

JAPAN CONTROLS ALL MANCHURIA

Provokes China by Her Continued Policy of Aggression.

Rival Nations for Oriental Trade Are Shut Out—American Firms Suffer Through Rebate Prosecutions and Development Is Being Abandoned—Owens May Protest.

Washington, Feb. 20.—Information from unofficial and individual sources evidencing the aggressiveness of Japan in Manchuria has been accumulating in the State department for some time. That this condition is irritating in increasing degree to China is also a matter of knowledge here. It is said with authority, however, that in no manner has the Chinese government brought the matter to the attention of the American government, and no report on the subject is looked for.

A remarkable explanation of the attitude of our government in this important matter is developed as the result of inquiry directed toward officials who cannot be quoted, but are in positions to direct our policies. In effect, it is as follows:

"It is frankly admitted that America is losing her commercial foothold in the Orient. This loss, however, is not charged to Japan. Rather it is asserted to be the effect of the growing tendency toward international governmental regulation in the United States. As an illustration of this, attention is called to these facts:

"Five years ago flour in barrels was being shipped to the Orient from the Northwest, steel rails from Pittsburgh, and cotton in bales from Texas. These shipments were made possible because of an exceedingly low ocean freight rate arrived at by a railroad combination. This rate has been condemned by our courts as a conspiracy against trade, and the development of this trade has been abandoned. The domestic war, as it is characterized, against the Standard Oil company, which is credited with the largest Oriental trade of any American enterprise, is declared to have been disastrously effective in the Orient, while the tobacco and cotton goods trades are said to have been dealt heavy injury through the operation of the railroad legislation here.

"From this point it seemed easy for government officials here conversant with foreign matters, to view Japanese commercial aggression in Manchuria with a greater degree of complacency than would be the case in the face of an urgent domestic demand for governmental assistance. Japan, it is asserted, without great difficulty, justifies everything she has done in Manchuria as sanctioned by the 'open door' policy initiated by the late Secretary Hay, and adhered to by the greater nations, including Japan.

While Japan may justify these things through the 'open door' policy, it has been charged that there exists evidence of her use of many methods and practices which might not bear the light of impartial investigation. Besides her claim to an equal footing with other nations in Manchuria, on the 'open door' basis, she has, it is asserted, obtained many valuable concessions through which her control of the railroad and telegraphic facilities is practically complete. This control is known to be used primarily in the interest of Japanese traders and to the detriment of all foreign competitors.

Michigan Trains Snowbound

Detroit, Mich., Feb. 20.—At least 13 passenger trains poked their pilots into impervious snow drifts throughout Michigan, and late this afternoon reports from out in the state indicate that some of these trains are still snowbound. Traffic was completely abandoned in some instances. The blizzard which swept down upon the lower portion of Michigan from the West yesterday afternoon still prevails with great severity, and the snowfall ranges from eight inches in Detroit to 18 inches in the Southwest section of the state.

Brazil Continues Rebates.

Washington, Feb. 20.—The president of the republic of Brazil, to commemorate the visit of the Atlantic fleet to the city of Rio Janeiro, has signed a decree authorizing the continuation of rebates on tariff charges on articles of American merchandise during the fiscal year 1908. The rebates which are continued apply to wheat, flour, condensed milk, manufactures of rubber, watches, writing ink, varnishes, typewriters, refrigerators, pianos, scales and windmills.

More Deaths in Chicago.

Chicago, Feb. 20.—The blizzard which began here yesterday was still in progress today, although the greatest fury of the storm had passed. A light snow fell during the early part of the day, and was piled into deep drifts by a strong wind. Traffic on all surface and elevated streetcar lines, as well as on steam roads, was greatly delayed, though large squads of men worked all night in an endeavor to keep the tracks clear of snow.

Blizzard in Adirondacks.

Plattsburg, N. Y., Feb. 20.—A north-west storm of such severity as to be unusual, even in this blizzard-acustomed region, is raging in Northern New York tonight, and is rapidly adding to the snow that covers the whole Adirondack region.

DYNAMITE ENDS LIVES.

Twenty-eight Killed by Explosion at California Powder Works

Berkeley, Cal., Feb. 21.—With a force that shook the entire bay region as an earthquake and a detonation heard for miles, the Judson packing house of the Hercules Powder Works at Pinole, 14 miles north of here, blew up at 4 o'clock this afternoon, and in the explosion four white men and 24 Chinamen were killed. Ten tons of dynamite went up in the terrific blast, shattering the shells to dust and splinters.

W. W. Stillwell, foreman of the packinghouse, was blown to atoms at his post of duty. Not a particle of his body was recovered. Manuel Enos, Jose Grace and W. A. Rodrigues were the other white men killed. The 28 dead include every man at work in the packinghouse. None escaped.

