HIS LINE PIERGED

Oyama's Army in Perilous Position.

FLANKIS THREATENED TO A THREAT

Kuropatkin's Advance May Cut Communications.

ST. PETERSBURG HAS HOPES

Russian Commander Has Huge Army, but Japanese Claim Success at One Point-Russians Leave the Corean Coast.

ST. PETERSBURG, Jan. 29 (12:50 A. M.). -According to reports current in military circles, General Kuropatkin has broken through Field Marshal Oyama's left wing and threatens his communications with Yinkow. Whether or not the report is true, the Associated Press learns from a military source that General Kuropatkin has undertaken a general offensive movement on both flanks, with the object of threatening both lines of Japanese communication and forcing the Japanese from their Winter quarters. The informant of the Associated Press said:

"After General Mistchenko's raid, Gen eral Kuropatkin decided that Oyama's position could be turned westward from the plains. The advance has absolutely no nnection with events in European Rus-

If, as has been reported, the Russians have already succeeded in piercing the Japanese left, they doubtless will be able to reach a point west of Linoyang, in which case the Japanese will be outfinnked. A similar movement southward from Bentstaputze will strike the Japanwe line of communications toward the Yalu. Although cold, the weather is ideal for Winter campaigning. The ground is hard and the rivers frozen solid, making the handling of artillery easy."

No further official news was received from the front Saturday night.

Europatkin has something short of 300, 000 men and over 1300 guns, including a number of six-inch, in position on his The troops engaged on the right, in addition to General Mistchenko's and General Rennenkampil's cavalry, are believed to be principally Siberian and part of the First European Artillery.

JAPANESE FALLING BACK.

Fierce Cannonade From Russians Against Their Left.

MUKDEN, Jan. 28, vit Tientsin.-The most important cannonade since the the Shakhe River was maintained all yesterday in tinuous snow storm, against the Janhas been reinforcing with troops from

miles west of Shakhe station and it resulted in the Japanese withdrawal from Holantal and Funshuang-Chiatzu, which the Russians mave occupied.

The cannonading and snow storm continues undiminished today. It is

The cannonading indicates that an extended contest is progressing. The driving wind and snow favor the Rus sions, thus offsetting the advantage the Japanese had last October, when the sun shone in the Russians' eyes. Teday' reports indicate that the Jap-

while the Russian cavalry, it is understood, advanced its lines ten miles. The Japanese yesterday flew a large kite into the Russian lines. The kite was covered with photographs showing the treatment of Russian prisone in Japan, it was evidently intended to attract the Russian soldiers. On January 27 there was a heavy cannon ade on the right flank. It subsided entirely shortly after noon and quiet

MAY CUT OFF SUPPLIES.

and right.

Japanese Believe Strike on Russian

Railroads Will Help Them. PARIS, Jan. 28.-Japanese officials. have remarked to members of the diplomatic corps that the Russian strikes the war in interruption of communication over the Siberian Rallway. It is eald, if the strike spreads, it will invoive the railroad workers, making the strikers more effective in cutting off General Kuropatkin's communications than the Chinese bandits have been.

OPPOSES HAY'S SUGGESTION.

Japanese Statesman Says Conference on Chinese Integrity Is Useless.

LONDON, Jan. 28.—Baron Hayashi, the Japanese Minister to Great Britain, talked freely to the Associated Press to day on the subject of Secretary of State Hay's proposal for a conference by the powers on the integrity of China. Minispowers on the integrity of China. Minis-ter Hayashi does not favor the proposi-tion as being likely to result in a satis-factory adjustment of the question, and is of the opinion that it would not bring about any improvement of the existing attraction.

"Mr. Hay's proposal is decidedly inter-esting," said the Baron. "It is only an-other evidence of the sincere desire of the American State Department to reach some acceptable solution of the vexed question of the preservation of the terri-torial integrity of China. For my part however, I am unable to see how it could

a conference should decide that all countries sign a treaty guaranteeing territorial integrity to China, it is a question if we would be any better off. Treating have been broken before without the signatories enforcing them by a resort to arms. What is the use of making an agreement with a country which has no regard for treaty promises? China is not like a country that could maintain its own neutrality and territorial integrity with the moral support of the powers. If so, a treaty would be a good thing But in the present case, in the event of a breach of the treaty, it is not likely that America would rush into war to enforce its observance, and therefore a treaty is

its observance, and therefore a treaty is

M. S. DOLLAR IS CAPTURED.

Japanese Seize Pacific Coast Steamer With Contraband Cargo.

