

WAR WASTEN WAR

More Russian Ships Not Well for Japan.

WOULD LOSE ADVANTAGE

With Fleet at Tunis on Scene, Strength Would Be Equal.

BOER CONFLICT IS RECALLED

Dispatch of Large British Enforcements Housed President Kruger to Open Hostilities—Mikado Likely to Profit by His Experience.

LAST STEPS BEFORE WAR.

LONDON, Jan. 4.—The Daily Mail's correspondent at the Japanese capital declares that Japan has forwarded to the powers a complete copy of the correspondence with Russia, and the paper points out that this is usually the last step taken prior to a declaration of war.

PARIS, Jan. 4.—The movements of the Russian naval division at Bizerta, Tunis, are being closely followed by the powers interested in the Japanese-Russian situation. One of the leading diplomats said the departure of the division for China "might prove decisive in causing Japan to take speedy action," and compared Japan's position with that of the Transvaal on the eve of the outbreak of the South African War, when the dispatch of large British reinforcements induced President Kruger to open hostilities.

Russian Torpedo Boats Sail.

MALTA, Jan. 4.—Five Russian torpedo-boat destroyers sailed from here today in an eastward direction.

Urgent Orders to Cruiser.

MOSCOW, Jan. 4.—The Russian volunteer fleet cruiser Saratoff has been ordered to Sebastopol, to receive her armament and thence proceed with all haste to Port Arthur. The Russian auxiliary cruiser Orel has been ordered to Odessa until she receives her armament.

RUSSIAN SHIPS SAIL FOR CHINA

Division Consists of 3500 Men Under Admiral Wierens.

PARIS, Jan. 4.—A dispatch to the Associated Press from Bizerta, Tunis, says the Russian naval division there, or recently in the vicinity, comprised the armored cruiser Dmitri Dongkol, launched in 1882; the armored cruiser Olayba, launched in 1888; the protected cruiser Aurora, launched in 1891; a dispatch-boat destined for Viceroy Alexieff, and 10 torpedo-boat destroyers of the latest make, having a speed of 26 knots. The personnel of the division consisted of 500 officers and men under Admiral Wierens.

A number of the ships of this division were sent and others were near that port, awaiting the presents of the division as a whole. The Aurora left yesterday for Pterous, and five of the torpedo-boat destroyers were recently at Malta. Viceroy Alexieff's dispatch states that the boats had already started for China.

The Foreign Office has not received advice of a material change in the diplomatic situation during the last five days.

The Japanese Legation here underlines that the two warships purchased by Japan from Argentina will sail for the Far East in the latter part of January. No objection will be raised by Japan, it is said, to the dispatch of the Japanese division of Russian warships to China, the naval authorities at Tokio considering that the ships form part of the Russian fleet in the Far East, and have been making preparations accordingly.

No news has been received at the Legation regarding the Russian reply, but it is asserted that unless the reply is a positive and favorable declaration of Russia's attitude, Japan, without further negotiations, will employ force to obtain satisfaction for her demands.

DOES NOT WANT CHINA TO MIX

United States Realizes Such Action Would Be Menace to Trade.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—Reports of unrest in China, and indications that the Peking government is inclined to join hands with Tokio in the event of war between Russia and Japan have been received at the State Department with regret. The possibility of China becoming involved in such a conflict presents, it is said, a very grave menace to American trade, and the officials of the Washington Government are disposed to bring to bear all the legitimate moral pressure at their command both at St. Petersburg and Peking to preserve peace between Russia and China, even if it were between Russia and Japan cannot be averted.

Although no direct representations have been received at the State Department recently from Peking on the subject, the statement is made that the United States will gladly support any proposition coming from St. Petersburg or Peking looking to a reference of the Manchurian question to the Hague tribunal for settlement.

The Washington Government sees nothing in this proposition which could not be carried out. The State Department has learned that China is disposed to refer the Manchurian question to the Hague and agree not to mix in a war between Russia and Japan.

