

to change the time of holding the general conference from May 1 to the first Wednesday in May aroused discussion on the point of the constitutionality of the action. Three-fourths of the annual conference approved it and it was approved by more than two-thirds of the general conference. Dr. Leonard led the opposition. The vote stood 387 yeas to 190 nays. The next general conference will therefore meet the first Wednesday of May, 1900.

ST. LOUIS, May 16.—A special to the Republic from Lebanon, Mo., says: A terrific hail storm visited this city and vicinity about 6 o'clock this evening, accompanied by wind. It was the most destructive storm ever known here. The hail fell thick and fast and the rain came down in torrents. The hail was terrific and very destructive throughout the city. Windows in nearly every residence and business houses were riddled. Trees and shrubbery were stripped of their foliage and gardens are devastated and in ruins.

OREGON, Mo., May 16.—The trial of Gertrude Taylor, charged with the murder of her father, Dillon B. Taylor, ended in a verdict of not guilty.

Gertrude Taylor is only fourteen years old. Some weeks ago in a fit of anger, she put rough-ou-rats in the coffee. Her father died and her brother and sister-in-law were made invalids for life while others of the family were made temporarily ill. The girl after several days confessed. Her uncle, who is wealthy, stood by her, going her bail and furnishing the money for her defense. The jury was out but two hours.

SHERMAN, Texas, May 16.—When the first blast of the cyclone was felt at Justine, Denton county, more than a hundred miles from Sherman, men, women and children were wholly unprepared for it. The cyclone went northeast through Gerald and Denton, thence to Mingo, Gribble Springs and on to Mustand. A hundred miles was traveled in an hour. The small settlements along the Missouri, Kansas and Texas north of Denton, all suffered. Elmview was lashed; then the village Howe; the southwest end of Sherman received the full force of the storm, which while sweeping over Denton county and part of Grayson, seemed to have gathered new fury and wreaked the worst of its ruin on this city.

The greatest slaughter by the cyclone was done here.

The following is a revised list of the dead and wounded made at 12 m. today:

White—Mrs. Otto Bilengter and three children; Mrs. Baur and three children; John Ames, wife, two children; Mrs. L. H. Montgomery, three children; the children of Rev. J. D. Akers; Alexander Pierce, wife and five children; Miss Jenkins; Lige Gordon, wife and child; Mrs. George Anderson and baby; Rev. J. D. Shearer and wife; William Hamilton, a farmer; Mrs. Billy Martin; Mr. J. J. Johnson and wife; two children of — — Davk; Mrs. Dave Herring and two small children; C. H. Weddel, of Fairview; George Gray and son; Mr. Wright Clark and two children; and three unidentified white persons.

Colored—J. W. Walker; Nora Nicholson and three children; Lucy

Ballinger; Sloan Ballinger; Kate King; Mary Lake; John Lake; Letitia Lake; Fads Lake; Lizzie Lake; Elliza Cox; Chas. Cox; Sam Patty; Jim English; two children of Wesley Patty; three children of Ben C. Phus; three children of Belle Bachelor; and Mrs. Ben Sodisou and two unidentified babies.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., May 17.—A special to the Journal from Concordia, Kan., says: Another cyclone visited north-central Kansas this afternoon. It is impossible to gather the details because the telegraph wires on the Missouri Pacific and the Grand Island railroads are down. The cyclone started in the northern part of Clay county, seven or eight miles south of the little town of Palmer, and passed in a north-easterly direction through Riley county and into Marshall and Nemaha counties.

Reports received indicate that the cyclone which passed over Marshall and Nemaha counties, Kan., late this evening swept over an unusually large territory, dealing death and destruction throughout the two counties. A dispatch to the Times from Bern, Nemaha county, reports that Seneca, the county seat, was struck by a cyclone at 7 o'clock this evening. One-third of the residence portion of the town was destroyed and five persons killed and fifteen badly injured. The county's magnificent new courthouse, the town's big schoolhouse and the Catholic church are among the buildings wrecked. Five hundred of the citizens of Seneca are reported to be homeless tonight. The property loss is estimated at \$100,000. The five dead are two children of M. E. Voorhees, two children of Mr. Connell and a son of Peter Assemacher.

