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PORTLAND, OREGON, THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 1905.

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Builder of Manchester Canal Will Advise Panama Board.

WASHINGTON, April 19 .- Sir Mortimer Durand, the British Ambassador, today

informed Secretary Taft that the British

Government had, at the Secretary's in-vitation, selected Chief Engineer Hunter,

the builder of the Manchester ship canal

to act as one of the consulting engineers of the Panama Canal Board. Mr. Hunter

NO PET FOR PAYMASTERS.

Future Selections for Navy Will Be

by Competition.

WASHINGTON, April 19.-Announce-

ment was made at the Navy Department oday that there existed 29 vacancies in

the grade of Assistant Paymaster in the

Navy, the only grade of pay corps to which appointments are made from civil

life. The examination for candidates for this grade has been set for June 12, and

necessary to obtain designations for

for the first time no political influence

this examination. By order of the Secre-

tary, the examination has been thrown

open to all applicants who are able to

resent satisfactory letters from reputable

ousiness concerns and also letters showing

Further information can be obtained by

addressing the Paymaster-General of the Navy. The examination will be competi-

tive, and the 29 best men, provided that number make the required percentage on

Navy Yard, Washington, and at the Navy

Yard, Mare Island, California, that the

THEY RESIGN UNDER FIRE.

Accused Examiners Who Gave Pen-

WASHINGTON, April 19 .- Nine of the

ten pension examiners constituting the

board of review were separated from the

resignations to Secretary Hitchcock, with

the recommendation that they be accepted.

and Mr. Hitchcock took the desired action

The resigned examiners assert that rep

esentations were made to them, purport-

ing to come from the Commissioner, that,

should they hand in their resignations, matters would be relieved and restorations

would be made at some date in the near

such representation to the Secretary of the

board of review was its approval of sev-

eral pensions to applicants whose only claim was enlistment in a Pennsylvania

and a New Jersey regiment of volunteers

for service in the Civil War, but the serv-

ces of whom were never availed of by the

Sands Sent to Panama.

WASHINGTON, April 19 .-- W. S. Sands,

ex-Secretary of Legation at Corea, and now adviser to the King, has been ap-pointed secretary of the American Lega-

tion at Panama, to succeed Mr. Lee, who becomes Consul-General.

Keeps the Same Secretary.

WASHINGTON, April 12.-It has been decided that Dominick Murphy, secretary of the Isthmian Canal Commission, just

retired, shall be continued with the new

commission in a like capacity.

future. Mr. Warner, however, made no

The difficulty involving the

without delay.

Interior.

Government,

these

in

vernment service today. Commissioner

sions to Carpet Soldiers.

held at the

Coast may

the examination, will be appointed

also have an opportunity to take it.

The examinations will be

applicants from the Pacific

that the applicants are fit met to be of

ers in the pay corps.

has signified his willingness to serve.

Durand,

desires that property-owners have faith in the next Council before he shall put that power in its hands.

Will Reduce Levy.

the same amount of money could be raised

But the Council to be elected next June

would have a tremendous taxing power

at its disposal. For this reason, Mr. Sig-

next year on a levy less than 4 mills.

The prime reason for raising the assessment is to reduce the high levy, which has been 40 mills in the last two years and which many persons consider a deterrent to investment of outside capital. Mr. Sigler is outspoken in his belief that the high levy does injury to Portland by scaring away investors, too few of whom take pains to learn the cause or lister to explanation. When many an Eastern investor hears of Portland's 40-mill levy, he throws up his hands and exclaims that that is as much as he can lend money for. says Mr. Sigler.

Of the revenue derived from taxes this year, nearly 60 per cent came from real property, about 22 per cent from what are called improvements, and the remaining 17 per cent from what is called personal property, including merchandise, vehicles, railroads, telegraphs, telephones, machinery, boats, livestock, household furniture and money, notes and accounts. By the method contemplated by Mr. Sigler, the tax on improvements would be lessened and that on unimproved city realty and many forms of personal property, including intangible assets, would be increased.

To Increase Valuation.