JAPAN STILL PREPARING.

Course of Russia at Seoul and Peking Causes Much Irritation.

TOKIO, Jan. 4.—War preparations continue, but the government seems determined to avoid the initiation of any military action for this purpose the note sent to the powers was intended to show that the responsibility rested upon Russia, should the negotiations now proceeding fail. The government is proceeding very cautiously, and unless Russia gives undue provocation it is possible that peace may continue for some time. The preparations made by the government are, however, sufficient to convince the populace of a determined nation upon its part to fight if necessary.

IN FAVOR OF

Senate Committee Reports for Promotion of General.

THE VOTE IS EIGHT TO THREE

Witnesses Were Given Every Latitude, but Were Unable to Prove Charges, and in Most Cases They Held Real or Fancied Wrongs.

JAPAN'S ENSIGN IS HOISTED.

New Warships Purchased From Argentina Fly Her Colors.

WILL GIVE NO DIRECT ANSWER

Russia's Reply Will Be Made Up of Reasoned Propositions.

ST. PETERSBURG, Jan. 4.—The Associated Press has the authority of the Foreign Office that the Russian reply to the Japanese note will not be merely "yes" or "no," but will be made up of reasoned propositions. The general basis of this communication is already completed, but the details are being elaborated on.

JAPAN BUYING MUCH COAL.

Orders for 80,000 Tons for January Shipment Given in Wales.

CARDIFF, Wales, Jan. 4.—It was reported in the coal exchange today that Japan is placing orders here for 80,000 tons of steam coal, the orders being largely conditioned on shipment during January. It is estimated that 40,000 tons of steam coal have already been bought by Japan from Wales mines.

Russia's Reply Sent to Viceroy.

PARIS, Jan. 5.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Paris edition of the New York Herald says the reply of the Russian government to the Japanese note is now in the hands of Admiral Alexieff, the Russian Viceroy in the Far East, who will deliver it when he considers a favorable moment has arrived. According to the correspondent, Viceroy Alexieff declares that Russia has not given up hope of peaceful settlement of the differences between the two governments. The correspondent added, "As to whether Russia's reply will be acceptable to Japan, no one here will express an opinion. The reply has been carefully considered, and from Russia's point of view is framed in terms which Japan can honorably accept."

Germany Is More Hopeful.

COLOGNE, Germany, Jan. 4.—The tension between Russia and Japan has appreciably decreased, and the situation is regarded in authoritative quarters as quite reassuring, according to a dispatch to the Cologne Gazette from St. Petersburg. "Although the preparations and strategic deployment of both armies will not be interrupted," adds the correspondent, "pending the negotiations taking a turn toward the best prospects of Russia coming to a complete understanding with Japan."

Hanna Has No Comment to Make.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Jan. 4.—Senator Hanna said he has no comment to make when shown the dispatch from Washington today announcing the favorable report of the Senate committee on military affairs, which recommended the nomination of General Wood to be Major-General. It is understood that the Senator will make a speech against the confirmation of General Wood when the matter is taken up by the Senate.

Barges Lost in Storm.

NEWPORT NEWS, Va., Jan. 4.—The barges New Jersey and Liberty, which left here in tow of the tug Navigator, were lost in a storm. Both barges are reported to have gone down with all on board. On board the Liberty were Captain Peter Schipp and four men, and on the New Jersey, Captain Elmer Hamel and a crew of thirty.

Heavy Fall in Securities.

LONDON, Jan. 5.—Special telegrams from Tokio printed in this morning's newspapers have nothing new to report concerning the situation in the Far East, beyond the fact that all securities on the Bourse, as a result of which several brokers have been ruined and the bankers rendered exceedingly anxious.

Argentina Has No Ships for Sale.

