

The Oregonian

Entered at the Postoffice at Portland, Or., as second-class matter. SUBSCRIPTIONS INVARIABLE IN ADVANCE. (By Mail or Express.) Daily and Sunday, per year, \$10.00. Daily and Sunday, per month, \$1.00. Daily and Sunday, three months, \$2.50. Daily and Sunday, six months, \$5.00. Daily and Sunday, per year, \$10.00. Daily without Sunday, per year, \$7.50. Daily without Sunday, per month, \$0.75. Daily without Sunday, three months, \$1.87. Daily without Sunday, six months, \$3.75. Daily without Sunday, per year, \$7.50. Sunday, six months, \$1.00. Sunday, per year, \$2.00. BY CARRIER. Daily without Sunday, per week, \$0.15. Daily, per week, Sunday included, \$0.20.

THE WEEKLY OREGONIAN. (Issued Every Thursday.) Weekly, per year, \$1.50. Weekly, six months, \$0.75. Weekly, three months, \$0.37. HOW TO REMIT—Send postoffice money order, express order or personal check on your local bank. Stamps, coins or currency are at the service of our subscribers.

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PORTLAND, SATURDAY, AUGUST 26, 1905.

STEPS WHICH LED RUSSIA ON. Why is Russia on the shores of the Pacific, at war with Japan? Had Russia not sufficient room for expansion without encroaching on nations upon the Pacific at the opposite extremity of Asia? How did she come to be so? Russia sets up for apology or explanation of her aggression in the Far East, her claim that she is impelled to this easterly expansion by regard for her most vital interests. She asserts that her people require these vast Asian territories for their further spread, since the density of her home population in Europe is so great as to exert upon them a ceaseless pressure eastward. Yet she is pressing upon countries whose population is more dense than her own—Manchuria, Korea and Japan.

A traveler and publicist of note and fame—Dr. Wolf Von Scherbrandt—author of many books on problems presented in Russia, Germany and other countries, has taken occasion in his "America, Asia and the Pacific," to examine this claim, put forth by Russia for justification of her pressure on Pacific countries. His statement admits of summary.

According to the latest census taken in Russia, the European part of the empire, comprising a territory of 2,682,490 square miles, considerably larger than the whole remainder of Europe, had a population of 105,296,624. The non-Russian part of Europe, with only two-thirds of the territory of European Russia, has about 285,000,000 inhabitants. Compared with some of the more densely settled countries of Europe, as Belgium, Holland, England, Germany, France, or Italy, Russia proper is but thinly inhabited—her density being only from one-third to one-tenth that of the countries named. Nor are there special circumstances, such as large waste lands, great desert districts, or infertility of soil to outweigh this consideration.

On the contrary, the heart of Russia, the fifty great provinces making up Russia proper, are by nature among the most fruitful lands of Europe. With an agricultural system as rational and intensive as that of the main countries of the rest of Europe, Russia proper could easily support twelve her present population. But the great trouble with Russia is that her system of agriculture is a vicious and mistaken one. The one-crop system (wheat or rye) is forced upon the Russian peasant and landholder by an irrational financial economy. Exactions of government force the one crop for which, at some price—usually very low—money can be had. Again, this system tends to impoverish the soil, and in districts where the soil first years ago was deemed the most fertile in Europe, famines now are frequent. For this vicious agricultural system the Russian government is chiefly responsible. Necessity of movement to new lands is a consequence of the system. This one-crop system leads to a train of effects. It has pushed Russia on her career of eastward encroachment, till, wanting an ocean out on the Pacific, she began absorption of Northern China and of Korea, and brought peril to Japan. In fact, it is these countries, the density of whose population much exceeds that of Russia in Europe, that might better talk of their own lack of room and need of expansion.

This writer contends that Russia never will play much of a part as a customer of ours. For one reason, the exports of Russia are all of a nature of which we ourselves have abundance, namely, cereals and other agricultural products. She is, therefore, in her exports, one of our chief rivals. Russia does her greatest foreign trade with Germany; next, with England. She takes but small quantities of goods from us.

The great Siberian railroad was an undertaking that got the attention of the world. Russia's reasons for building it were twofold. The road was to develop Siberia, make new lands accessible and further trade along its

line. But the potent reason was a political and military nature. It was to aid Russian expansion in the Far East. For it was believed there was no power in the Far East that would have the presumption to dispute with Russia upon any claim she might make; still less to resist her aggression by making war; or if war should be a consequence Russia would quickly crush any little "yellow" antagonist. Japan was negligible.

