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NO. 80.

GREAT BATTLE IS IMMINENT

CARELESSNESS ONLY CAUSE

Boorhardy Guesswork on Part of Train Crew Responsible for Death of Seventeen.

ORDERS WERE: STOP TRAIN

Freight Train on Siding Mistaken for One Ahead, Passenger Rushed to Death and Woeful Destruction.

Topeka, Kan., Jan. 6.—Seventeen dead and 37 injured is the result of the Rock Island passenger wreck at Willard this morning. Most of the injured are in hospitals in Topeka. The doctors announce that with one exception all will recover.

The single word "carelessness" will sum up the reasons for the tragedy. Instructed to meet a special freight train at Willard, the engineer and conductor of the ill-fated passenger, noting that a freight train stood on a side track at Willard, rushed through at a rate which passengers declare to have been 65 miles an hour, thinking the cars they had seen were the ones which they had been instructed to pass. Failure to scrutinize the number of the engine was directly responsible for the wreck. Not a note of warning of the fearful impending disaster ever made itself known to the sufferers.

General Superintendent Gurber of the Rock Island makes this statement to the Associated Press:

"The engineer of the passenger train had orders to wait at Willard for a special stock train. He passed on, mistaking a freight train on the siding at that station for the extra stock train. This caused the wreck. Nobody else is to be at blame so far as our information goes."

A formal inquest was held at the wreck today by Coroner Dolley, Wabunsee county. The investigation will be continued tomorrow. Until a verdict for placing the blame is returned no action will be taken against the trainmen.

Japan Buys Another.
New York, Jan. 6.—In addition to the third class battleship Captain Prat,

the second class cruiser Chacabuco, according to the Herald dispatch from Valparaiso, Chile, also has been sold to Japan. The Chacabuco was originally built for Japan, but Chili bought her when war was feared with Argentine. The negotiations have been carried out through an English firm.

GRAFTER GROWS GRATEFUL.

Repays His Bondsmen Two Times Over—Check is Shown.

New York, Jan. 6.—Ex-Mayor W. B. Kirk of Syracuse, now a guest at the Hoffman house, is reported to have exhibited a check for \$40,000 payable to his order and bearing the signature of J. F. Gaynor.

Many months ago Mr. Kirk signed a bail bond for Gaynor who had been indicted for complicity in the frauds connected with government work in the harbor of Savannah. Gaynor went to Canada and Mr. Kirk had to pay the \$20,000. When Gaynor saw that the bond must be paid he is said to have sent his check to his bondsmen.

CARMEN ARE MURDERED.

Highwayman Uses Gun With Fatal Effects, and Then Runs.

Salt Lake, Jan. 7.—John Gleason, the motorman on a consolidated street railway car, was shot and instantly killed, and Thomas Brydon, conductor on the same car was probably fatally wounded shortly after midnight by a masked highwayman who was attempting to rob them of their money and valuables. The murderer escaped immediately after shooting and without securing any booty.

FORTY-THREE PEOPLE KILLED

Terrible Loss of Life Attends Accident on British Cruiser.

- ◆ Sidney, N. S. W., Jan. 6.—
- ◆ Forty-three persons have been killed by the explosion of a boiler on the British cruiser Wallaroo.
- ◆ The Wallaroo, which was proceeding to Hobart, signalled to Montague island reporting the disaster but giving no details.
- ◆ The Wallaroo is expected here and are advised that one boiler burst. The killed are assumed to include the whole shift of 22 stokers and a number of deck hands.

Russians Send Force to Prevent Japanese From Landing Troops on Korean Coast.

Hope of Peaceable Settlement Is Almost Gone and News of Clash Is Momentarily Expected by Russians.

Paris, Nov. 7.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the European edition of the New York Herald cables as follows:

"There is almost no hope now of a peaceable settlement of the Russo-Japanese difficulty, and the public here is expecting news of a battle resulting from the landing of Japanese troops in Korea."

"A battalion of Russian troops has been sent from Vladivostok to prevent the Japanese from landing."

The Genoa correspondent of the same paper says that the builders of the warships which Japan recently purchased from Argentina are doing their utmost to hasten the work of getting the vessels in readiness for sea.