TOKIO, Jan. 28.—The American steamer M. S. Dollar, en route for Viadivostok with a cargo of provisions and forage, s seized yesterday by the Japanese in Pacific Ocean, east of Hokkaido Isl-

(A dispatch from London, dated January S, stated that a steamer with a black funnel encircled with two red bands was ashore at Vindivostok, and that it was supposed to be the M. S. Dollar, saling from Lan Francisco on December II, but no details of the accident to the big steamer have been received. It was deemed posible that she had been run ashore purposely to avoid capture by Japanese warships. The M. S. Dollar was formerly the British steamer Arab, built in 1890 at Newcastle, England. She was in 1890 at Newcastie. England. She was subsequently sold to the Dollar Steamship Company, of San Francisco. The London dispatch further stated that the M. S. Dollar had been posted on the overdue board in that city at the rate of 30 guineas. In San Francisco the vessel has been posted as an overdue with a rate of 30 per cent quoted for reinsurance.)

In Charge of Prize Crew.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 28.-The Merchants Exchange has received the follow-ing from Hakodate:

"The British steamer M. S. Dollar, captured by the Japanese, sailed today for Sasebo in charge of a prize crew."

Dollar is Fully Insured.

VICTORIA, B. C., Jan. 28.—The steam-ship M. S. Dollar, formerly the Arab, seized by the Japanese, is owned here. At the offices of the owning company it is said she was fully insured. She took 5500 tons of hay, oats and barley from San Francisco for Vladivostok.

WHILE BATTLE IS GOING ON.

Oyama Reports Varying Success of Two Contending Armies.

TOKIO, Jan. 28.—The long inactivity on the Shakhe River was broken January 25, when General Kuropatkin advanced a full corps from the vicinity of Shengtsu. Field Marshal Oyama immediately assumed the aggressive and engagements occurred at Chenchiehpao and Heikoutal. Oyama reports that he defeated the Russiana at Chenchiehpao. The engagement at Heikoutal was progressing when the at Helkoutal was progressing when the Fleid Marshal reported. The official telegram does not disclose the object of the Russians and does not indicate the properts of a general engagement. Oyama's report follows:

"The enemy on the right of the Hun River began activity January 75. Oracles

"The enemy on the right of the Hun River began activity January 25. Over one corps advanced from the district south of Chengtsu toward Heikoutai and Chenchlebpao. Our army assumed the offensive January 25. Our detachment repulsed a division of the enemy at Chenchlebpao. The Russians retired to Liutiako. Another detachment has been engaging a division of Russians at Heikoutai since January 25."

BATTLE IS GENERAL.

Whole Russian Army Engaged Except

Left Flank. MUKDEN, Jan, 28 (16:44 P. M.).—A general engagement is progressing. Only the left flank is not involved. The hospitals here and at Harbin have been put in readiness to receive large numbers of wounded, of whom about 1600 have already arrived at Mukden. Several hundred Japanese were made prisoners.

The battle commenced on the right flank, on General Kuropatkin's initiative. The

n General Kuropatkin's initiative. Japanese were driven back five miles from their advanced positions, defended by the reserve brigades. The fighting extended January 25 to the center. The Japanese endeavored to take Poutiloff Hill and othr positions, but were driven back with

The men going into battle are well pre-pared for the weather conditions, being warmly clad and shod, and in good spirancse are continuing to fall back,

The activity of General Mistchenko's fast-riding cavalry continues. A large Japanese transport train was captured on the extreme right of the west flank.

AFRAID OF BEING SEIZED.

Shipowners Will Not Take Russian Contraband Japan Will Buy.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 28 .- Owing to the fear of capture by the Japanese the shipment of the 8000 tons of hay that the Russian government recently purchased in San Francisco has been continues throughout the center seriously interrupted. About 4030 tone have been loaded for Vladivostok, but the agents of the Czar have been un-able to get charters for the remaining

> Th Japanese Consul is authority for the statement that his government will soon seek to place large orders for horses, hay and grain in the San Fran-

Japanese Are Fleeing.