This contemptuous estimate of Japan is the circumstance that led Russia into her position in Manchuria and caused her to refuse to send her military forces away, as she had conventionally to do.

It still looks as if peace were impossible. There are great irreconcilable quantities in Japan's demands, and rather than forego the advantages which she believes she possesses, Japan will continue the war. And Russia appears to feel that she can't be hurt more than she has been hurt already. She is not willing to give up everything under contention and pay a vast indemnity besides.

Along the Washington Central branch of the Northern Pacific railroad, available for shipment this season are more than 5,000,000 bushels of wheat. Practically all of this enormous surplus of the 1905 wheat crop will find a market at this time on the Pacific coast. The freight charge is 10 cents per bushel. At this figure, the gross earnings of the railroad company for moving the wheat will approximate \$500,000. With wheat at present prices, the freight charge is only a moderate proportion of the value per bushel of the cereal; therefore, it is easy to see that a vast amount of money will be placed in circulation along the hundred miles of railroad. Wherever many millions of dollars are scattered in a comparatively small area, it is a certainty that other lines of industry will open, and other wealth producing agencies will work.

This is true along the Washington Central. Since the road was built cities and towns have sprung up as if by magic, and the requirements of the farmers are met by tradesmen and caterers in all lines of business. Part of the millions that this year will be paid out for wheat will be turned over again and again, producing with each turn some new increase in trade. The Washington Central in spite of all of the antagonism toward it, by the people along its line, is a boon to them, though it needs improvement. It has brought into touch with the markets of the world a region which prior to the construction of the road was as inaccessible and as worthless, from a profit-making standpoint, as Central Oregon is today. And there are strong points of similarity between the Central Oregon country of today and Central Washington region before the railroad came.

When the project of constructing the Washington Central was first broached to the public the news was received with a degree of incredulity similar to that which a few years later greeted the announcement that E. E. Lytle would build a road through Sherman and Wasco counties, Oregon, and climate in that portion of the Big Bend traversed by the Washington Central is not dissimilar to that of Central Oregon, and the projects of the Washington Southern, were far-seeing enough to know that these would be business forthcoming as soon as the road was in a position to handle it. But, as was the case with the Columbia Southern, and as is now the case with the proposed extension of that line, there can be no business for a road, nor can the farmers secure any returns at all commensurate with their labor, until the road is constructed and affords an outlet to market for the products of the farm.

These products have little or no commercial value until facilities are provided for sending them to market. As a result, the land remains untilled and the region unsettled until the railroad comes. No sensible man would go into Central Oregon and raise a crop of wheat or anything else that could not be taken out on foot, until some facilities were given him for reaching a market, and creating a value for the products of the soil.

The railroads and the farmers have a mutual interest in a new country, but it is the duty of the railroad to take the initiative. Settlers along the region traversed by the Washington Central were few and far between when that road was first built. Along the proposed route of the central Oregon road, there are perhaps more numerous, but they are under just as great a handicap as were those of the Big Bend before the railroad came.

Incidentally it should be remembered that Central Oregon has a wealth of diversified natural resources unknown in the central Washington country, which annually turns off such magnificent quantities of such magnificent commodities as wheat, rye, corn, homet never yet has met with such success in inducing the agricultural mountain to come his way. He has been amply repaid, however, when he has moved to the mountain.

the hands of inexperienced or careless writers. The necessity of segregating fact from legend and from fancy is upon the careful historian of this truly enchanted land and it will take the mind and hand of a master to do this and still preserve alive, so to speak, the spirit that entered into and made strong the foundations of our Pacific Empire. Our early history makes up the vast majority of them, have passed on, but passing, they have left behind a rich harvest for the chronicler to gather.

MR. HILL ON THE LAND QUESTION. The address of J. J. Hill, president of the Great Northern Railroad, read before the Irrigation Congress by Mr. Kibbe, is the finest of a philosophical thinker. His remarks are wise and timely. It is not a plea that they are quite disinterested, for he speaks, of course, with the welfare of the railroads foremost in his mind; but the whole matter of small farms, irrigation, colonization of reclaimed lands and conservation of the public domain for home-building are subjects where the good of the railroads and the good of the public are entirely in harmony, and where both will benefit from the most enlightened policy.

