

MIKADO AT DIET

Special Session of Japanese Parliament.

WILL RAISE WAR FUNDS

Much Ceremony Marks the Opening Session.

RULER READS HIS MESSAGE

Representatives Prepare an Address to the Throne Declaring the Utmost Confidence in the Emperor's Management.

GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN.

Although Japan is regarded as one of the absolute monarchies of the world, it possesses a constitution, which was adopted in 1889. It provides that the Emperor shall be the head of the empire, with all the rights of the sovereign and exercising full executive power, with the advice and assistance of the Cabinet Ministers, who are appointed by himself.

There is also a Privy Council and a House of Representatives, which is composed of members of the imperial family, Counts, Viscounts and Barons, and an indefinite number of persons appointed by the Emperor for meritorious service to the state by election, and persons elected by each Prefecture and Ken.

The total membership of the House of Representatives is 300. According to the constitution, the membership of the House of Representatives shall be 300, a fixed number being returned from each electoral district. Voting is by secret ballot, and the proportion of members to the population is 1 to each 125,000.

TOKIO, March 20.—With stately ceremony the special session of Parliament, convened to provide the money needed to wage the war against Russia, was opened this morning. The Emperor, clad in the uniform of a Generalissimo, rode in the great state coach from the palace to the Parliament-house and personally read his address to the Peers and Commons. For the first time the Crown Prince attended the ceremony. He followed his father to an improvised throne in the Peers' hall and stood close by his right side while he read his appeal to his subjects.

The Emperor left the Palace at 10:30 o'clock, accompanied by a group of imperial Princes, aunts and members of the imperial household. His escort consisted of two troops of lancers, one preceding the other. Following came the coaches carrying the Emperor, Princes and staff. The brilliant uniforms, splendid coaches and pageants of red and white silk carried by each lancer made the imperial procession an attractive picture. Lines of police and gendarmes kept the streets clear and walked back the populace, which received its ruler in absolute silence—the highest mark of respect.

Stand in Emperor's Presence.

Long before the Emperor reached the Peers' chamber the members were in their places. The Peers, all uniformed, occupied the right side of the chamber and the Commons, all in evening dress, filled the left. The seats, which occupied rising tiers, had been removed and the members stood in semi-circles, with the president and vice-president of each house in advance of each main group.

The members of the Cabinet, headed by Premier Katsura, occupied a position on the right platform, close to the throne. The diplomatic gallery was filled, nearly every Legation and staff being present. The other galleries were filled with Japanese civil officials and military and naval officers. No women were present.

When the Emperor entered the members of Parliament bowed low. The Emperor, advancing to the front of the platform, bowed to them, and immediately ascended the throne. Premier Katsura advanced to the throne and handed the address to the Emperor. The latter read it in a voice low but firm, which carried to every corner of the chamber.

Address of the Emperor.

"We hereby open the Imperial Diet and address each and all the members of the House of Peers and the House of Representatives. We announce with high satisfaction that our relations with the treaty powers are steadily growing in cordiality and good understanding.

"Prompted by an earnest desire to maintain a permanent peace in the extreme East, our government, by our command, entered into negotiations with Russia. We regret that, owing to an absence of sincerity on the part of Russia in her peaceful professions we have been compelled to appeal to arms and, having taken that step, we cannot hesitate until the object of the war is attained.

"Our forces in the presence of unwonted hardships and privations are now displaying their steadfast loyalty and valor, and we hope that all our subjects will co-operate in perfect unity for the enhancement of the glory of the Empire.

"We trust that you will in compliance with our will fulfill the duty incumbent upon you and give cordial consent to those budgets and bills which are especially urgent in connection with the situation and which we have ordered the Ministers of State to lay before you."

The members remained with bowed heads until the reading was concluded. The President of the House of Peers then ascended the platform, advanced to the throne and handed the address from the Emperor. The Emperor then stepped to the front of the platform, bowed, left the chamber and returned to the palace.

Representatives Express Confidence.

In view of the extraordinary reply to the throne passed at the opening of the last session in December, wherein the House of Representatives condemned the policy of the Cabinet, which was declared to be incompatible with the progress of the Empire and to be temporizing, the House of Representatives today appointed

ICON TO SHED SHOTS

Sacred Relic Sent to Russian Torpedo-Boat.

FETES FOR RED CROSS AID

Russian Princess Dances Fandango at Entertainments Given by an Armenian Prince in His St. Petersburg Mansion.