ST. PETERSBURG, Jan. 2.—The General Staff has received the following dispatch from General Sakharoff, General Kuropatkin's Chief of Staff:

"Our troops continue on the offensive at Sandepas. South of there our cav-alry encountered four Japanese batta-lons and six squadrons of cavalty advancing from Helkoutal. The Japanese fied, throwing their arms into ambulance wagons. One of our columns took 30

Russians Withdraw From Coast. NEW YORK, Jan. 28.-Russians, fearing an attack from the sen, have, says a Herald dispatch from Gensan, destroyed their telegraph supply stations on the east coast of Corea. In the meautime the Russlan main body retired in a north-erly direction, leaving only a few scout-ing parties behind. These are now grad-

ually falling back on a pass, where they have large quantities of supplies already ST. PETERSBURG, Jan. 28.— Telegram from Chanslamutun says the Russians lost & officers and 1000 men killed or wounded at the capture of the village of Sandepas, January 26. The Russiana took 101 Japanese prisonera, besides arms, wagons and ammunition.

Commercial Club Banquet Great Success.

THREE STATES JOIN HANDS

Oregon, Washington and Idaho Represented.

LARGE NUMBER OF GUESTS

Two Governors Speak While Third Sends Message From Sick-Bed by Executive Secretary-Co-Operation and Friendship.

Unity, co-operation, goodfellowship these animated the spirit of the eleventh annual banquet of the Portland Commercial Club, given last night in the club rooms in the Chamber of Commerce. The guests stood for an united Pacific Northwest, and along with the state and men of Oregon were with the state and men of Oregon were praised the states and men of Wash-ington and Idaho. Governor Chamber-iain was there to extend Oregon's wel-come; Governor Mead, of Washington, and James McMillan, the representa-tive of Governor Gooding, of Idaho, were there to accept in the names of the citizens they represented.

The clubrooms were beautifully de orated with lights and flowers. T speakers and guests of the evening were seated at a long table ranging through the length of the room, behind a bank of flowers and foliage, through which twinkled red, white and blue which twinkled red, white and blue electric lights of tiny design. One hundred and fifty graced the banquet and enjoyed the excellent feast prepared. To the soft music of the orchestra glasses chimed, and representative men of the states of the Pacific Northwest pledged their support and good will to each other, and to the Lewis and Clark Centennial, which was Lewis and Clark Centennial, which was

Lewis and Clark Centennial, which was declared not to be Oregon's show, but the show of the great Northwest.

"I'm from Washington!" shouted Governor Mead, and be shouted it proudly so that all might hear.

"I'm from Oregon," answered Governor Chamberiain, just as loudly.

"I'm from Idaho," chimed in Executive Secretary McMillan.

Oregon, the Mother State.

Washington and Idaho were reminded that Oregon was their mother, that they were always welcome at home, sweet home, and that they ought to appreciate a chance to get their feet under the good old table and eat a plece of that good old pie that mother used to make. Washington and Idaho answered that they did appreciate the chance and were ready for a second piece of pie, which, they assured those assembled, they would come to get at the family reunion, the Lewis and Clark Exposition.

In the precident's address, Mr. H. M. Washington and Idaho were remind-

In the president's address, Mr. H. M. Cake gave the history of the work of the Commercial Club for the past year, told how the country at large had been notified in a hundred ways that there was such a state as Oregon, such a city as Portland. He outlined the publicity methods and praised them lovally. At methods and praised them loyally. At the conclusion of his address he intro-duced Governor Chamberlain, who was repeatedly cheered as he arose

Governor Chamberlain's Welcome.

Governor Chamberlain's speech was witty and to the point. He spoke for a greater and more lasting friendship among the states of the Pacific North-west. He welcomed the guests in the mame of the State of Oregon, said that the latch of Oregon was siwars open to visitors from her slater states and that the family dog was too young to

Governor Chamberlain said: Governor Chamberlain said:

"Gentlemen: It gives me a great pleasure as Chief Executive of the state to extend a most cordial welcome to our friends gathered here, the executives and representatives of our sister states, those who have the interests of our own state at heart, and last, but not least, to the railroad men of the different sections of the country who are here with us tonight.
"I want to say to you gentlemen who are

country who are here with us tonight.

"I want to say to you gentlemen who are our visiting friends that the latchstring of Oregon has always been out. Furthermore I want to assure you that there is going to be neither latchstring, latch nor dog in this town between now and the close of the Fair in 1866.