It goes without saying that the ideal country for a railroad is one that is densely populated, intelligently farmed and continuously prosperous. None of these conditions can be rationally expected in a territory parcelled out among a few great land-holders, at least in the arid West. They will either raise stock under the shiftless and wasteful range system, or, if they cultivate the soil, it will be by wholesale and unthrifty methods. In many cases they will do worse still, leaving their holdings desert and waste to be used for the unimproved, fastening themselves to an advancing community like a parasitic tick to a sheep to suck part and end to the face of kingship, which has grown a little state, and unite in a federal republic. King Osceola, son of Charles, is doubtless a "fair" boy, but there is something ludicrous in this superstitious reverence for royal blood. There are plenty of men in Norway suitable to head the nation, and there is plenty of intelligence in the Norwegian people to choose him. Instead of that they give their crown to a young man whose merit is entirely hypothetical and who has deserved nothing of them. It is such things as this that make philosophers laugh and cynics sneer. The modern king is a fetch that has been found out. The new King of Norway will be worse still; he will be a fetch which has been put together like a ragdoll by the people who are going to play at reverence for him.

It is a matter of regret that the public schools open so late this year. The small boy running so long at large has become a public nuisance and a private pest—a menace to his own life and limb and to the lives of his playmates. Specific evidence of the truth of this statement may be noted in the occurrences of one day in the present week which saw a boy of 11 years of age to the hospital with probably fatal injuries from becoming entangled, while at play in the machinery of a sawmill. Another boy about the same age was severely, and it was at first thought, fatally beaten by three other boys somewhat older. And it is still nearly a month before the mischievous or perverse wild animals will be caged for the winter.

It is said that the Kaiser is egging on the czar to continue fighting. This is probably true. With Russia at war with France and with Russia at war with England will steadily buttress the frontiers of India. England is backing Japan's demands to the limit, knowing that her own interest is not for peace. The fall of Lord Curzon signifies an aggressive policy in Asia. One who aspired to prophetic glories might now make a bid for fame by crying, "Look for news from Persia if the peace conference fails."

After a careful study of the information collected by The Oregonian correspondent, it is such things as these that are steadily dropping their estimates. Some of them have marked down the figures from around 60,000 bushels to as low as 47,000 bushels. By printing a different estimate every day or two these second-hand estimators will be in a position when The Oregonian's annual estimate appears next month, to point to one of their "guesses" as being approximately correct.

A \$60-a-month bank clerk in Paris embezzled \$200,000 and ran away with a steam yacht and an actress. France has always been noted for the delicate skill of her financiers and the imagination of her novelists. This latest escapade supplies food for thought for both classes. Seldom are there in this sensational age, are we afforded such a remarkable exhibition of high finance, romance and bewildering devilry.

Many hopyards of the Willamette Valley are said to be showing evidences of old age. Vines that for fifteen years have borne good and generally heavy crops of blossoms are this year relatively barren. The prudent grower will take the hint thus given and with new plants and new land revive his hopyards. Otherwise nature in a few years more will put him out of business so far as hop-growing is concerned.

In the Milwaukee Sentinel of Monday last the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway "ran" a page advertisement of the Lewis and Clark Exposition, with an excellent bird's-eye view of the grounds and buildings, and statement of rates by various routes to Portland and back. It makes all feel comfortable to see our Exposition and the Northwest country advertised in such way.

lection. It generalizes, however, by saying: "The substantial wealth of the South is steadily advancing and making more absurd than ever the fact or openly acknowledged claim that the South is obliged to look to outside philanthropy or to federal funds for help in improving its educational facilities or for doing other work that can only be done right at the expense of the taxpayers of individual states."

The man who makes himself ridiculous before the world by "wanting dem presents back" appears periodically in the role of folly, plays his part to the amusement, disgust or weariness of the audience and he gets through the press, and retires to his private life, unscathed. It is had enough for a man to be so foolish as to lavish his money and presents of value upon a young woman whom he desires to marry, and it must be humiliating, when as in the case of one Adolph Kreis of St. Louis, the preacher of whose flock he was a generous and trusting member, "lets him out." If he would maintain a dignified silence in the matter he would be entitled to some sympathy, but when he spreads his case upon the records of the court and airs his wrongs with great fidelity to detail, takes legal measures to get his presents back and sends the young woman for breach of promise, he merely inclines the public to utter contempt. To the credit of the American jury it may be said that it is not likely to grow sentimental in a case of this kind, though in a very aggravated instance wherein the fickle young woman refuses to give back to the disconsolate suitor a dog that was a part of her pre-nuptial endowment, damages in the sum of \$1 may be allowed.