Improvements are now assessed at about 40 per cent of what the Assessor considers their actual value, and city realty at about 20 per cent. By Mr. Sigler's plan the assessed valuation of city realty would be increased to 60 or 75 per cent of actual value and that of improve ments to 50 or 50 per cent. This would more than double the present assessed valuations of real property in the city and would tax realty heavier while improvements would be taxed lighter than Mr. Sigler believes that this system would place the burdens of taxation more equitably, because persons who make improvements should not be taxed severely for doing so, and persons who hold realty unimproved should be encouraged to make improvements that will yield revenue to ease burdens of taxation.

First of all, Mr. Sigler will make an estimate of the true actual value of all taxable property in the county. In this work he and his assistants are now busfly engaged. They are almost done with improvements, and will next take up realty. Mr. Sigler is not relying on his own judgment of values nor on that of his regular corps of assistants, but has called to his aid several persons expert In estimating values.

Keep Figures Below Values.

"I have directed them to keep their figures safely below those of actual values," said Mr. Sigler last night, "and then to deduct 10 per cent in order to be doubly sure of keeping within true values. For example, if certain improvements have a probably true value of \$3000. I am having, say, \$250 deducted in order to reach a safe estimate, and then to per cent more taken off, leaving an estimate of \$2500. In this way we shall reach about 50 per cent of actual values."

5 1

Mr. Sigler has been in communication

The nearest approach to definite results | Admiral Nebogatoff joining Rojestvenobtained from the conference was a prac- sky before the fatal struggle opens, intical agreement on a joint conference to be held soon by the Mayor, the traction interests and the City Council committee

to modernize their lines and sell to the rived in the Straits of Malacca there was

city at a fair profit, thus getting rid of a disposition to ridicule the efforts of the

A proposition is pending under

which the companies will at once proceed

mediate municipal ownership.

Cago.

on transportation,

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duce tax levy. Page 1.

terest is deepening into anxiety. According to the Tokio correspondent of

a news agency, a momentous war conference lasting five hours was held there Wednesday, attended by the elder statesmen, the Premier and Ministers. It is

of the approaching naval contest. Until

Vice-Admiral Rojestvensky actually ar-

not difficult to conjecture the nature of the deliberations. Tokio correspondents state that Japan has addressed a protest to France on the Russian Pacific squadron's presence in

Kamranh Bay, but France has not yet replied. The Telegraph's correspondent at Tokio declares that a Japanese fleet is ready to sail for Kamranh Bay. The Telegraph's Hongkong correspondent states that two steamers which passend close to Kamranh Bay on Sun-

day report that no Russian vessels were then visible. No news, however, has yet reached London to show that the Russtans have left Kamranh Bay, and it is assumed that they are still there.

The Post, commenting on the situation, contends that it is a matter of importance, considering Great Britals's worldwide naval interests, to endeavor to se cure a more definite agreement on the

question of the use of neutral waters by belligerents.

Japanese Attacks Indicate Design of

Present Movements

HARBIN, April 19.-There was a deter mined attempt on the night of April 17 to out the railroad between Harbin and Vladivostok, a formidable body of Chinese bandits making an attack near the station of Imyanpo, 109 miles east of Harbin. After a desperate fight which lasted

several hours, the bandits were driven off and dispersed. Many smaller companies of Chinese

bandits are roving in the rear of the Russian army, but disappear when pursued. It is thought probable that they are Man. churians who scatter to their villages when they find themselves in danger.

There are various reports of wide turn ing movements at Tsitsikar or eastward of that point, but as yet these rumors are apparently unfounded. The vigor of

the skirmishes taking place on the east flank of the Russian army, however, seems to indicate that the Japanese are planning to thrust northeastward and interpose a force between Harbin and Vind-

ivostok. CAN'T GET INTO PHILIPPINES

If Warships Seek Shelter, They Will

Soon Be Expelled. WASHINGTON, April 19.-(Special.)-

The announcement by Rear-Admiral Train, commander of the Asiatic fleet, that he has established a perfect patrol in Philippine waters materially diminishes the fear of higher Government officials that the Russian fleet might find a lodgement in some of the numerous bays of

that archipelago and bring about an annoying complication. The assignment of the cruiser Wiscon-

its agitation against demanding vigorous action.