"The spread, if I may term it such, given tonight by one, enterprising club to its members and friends is but a fore-taste of the welcome and enterrainment that will be given by many other enterprising clube to their friends and visitors during this year of the Fair, and is but a small sample of what you, our visitors, a small sample of what you, our visitors, may expect when you again come to see our city and the colebration of a historical fact which we are pleased to call the Lewis and Clark Exposition.

"Many people at first thought this Exposition was largely local in scope. So

It is, but at the same time it is representative of not only the Pacific North-western states, but the United States as well. It goes even farther than that, since we will have foreign powers with us, through their exhibits and representa-

"In the promotion of this Exposition we have fully realized that there has been a spirit of rivalry and jealousy shown by our sister states, and I do not healtate to spint of rearry and passions shown of our sister states, and I do not healtate to say this. California, our great big sister, rather looked down upon our efforts, but when their great big representative, the Governor, came to our city and put his feet under our table he fell we weren't so small after all, and since then California has entered thoroughly into the spirit of our undertaking and is giving us a great big push toward success.

"A short time ago, you will remember, Washington was a little jealous of our Exposition, and its former Governor vetoced an appropriation for an exhibit in our Fair. Since then, I am glad to say, they have got a man in Washington that wears bigger breeches and when the matter came up to him he approved an appropriation five times larger than was originally asked for, and he not only gave

she has got bravely over it and bids fair to outstrip many of her more important rivals in showing her attractions and helping us along. Had it not been for our mutual enemy in grippe we would have had the Chief Executive of the state with had the Chief Executive of the state with us tonight, but as it is we have his ex-ecutive secretary in his stead, and I want to assure you now from personal experi-ence that the executive secretary to the Governor is always a bigger man than the Governor.

"So we have with us tonight the rep-"So we have with us tonight the representatives of our two great sister states assuring us that they have entered hear; and soul into the apirit of this great enterprise, our Lewis and Clark Fair, not because it is a local affair, but because it belongs to all three states.

"The Exposition which will be held here as commemorative of the expedition of Lewis and Clark and the founding of Oregon is not alone applicable to the Oregon as we have it today. The Oregon meant

as we have it today. The Oregon meant in this sense is the old Oregon, the Oregon which was the mother of Washington. Idaho and the present State of Oregon. Washington and Idaho are but the chil-dren, and they are not forgetting their al-lectance.

legiance.

"The Exposition which will be held this Summer is to be given by those states carved out of the old Oregou—namely, Oregon, Washington and Idaho. I bid you, our invited guests, a most hearty walcome."

Governor Mead's Witty Address.

Governor Mead was next introduced to the guests. He was greeted with an oyation. His address was full of wit and humor and did much to make the event a success. He responded to Governor Chamberlain's welcome, assured Oregoniane that Washington was calling the Exposi-tion "our" Exposition, and stated that his state would attend in force. At the

by all present.

In the absence of Governor Gooding, of Idaho, Executive Secretary James Mc-Millan read the Governor's message of good will to the guests, prefixing the message with an address of his own, which was happily received. Governor Gooding, who was prevented by illness from attending the banquet, dictated its from attending the banquet, dictated his message from his sick-bed, and told the message from his sick-bed, and told the guests that Idaho would stand by Oregon and Washington in the movement for greater unity and friendship among the states of the Pacific Northwest. He traced the growth of Idaho since her admission to the Union, and gave a short description of that state's wonderful resources, At the conclusion of the message a toast was proposed to the absent Governor, and to his representative. to his representative.

man woman and child of Ida "Every ' said Secretary McMillan, "is a boost-for 'our' Exposition."

Judge Lowell's Eloquent Effort. Judge Stephen A. Lowell, of Pendleton, spoke in favor of the reclamation act, Judge Lowell's effort was eloquent and he made an impression on the guests that he made an impression on the guests that resulted in President Cake, of the Com-mercial Club, announcing that a commit-tee would be appointed to pass resolu-tions to be forwarded to Salem asking the Legislature to pass the irrigation bill. William D. Wheelright spoke on "The Relation of Commercial Bodies." His address was witty and gained repeated ap-plause. He complimented Governor Mead on his recent victory, and sent many witty shafts after politicians.

shaffs after politicians.
"I once knew of a man who was asked
what it cost to be elected Senator from
Oregon," he said. "That man told of his
election, and stated that he buttonholed
a legislater and offered him 100 for his
vote. That doesn't look good to me, anawered the legislator, "I just paid the swered the legislator, T just paid the Governor of California \$200 for getting me

Mayor Williams Speaks of Past.