If the people of Norway, Sweden and Denmark were animated by the highest courage and wisdom, they would put an end to the farce of kingship, which has grown a little state, and unite in a federal republic. King Osceola, son of Charles, is doubtless a "fair" boy, but there is something ludicrous in this superstitious reverence for royal blood. There are plenty of men in Norway suitable to head the nation, and there is plenty of intelligence in the Norwegian people to choose him. Instead of that they give their crown to a young man whose merit is entirely hypothetical and who has deserved nothing of them. It is such things as this that make philosophers laugh and cynics sneer. The modern king is a fetch that has been found out. The new King of Norway will be worse still; he will be a fetch which has been put together like a ragdoll by the people who are going to play at reverence for him.

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OREGON OZONE.

Visitors to the Lewis and Clark Exposition have expressed some disappointment at not finding the West as wild and woolly as the Eastern story-writers have depicted it. The trouble is that they have come a little too far to the westward; they should have stopped off, for instance, in Wyoming. While Wyoming may not be exactly wild, in the accepted sense, it is a trifle woolly, if the evidence of these two news items from the town of Thermopis, in a recent issue of the Cheyenne Tribune, are admissible:

James Hubbard, proprietor of a plunge bath establishment here, went home last week to discover his wife making love to a stage-driver by the name of Sweeney. Hubbard entered a very strong protest to his wife's conduct, whereupon she drew a six-shooter and opened fire, emptying the gun at her hubby. When the shooting ceased, Hubbard crawled out from under a bed and Sweeney had disappeared. Later, Mr. Hubbard left her home and it is understood has eloped with the woman who was shot.

During a drunken spree here a cowboy boasted he could shoot off the eyeballs of a man without inflicting serious injury and as a result, Otto Johnson, comedian of the "Lightning Rod Agency," a home talent production which is traveling through Big Horn country, is shy about three inches of skin over his left eye. The cowboy escaped.

It would appear that Thermopis, at any rate, retains something of the ancient glory of the West. Not even the Arizona Kicker, in its liveliest days, ever wrote up items containing so much wool in their make-up.

An anxious reader inquires what is the cheapest way to get to the Jamestown Exposition. Walk. Just go down to the tip end of Old Virginia and walk right up Hampton Roads.

Misses Lewis and Clark and Mrs. Sackajawa are to be prominent figures at the Astoria regatta next week. If all their lineal descendants, white and red, actual and attributed, are present, the regatta cannot fail to be a success from point of attendance.

The fact that a fish bites is not prima facie evidence that it is a sucker.

Every now and then we see a man whom we are inclined to envy, but probably if we had an introduction to the skeleton in his closet we should pity him.

Yesterday I saw a man go into a saloon and buy three drinks of whisky, which he drank himself, and he paid 45 cents for the drinks. When he went out on the street I noticed that he stopped on the sidewalk and looked longingly in a show window, filled with children's school shoes marked down to 50 cents. Query—Why didn't he stop and look at the shoes before he entered the saloon?

The young woman at the next table in the restaurant looked very charming—until she said to the waiter: "Bring me a Hamburger steak, very rare."

A new poet in Kansas is named Donkeyson. It's pretty close to Missouri to have a name like that.

No one is surprised to learn that the Whisky Diggins mine in California is to be worked again.

Physicians in Manila claim to have proved by the autopsy that a Chinaman who had been afflicted with leprosy and had been treated by the X-ray process shows no trace of the disease. Still, the Chinaman is dead.

Emperor William has been guilty of writing an ode or two and some songs. President Roosevelt recently wrote a magazine article in praise of a volume of poems. Both the Emperor and the President of Japan, according to a recent translation, write poetry. All these rulers are strenuous. Maybe there's a hint in this for the czar. Will some one kindly send Nicholas Romanoff a copy of Walker's Rhyming Dictionary?