ATTITUDE OF THE BRITISH.

Government Urged to Act Should Hostilities Be Begun.

London, Jan. 7.—There are two indications this morning that nothing definite has developed in the far eastern crisis and nothing is likely to develop until the end of the week. The first of these, according to the Tokio correspondent of the Telegraph, is the urgency of the meeting of the Japanese cabinet that has been called for today, and second is that the members of the British cabinet have been notified to assemble Monday. The meeting of the Japanese cabinet has almost certainly been called for the purpose of considering the reply of Russia, and it is equally certain that the meeting of the British cabinet is for the purpose of discussing the attitude of Great Britain.

Editorials this morning in the papers are almost unanimous in admitting that in the event of war Great Britain cannot possibly see Japan crushed, and although not called upon to interfere by terms of Anglo-Japanese treaty yet in event of the Japanese suffering naval defeat, Great Britain will be almost compelled to go to her assistance.

The Daily Mail wants Russia notified that "under no circumstances will Great Britain permit the Russian Black sea fleet to pass Dardanelles and urges the admiralty to see that the navy is quite ready for any emergency."

The Tokio correspondent of the Daily Telegraph still expressed belief that the Russian reply will not be satisfactory.

Baton Hayashi the Japanese minister in an interview published this morning, makes interesting reference to the report from St. Petersburg that the question is likely to be settled by the Russian Christmas. The minister says:

"That implies the belief, according to Russian expectation, that Japan will give the reply much quicker than the czar's government has been able to do. I notice when it is Russia's turn to reply, the Russian and some European papers are very pacific, but directly it devolves upon Japan to answer, their tone suddenly becomes pessimistic. This is very significant."

AUTHORITY STATES SITUATION.

Proposals Made By Japan and Counter Ones By Russia.

Tokio, Jan. 6.—A Japanese authority today made the following statement of the status of the far eastern question:

"The statement that Russia has made concessions to Japan is not exact. On the contrary, Russia, in the month of October, made certain concessions which were accepted by Japan, subsequently withdrew the acceptance and assumed an attitude which left the Japanese little hope in the way of reaching a satisfactory agreement. The Japanese government, confident in the

declarations of disinterestedness in Manchuria made by Russia, and recognizing Russia's special interests in that region, wished to regulate, once for all, all questions in the far east, in the interest of future peace and tranquility. To this end Japan made the following proposals:

"First—Russia and Japan should mutually respect the independence and territorial integrity of China and Korea."

"Second—To recognize reciprocally Japan, the special interests of Russia in Manchuria; Russia, the special interests of Japan in Korea."

"Third—To engage mutually not to infringe—Japan, the commercial rights and immunities acquired by Russia in Korea; Russia, the commercial rights and immunities acquired by Japan in Manchuria."

"In making the third proposition, Japan wished not only to protect her rights in China and those of Russia in Korea, but to consecrate by the principle of equality the commercial rights of all nations in Korea and China."

"Russia declined Japan's propositions and submitted a counter-proposition, which contained a clause providing for the creating of a neutral zone, extending from the China-Korea frontier to Wong Tan, on the east, and to Ping Yang, on the west. The zone comprised almost a third of Korea."

"This Russian pretension took from Japan all guarantee of the protection of her rights in Manchuria and constituted a considerable part of Korea, where, without contradiction, Japan's interests preponderate, and which every nation recognizes as being within the legitimate sphere of Japan."

"The proposal exasperated Japanese public opinion. Japan could not accept the proposal for these reasons:

"First—The definite occupation by Russia of Manchuria would be a permanent menace to the independence of Korea, which Japan must prevent at any price, for Korea is an advance post of Japan's line of defense and the safety of Korea is a condition sine qua non of her own security."

"Second—Japan has, as other powers, rights and immunities in Manchuria, by virtue of treaties with China. These rights and immunities cannot be left to the mercy of Russia. The refusal of Russia to examine the Manchurian question denoted on her part the intention not to observe the rights of all nations in that region. Most evident among other proofs of this intention on the part of Russia were the occupation of Yang Tung Teheng and the reoccupation of Mukden. Every one knows that by the new treaties concluded by the United States and Japan with China one city and two ports were to be opened to the commerce of the world Yang Tung Teheng and Mukden were the two points chosen. By the occupation of these ports Russia prevented China from fulfilling the obligations of her treaties."

