

RUSSIA BACKS DOWN

Secretary of Commerce Tells That American Commerce is Much Desired.

SECRET ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN CHINA AND RUSSIA

There is no foundation for the report that Russia has demanded that China refuse the requests for powers for treaty ports. Secretary of Commerce says that he has assured him that the reports of a personal arrangement between Russia and China to Manchuria are absolutely untrue and that there is no foundation for the report that Russia demands that China shall refuse the requests of other powers for treaty ports and consulates in Manchuria. Secretary says that he has assured that Russia has no intention to exclude the other countries the advantages now enjoyed in Manchuria or to confer exclusive rights upon the Russians. At America may be sure nothing will be done to close the doors open and that American and American capital are just what Russia most desires to attract. It is understood that similar assurances have been received by Secretary from the Russian ambassador in Washington. These disavowals are regarded in official circles here as indicative of a definite backdown from the aggressive attitude of a few days ago.

BRITT WINS

Wladimir Fritzsche clearly beaten in one of the prettiest fights ever seen in the West. Referee Grady last night declared Jimmie Britt the winner of one of the best fights ever seen in the West. Willie Fitzgerald, of Chicago, was the man who put up the contest against the California fighter. Britt was the cleverer of the two, and landed two knockouts on Fitzgerald's one. With the close of the last round, when Britt's superior was manifesting the entire fight.

GIVEN LIFE SENTENCE

James and Frank Metzger, who held crowded Pasadena car, were sentenced for life to the San Quentin prison. Metzger, who was a typical desperado, made last effort to save his pal. He said, "and you are doing great wrong." The police admit there is little hope of capturing the murderer of George L. ...

GRAIN MARKETS

Furnished by Coe Commission Company—F. W. Boulter, Local Agent, 120 Court Street, Astoria, April 29.—Wheat—The market ruled very quiet and completely steady today. The cables practically unchanged from yesterday. Receipts at the primary points were again heavier than those of a year ago. The weather continues rather favorable for spring wheat, zero being reported in the extreme north, but rather favorable in the wheat belt. Little or no cash is reported. The market is in a waiting position, influenced either way by the report of the bull leader who seems gradually reducing his line of replacing it with July.

Opened.	Closed.
71 1/2	71 1/2
44 1/2	44 1/2
31 1/2	31 1/2
Opened.	Closed.
74 1/2	74 1/2

CURRENCY QUESTION.

President Roosevelt Speaks on That Much-Abused Subject at Quincy.

Quincy, April 29.—Roosevelt's train was a little late. He addressed the people from a stand in the park on the currency question. He said: "It is well nigh universally admitted that our currency system is wanting in elasticity. Our laws have been recently improved but they need further improvement and strengthening. They need such a modification as will insure the parity of every dollar coined or issued by the government and such expansion and contraction of currency as will promptly and automatically respond to the varying needs of commerce. A permanent increase will be dangerous, but a permanent contraction would be ruinous."

Speaks at Keokuk.

Keokuk, Iowa, April 29.—President Roosevelt reached here at 8:30 and made an address to a large audience in the park. The first stop today was made at Farmington, where the president spoke from the rear platform of the train.

CABINET MEETING.

President Calls Conference of His Advisers for Tonight to Consider Important Questions of State.

Washington, D. C., April 29.—An important conference between the president and the members of his cabinet will be held in St. Louis tonight. The special train bearing the president and his party will arrive at St. Louis tonight at 4. President Roosevelt and Secretary Shaw, who is to be of the party, will be rejoined there by other members of the cabinet. Matters of importance which have arisen since the president's departure from Washington will be brought to the attention of the chief executive. These will include Russia's attitude in Manchuria, the developments in the investigation of the postoffice department, and some departmental matters upon which the president will have to pass.

NEGROES HOMELESS.

Fire Destroys Tenement Portion of Norfolk, Va.—Of Incendiary Origin.

Norfolk, Va., April 29.—An incendiary fire this morning rendered 50 negro families homeless and destroyed the tenement section. It also destroyed the Southern railway's wharves. The loss on the latter is \$25,000.

Avoid the Americans.

Berlin, April 29.—The German Dental Association has issued a report advising their patients to avoid the American dentists. It says many colleges in America sell degrees to incompetent applicants hence every one holding an American degree is open to suspicion.

Socialists Killed.

Warsaw, April 29.—A party of Polish socialists started a demonstration here today. The police scattered them, killing four and injuring a score.