Joseph A. Graham, of St. Louis, who is a journalist in private life, contributes to Outing an article on the care of dogs and how to weather them. Graham insists that dogs need very little food during the heated spell. "A dog is better off for semi-starvation," he says. So he would feed the dog a biscuit in the morning and a bowl of mush and milk and a raw egg for supper, with one meal of well-cooked meat once a week, just to keep him from forgetting that he has a stomach. This appears to be excellent advice. We always have thought it a quite unnecessary thing to take a whole panful of steaming biscuits for a dog's breakfast, garnished with 35-cent butter, and served with bacon or ham-and-onions. A dog hardly ever licks his bowl for supper, the mush and milk and the raw egg are plenty. Why should we continue to prepare for our dogs poached eggs on toast, clam broth, bouillon and the like, when the simple life is much more to their liking? Why, we repeat? As to Mr. Graham's advice regarding the meal of well-cooked meat once a week, we must give assent also. No dog except, perhaps, John De Rockefeller's dog, or the Duchess of Marlborough's dog, or Joseph A. Graham's dog, would expect a broiled porterhouse, but parsley often after once a week. With two porterhouses a week, the ordinary dog would forget that he's a dog and become upsh.

ROBERTUS' LOVE. Rockefeller's Gifts. Brooklyn Eagle. University of Chicago, \$10,000.00. Harvard Medical College, Chicago, 5,000.00. Harvard College, Cambridge, Mass., 1,500.00. Harvard University, 1,500.00. Baptist Missionary Fund, 1,500.00. Johns Hopkins University, 500.00. Vassar College, 400.00. Bowdoin University, 250.00. Cornell University, 250.00. Bryn Mawr, 200.00. Research, 200.00. School of Theology, 200.00. Rochester Theological Seminary, 200.00. Western Theological Seminary, 150.00. Widener University, 125.00. Syracuse University, 100.00. Yale University, 100.00. University of Virginia, 100.00. Wellesley College, 100.00. Lombard University, 100.00. Denton College, Greenville, S. C., 100.00. Furman College, Greenville, S. C., 100.00. New York University, 100.00. Y. M. C. A., Brooklyn, 100.00. Y. M. C. A., New York, 100.00. Indiana University, 50.00. University of Nebraska, 50.00. M. C. University, Washington, 50.00. Burleigh College, 25.00. Personal charities, 1,000.00. Total gifts, \$48,725.00.

Chau-Talk-Qua Talk. Chau-Talk-Qua. In a recent Chautauqua talk, Dr. James M. Buckley, D. D., laid down the rule that no clergyman has the right to make his congregation laugh. Is the eminent doctor quite sure that it isn't better for a preacher occasionally to make his hearers smile than occasionally to make them yawn?

CHINA BOYCOTTS NOT AMERICA ALONE

Has La Put on European Commerce Also and is an Outburst of the New National Spirit.

Washington Star. The signs that China is awakening to the responsibilities that are crowding upon her are manifold. That she no longer refuses to take up the white man's burden" is manifested by the treaty concluded at Shanghai with the United States on the 8th of October, 1904, "to extend further commercial relations and otherwise promote the interests of the peoples of the two countries in view of the provisions of the first paragraph of Article XI of the final protocol signed at Peking on the 7th day of September, 1901."

Article VII of the treaty declares: "The Chinese government recognizes that it is advantageous for the country to develop its mineral resources and that it is desirable to attract foreign as well as Chinese capital, and will therefore invite the United States to carry on in Chinese territory mining operations and other necessary business relating thereto, providing they comply with the new regulations and conditions which will be imposed by China on its subjects and foreigners alike relating to the opening of mines."

China, thus aroused from the sleep of indifference now prepares for the struggle for life. The United States manifestly must have and hold a particular interest in China, which will manifestly be extended by "sphere of influence" to China. Japan will attract and endeavor to control European and American capital, to exploit the resources of China, which are vast and almost limitless. To maintain and develop her newly found power, Japan aims to dominate China and thus become the principal rival of the United States in the Far East.

The maintenance of the territorial integrity of China may be declared in the protocol of peace at Portsmouth—if there may be such peace—but the letter of the treaty counts for little in the execution of the treaty. In fact, simply illustrative of the violation of the treaty of Shimonoseki, which the independence and autonomy of Korea was never occurred to the United States, which Korea at this moment is asking the United States in vain to assure.