Flames burst forth in the ruins after the explosion and threatened the gelatine house, where two score girls were at work. A panic ensued and many were cut by flying glass and crushed and trampled in the mad rush for the doors.

The panic and confusion following the explosion were pitiful. Families of the men who daily risk their lives at the powder plant came running from the little hamlet of Pinole seeking news of loved ones. Darger of additional explosions prevented those who escaped injury from approaching too near the wreck, and it was not until late in the evening that the number of dead and injured was known.

SYNDICATE COMMITS FRAUD

Tillman Starts Postal Inquiry into Coos Bay Land Dealers.

Washington, Feb. 21.—The St. Paul & Pacific Timber syndicate, having an office at 525 Chamber of Commerce, Portland, is to be investigated by the Postoffice department, to ascertain whether or not it is using the mails for fraudulent purposes. Senator Tillman yesterday charged in the senate that this company is flooding the country with circulars, in which his name is used without authority and in which the company offers to "make \$5,000 out of \$200" invested with it, to be in turn invested in timber land in Coos and Douglas counties as soon as the government recovers title to the unpatented portion of the grant to the Coos Bay Wagon Road company.

Tillman charged that this company, of which Bryan R. Dorr is president, is engaged in a "scheme of swindling," and said he proposed "to stop the swindlers from getting any more money." He accordingly laid the circular before the Postoffice department today, and by his request the concern will be investigated. If it is found that its circulars misrepresent facts, and if, as charged by Mr. Tillman, this company is swindling those who subscribe to its scheme, it will be denied further use of the mails.

HINTS AT GRAFF.

House Asked to Investigate Estimates for Naval Vessels.

Washington, Feb. 21.—A resolution was introduced in the house today by Lilley, of Connecticut, providing for the appointment by the speaker of a special committee of seven members to investigate the conduct of the Electric Boat company, of New Jersey, and its predecessor, the Holland Boat company, respecting the methods employed by the said companies in regard to the past and proposed legislation of Congress.

The proposal of a congressional investigation is an outgrowth of the failure of the committee on naval affairs to support President Roosevelt's naval construction program. The president personally backed the Navy department in its request for the authorization of the four battleships, ten destroyers, four submarines, etc. The committee cut the battleships to two and raised the submarines to eight, and in connection with the latter craft adopted the Loudenslager amendment providing that they should be of the type of the Octopus, unless a superior type should be offered and demonstrated by October 1, 1908.

Contempt Charge Holds.

Carson, Nev., Feb. 21.—For their criticism of the Supreme court that body today found Peter Breen, judge of the Third district, and J. Mastretti, district attorney of Lander county, guilty of contempt. Judge Breen was ordered to expunge the false and scurrilous remarks he made against the court or be disbanded from practicing law in any of the courts of the state of Nevada. He was given 20 days to execute this order. Mastretti was disbanded from the practice of law in any state court for the period of 30 days.

Company is Threatened.

Salt Lake City, Feb. 21.—A letter signed by Joe Train and Fred Stack, as alleged leaders of the "Black Hand," was received today by Manager Wade, of the Ogden end of the Utah Light & Power company, in which the threat is made that unless the company reduces the rates for light and power the Black Hand society will blow up the power company's dam in Ogden, the plant and offices in Ogden, and kill every officer or citizen who dares to interfere.

Flood Probable in Ohio.

Toledo, O., Feb. 21.—The storm of last night is continuing today. Unless freezing weather comes quickly, a disastrous flood seems inevitable.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SIXTIETH SESSION OF NATIONAL LAWMAKERS

Saturday, February 22.

Washington, Feb. 22.—In the presence of many senators and a large gathering in the galleries, Senator Porter McCumber, of North Dakota, today read the farewell address of Washington.

The Indian appropriation bill, which was reported to the senate today, carries \$9,825,820, an increase of \$1,610,123 over the total appropriations made by the bill as it was passed by the house.

The nomination of Louis A. Coolidge, of Massachusetts, to be an assistant secretary of the treasury, was ordered reported favorably by the senate committee on finance.

Washington, Feb. 22.—The race question came to the surface in the house today when Hefflin, Alabama, offered an amendment to the District of Columbia street railway trackage bill, providing for "Jim Crow" cars. Hefflin declared that separate coaches for the whites and blacks had solved the race problem in Alabama and he expressed the opinion that such an arrangement would solve it in Washington.

The amendment was defeated, 140 to 59.

The bill was passed. It provides universal transfers on the basis of cash fares or six tickets for 25 cents. It also provides for street railway facilities from all parts of Washington to the new union station.

Friday, February 21.