ST. PETERSBURG, March 20.—Vice-Admiral Makaroff has reported the miraculous escape of four sailors from the torpedo-boat destroyer Stereguschich, which foundered during the naval battle off Port Arthur March 8. The men escaped by swimming when the boat sank and succeeded in keeping afloat until they were picked up.

The metropolitan archbishop of St. Petersburg has sent an icon to the torpedo-boat destroyer, which in the conflict of March 9 managed to elude the Japanese fire. This icon, it is believed, will safeguard the boat from further harm.

Prince Abemik Lazareff, a descendant of the Armenian Kings, is giving a series of fetes for the benefit of the Red Cross Society at his historic mansion. Society leaders are figuring in the dances at the fetes, including Princess Alexandra Yourievski, daughter-in-law of Alexander II, by amorganatic marriage, and Princess Abemik, a noted beauty, who artistically dances the fandango.

ARMY FORMING IN TURKESTAN

Grand Duke Nicholas Will Assume Command of Troops.

PARIS, March 21.—According to the St. Petersburg correspondent of the Matin, a member of the Russian Imperial family has declared that the mobilization of troops is proceeding actively in Turkestan. The concentration of troops is being effected on the railway from Merv to Kushko, a frontier fortress overlooking the Pamirs.

It is believed that Grand Duke Nicholas Nicolaievitch, General-in-Chief of the cavalry, will assume command of the troops in Turkestan.

Batteries Not in Position.

LONDON, March 21.—A correspondent of the Times at Niu Chwang cables as follows:

"According to information received here the reason the Vladivostok forts did not reply to the bombardment by the Japanese was because the batteries were not supplied with guns. Since the bombardment parties have been working night and day to place the guns in position. The bombardment destroyed the Linievitch Battery. The Russian losses were slight because the batteries were deserted.

"The same conditions prevail at Vladivostok as at Port Arthur. The supply of provisions there is running short, and the population is panic-stricken. The ice is considered the only real protection."

Niu Chwang Will Be Defended.

SPECIAL CABLE TO THE LONDON TIMES AND PORTLAND OREGONIAN.

NIU CHWANG, March 21.—Despite the fact that the plan of the Russian commandant for the defense of Niu Chwang is changed from day to day, there is no question that at least an attempt will be made to retain possession of the town should the Japanese attack. The forts have been strengthened with sandbags, which have been piled as high as the Chinese ramparts and all of the other defenses are being improved.

Several field-pieces, landed from gunboats, have been mounted in position and reinforcements are constantly arriving from Mukden.

FORCED OUT OF VLADIVOSTOK

Jewish Merchants Suffer Great Hardships in Reaching Japan.

VICTORIA, B. C., March 20.—The Boston Steamship Company's steamer Shawmut arrived this morning from Manila, via China and Japan. Among its passengers were Augustus Libby and Cornelius Hoff, Jewish merchants of Vladivostok, who received 24 hours' notice from the Russian military authorities to leave the country. The men, who were engaged in business and sell out at heavy sacrifice, and, as a result, sea was blocked and the railway between Vladivostok and Harbin destroyed, were running in distance, they were compelled to travel by sledge more than 1000 miles to the nearest port on the Korean coast.

They were arrested at the Siberian-Corvair frontier, where there was great difficulty about their passports, and where they were in danger of being thrown into prison as spies. No sooner had they got into Corea than they encountered the special service officers of the Japanese War Department and they were in more trouble here, their story not being accepted that they were refugees fleeing from Russia by order of the military.

After enduring many hardships and much annoyance they joined the Shawmut at Yokohama. All the time the two Jewish merchants were in Japan, they were "shadowed" by special service men, who also kept a watchful eye on one or two others of the Shawmut's passengers, one passenger having two men mounting guard over him for quite a long period. The Russians, just before the war, had strong forces at work on the fortifications, making new entrenchments, building bomb-proof storerooms and placing big guns. The place is immensely strong by nature, but has been rendered impregnable by the fortifications which command the entrance and channel to the harbor. The garrison in January amounted to about 15,000 or 20,000 men of all arms, mostly artillery. When the news of the war came, military law was immediately proclaimed and strict surveillance was maintained over everybody in the place.

The whole sea front of Vladivostok is a network of submarine mines. Since the outbreak of the war, very few vessels have entered the harbor from the south, owing to fear of Japanese commerce-destroyers.

The Russians appeared to be greatly annoyed when it was learned that the railway between Vladivostok and Harbin had been torn up and the bridges dynamited. Apparently no attempt was being made to repair the railway.

The Shawmut encountered Japanese torpedo-boats and destroyers hundreds of miles out to sea, and these vessels are evidently keeping a very strict watch on commerce in those waters.