BIENOS AIRES, Jan. 4.—The Argentine Government, in answer to a telegram of inquiry from a representative of an English firm which negotiated recent purchases of warships for Japan, has stated that Argentina has no ships to sell any more ships.

Great Secrecy is Enjoined.

LONDON, Jan. 4.—A dispatch to Reuters' Telegram Company from Tokio says that the Japanese government has enjoined the greatest secrecy in connection with the imminence of some important developments, but that the most rigorous secrecy is maintained in all official circles.

Reply Has Likely Reached Japan.

PEKING, Jan. 4.—Advice received here from Tokio says that the Russian Foreign Minister, Count Lansdorf, promised to hand Russia's reply to the Japanese Minister at St. Petersburg Saturday last, but it is believed here that the reply reached Tokio.

Russia Will Occupy Chinese Point.

TIEN TSIN, Jan. 4.—The Russian office here has informed the railroad officials that a detachment of 100 Russian troops will occupy Shin-Min-Tsun, on the railroad running to Shan Hai Kwan, and Tien Tsin, in two days from date.

Empress Dowager of Corea Dead.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—Minister Allen, at Seoul, has advised the State Department that the Empress Dowager of Corea died on the morning of January 2.

Japan Calls Officers Home.

BERLIN, Jan. 4.—Several Japanese officials who have been attending the cavalry school at Hanover have received cable messages from their government instructing them to return to Japan immediately.

Shipping Strike Spreads.

BARCELONA, Jan. 4.—The strike of persons employed by the shipping interests, which was declared yesterday, was joined today by 12,000 others. All attempts at mediation have failed. The Chamber of Commerce declares that the demands of the men are extravagant.

THE "DIFFERENT

STORE"

OLD, WORTMAN & KING

FIFTH AND WASHINGTON STREETS

Every article in the house—contract goods—excepted—deeply cut and slashingly reduced.

Of the Stocks in the Shoe Section--A Shoe Sale of Intense Importance to Every Prudent Shoe Buyer in or for Miles Around Portland

The fact that the breaking through from our present store into the new annex, now being so rapidly pushed to completion, necessitates tearing down the walls whereon rest the shelves that bear thousands upon thousands of dollars' worth of new, good, worthy, stylish shoes, of these season's vintage, MAKES IT AN IMPERATIVE NECESSITY TO DISPOSE OF EVERY DOLLAR'S WORTH POSSIBLE OF THESE SHOES before the dust, mortar and debris incident upon the alterations force us to move the stocks. We prefer to submit to a present loss rather than to wait for a later one that might mean a greater one—SO WE INAUGURATE THIS MORNING A GRAND, POSITIVE CLEAN SWEEP SALE OF OUR ENTIRE SHOE STOCK. Every pair of shoes, every pair of boots and every pair of slippers in the house is RADICALLY REDUCED. The printed list below includes but few of hundreds of incomparable values. No other house is forced, as we are, to such unheard of reductions on new, fashionable footwear—not an unworthy shoe in all the lot—no trash, but all the newest and best of shoes from the leading factories of America's Shoe Cities.

THE LOSS IS DECISIVE—THE CLEARANCE QUICK—THE OPPORTUNITY YOURS! We warrant every pair to give satisfaction.

WOMEN'S SHOES

at Wonderful Bargain Prices

Women's handsome, ultra fashionable "Pattern" or bench-made shoes, the very extreme of style in woman's footwear, finest of kid, in French or enamel finish or patent leather; choice of full Louis or military heels and newest style toes; regular \$5.00 and \$6.00 values, in the sweep at \$3.85

WOMEN'S \$3.50 EMPRESS SHOES, \$2.48.

Eight styles in the choosing and 4 leading leathers; very newest lasts.....\$2.48

WOMEN'S \$3.00 STREET SHOES, \$1.98.

All leading leathers and choice of heavy or light soles.....\$1.98

WOMEN'S \$1.25 HOUSE SLIPPERS, 83c.