MAKE KAMRANH BAY THE BASE

creases the irritation toward France for

permitting the use of that port as a base

all legal complications and securing im- Russian squadron, but now that there is tations on this subject which have been wait on him at 4 o'clock. He awaited the the society's many supervisors, disobeyed

Russian Cruisers May Sail Thence to Prey on Commerce.

LONDON, April 19 .- A dispatch to a news agency from Tokio says: Information received here is taken to indicate that the Rusian squadron proposes staying at Kamranh Bay until May 7, Admiral Rojestvensky meanwhile sending out cruisers to overhaul merchantmen proceeding along the trade route to the Straits of Formosa,

The transports accompanying the Rus stan squadron are reported to be plying between Kamranh Bay and Salgon under the merchant flag of Russia.

SENDS PROTEST TO FRANCE.

Japan Accuses Her of Frequent

Breaches of Neutrality. CHICAGO, April 19 .- A special to the

Daily News from Tokio says: At a conference of the clder statesmen and the principal Cabinet Ministers today, a strongly worded protest was sent to AIM TO CUT OFF VLADIVOSTOK France regarding its frequent violations of neutrality in providing shelter for and rendering assistance to Russia's Baltic fleet at Madagascar, and now at Kamranh Bay.

AMERICAN SHIPS ON GUARD.

Watching Movements of Fleets From Philippine Coast.

WASHINGTON, April 19. - Rear-Admirai Train, Commander-In-Chief of the Aslatic station, has reported to the Navy Department by cable that the Paragua is at Jolo, the Mindoro at Pollok, Min-danao Island, and the Wisconsin at Olongape, on Subig Bay, Island of Luzon. He to reports that the Quiros is cruising in Lingayen Guif, and that the torpedo-boats Dale and Decatur are cruising off the Island of Palawan.

Reference to the map of the archipelago shows that this disposition affords ex-cellent opportunities for observing the movements of the hostile fleets should they approach or enter Philippine waters. While the vessels, with the exception of the Wisconsin at Olongapo, are but small gunboats, which could do no make observations, they all carry the flag, which it is believed would be sufficient for the purpose of enforcing ne trality in the waters contiguous to the the American possessions in the Far East.

PURPOSE OF JAPANESE LOAN

Will Raise Money at Home to Pay

War Expenses. WASHINGTON, April 12 .- It is learned tere that the Japanese Government ioan of \$50,000,000 and the fact that this follows quickly on the fourth domestic loan I the issue of the \$150,000,000 foreign loan in New York and London has led to an official explanation designed to cor-rect any misapprehension. This is to the

(Concluded on Fourth Page.)

at 5:30 the committee had not arrived, and Mr. Hyde left the office. Mr. Hyde said: "I have not seen the committee and I Knowles was suspended pending an inveshave not seen the resolutions, but I con- tigation of his action. It was not for sider them impertinent, extraordinary, insuiting and most preposterous. I have no intention of resigning."

secretaries of the agents would not give

out until notified by the committee of five

continues allent regarding the represen- was notified that the committee would is very simple. Mr. Knowles, who is one of

tion is said to be 193. None of the agents

would affirm or deny this, but there were

of operations. The Japanese government that it had been served on Mr. Hyde, who

seen to be a growing likelihood of Vice- made to France. The press, however, committee in company with his counsel. point-blank orders of the president, which

information.

It was almost \$:30 when the agents again "As for 'James H. Hyde and associates, went into session, and the latter part of the day's meeting was more peaceful than that earlier in the day. It was said that in the earlier assemblage all but 17 of the knows all about it and has the data reagents had voted for Mr. Hydes' resignalating thereto in his possession." tion. The number voting for the resolu-

Oregontan.

CHOATE IS HYDE'S COUNSEL.

several wordy squabbles over accusations made that some one had given out the Big Job for Retiring Ambassador on

His Return.