"In Korea equally acts of Russia have had, as a result, the closing of the Paltu river to foreign commerce. Japan asked Korea, simultaneously with the United States and Great Britain, to open this region to international commerce. In occupying Tong Wang Pou (Yongampo), the only port in north Korea, Russia paralyzed the realization of this project. Japan then had reason to fear that letting Russia alone would result in closing the Yellow Sea and the interior of Manchuria to international commerce."

"In struggling with all her force against the pretensions of Russia in the far east, Japan works not only for herself but for all nations. Japan does not ignore the dangers and risks of an armed conflict with Russia, and does

not embark upon it with a light heart or fanfaronade."

RUSSIA SHADOWS JAPAN SHIPS.

Government Offers Large Sums To British and American Gunners.

London, Jan. 7.—The Shimonezaki, Japan, correspondent of the Daily Mail says that the Germans of Kiao Chau are supplying Russia with coal and gunners, and Admiral Alexieff's agents are offering large sums for American and British gunners. The correspondent of the Mail at Shanghai reports that Japan has learned the Russian squadron at Bizerta has been instructed to shadow Japan's new cruisers and he is in readiness to attack them in the event of war being declared.

Russia Will Not Recede.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 6.—A dispatch from Port Arthur says the Russo-Japanese crisis is commented on by Viceroi Alexieff's organ, the Novagral, as follows:

"No threats can make Russia abandon her legitimate rights in Manchuria or Korea. The interests of Russia and Japan can be reconciled without violating that country's (Korea's) sovereignty. The outcome of the negotiations depends on the number of ironclads at Port Arthur and of troops in Manchuria. Russia does not fear war, but she does not desire it, and therefore is seeking to render it impossible."

Further Negotiations Predicted.

Tokio, Jan. 6.—It is believed here that the Russian response has been handed to the government, but the secret of its delivery has been jealously guarded, and the nature of the reply remains undisclosed. Minister of Foreign Affairs Komura called this afternoon upon Baron de Rosen, the Russian Minister to Japan, with whom he remained an hour, and later he visited Premier Katsura, when an extended conference was held.

Russia Can Not Allow.

Paris, Jan. 7.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Herald says:

"There is no doubt that the Russian reply intimates in a friendly way that Russia cannot accept Japanese interference. Russian cannot allow Japan to acquire territory in southern Korea, thus cutting communication between Vladivostok and Port Arthur."

ASSIGNS TO CREDITORS

Charles B. Wade Invests Too Heavily In Unproductive Mining Properties.

CAUSES BIG RUN ON BANK

Announcement That Affairs of Officials and Institution Are Separate Causes Depositors to Black Up—Cashier Prosecuted.

Pendleton, Ore., Jan. 6.—Charles B. Wade, cashier of the First National bank of Pendleton, and one of the most prominent men in the state, today assigned his property to W. F. Matlock and T. C. Taylor for the benefit of creditors.

It is estimated that Wade failed for \$200,000 or \$250,000, although W. F. Matlock, one of the trustees, does not believe that the liabilities will exceed \$150,000. Wade has resigned his position and is at home stricken with nervous prostration.

Wade has been a heavy investor in eastern Oregon mines, and it is stated that the heavy drain of unproductive properties has occasioned his embarrassment. His friends state his financial troubles are only temporary. The rumor that Wade's affairs were involved was circulated Saturday and it caused a run on the bank which was only stayed by the announcement from stockholders that Mr. Wade's affairs were entirely separate. Senator Ankeny is president of the bank.

WOMAN FOULY MURDERED.

Awful Death Meted Out Seattle Woman Last Night.

Seattle, Jan. 6.—Gorgetta Flynn, better known as "Nugget," was murdered in her own room in the restricted district last night. The left side of her head was crushed in by some blunt instrument and there were seven wounds in the neck that looked as if made by a stiletto. A gold watch and chain are missing. So quietly was the work done that no sound of a scuffle was heard in the next room.

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