Mayor George H. Williams spoke on "A Gilimpse of the Past," giving a pleasing address, full of valuable reminiscence such as Judge Williams can give. The Mayor's remarks were greeted with prolonged applause, and he was tendered a toast.

Speaking of "The Outlook," H. W. Scott drew a vivid picture of the future of Oregon and of the Pacific Northwest. He gave a brief description of Oregon's development, and forecasted the develop-

ment of Oregon and her sister states in the years to come.

The addresses were followed by short talks by other guests present, all voicing the spirit of the occasion and asking for greater friendship between the States of Oregon, Washington and Idaho. It was in the early hours of the morning when the banquet one of the most aucoessful in the history of the Portland Commer-

Toke Points on half shell.
Dry Martini.
Consomme Epicure.
Ty Frise.
Quoen Olives. Consomme Epiconoccide Celery Frise.

Haut Sauterne.
Lobster a la Broche Montpeller.
St. Estephe.
Artichokes en Feuilles Hollandaise.
Brofled Spring Turkey a la Crapaudine,
Sweet Potatoes.
Champagne.
Saiade aux Fruits Waldorf,
Glace a la Romaine.
Cakes.
Fruits.

Those present were:

A. B. Hammond, J. B. Baird, C. M. Levey, F. I. Whitney, J. C. Eden, Ben Campbell, J. G. Woodworth, J. M. Hannaford, H. W. Scott, Mayor Williams, Governor Chamberlain, H. M. Cake, Governor Chamberlain, H. Cake, Governor Chamberlain, H. M. Cake, Governor Cham ernor Chamberlain, H. M. Cake, Governor Mead, J. McMillan, Judge S. A. Lowell, J. C. Stubbs, E. E. Calvin, P. C. Stohr, J. A. Monroe, T. M. Schumacher, General Constant Williams, W. D. Wheelwright, H. W. Goode, G. W. Allen, J. W. McCul-ley, Frank Ira White, C. M. Hyskell, J. P. Rintoul, J. H. Thatcher, L. Gerlinger. Rintoul, J. H. Thatcher, L. Gerlinger, J. G. Mack, E. McCraken, R. J. Holmes, R. Wilbur, W. Gadsby, M. B. Wakeman, W. E. Coman, A. L. Craig, R. B. Miller, H. M. Adams, P. Stanley, J. P. O'Brien, L. R. Fields, W. H. Wyman, G.W. Hazen, is, R. Fields, W. H. Wyman, G. W. Hazen, ex-Senator G. W. McBride, Major Evans, C. B. Bellinger, W. W. Cotton, A. D. Chariton, S. G. Fuiton, Malcolm Moody, Colonei James Jackson, R. R. Hoge, H. L. Pittock, C. Lombardi, F. V. Holman, A. L. Mills, Dr. W. Kuykendall, Tom Rich-L. Mills, Dr. W. Kuykendail, Tom Richardson, T. B. Wicox, J. Frank Watson, W. M. Ladd, T. J. Dutcher, L. A. Lewis, W. F. Burrell, R. Livingstone, E. M. Brannick, W. B. Glafke, S. Blumaner, E. Hoch, G. C. Moser, C. H. Carey, Dr. Sandford Whiting, W. A. Cleiand, G. Lawrence, Jr.; C. F. Beebe, J. B. Cleiand, I. W. Pratt, A. H. Birrell, A. H. Kerr, G. B. McLeod, E. D. Kingsley, H. C. Eckenberger, R. Kennedy, L. A. McNary, W. Thomas, A. H. McDonaid, W. A. Mears, P. M. Collins, H. E. Noble, M. Brady, F. M. Ruffum, R. L. Durham, G. W. Hoyt, J. A. Haseltine, F. Zimmerman, E. W. Browne, R. W. Foster, W. M. Cake, E. Ehrman, F. A. Bothschild, Cecil Bauer, R. L. Darrow, F. W. Leadbetter, Cake, E. Ehrman, F. A. Rothschild, Cecil Bauer, R. L. Darrow, F. W. Leadbetter, E. M. Lazarus, B. Neustadter, M. Levy, C. H. Crocker, A. M. Wright, H. W. Fries, Hugh McGuire, B. D. Sigier, W. D. Skin-ner, C. W. Hodson, J. W. Cook, E. Lyons, A. R. Diamond, W. L. Boise, John Hall, Samuel Connell, J. Smith, A. M. Smith, Dr. H. W. Coe, M. C. Banfield, W. J. Hoffman, A. P. Tifft, L. A. Juston, A. K. Wilson, H. H. Newhall, B. E. Mil-ler, R. B. Sinnott, F. A. Nitchy, S. G. Reed, L. Wentworth, G. K. Wentworth, Reed, L. Wentworth, G. K. Wentworth, W. C. Francis, E. L. Thompson, R. A. cigars are now being imported to the