Twenty-five residences are razed to the ground and buildings innumerable unroofed. Three children of James Sherrard were killed. The west half of the village of Bayleyville was swept away, but none were killed. The damage in this city is over \$200,000.

The cyclone also swept the towns of Sabetha, Nemaha county, and the reports indicate that many other similar settlements have suffered, but up to this hour it has been impossible to get detailed accounts of the damage.

FRANKFORT, Ky., May 17.—At 5 o'clock this evening a terrific cyclone swept down upon the town of Frankfort from the southwest. Everything in the north and west ends of the town was completely wrecked. Probably three-score of buildings were razed to the ground. Some of the best residences of the town were blown to atoms. Reports coming in from the country, where heavy damage has been done, will materially swell the loss. Many are reported painfully injured, but, so far as known, no one has been killed. Many head of horses, cattle, and other stock have been killed. The Methodist and Christian churches were demolished and the Presbyterian church was badly wrecked. Scores of people were left homeless, and are being cared for tonight in public halls and in the houses of more fortunate citizens.

KANSAS CITY, May 18.—News of loss of life and destruction of property by yesterday's cyclone in Kansas is slow in coming in, owing to the crippled condition of the telegraph wires. Fully half a dozen towns were struck

by the twister and the known dead number is seven. The injured number fully thirty, many of whom, it is feared, were fatally hurt.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., May 18.—Judge Ross in the United States circuit court today delivered an opinion adverse to the defendant in the test cases which have been brought to establish the rights of settlers on thousands of acres of land in Southern California claimed by the Southern Pacific railroad. Special attorney J. H. Call has handled the cases for the government. The decision states that the railroad was guilty of gross negligence in not filing its map and that five years of such negligence has defeated its claims to the lands.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., May 19.—Twenty-eight were killed outright and fifty or more injured, some fatally, and the property loss aggregating a million dollars is now given as the estimated damage done by Sunday's cyclone at Marshall, Nemaha and Brown counties, Kansas. Further reports may increase these figures, as telegraph communication with the stricken points is still imperfect and consternation prevails.

The dead are distributed as follows: Seneca and neighborhood, 8; Oneida, 6; Reserve, 5; Sabetha, 5; Morrill, 5.

Seneca suffered property damage of about \$350,000; Frankfort, \$100,000; Reserve, \$60,000; Sabetha, \$50,000; Morrill, \$20,000. Thousands of dollars were lost in the country between the towns. Although the pecuniary loss at Frankfort was great, not a life was lost there.

Destruction meets the eye at every turn. Many were rendered absolutely penniless and many victims escaped with only the clothes they wore. Appeals for outside aid have been issued.

PLYMOUTH, Mass., May 19.—The forest fire wardens and a part of the fire department are engaged in a desperate struggle with a fire in the woods west of the village, which threatens the safety of a number of dwellings in the vicinity. A south-westerly wind is blowing forty miles an hour. In spite of the efforts of the department the fire continues to spread. After having swept through St. Joseph's cemetery, the flames split, one going in a southerly direction while the other ran toward Oak Ridge. According to the latest advices the fires are still burning.

NEW YORK, May 20.—A special to the World from Capetown, Cape Colony, says:

Captain Mein, American, one of the Johannesburg reformers in prison at Pretoria, is ill. Mr. Buckland, still another of the reformers is sick with typhoid fever, and has been removed to a hospital. The imprisoned reformers are having a serious time of it, thirty-two of them being confined in a thin shanty, 15 by 34.

Poultney Bigelow has arrived in Bloem Fontein, the capital of the Orange Free State, where he was cordially received by President Steyn. Mr. Bigelow says there is no reason why unity of the African states should not come on the same line as that of the United States.

George Simon, a well-known attorney of San Bernardino, Cal., was thrown from a buggy at Riverside last week and instantly killed.