk a shaft through rock ninety feet, striking very rich paying zinc and lead ore.

Federal Officials Fight a Duel. United States Commissioner Douglass Wight and Horace H. Blanton, an attorney of Nevada, Mo., fought 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.

Hannsh & Solomon Chosen.

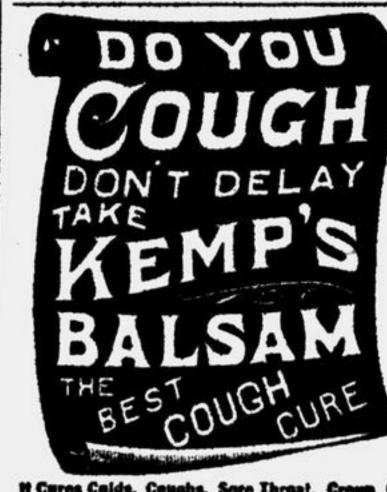
The Council of Jewish Women a Cleveland, Ohio, Thursday, re-elected the old officers. These are: President Hannah G. Solomon; first vice president, Sophie Beer; second vice president, Babette Mandel; corresponding secretary, Gertrude Berg; treasurer, Bertha A. Selz. Some unimportant changes were made 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

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. Do not delay taking it. Don't put it off till your bealth tone gets too low to be lifted.

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