Agents Do Not Seek Control. NEW YORK, April 19.-The Times to One of the most interesting developviil say: OFFOW V ments of the late session today was the adoption of the following resolution:

adoption of the following resolution: Whereas, It his been persistently suggested in the public press that the agents are for mutualization because they seek to acquire full or partial control of the society by ac-quiring prostes; therefore he it Resolved. That we, the general agents of the society, in convection assembled, do hereby deciare that we do not ask nor will we seek for ourselves for any part of the control of the Equitable, but demand that through the policy-folders this shall be so varied as best to conserve their interests, without the con-fidence of whom we cannot exist in this busi-ness.

At the later session a permanent or ganization was formed and a committee named to go to Albany Friday to petition the Insurance Commissioner and Governor Higgins to urge the mutualization of the society. Among those on the committee are: George Rathbun, Denver; A. M. Shields, San Francisco; F. B. Wilcox, Boise, Idabo; Wyman Ellis, Helena,

Mont.; W. S. Bowen, Albuquerque, N. M .; 1. Samuel, Portland; C. F. Kutenewsky, Salt Lake; H. L. Allenberg, Spokane; and n. W. Fleming, Spokane.

After the appointment of this committee it was decided that it would be advisable to form a permanent organization. and the committee on permanent organisation of the "National Association of Managers" was named. C. M. Edwards la chairman.

A committee was named to bring President Alexander and Second Vice-President Tarbell before the congress to thank them for the hospitality received at their hands. Mr. Alexander said he could not express his great pleasure and love for the agents who had so magnificently upheld his action and had expressed their confidence in him. Mr. Tarbell spoke of States Minister to Panama, has saved the his 25 years' connection with the society State Department the embarrassment of and of his 12 years' pleasant relations ordering his recall. He has asked that he with the agents.

Untermyer's Blast at Alexander,

Samuel Untermyer," counsel for Mr. Hyde, made a statement today concern- was decided months ago that he should ing the "James A. Hyde and Associates" syndicate transactions. Mr. Untermyer said in part:

"These transactions tell their own story of the equal interest and participation of Mr. Alexander. The transactions were entirely legitimate, and there is no just grounds for criticising Mr. Alexander or anybody else for being interested in them. eruisers have been sighted There were other like operations of this

were that he go South and take charge of an agency made vacant by death. Mr. Mr. Knowles to raise any question as to whether or not he should go; it was simply his duty to obey orders.

"So far as Mr. Knowles' statement is

concerned, it calls for no reply from Mr.

Alexander, whose position in the matter

It would be seen from Mr. Alexander's latest letter to Mr. Hyde that he (Alex ander) knows very little about the syndicate and its members, while Mr. Hyde

"James H. Hyde, it was learned yester day, has retained Joseph Choate, the re-turning American Ambassador, as one of his legal advisers in the Equitable co troversy. The negotiations were closed

by cable on Monday, and Mr. Choate, on his return to the country, will, it is understood, take an active part in the Hyde ampaign. "Mr. Choute, however, will not appear in court proceedings that may then be in progress, and those aware of his plans say that he will not resume practice here as an advocate. The direction of the Hyde forces will remain in the hands of

Samuel Untermyer." Letter of Agents to Hyde.

The letter prepared by the agents for presentation to Mr. Hyde says: We, the agents of the Equitable Life Asso

The Saclety, representing many throusands of the policy-holders of the society, respectfull, request that you, because of the huriful notor lety you have achieved and for the good of the society, which you sught to love, and to the memory of your father, which you mus revere, discontinue your relations as an office of the society. the society.

When it was seen by the radicals that they were alienating more votes than of Pensions Warner transmitted the nine they cared to have counted against them on a show of hands, they gave over, and the letter as adopted was the result. The vote was said to be 157 for the letter 17 against.

BARRETT HAS RESIGNED.

Minister Avoids Recall, Having Dis-

pleased the Government.

WASHINGTON, April 19.-(Special.)-

John Barrett, of Portland, Or., United

be relieved of his post, so that he may

The Government has been dissutisfied

with some of Mr. Barrett's acts, and it

be succeeded at Panama by Judge Charles

Magoon, of the Insular Bureau, but it.

was the intention to assign him to an-

Russians Leave Lingayen Bay.

MANILA, April 20.-The Russian cruis-

ers have left Lingayen Bay. No Japanese

retire from the diplomatic corps

other post.