Port Arthur Wire is Closed.

his approval, but he is here with us to-night to show that he is thoroughly heart and soul in favor of our endeavor "And idaho, our little sister, also showed a little of that same jealousy, but

Philippines to Be Independent in End.

WHEN THEY ARE READY

Secretary of War Outlines Policy for Islands.

SHOULD HAVE FREE TRADE

He Tella House Committee Independence, or at Least Self-Government, Should Ultimately Come Shipping Law Wrong.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.-Secretary l'aft made an argument today before the House committee on ways and ducing the duty on sugar and tobac-co from the Philippines. He contended that as the Philippines belong to the United States, thereby imposing a sacred trust on this Government, it is

status of the felands, so far as our relations to them are concerned, will remain the same throughout the next generation and probably longer."

With this in view, he maintained, it would be as just to establish a tariff between the states of Ohio and Pennsylvania as between the United States and the Philippines. Ultimate free trade would have to come in the end between the islands and the United States.

Secretary Taft asserted warmly that Congress had already enacted a law which was eminently unfair to the is lands.

"You have declared that in 1906 American bottoms shall carry everything that is shipped between the United States and the Philippines both ways. Is it possible that the House of Representatives or the Senate can impose on these people a domestic policy with reference to the carrying of goods, and yet withhold the opportunity of markets for these goods?

Have Right to Free Trade.

"No. sir, I am not willing to admit it. I do not think that Congress will be so unjust, and these people here represent-ing special interests may as well put their houses in order. The American people are not going to allow interference with the policy that is going to do this

country honor." This policy, Secretary Taft said, was settled at the last election. The Demo-cratic members of the committee might not agree with him on this point.

Representative Williams, the minority was not the Republican policy to give the retary affirmed this, stating that such the islands were capable of self-govern-

"Self-government as the American un derstands it, or as the Flippino understands it?" asked Williams. "I doubt if they ever reach the self-

governing capacity of the Americans," the Secretary replied "Well," asserted Williams, "there is not

so horrible much difference between you and the Democrats. You believe in granting self-government when the people are ready, and we believe in fixing a date for

Independence When Ready.

Whenever they reach the condition where they have a reasonable public opinion which may be relied upon to restrain radicalism, when interisland communication has been established, and when conditions generally have become settledthen if they desire independence, give it to them. If they do not-if they desire a bond which might become sweet by coming inside our tariff wall, that might be

them a self-governing colony? Secretary Taft-Yes, sir. Williams remarked that the Republican

position at first was that we were to keep the islands forever. Secretary Taft discussed the island industries and said there was no Janger whatever that either sugar or tobacco from the Philippines will

of this country. Secretary Taft referred to reports that he was willing to compromise on a 25 per cent reduction.

No injury by Free Trade. "I am willing," he aded, "to com-

promise on anything in the way of a reduction if I can't get all. This, on the theory that we are coming ultimately to free trade with the archipelago, and every step in that direction is going to teach these timorous sugar and tobacco gentlemen that they

the whole policy of alministration was amazing wave of crime sweeping over Greater against the introduction of Chinese labor in the Islands. He doubted if Broncho-busting as a fine art. Page 41. labor in the lalands. He doubted if there were more than 75,000 Chinamen in the islands, and none of these are agricultural laborers.

A. Determan, of Manila, presented a memorial on behalf of the Philippine tobacco-growers and manufacturers, mak-ing an appeal for the free en-try of Philippine tobacco. Mr. Det-erman said that efficiency consid-

ered, wages of cigarmakers are not low in the tslands. From the standpoint of the Filipino they feel they have a right to free entry of their products into the United States. He said they had lost

right to free entry of their products into the United States. He said they had lost the Spanish market since American occupation, and told how other markets had been lost. The natural market for their products, he said, should be the new mother country.

