

La Grande Evening Observer

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JAPANESE FLEET ON QUIET MISSION

CHINA AGREES TO RELEASE CONTESTED SHIP.

Mikado's Largest Fighting Vessels Are Under Secret Orders to Go to Macao Is Believed—Captured Japanese Steamer Tatsu Maru Is Located There—Every Day Brings the Crisis Nearer to the Fighting Point—Japan Forcing Matters.

Hongkong, March 14.—Japan is making definite preparations to effect the release of the steamer Tatsu Maru, which was seized by the Chinese government, by force, and a squadron of the mikado's biggest fighting cruisers and a number of smaller vessels are about to start for Macao.

A dispatch received from Tokio via Formosa says the Japanese squadron is about to sail on a secret mission under sealed orders. In the squadron are the cruisers Yakumo, Asana, Akitsushima and a flotilla composed of torpedo boats and small craft.

The announcement has caused intense excitement in official circles here and the government at Peking has bestirred itself more than at any time since the trouble first broke out. No doubt is expressed here but that the destination of the Japanese fleet is Macao.

The trouble between Japan and China, which apparently is again rapidly nearing a crisis, which may result in war, began on February 7, when officials of China seized the Japanese steamer Tatsu Maru off Macao, charging that she carried arms to Chinese rebels. The Japanese flag was hauled down and the crew held as contrabandists. The Tatsu Maru was taken to Whampoa on the Canton river, where she is still held. Baron Hayashi delivered an ultimatum to China Saturday, demanding immediate release of the vessel and the payment of an indemnity. Sun Shikai, of the Chinese foreign office then favored compliance with the Japanese demand

but the dowager empress has declared that war is preferable.

England at the same time intimated to Japan that war would not please Great Britain. Japan today is apparently forcing matters and war may be inevitable.

Withdraw Present Ministry.

Tokio, March 14.—Returns from the general election now being received, indicate the overthrow of the present ministry and the selection of Marquis Katsura as the next premier. There is considerable speculation as to the successor of Hayashi, the present foreign minister, and the belief is general that it will go to Ambassador Komura now at St. James.

Ship Is Released.

At 3:30 o'clock this afternoon China agreed to release the steamer Tatsu Maru; pay the Japanese owners \$10,000, and retain all arms found on board the boat. In addition, China will pay 10,000 taels demurrage. It is expected the formal release will take place March 16, when the Japanese flag will again be run up and saluted. Japan agrees to suppress contraband traffic between Japanese arms dealers and Chinese rebels.

BREWERS STRIKE IMMINENT.

Serious Complications May End in a General Strike by Workers.

St. Louis, Mo., March 14.—Thirty-five hundred brewers and brewery workers are likely to be called out on a sympathetic strike any moment because of international differences in the Brewery Drivers' union, which has resulted in the discharge of 50 men. The trouble was started by a split in the union in which 500 withdrew and formed an insurgent organization. This organization obtained recognition by the International Brewery Workers' union. The regulars obtained an injunction against the insurgents preventing them from entering the union headquarters. An ultimatum was then put up to the employers to discharge the deserters, and this was done.

Free From Plague.

San Francisco, March 14.—Rupert Blue, a federal representative who is fighting the Bubonic plague, has presented the city a clean bill of health and will inform Evans today that the men of the Atlantic fleet can come ashore here without any danger of infection.

FIND MORE BONES FOR CONTENTION

DOWAGER EMPRESS SLAPS JAPAN ANOTHER BLOW.

After Breaking Open Old Sore About Tatsu Maru Yesterday, China Takes Another Step That Means More Trouble—Cable and Shore Rights Transferred to Japan Not Sanctioned—England's Restraining Hand or Lack of Money Acts as Check.

London, March 14.—China dealt Japan another figurative slap in the face when she refused to recognize the transfer to Japan of shore rights recently granted to the Great Northern company, a Danish cable concern. Japanese statements are said to be boiling over with wrath at this latest move and complications are certain.

The trouble is over the Shanghai-Nagasaki cable. Recently Japan completed arrangements to take over the company. When Peking heard of this it notified Japan and the Great Northern company that the transfer would not be sanctioned. The general belief here is that China has called the mikado's bluff in the Tatsu Maru case, and that either Japan is held by Great Britain, or lack of funds, from making war.

BARCAIN DAY FOR SHOPPERS

EVIDENCE OF WHAT ADVERTISING ACCOMPLISHES.

The Fair Store and the J. M. Berry Clothing Store Thronged With Bargain Seekers Today—Both Places Opened Special Sales This Morning—Extra Clerks Kept Busy—More Stores Will Open Similar Sales in the City in Near Future.