On the other hand, we are told that Japan is in favor of the "open door" in the Orient—in China. "What fools we mortals be." The open door, forsooth! It appears that the utility of an open door has never occurred to the United States, for when Japan shall have fairly begun the exploitation of the Far East with Occidental capital, which she may obtain at will, the exploitation of the resources of China, Manchuria and China will be effected with labor at 10 cents a day. How may it not be asked, can the Occidental utilize an open door under such manifestly disadvantageous conditions?

The boycott, which has been widely accepted as directed solely against American commerce in China, appears to be waged likewise against European and Japanese commerce, and it should be added cynically, against British commerce, as heretofore cited in the protest of the 70 or more directors of British trading houses in China to Lord Lansdowne, the importance of which has since been accentuated by the information that the boycott has extended to Nagasaki, a fact which must have been known to the Chinese government and reflection by the British Minister for Foreign Affairs.

China is essentially agricultural. Land is all freehold, held by the peasant, who pays to his landlord a portion of the crop. The animals are oxen and buffalo and the farm implements primitive. Wheat, barley, maize and millet, with peas and beans, are grown in the north; rice, indigo, sugar and rice in the south; opium and silk in all sections. The mulberry tree grows everywhere. Tea is cultivated in the mountainous regions. An important feature in the development of Chinese industries is the erection of cotton mills in Shanghai, and flintures for winding silk, cocoons in Shanghai, Canton and Chefoo.

All the eighteen provinces contain coal, and China may be regarded as one of the greatest coal countries in the world. The coal fields are estimated to contain a total of 1,000,000,000 tons, and has been mortgaged to a Japanese syndicate for thirty years. The Han-Yang foundry works in the province of Hubei, and produces annually during that period, at prices already fixed till 1915. Copper ore is plentiful in Yunnan. Tin and gold are mined in Hainan and in the province of Szechwan. There is a great monetary unit in China is now threatened. The copper cash has a floating value of 1.60 to 1 dollar or higher, and is rapidly losing its value. Being the usual medium of exchange. Railways, like mining enterprises, are under the control of the board of com-

merce and railway companies and undertakings are subject to their regulations.

The China-American Development Company, of which J. P. Morgan controls the majority of stock, holds a concession for the construction of the Canton-Hankow railway for a sum of \$10,000,000. China has offered the American Company \$7,000,000. Mr. Morgan desires to sell, but King Leopold, a stockholder, is opposed. The Chinese are reported as anxious to buy it back in order to complete it themselves. An article in the New York Journal of Commerce of August 11, entitled "American Prestige in the Far East," carries the statement of the following language: "We confess our inability to see how the prestige of the United States in the far east or elsewhere is to be advanced by the acquisition of a concession. So far as American influence in China is concerned the mischief was done when a controlling majority of the stock for the American-Chinese Development Company was sold to the avowed agent of the syndicate headed by the King of the Belgians. The attitude of the Chinese toward the corporation will remain one of fixed suspicion and distrust, and it can hardly be to the advantage of American prestige in the far east to have such a company build a railway for China against the express desire of the Chinese to do it for themselves."

Like Caesar's wife, America's good name is best to be held high and above suspicion. The lesson of the Boxer rebellion was cruel. China, May 25, 1901, agreed to pay to the powers American-Chinese Development Company was sold to the avowed agent of the syndicate headed by the King of the Belgians. The attitude of the Chinese toward the corporation will remain one of fixed suspicion and distrust, and it can hardly be to the advantage of American prestige in the far east to have such a company build a railway for China against the express desire of the Chinese to do it for themselves."

On the other hand the lesson of that rebellion brought about a much needed reform in the matter of the military organization of the Chinese. The Li Hsing Chang, but executed by his successor, Gen. Yuan Lie Kwai, actually the victor of Pechili. The normal central authority of Pechili was long since an army. The bannermen are organized in a number of one or other of the newly founded corps, but there is no obligatory service for them in these ranks. The Li Yung or army of the province of Szechwan, composed of the troops in the province of Pechili and including those of Shan-tung, numbers 30,000, and its quarters are in the province of Szechwan. The Li Yung or army of the province of Szechwan, composed of the troops in the province of Pechili and including those of Shan-tung, numbers 30,000, and its quarters are in the province of Szechwan.

Both these forces are in process of formation. The Pei Yang (northern army), composed of the troops in the province of Pechili and including those of Shan-tung, numbers 30,000, and its quarters are in the province of Szechwan. The Li Yung or army of the province of Szechwan, composed of the troops in the province of Pechili and including those of Shan-tung, numbers 30,000, and its quarters are in the province of Szechwan.