The first flush of the war fever has passed in Japan and business is going on quietly again. One hundred war correspondents left for the front the day before the Shawmut sailed from Yokohama.

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Alleges Japan Fractured Rules of War in Port Arthur Bombardment.

PARIS, March 20.—The Russian Embassy has received from St. Petersburg a message and has handed to Foreign Minister Delcasse for transmission to the French Minister at Tokio, who is entrusted with the protection of Russian interests in

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The "Different Store" Home of Quality and Fashion Portland's Best Sort o' Shop Fifth and Washington Streets

A Renaissance—See Grandma's Old Spinning Wheel in the Linen Shop—First Floor.

FIRST FLOOR.

Persian Trim-mings

Ready for the Openings

Beautiful creations of marvelous beauty such as only Oriental fancy can originate. Fine, handsome Persian bands from the quarter-inch widths up to those two inches wide. Full and complete lines in wondrous variety. At all prices up from 10c yard.

"OLD GLORY"

presides with customary dignity amid its surroundings from Nature's glens and mankind's superlative handiwork on 1st Floor.

FIRST FLOOR.

New Veilings in the Opening

All the newest, most charming, fetching creations ever conjured among artist weavers. Every novelty that Fashion favors at prices small as fairness allows. Fancy mesh veiling up from 25c to \$1.75 yard.

Fancy Chiffon Veils in 3 yard lengths, very stylish, \$2.50 to \$3.50.

All the latest novelties in Belts, including in the variety crush or plain tailor-made, up from 50c each.

Get under the gorgeous canopy of apple blows in the Rotunda.

Fourth Floor Openings

New lines of beautiful LACE CURTAINS that include superb—

Arabians up from	2.75 to	\$100.00
Renaissance up from	9.00 to	40.00
Brussels up from	4.25 to	90.00
Irish Point up from	2.50 to	12.50
Scriz up from	5.00 to	16.00
Battenburg up from	2.50 to	15.00
Gluny up from	4.50 to	11.00
Marionette up from	11.00 to	27.50
Savoy up from	2.00 to	6.50
And Duchess weaves.		
Novelties in Bulgarian Curtains	3.75 to	12.00
Novelties in Fancy Madras Curtains	1.25 to	3.00
Novelties in Snowflake Curtains	3.25 to	6.50

NEW ART DRAPERIES—In Satin, Denim, Silkoline, Silk, Mosaic and Tapestry.

NEW PORTIERES—In Tapestry, Velour, Silk and Fish Net.

NEW RUGS—In infinite variety and every size from the door mat to full carpet dimensions. Domestic and Oriental.

THE GRAND OPENING OF THE NEW CARPET STORE CONTINUES this week. Nothing but new Carpets and at less price than at other stores, where styles hoary with age and shop-worn look predominate. YOUR CARPET MONEY is best invested here. We guarantee to show you greater varieties, newer and handsomer patterns and better carpets, sewed and laid, for less money than any Carpet House in Portland. Full lines of Carpets, Linoleums, Oil Cloth and Mattings in both Japanese and China weaves.

NEW LINES OF BABY GO-CARTS at lowest prices. See the adjustable Go-Carts.

The O. W. & K. SEWING MACHINES are sold at about half agency prices. New ones just in from the factory. Why pay more elsewhere for inferior machines. A 10-year guarantee of this reliable firm goes out with every machine sold.

BE SURE TO SEE THE BIG DISPLAYS ON 4TH FLOOR TODAY!

Grand Formal Spring Openings

Today and Tomorrow

With enthusiasm. Delighted femininity is talking of naught else but the WONDROUS OPENINGS of this one great Home of Fashion for the Northwest, that starts this morning, to continue until closing time at 6 P. M. tomorrow. Petty efforts to sidetrack this peerless "ROSE STATE DAYLIGHT FLIER," by mercantile pebbles, have been as futile and ridiculous as attempts of the genus small boy to puncture the hide of the elephant with missiles from a bean-blower. This store has become a mercantile world power and its fame has been added to by this unparalleled fashion event as never before. Today we step up on a plane with America's style leaders and justly merit the title of the "MARSHALL FIELD STORE" OF THE PACIFIC COUNTRY. Other similar events about town, some the inspiration of second wind, are but abortive attempts of subservient imitation, sincerest flattery of the awe-inspiring spectacle that opens here today. GO AND SEE THEM ALL THAT YOU MAY ENJOY THIS O'ERTOWERING EVENT AT THE "DIFFERENT STORE" THE BETTER BY COMPARISON. Never before has competition so belittled itself—never before has this grand "Old Homestead" Shop so demonstrated its masterful supremacy. OUR OPENINGS TODAY ARE A MATTER OF CIVIC PRIDE—and Portland's narrow confines will not bound their fame. They'll be talked of from the Pacific Slope to Atlantic's glistening sands. Little remains untold that we're time to tell. "Everybody" will be here today—of course you're "Somebody." WELCOME!