Women's common-sense House Slippers, with broad toes, flat heels and soft, flexible soles; \$1.25 values in the sweep at.....83c

WOMEN'S COMMON-SENSE HOUSE COM-FORTS, \$1.75 AND \$2.00 KIND FOR \$1.38—

In lace or congress styles, warm lined, with flexible soles, broad toes and flat heels, go in the sweep, the \$1.75 and \$2 values, at.....\$1.38

\$2.00 AND \$2.50 FANCY SLIPPERS, \$1.68.

Fancy House or Party Slippers, in one or three-strap style, with beaded vamps or plain, high or medium heels; the usual \$2.00 and \$2.50 values go in the sweep for.....\$1.68

\$1.75 PARTY SLIPPERS, \$1.18.

In one-strap style, kid stock, soft, hand-turned soles.

INFANTS' \$1 LACE OR BUTTON SHOES, 68c

Advertisement for Old, Wortman & King shoe store. Features illustrations of various shoes and a large broom graphic with the text 'CLEAN SWEEP SALE'. The ad describes a massive shoe clearance sale with significant discounts on all inventory.

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Women's handsome, ultra fashionable "Pattern" or bench-made shoes, the very extreme of style in woman's footwear, finest of kid, in French or enamel finish or patent leather; choice of full Louis or military heels and newest style toes; regular \$5.00 and \$6.00 values, in the sweep at \$3.85

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In one-strap style, kid stock, soft, hand-turned soles.

INFANTS' \$1 LACE OR BUTTON SHOES, 68c

Misses' and Children's Shoes in Bargain Sweep

In new and fashionable styles of street shoes, button or lace, calf or kid stock with plain or patent tips— Sizes 6 to 8, \$1.50 values for...98c

Sizes 8 1/2 to 11, \$1.75 values for.....\$1.08

Sizes 11 1/2 to 2, \$2 values for.....\$1.38

\$1.50 Slippers, 98c.

Bargain Table in Shoe Aisle—All \$1.50 values in Men's or Women's House and Party Slippers of felt or leather stock—Juliettes or low-cut styles.....98c

\$2.00 HOUSE SHOES, \$1.38.

Best warm House Shoes, with felt tops, lined throughout, in congress or lace styles, heavy or light soles.

Boys' Shoes in the Slaughter

Boys' Heavy Winter Shoes, all solid calf stock, double soles and made for hard service, in the sale as follows—

In sizes 11 to 13, regular \$1.75 values at.....\$1.28

In sizes 13 1/2 to 2, regular \$2.00 values at.....\$1.48

In sizes 2 1/2 to 5 1/2, regular \$2.50 values at.....\$1.78

WOMEN'S \$2.00 JULIETTES, \$1.38.

In fancy fur trimmed styles, choice of felt or velvet materials.

BOYS' AND YOUTHS' SHOE BARGAINS.

Boys' and Youths' Shoes, of extra heavy box calf stock, heavy soles and broad toes, stylish, mannish lasts—

Sizes 11 to 13, \$2.25 values at.....\$1.78

Sizes 13 1/2 to 2, \$2.50 values at.....\$1.98

Sizes 2 1/2 to 6, \$3.00 values, at.....\$2.28

MEN'S \$3.50 REGENT SHOES, \$2.68.

One of the best and most famous of the \$3.50 Shoes made in America. All new, latest, most fashionable styles, in box of velour calf or enameled leather, with heavy double soles. A grand value at.....\$2.68

CHILDREN'S \$1.50 SHOES, 98c.

In box calf, of vic' kid stock, button or lace styles, with heavy double soles— Clearance Sale price.....98c

BARGAINS IN SLIPPERS.

Special Clearance of Christmas Slippers—All of our Fancy Pattern Slippers of superior quality and bench-made from newest Eastern patterns, with extra high, full Louis heels.