There were two places in La Grande today that have enjoyed what is called "land office business." The Fair store and the J. M. Berry clothing store opened their respective sales this morning. In anticipation of a heavy rush, both stores had provided themselves with ample employees and the hundreds that have thronged the bargain counters of these two stores today have been waited upon without aggravating delay.

There are other stores of the city which are planning on sales that are like unto those which have been in force in the two stores mentioned today. Watch for their announcements in The Observer.

These heavy and unprecedented sales are the result of wide and consistent advertising that the proprietors in each instance have conducted prior to their opening. Advertising brings the business if the advertising is conducted along proper lines.

FRED TAYLOR BETTER.

Is Now Rapidly Improving at Grande Ronde Hospital.

The Observer is pleased to announce that Fred G. Taylor is improving rapidly, and gives his attendants and physicians encouragement for a speedy recovery. During his present illness his condition has been extremely gloomy to his many friends. He is apparently on the road to rapid recovery now, however.

Marriage License.

County Clerk Gilham yesterday evening issued a marriage license to Eugene Reufer and Miss Ivy Minnick of Union.

ALLEGED POLICE PLOT EXISTED

PROBE DEEPER INTO DEATH OF AVERBUCH.

Chicago Parties Are Investigating the Circumstances Attending the Death of an Anarchist Who Was Shot by Chief of Police Shippy—Say There is Mystery About the Affair—The "Red" Went to Chief's House Unarmed—Body Exhumed Secretly.

Chicago, March 14.—Organized effort is being made to get more light on the death of Lazarus Averbuch, the anarchist who was shot by Chief of Police Shippy. At the head of the movement is Miss Jane Addams of Hull House, and with her are 10 prominent social settlement workers.

Friends of Averbuch claim that he was a victim of a police plot. He went to the chief's house unarmed, and the investigators say that the knife and revolver placed near his body after he was shot, and that the wounds of Foley, the coachman, and Harry Shippy have a more mysterious explanation.

The body of Averbuch was secretly exhumed and an autopsy held Wednesday night. Counsel has been retained to take charge of the investigation.

FRUIT RANCH CHANGES HANDS

OREGON CITY MAN HAS PURCHASED LYMAN INTEREST.

Six Hundred and Forty Acres on Foothills Formerly Owned by Wm. Lyman Sold—Oregon City Man Has Purchased 75 Per Cent of the Stock in the Company—L. Oldenburg Will Have Charge of the Extensive Improvements Planned.

T. W. Clark of Oregon City, has purchased, through Ray W. Logan, 75 per cent of the stock in the Oregon Red Apple company, which formerly belonged to William Lyman. The property consists of 240 acres of fruit land located three miles north of the city, that has been classed by fruit experts to be as good as the best in the state.

The tract is beautifully located on the foothills overlooking the valley, and is secure from frost. Several springs of pure mountain water are so located that the water is convenient and sufficient for irrigating purposes.

Recently a prominent physician visited the tract with a view of establishing an open air sanitarium thereon, it being better adapted for this purpose than any other locality in Oregon—being warm and protected from winds.

The tract is well improved. As it stands there are 3000 apple trees, 3 years old. They are principally Rome Beauties, York Imperial, Yellow Newtown, Pippins and Ganos. One thousand and eighty trees are 8 years old and in full bearing. The cherry orchard is composed of 500 trees, of the Bing, Lombard and Royal Ann varieties. There are five acres of strawberries and two acres of Logan berries. Peach, pear and plum trees are included in the improvements.

Mr. Clark has just closed a contract employing about 20 Japanese, who will clear 50 acres in addition to that now set to trees and plant high grade peaches. With the 5,000 trees already planted and the additional 500

contracted for, the ranch will soon be a heavy fruit producer.

The soil is the best and is fully equal to the celebrated Hood River lands.

L. Oldenburg will take charge of the ranch and put it in the pink of condition.

Demonstrating the varied crops that are grown profitably on this ranch, it need only be said that about 4000 sacks of very fine potatoes are still in the pits.

Chamberlain Coming Out. Portland, March 14.—Authoritative statements to the effect that Governor Chamberlain will issue a public letter Sunday morning, announcing his candidacy for the United States senate from Oregon, are current here today. Governor Chamberlain refuses to deny the rumor or issue any outline as to what the reported statement will contain.

THE NEWS FORECAST.

New York, March 14.—Among the most important events scheduled for next week are the following:

Monday.

Battleship fleet will begin target practice at Magdalena bay, Lower California, during the week.

Fourth annual motor boat racing meet and carnival begins at Palm Beach, Fla.

Tuesday.

Secretary Taft, Governor Hughes of New York and Governor Johnson of Minnesota, will speak at the dinner of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick in New York.

St. Patrick's Day will be observed throughout the United States and in all lands where Irishmen are found. American Railway Engineering and Maintenance of Way association convenes in Chicago.