The Town's Agog

Grand Orchestra Concert 2 to 5 P. M. Today and Tomorrow by Prof. Everes's orchestra, 10 Pieces

FIRST FLOOR.

Opening Shows in the Men's Shop

Here's where we interest the men. Bring "your menfolks" along today—we'll entertain them. Every line stands erect—ready at "attention"—for most critical inspection. A few items to jog male memories:

New lines of Half-Hose, plains or fancy, in every fabric that's used for footwear; pair.....25c up to \$1.50

MEN'S NECKWEAR—All latest shapes in newest designs and colorings.....25c to \$2.00

SPRING SHIRT LINES include golf styles or stiff bosoms in plain or fancy novelty colorings, newest, neatest patterns; a full line of the new grays so popular among smart dressers; cuffs separate or attached; immense lines.....50c to \$3.50

MEN'S SPRING UNDERGARMENTS—Every desirable weight and fabric, but only best makes at no matter what price. Among the makes that have made this shop famous for quality stocks are the Stuttgarter and Dr. Deimel's Linen Mesh Garments. Every grade up! from.....50c to \$3.50

OPENING SPECIALS OF INTEREST TO MAN AND BOY—For three days only, Today, Tuesday and Wednesday.

BOYS' SWEATERS—Sizes 20, 22 and 24 only; in white, red and black with purple and orange stripes; regular \$1.25 values for.....89c

Men's regular 50c values in fancy Half-Hose, choice at, pair.....29c

MEN'S 'KERCHIEFS—All linen with tape borders, of the famous Richardson family of linens; best 20c values in town at half price—Each.....10c

See the \$150 Combination Set—Hat, Muff and Parasol in its setting of natural moss—Bijou Window, Corner of Washington and 5th Streets.

FIRST FLOOR.

Opening of Beautiful Laces

Never has this unrivalled Lace Store been so worthy of its position of first among its conferees as today. Rich, handsome laces, thousands of miles of them all gathered here today in one grand Lace Convention. You're invited. New all-overs, bands and edges in cream, white and ecru. Point Venise up from 15c to \$12.00 yard. All-overs up to \$22.50 yard. Net Top Venise Laces 25c up to \$7.00 yard.

FIRST FLOOR.

Women's Opening Neckwear Displays

Start this morning. Very smart, beautiful conjurings from America's foremost makers.

Handsome new Stock Collars, hand-made and very swell, 35c to \$5.50.

New Bulgarian Sets in Persian designs, collars and cuffs, 25c, 35c and 75c set.

New Wash Stocks with attractive fancy Tabs, in pretty colorings or white, 35c.

New Crepe de Chine Scarf, 75c, \$1.00 and \$1.25.

Tutt's Pills

Cure All Liver Ills.

Tried Friends Best.

For thirty years Tutt's Pills have proven a blessing to the invalid. Are truly the sick man's friend.

A Known Fact

For bilious headache, dyspepsia, your stomach, malaria, constipation and all kindred diseases. TUTT'S Liver PILLS AN ABSOLUTE CURE.

Tonight

Just before retiring, if your liver is sluggish, out of tune and you feel dull, bilious, constipated, take a dose of Hood's Pills and you'll be all right in the morning.

Count Cassini Will Deny Report.

WASHINGTON, March 20.—Count Cassini, the Russian Ambassador, has been invited by the Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs to visit the United States.

Quiet Days at Vladivostok.

VLADIVOSTOK, March 20.—The Russian military plans are progressing satisfactorily here, along the main coast and at Sakalin Island. Some women and children are returning to Russia.

The first detachment of the Red Cross from Russia has arrived and has been distributed among the field hospitals. More than a hundred nurses have been sent from here to Manchuria and Corea.

The delivery of Russian mails to the frontier and to ports is working fairly well and the telegraphs excellently. Letters reach Vladivostok 23 days after leaving St. Petersburg.

Subonic Plague at Johannesburg.

JOHANNESBURG, March 20.—An outbreak of the bubonic plague has occurred in the Indian coolie section. Thirty deaths have occurred since Thursday. It was at first supposed the outbreak was one of pneumonia, but the nature of the disease now is officially admitted and the section has been cordoned.