Progress is undoubtedly being made in creating a modern army, but the complete death of officers, and vast sums of money are misappropriated in the purchase of materials. A general who commanded in Peking informed a European officer that he commanded 10,000 men, but the European discovered that he actually commanded but 800. His method was common to China. He received the money for uniforms and cloth 10,000 men. If his army was to be inspected he hired coolies at 30 cash, about 10 cents a day, to appear on parade. Most of his men were coolies and cloth 10,000 men. If his army was to be inspected he hired coolies at 30 cash, about 10 cents a day, to appear on parade.

China found a man and master in the late Li Hsing Chang, who, devoted to the old order of things, was a man of order and industry with wonderful ability. The moment is approaching when China, in process of evolution, will require a man of order and industry. When that hour arrives Gen. Yuan Lie Kwai may have occasion to take the part to which destiny may have assigned him in the history of his country under the cry of "China for the Chinese," which is not precisely the present program of the mikado.

ALFONSO DISEASED: NO BRIDE

Madrid dispatch to Philadelphia Press. Further concealment of the physical and mental condition of King Alfonso being impossible, Dr. Mascho, private chaplain to the royal family, admitted that the young monarch probably would never be consumptive, and that his marriage to the robust Princess Patricia, of Connaught, never would take place, as all negotiations for a marital union had been broken off by King Edward of England. A report of two physicians, members of Alfonso's suite, when he was a visitor in England.

This ends all hope that the royal line in Spain will be continued in direct descent. The King's father died at 23, with all the evidences of extreme old age, following a life of wild dissipation, which his frail physique was unable to sustain. King Alfonso was a posthumous child, born six months after his father's death, and inherited all his weaknesses.

The suggestion of marriage to the pale, nervous, but religiously minded, Princess Patricia, who had been selected as his bride, but royal matings permit no denial if the alliance be an affair of statecraft. If the royal marriage were a favorable one, instead of telling the truth, the Princess Patricia, in all probability, would have been joined for life to a weakly youth, incapable of grasping his own responsibility or assuming them, and with almost a certainty of early death.

JAPAN'S FINANCIAL SITUATION

Thomas F. Millard in Scribner's. Aside from the probability of a new foreign loan, many persons in Japan are beginning to feel decided uneasiness about the present financial situation. There is an apprehension that the government may be suspended at almost any time, and many persons and some business firms are having their bank deposits transferred to Europe and America. With the gold obtained by the recent foreign loan, and what is left from the first one, together with what can be taken from the government bank, it is probable that the first of next year, it is estimated that about two-thirds of the war purchases are made abroad, and gold is required to pay these.

It is possible that in a month the government might meet its internal expenses by issuing more paper currency. But at present the Nippon Ginko has outstanding paper notes amounting to 250 per cent of its gold reserve, and there is a limit to which this can be carried before currency depreciation begins. There is practically no gold in circulation in the country, and comparatively little is to be found in the form of jewelry and the like. Hardly any gold is produced in the country, and experts think that such gold deposits as exist are about exhausted. With the annual revenue of only 230,000,000 yen (\$11,000,000) in ordinary times, and that barely equal to the budget, it is difficult to see how any part of the principal of the now existing debt is ever to be paid. Since the war special taxes have been levied, which are expected to net this year about 130,000,000 yen. From this sum, however, must be deducted the customs receipts and other sources of ordinary revenue hypothecated to pay interest on the foreign war loans.

And even when the war is ended, the interest on the foreign war loans, which is payable in gold, will eat up the revenue secured by the war taxes. It seems probable, therefore, that the government will not be able to pay its war debts, which must be regarded as a permanent burden upon an already impoverished country. Even with a continuation of this extra revenue, it is by no means certain that the interest on the present loans can be met after a few years.

A Puzzling Reflection.

Chicago Chronicle. In spite of the honors recently paid to Paul Jones by the Navy Department, it is a puzzling reflection that if Paul Jones were alive today he could not get a commission in the United States Navy except in the remote contingency that he should enlist and succeed in getting one of the half-dozen commissions which are yearly available to enlisted men who pass a particularly stiff examination. Up to four or five years ago he would not have had even that chance. The only way to get a higher rank than that of private in the Navy was to be a volunteer.