Wednesday.

Republicans of Iowa will meet in state convention at Des Moines.

Former President Grover Cleveland will celebrate his 71st birthday.

Interstate commerce commission will hold hearing on freight rates on fruits and vegetables at Jacksonville, Fla.

Packers and manufacturers of food products will hold conference in New York.

Thursday.

William Jennings Bryan will celebrate his 48th birthday.

Pope Pius X will observe his name day.

Friday.

Arkansas Republican committee to meet to settle date for state convention.

Saturday.

Republicans of New Mexico will hold territorial convention in Silver City.

Emperor William will leave Berlin for his villa on the island of Corfu.

Democrats of Rhode Island will hold state convention in Providence.

International cable chess match between students of America and England will be held.

EMMA GOLDMAN TO VISIT PORTLAND

FREE SPEECH MAY BE DENIED HER THERE.

Believing Things Are Too Quiet on the Coast, the High Priestess of Anarchism Now at Chicago, Will Come to Portland and Coast Cities—Her Manager Now in Portland Arranging Details—Argues That Common People Are Abused.

Portland, March 14.—Although Emma Goldman, the noted anarchistic leader and speaker, has announced that she will soon come to Portland for a series of meetings, having been driven from the lecture platform of the middle west by the action of the police in several cities, she may find the halls of Portland also closed to her.

Mayor Harry Lane has not yet determined whether he will sanction her appearance in Portland as a lecturer or not.

"I believe in the right of free speech," said Lane today, "but Miss Goldman cannot come to Portland and deliver seditious speeches which she would not be allowed to deliver in the east."

Yesterday Alexander Horr of Seattle, arrived here to make arrangements for Miss Goldman's visit.

"Things are too quiet on the coast," he said, "and Miss Goldman will stir them up. The murder of Averbuch by Chief of Police Shippy in Chicago, conviction of Eugene Schmitz, the sending of troops into Nevada, restriction of the right of free speech in Chicago, are all blows aimed at the common people. We are too conservative here. Miss Goldman will arouse us to our duty."

From Portland Miss Goldman is scheduled to go to San Francisco, Goldfield and Salt Lake.

Sustain Heavy Fine.

Caracas, March 11.—By a decision handed down by the Venezuelan supreme court today, judgment of the lower tribunal in fining the New York-Bermuda Asphalt company \$5,000,000, is confirmed. The companies were accused of giving aid to the rebels in the Matoz revolt. Notice of appeal was filed, but there is little likelihood of its being granted. This decision will complicate present diplomatic difficulties between the United States and Venezuela.

North Bank Passenger Traffic.

Portland, March 14.—Regular passenger service will be instituted on the Portland, Seattle and Spokane railroad Monday, according to a statement made at company headquarters today.

ELBERT HOUSE AGAIN GIVEN OVER TO ASYLUM AUTHORITIES

A fugitive from Oregon's insane asylum guards during the past year, incarcerated in an Oklahoma asylum, and now adjudged insane by County Judge Henry, is the pathetic history of Elbert House, whose parents live on the old Conley ranch at Nibley.

Last evening Sheriff Childers went to Nibley on instructions left at the office, and made the arrest of the young man who, since his release from the Oklahoma asylum, has been living with his parents until last night, when his mental condition became alarming. Mr. Childers found House at the home, and without any difficulty, brought him to La Grande. He was arraigned before county officials today and adjudged insane. He will be held in the county jail until guards from the Salem asylum arrive to take him away. He is violent at times, but made no resistance to his arrest.

Last fall he was adjudged insane in this county, but escaped from his relatives who had him in temporary custody, reaching Oklahoma soon after. There he was placed in an asylum but gained his freedom during the winter. Since his return to his home in this county, he has made his habitat with his parents. Yesterday the sheriff's office was notified that the young man's mind was a wreck and that for safety's sake his relatives thought best to turn him over to the officials.

Mrs. House is prostrated. Sheriff

Childers found her in a critical condition and her afflictions are not aided naturally, by knowledge of her son's sad plight.

PEOPLE TO DECIDE ISSUE.

San Francisco Voters Will Decide the High License Question.

San Francisco, March 14.—The question of whether the saloons should pay \$1000 license or not, will be submitted to the people. The high license committee of the supervisors have decided that the saloon keepers should be given six months to prepare for higher license. This will allow the people a chance to vote on the question at the November election, and this will be done.

RIVER IS RISING.

Advance Notice of Mountain Thaw Evident in This City.

The first and advance signs of mountain thaw is evident in the fact that the Grande Ronde river has risen one foot during the last 24 hours. The water is still rising.

This is an annual occurrence, but mountaineers predict that the river will be higher this year than usual during the spring thaw, due to the extra heavy snowfall in the mountains the past winter.