EMPLOYERS TO PREVENT TIE-UP

MARINE ENGINEERS OF NEW YORK MAY STRIKE.

Men Demand \$125 per Month—Tie-up Would Greatly Inconvenience the Incoming and Outgoing Steamers.

New York, April 29.—Employers of the marine engineers, who threaten to strike May 1, unless granted an increased pay, will meet today to try to prevent a tie-up. Twenty-seven hundred men are involved, including engineers of tugs, lighters and steam barges. The strike would greatly inconvenience the incoming and outgoing steamers, as it would be impossible to dock the large liners without the tugs. The men demand \$125 per month. They now get \$105.

Another Anglo-American Alliance.

London, April 29.—Fashionable society, including a large number of the American colony in London, was well represented today at the wedding of Miss Mary Kuhn, of Philadelphia, and Roland Hunter Gordon. The bride is the daughter of Mrs. Charles Kuhn, of Philadelphia, and is well known socially in that city and also in New York. The bridegroom is a cousin of the Marquis of Huntley.

Reviews Troops.

Rome, April 29.—King Edward and King Victor reviewed 25,000 troops this morning at the Place d'Armes.

Fire destroyed a large part of the woods at W. K. Vanderbilt's country home, "Idle Home," on Long Island Monday.

SULTAN OF TURKEY TO MASSACRE ARMENIANS

Thinks Bloodshed on a Large Scale in That Country Will Distract Attention From Macedonia.

ALBANIANS REFUSE TO ACCEDE TO TURKEY'S DEMANDS—MACEDONIAN COMMITTEE RESOLVES TO ASSASSINATE CONSULS.

Berlin, April 29.—Die Information today reports that the sultan recently summoned the Kurd chiefs in Asia Minor to Constantinople and instructed them to recommence the Armenian massacres which caused such a sensation in the civilized world six years ago.

Abdula's idea, the paper states, is that bloodshed on a large scale in Armenia would distract attention from Macedonia and relieve the pressure in European Turkey. Armenian massacres, the paper's correspondent says, have already occurred in the districts of Van, Vaspuracan, Mush and Sasun.

In a fight near Van, the Armenians fought the Kurds fiercely with the result that 200 were killed and several hundred were wounded. The majority of the casualties were among the Kurds. The Armenian fugitives crossed the Russian frontier, pursued by the Turkish cavalry. The Turks continued the pursuit over the border. The frontier guards raised the alarm, a regiment of Cossacks appeared and fired upon the Turks. A brief encounter followed and the Turks retreated.

The local Anzeiter's correspondent also reports an encounter and says a

Turkish officer and six of his men were killed.

Reject All Reforms.

Vienna, April 29.—Die Zietz's Uskub, Albina, correspondent today wires his paper that the Albanians are uncompromising in their refusal to accede to the Turkish demands.

A great meeting has been held where resolutions were unanimously passed demanding the restoration of Bosnia and Herzegovina, which formerly belonged to Albania, but for the past 25 years has been administered by Austria-Hungary. Further, that no foreign consuls be admitted to Albania except at Uskub and third, that all the reforms proposed by the port be uncompromisingly rejected.

To Assassinate Consuls.

Berlin, April 29.—Advices were received here today that the Russian embassy at Constantinople, has notified the Russian consuls throughout European Turkey, that the Macedonian committee has resolved to assassinate them.

ST. LOUIS PREPARED FOR DEDICATION

St. Louis, April 29.—A multitude of visitors is pouring into St. Louis in anticipation of the coming of President Roosevelt and the dedication tomorrow of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition. During the past 24 hours all incoming trains have been heavily loaded, and reports from railroad authorities indicate that by nightfall the crowd will be the largest ever gathered in this city. Hotels and boarding houses are filled to overflowing and the streets of the downtown district are literally jammed with people. Since last night parties of notables have been arriving in quick succession. The reception committee has a stupendous task on its hands, but the thoroughness with which it has made its arrangements is evidenced by today's results. Foreign diplomats, governors and their staffs and innumerable other public men have poured into the city on every train, from the North and South, the East and West. As rapidly as they arrived they have been received at the station by members of the reception committee and escorted to the quarters assigned them. Marching soldiers and playing bands are to be encountered at every turn. The number of troops are pouring into the city is without precedent. An idea of the tremendous total may be had from the fact that New York state alone has sent 1,000 soldiers, representatives of all branches of the service. Iowa, Ohio, Kentucky, Illinois and many other states are well represented in the great army of militiamen that has invaded the city. Under the able management of Adjutant-General Corbin and his aids, the soldiers' welfare is being looked after. The governors and their military staffs, the militiamen from a score of states, jockies from the monitor Arkansas and United States troops to a total of several thousand will combine to make a military pageant tomorrow worth going hundreds of miles to see.

except those immediately connected with the dedication of the exposition. The Sigel monument association, however, has obtained the consent of the president to attend a gathering in behalf of the memorial to be held at Masonic hall tonight. It is expected that Mr. Roosevelt will make a brief address.