\$5.00 values now.....\$3.83

\$4.00 values now.....\$2.98

\$3.50 values now.....\$2.78

In one, two or three-strap styles, with medium high heels:

\$3.00 values for.....\$1.98

\$2.00 and \$2.50 values for.....\$1.78

\$1.75 values for.....\$1.18

THE NEWEST THING OUT IN LADIES' NECKWEAR

The 5th Avenue Bow

The newest, smartest sensation in Neckwear for fashionable women. Just out—pictured in the latest periodicals and fashion articles in the newspaper—made from models just received from our New York office. We'll make 'em to order at the Ribbon Counter from any ribbon you may select—call and see 'em.

Two Great Silk Specials

ANNEX—FIRST FLOOR

Extra Special Clearance Sale Black Taffeta—19 inches wide, very strong and durable and high finish—our regular 86c value; Special Clearance price.....69c

27 inches wide heavy, durable black Silk Taffeta, with high, rich finish, splendid for drop skirts and linings, our regular \$1.25 value; Special Clearance price.....96c

A WIFE FOR FOUR BITS

SALE OF WOMEN STILL ENGLISH CUSTOM.

One Man, Failing to Beat Unruly Young Helpmet Into Submission, Sells Her to Soldier.

Readers of Mr. Brady's novels have been reminded of the opening chapters of "The Mayor of Cambridge" by the case at Marlborough-Street Police Court the other day, where it was shown that the defendant had got rid of his wife by selling her for a couple of shillings, says the London Globe. For precedents of this commercial form of divorce some journalists have searched the records of a century ago, and produced numerous instances of wives being led to the cattle market and there knocked down to the highest bidder. But it is not necessary to go back anything like a hundred years for such sales of wives. There are sufficient modern instances to maintain the assertion that wife-selling is still a British custom. There are hundreds of people who still believe that to transfer a wife to another man for a cash payment is a legal transaction, and a valid dissolution of matrimonial ties. As a popular error it ranks with the idea that if husband or wife be absent or unheard of for seven years the other is free to marry again. In Yorkshire generally, and in Sheffield in particular, this doctrine of wife-selling is still so firmly established and frequently practiced that it has little less than the force of a local law.

Legends of Sheffield grinders who in drunken bouts sell their wives for a quart of ale are well known. But nowadays such transactions are no longer conducted openly. They are invested with formality, as witness this document, which figured

Has a Grudge Against Women.

A Joplin bachelor regards woman as a very wretched, fickle creature, and seems to have some grounds for his opinion. "Several years ago," he says, "I happened to be in another town, engaged on a contract, and while there I ran across a young woman whom I used to know working in a hotel. I had known her when she was but a girl, and at that time her parents were well fixed. She told me that her husband had deserted her, leaving her to work out for her living. I didn't like to see her there, and arranged with a friend to give her a better position. Finally I took such a liking to her that I proposed marriage, and she accepted me, agreeing to marry me as soon as she could get a divorce. She went to Springfield and proposed to get a divorce there. Every now and then she would send me marked copies of papers containing items regarding the progress of her case. All the time I was sending her money to support her there and aid her in getting the case through. Some time after I received a copy of a Springfield paper with the account of her divorce being granted. She asked for a little more money to get her wedding trousseau made. I sent her more money, and she wrote me how she was progressing with her trousseau."

"Well, did she get it finished?"

The bachelor paused to relight his cigar.

"Yes, she did. I received another marked copy of a Springfield paper. This time it contained the notice of her marriage."

"Her marriage?"

"Yes, the blankety-blanked woman had gone and married a conductor, and here she had worked me for the money to buy her wedding outfit and get her divorce."

"That's the reason I'm still bacheling, continued the Joplin man with a sigh.

Steel Plant Will Resume Work.

PITTSBURG, Jan. 4.—The Black Diamond Steel Company mills, of the Crum-

ble Steel Company of America, will resume work in nearly all departments after a shutdown in many departments of five months. One thousand men are affected.

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