Wallace P. Willetts, of New York, called attention to the appeal for relief made by the commission in its report of 190, and said that by the general increase in the price of sugar the islands had received twice the relief then asked for. In Hawaii, he said, machinery had been introduced for refining sugar, the product of which would go into the Western states in competition with beet sugar. He predicted that refineries would be established in the Philippines and the products brought to the United States by way of San Francisco. He explained that the division of territory between the came refiners of the East and the beet-sugar manufacturers of the West was governed wholly by freight rates, and not by agreement.

W. P. Brooks, of Colorado, entered a protest against the bill in behalf of the beet-sugar interests of his state.

The committee granted permission for the filling of briefs up to Wednesday next.

The committee granted permission for the filing of briefs up to Wednesday next. The hearings are practically closed.

FAITH CURE NOT EFFECTIVE.

Two of Dowie's Followers Die for Lack of Attendance.

CHICAGO, Jan. 28,-Mrs. G. Speicher wife of Acting Overseer Speicher, of Zion City, is dead as the result of consumption. Hers is the second death which has followed a recent inroad of sickness among John Alexander Dowie's chiefs and followers, against which the prayers of the "first apostles" have seem-

ingly been of no avail.

The body of Descon Carl F. Stein, for many years Dowle's chief of police, is expected to arrive in Zion City tonight.

Freparations have been made for an imposing funeral tomorrow. Stein died on the way to the Bahama Islands, where our duty to establish and maintain the best possible conditions there.

"Certainly," he said. "the present It is said that an investigation of the death of Mrs. Speicher will be made by the State Board of Health and the

Civil Service in Alaska Customs. WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.-The President

has issued an order, effective March I, taking into the competitive classified serv-ice all customs service positions in Alas-ka, except those restricted to navigation CONTENTS OF TODAY'S PAPER

The Weather.

TODAY'S-Probably occasional light rain; va riable winds, mostly southerly. YESTERDAY'S-Maximum temperature, deg. mintorum, 38. Precipitation, trac The War in the Far East.

Russians pierce Japanere left and threaten a outflank them and cut their communications Cores. Page 1. Japanese seize British steamer M. S. Dellar for carrying contraband. Page 3.

Russians continue flerce attack and drive back Japanese. Page 1. Foreign.

Ambassador and Mrs. Cheste guests of King Edward, who expresses friendship for Amer-ica, Page 3. touvier's Minlstry makes a good start. Page 3. russian government appoints commis investigate coal strike. Page 3.

Germany publishes commercial treaties and desires reciprocity with United States. Page 3. Czar considers calling national assembly. Page 2.

Rursian atrikes spread in Poland and Baltic stocks could not be saved, they diverted Secretary Taft speaks for reduction of tariff on Philippine products, and declares for ulti-mate independence. Page 1.

Senator Ankery ends misunderstanding with President regarding Postmaser Stewart. Page 2.

Proposed surveys of Northwest rivers and har-bors. Page 2.

Domestie. W. H. Hunt, president of broken Pan-American Bank of Chicago, arrested for embezziement. Page 14.

Gridiron Club buriesques public men and events. Page 2. Great fire in Omaha wholesale district. Page 1.

Review of conditions in hop market. Page 15. California cured-fruit market duli. Page 15. Sharp advance in mocks connected with North-ern Securities. Page 15.

New York bank statement shows gains in principal items. Page 15. eamer Geo. W. Elder nearly broker Page 6. Pacific Coast.

Committees from Oregon and Washington Legislatures agree on salmon law recommendations. Page 6. Young Coeur d'Alene bride bangs herself in her kitchen. Page 7. J. H. Templeton will represent University of Gregon in intercollegiate debate. Page 7.

Williams—Even then you would make W. S. U'Ren declaree constitutional convention is robbery scheme of politicians. Page 6. Portland and Vicinity. Pacific Northwest unity the theme at Commer-cial Club banquet. Page 1. Prominent lawyers speak on proposed con-stitutional convention. Page 12.

Mrs. Hathaway strikes Lawyer, Hitchings in court. Page 10. Strike at Lewis and Clark Exposition grounds is speedily settled. Page 10. "swamp" or even figure in the markets pirst arrest is made under prohibition isw. of this country.

Legislature may determine on an extra session to be called by members. Page 10. Traffic men leave for home at conclusion of rate conference and after seeing city. Page 5. Grand fury adjourns until Monday without returning additional indictments. Page 18.