At the World's Fair today the various officials and their assistants were literally working with their coats off getting everything in readiness for the festivities of the next three days. The grand court, the Liberal Arts building and other portions of the grounds that will be brought into prominence by the dedicatory exercises, have been dressed in rainbow fashion with thousands of flags and yards upon yards of red, white and blue bunting. The facades of all the great palaces facing the court are apparently in a finished state. When the president rides up the avenue between the great structures tomorrow the scene that will greet his eye will be practically the same as that to be presented one year hence when the gates of the exposition will be thrown open to the public.

At 10 o'clock tomorrow morning the freedom of the city will be bestowed upon President Roosevelt by the mayor, and half an hour later the military parade, composed of United States troops and the National Guard, will start for the exposition grounds, preceded by the president and invited guests in carriages. At the grounds a presidential salute of 21 guns will be fired.

The doors of the Liberal Arts building will be opened and a band concert will be given. At 2 o'clock the ceremonies will begin. They will consist of an invocation by Cardinal Gibbons and addresses by the exposition officials. President Roosevelt will make an address, and after a grand chorus former President Cleveland will speak.

On Friday the members of the diplomatic corps, the representatives of foreign governments to the exposition and other official guests will be taken by a military escort to the grounds. Addresses will be made by the French ambassador and the Spanish minister. The civic parade will take place Saturday and will be reviewed by the governors of the various states. In the course of the ceremonies at the Liberal Arts building addresses will be made by Governors Odell, of New York, and Dockery, of Missouri. At the close of the ceremonies on each of the three days a centennial salute of 100 guns will be fired. A display of fireworks will be made each evening.

UNION'S BOOKS EXPERTED.

Accountants Find But Slight Discrepancies—County Indebtedness.

Union, Ore., April 29.—Messrs. Clark and Buchanan, expert accountants of Portland, who have been expediting the records of Union county, have completed their work and filed their report, which shows that all moneys received by the various officials from July, 1896, to July, 1902, have been properly accounted for, with the exception of certain credits that should have been made to the county school funds and the cities of Union and La Grande. It is shown that \$1739.37 that should have been passed to the county school funds, \$516.05 that should have been credited to La Grande and \$109.22 that should have been given to Union were credited to other funds. When these corrections are made the accounts will balance.

The report shows the warrant indebtedness of the county to be \$269,622.38, and it is shown that Baker county has a claim against the county for moneys collected in the "Panhandle" district amounting to about \$10,000, making the indebtedness of the county about \$280,000.

QUALITY DESIRABLE.

Mary A. Livermore Takes Issue With President Roosevelt—Parents More in Need of Culture Than Children.

Chicago, April 29.—A dispatch to the Record-Herald from Boston says: Before the members of an organization called the Mothers' and Fathers' Club, Mary A. Livermore spoke of "Child Culture." Monday night and took issue with President Roosevelt and President Eliot on the race suicide question. She said:

"We need to listen more to talk about the culture of fathers and mothers than we do to the culture of the child, it seems to me. There are two mighty factors that enter into the making of individuals and of nations. Those factors are heredity and environment. There are men and women who are unfit to be parents of children. At the present time we have to depend upon environment. In many cases it is better to take children away from their natural parents so that they may have a chance to do better.

"The needs is not more children, but better ones. It would not be race suicide if we were to have more homes into which only two or three many cases it is better to take children were born. Quality and arrive at St. Louis tonight at 4:30

SAIL FOR EUROPE.

Earl of Yarmouth Transfers Baggage Directly From Train to Ship Because of His Debts.

New York, April 29.—The Earl and Countess of Yarmouth sailed for Europe on the St. Paul this afternoon. To prevent the earl's baggage from being attached for indebtedness, it was transferred directly from the train. The earl admitted his indebtedness, but said that all his claims would be promptly paid when presented to his lawyer.

BLIZZARD IN CENTRAL STATES

WIRES DOWN AND TRAINS STALLED IN MINNESOTA.

Worst Storm Ever Known at This Time of Year in Iowa and Dakota—Kansas and Nebraska Threatened.

Duluth, April 29.—A blizzard is raging here. Trains are delayed, street cars and sawmills are shut down. The incoming vessels on Lake Superior say it is the worst snow storm ever known at this time of the year.

Terrific Snow Storm.

Sioux City, Ia., April 29.—In Northwestern Iowa, Northern Nebraska and nearly all of South Dakota, terrific sleet and snow storms are raging. South Dakota is practically cut off from all communication by wire. It will retard all crops.

Kansas Next.

Kansas City, April 29.—Heavy snows are predicted by the weather observer for Missouri, Kansas and Nebraska before tomorrow.

HEAVY FREEZE.

Nebraska's Fruit Crop Badly Damaged by Frost Last Night.

Lincoln, Neb., April 29.—Nebraska's fruit crop was badly damaged last night by a record-breaking freeze followed by heavy rains. Winter wheat and oats, which were in dire need of moisture, were greatly benefited over the entire state where failures were heretofore predicted.

A MOUNTAIN SLIDE

Town of Frank, in Alberta, is Destroyed and Many Miners Are Buried.

FIRST REPORTED IT WAS OF VOLCANIC ORIGIN.

Stream Running Through the Town is Dammed Up—Reports 600 Very Meager—70 Miners Said to Have Been Killed—May Have Resulted From Explosion.

Victoria, B. C., April 29.—An awful catastrophe happened at Frank, Alberta, at the entrance to the Crow's Nest Pass. It is not known how it happened, but it is reported to be of volcanic origin or an earthquake. It is more probable there has been an explosion that caused a slide of the mountain.

The Canadian Pacific railroad track was covered 50 feet deep with debris and a creek has been dammed, causing a flood in the town.

Six or more houses have been covered with rocks and the inmates are supposed to be dead. The wrecking train at Cranbrook has gone to the scene.

The theory at first was that a volcano had broken out and this was at first accepted, but the theory of the provincial mineralogists that a big slide has occurred is likely to be nearer the truth, as a slide of the mountain is supposed to have slipped into the town, thus damming the river. Frank is only a small town with only one operator, hence the trouble in getting the news.

Vancouver, B. C., April 29.—It is reported that 75 people were killed by a volcanic eruption at Frank, B. C., in the "Crow's Nest" pass country. No details have been received.

Reported 100 Dead.

Victoria, B. C., April 29.—A late report from Frank, Alberta, places the death list at one hundred people and states that the river which runs through the center of the town is rising fast, owing to its being choked with lava and ashes and is thus complicating matters. Details are still of the most meager description.

Buried 70 Miners.

Spokane, April 29.—A special to the Press from Frank, Alberta, Northwest Territory, states that an earthquake last night destroyed the coal mines there. The entire night shift of 70 miners was buried in a property belonging to H. L. Frank, of Butte, Mont. It was a newly opened mine which last year produced a thousand tons per day. It is on the line of the Canadian Pacific.

MURDERER CONFESSES.

F. C. Fischer, of Riverside, Cal., Chloroformed His Wife, Poured Gasoline on Her and Set Her Afire.

Los Angeles, April 29.—F. C. Fischer, who was arrested at Riverside on suspicion of murdering his wife, confessed this morning. He said the deed was not premeditated. His wife was dying clothes with chloroform. Fischer said: "Give me your chloroform and I will remove the sty from your eye." His wife consented. When she was chloroformed Fischer choked her till she was unconscious, then poured gasoline on her and set her on fire.

Fischer was mixed up in a murder at San Francisco four years ago. His mother was a professional thief, he said. He was also in Joliet prison two years for grand larceny.

He said he confessed to save himself from the gallows. There are many threats of lynching. The woman was his third wife. He says the other two are living and are now divorced.

The murder occurred last Thursday. Fischer alarmed the neighborhood, saying his wife was burning in the house and frantically begged the people to save her. He appeared to go insane from grief after he found her dead. The fire was put out too soon and showed that she had been choked. He says his reason for killing his wife is that she was recently converted and he didn't want to see her fall from grace. He had her life insured for \$2,000.

Rocksand Wen.

London, April 29.—Rocksand, the English horse, with Skeets Martin up, won the Newmarket today, a purse of \$15,000. There were 11 entries.