Features and Department. Editorial. Page 4. Church amountements. Page 24. Classified advertisements. Pages 28-31. Late classified advertisements, meeting and death notices. Page 14.

Comment on the New Year's Oregonian. Page

President Roosevelt and his Cabinet. Page 40. Happy the fate of the foundling. Page 39. Among the headlands of Southern Oregon. Page 37.

H. S. Lyman's History of Oregon. Page 47. When Winter grips the "Zoo." Page 40. Love story of Princess Clementine. Page 27. Social. Pages 22-23. Dramatic. Pages 20-21.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

It Eats Up \$700,000 in Wholesale Houses.

SPREADS WITH RAPIDITY

Whole Fire Department Spends Hours in Fight.

EXPLOSIONS GIVE IT FOOD

Starting in Commission-House, it Rages Through Large Buildings, Covering an Entire Block Before Progress is Stayed.

OMAHA, Jan. 29, 2:39 A. M.-The fire which has been raging for four hours in the wholesale district is under control. Considerable damage was done to the buildings adjoining those named below, but the firemen prevented a further disastrous spread of the flames.

OMAHA, Jan. 29, 2 A. M.-A fire which at this hour has destroyed property estimated at, approximately, \$700,000, and is still burning, started at 10:30 o'clock last night, from what is believed to have been an overheated stove in the great commission house of C. H. Mullen & Co., at Eleventh and Howard streets. spread so rapidly that Chief Salter, of the Fire Department, at once turned in a general alarm, which brought the entire department of the city to the scene, not, however, until the flames had gotten quite beyond control.

Five commission houses were located in the building where the flames were started and all of these were enveloped in a very short time. In the four stories above and covering a quarter of a block was located the stock of a wholesale drygoods. concern, which turnished the flames with inflammable material and added to their fury. Before the firemen were organized the entire building, covering a quarter of a block, was a mass of flames. Adjoining buildings occupied by other concerns of considerable importance were in the path of the fire, and were soon ablaze. Across the alley to the north a five-story building, occupied by a large manufacturing and jobbing shoe concern, caught in the upper stories, and the fire soon spread to the lower floors and the entire stock was

destroyed. The building in which the fire started was located in the wholesale district and contiguous to it were a large number of

large jobbing houses. Chemicals Cause Explosions.

As soon as the firemen discovered that commission houses and drygoods spite their efforts, however, the fiames continued to spread. They finally their way into the building occupied by Naval appropriation bill provides over \$100. the Porter, Rierson, Hoobier Co., where was stored a large stock of chemists' materials. There were a number of explosions which tended to reinforce the fury of the flames. The Carpenter Paper Company's building was next threatened, and firemen at once directed their attention to

> parts of the building. stroved a solid half-block of five-story buildings between Harney and Howard streets and Eleventh street and the alley rected their efforts to prevent the spread of the flames to the immense wholesale paperhouse of Carpenter & Co., and to the main building of the M. E. Smith Dry Goods Company, the former just across

the alley from the burning structure, and

the latter directly across Howard street.
Despite the fact that the entire force was at work on the burning buildings with the entire equipment of the city fire streams on the interior of the buildings, the flames continued to spread for several hours. They ate their way into the & Hoobier Company, manufacturing chemists, shortly before 2 o'clock, and a series of explosions followed, causing the

flames to spread with renewed vigor, Adjoining Snyder's commission-house, on the north, were four other commission houses, and the fire had enveloped those places before streams could be started in them. These firms occupied the first story and the basement of the five-story build-Associated Press doing sreat publicity work for Lewis and Clark Exposition. Page 9. Company as a storage house. The building ran clear back to the alley. The stocks of all these firms were soon in anhes.

> The flames early threatened the fivestory building occupied by the F. P. Kirkendali Shoe Company, covering a quarter of a block. Notwithstanding heroic efforts of the firemen, the fire soon ate its way into the upper stories of the Kirkendail building and down the elevator shafts and stairways. This with the stock of the Kirkendall com-

> To the west of this building was the Martin-Cott Hat Company, wholesalers, stroyed. The flames then spread to the Porter Riordan, Hoobler Co., destroying the stock and building, and by 2 o'clock the building occupied by the Carpenter Paper Company, cover-ing a quarter of a block, at Twelfth and Howard streets, was seriously threatened.

The loss at that hour was estimated