Washington, Feb. 21.—Senator Heyburn and Representative French, of Idaho, today introduced in the senate and house the bill prepared by Idaho sheepmen amending the 28-hour law, by providing that railroad trains containing ten or more cars of livestock going from one state to another shall maintain an average minimum speed of 16 miles per hour from the time the stock is loaded onto cars until the destination is reached, deducting reasonable time for stops made for feed and water. The bill provides a fine of \$100 to \$500 for failure to maintain this speed.

An amendment to the postoffice appropriation bill was introduced today by Senator Foraker.

Seven Filipinos may receive instruction in the United States military academy, according to a bill passed by the senate today.

Washington, Feb. 21.—The time of the house of representatives today was devoted to consideration of what is known as the District of Columbia railway franchise—that is, the bill providing for extension of streetcar lines to the new union station. The subject of universal streetcar transfers in Washington elicited special attention and no disposition was manifested to amend the provision except to strengthen it. Tomorrow also will be given over to District of Columbia business.

Thursday, February 20.

Washington, Feb. 20.—Because of the death in this city today of Senator Latimer, of South Carolina, both branches of congress adjourned, the senate almost immediately after convening and the house an hour afterward upon receiving official notice of the senator's death. In each chamber resolutions of regret were adopted and a committee appointed to accompany the body home.

Most of the time the house was in session was consumed in the reading of impeachment charges offered by Mr. Waldo, of New York, against Federal Judge Leubens R. Wilfley, of the United States court at Shanghai, China, which were referred to the committee on judiciary.

Chaplain Hale, in his prayer opening the senate, referred feelingly to the death of Senator Latimer.

The immigration committee, of which Mr. Latimer was a member, also adopted resolutions of regret.

Wednesday, February 19.

Washington, Feb. 19.—Senator Borah, of Idaho, dropped a bomb in the United States senate when he proposed to amend the existing law by providing that United States senators and representatives in congress should not be permitted to act as paid attorneys in any federal court in cases in which the United States government is interested directly or indirectly. The senate was droning along, considering the Heyburn bill to revise and codify the Federal statutes, when it reached that provision under which United States Senators Burton and Mitchell had been indicted and convicted. It was here that the junior Idaho senator unexpectedly proposed his amendment.

The senate in executive session today ratified the arbitration convention between the United States and France, which was signed on February 10. A naturalization treaty between the United States and Peru also was ratified.

Senator Knox introduced a bill providing for a system of postal savings banks.

Washington, Feb. 19.—The bill pro-

May Rearrange Stars.

Washington, Feb. 20.—President Roosevelt is considering a proposition to revise the national flag by an entire new arrangement of the stars. On July 1 another star must be added to the flag, to represent Oklahoma. The plan of Dr. A. M. Martin, of Bloomville, O., calls for a geometrical design, consisting of five arcs in combinations. This means a big star with five points, the center being occupied with a few stars.

viding for the taking of the thirteenth census occupied most of the time of the session of the house today. Progress with it was slow because of numerous amendments offered, which in the main were rejected. The bill was amended in one important particular, however, and that was limiting the census to the mainland of the United States, Alaska, Hawaii and Porto Rico.

Previous to the consideration of the census bill, Henry, of Texas, taking his cue from Boutell's remarks of yesterday landing the speaker, urged the Republicans to bring in an employers liability bill and a bill requiring notice before the issuance of Federal indictments.

A petition for the impeachment of Judge L. R. Wilfley, of Shanghai, judge of the United States court for China, was presented to the house.

Tuesday, February 18.

Washington, Feb. 18.—The Aldrich currency bill was opposed in the senate today by Stone, of Missouri. During Stone's argument in advocacy of the plan for government guarantees of deposits in National banks Bacon, of Georgia, took occasion to oppose that proposition at some length. Bacon declared that, if such a plan were put into effect, state banks would be put out of business, as their deposits would find their way into National banks.

The bill to revise the criminal code of the United States was considered during a couple of hours in the afternoon.

Washington, Feb. 18.—Speaker Cannon's presidential boom received marked impetus in the house of representatives today when Boutell, his colleague from Illinois, brought the subject to the fore as the climax of a half hour's speech. His remarks were based on the fact that today was the 34th anniversary of Cannon's first speech in this house.

Boutell spoke with enthusiasm, and when he closed with the remark that within the next two months "the plain people of the country would join the voters of Cannon's district in conferring upon him the nation's final honor," the speaker was given a great demonstration.

Keen disappointment was felt on all sides when the speaker made no reply. He stepped from the rostrum and amid cheering retired to his room while the house considered pension bills.

Most of the day was taken up by a discussion of the bill to provide for taking the next census. Its consideration had not been concluded when the house adjourned.

Monday, February 17.

Washington, Feb. 17.—After a brief legislative session today the senate ordered the doors closed and for several hours discussed the Witherspoon nomination. During the executive session an agreement was reached to consider the ocean mail subsidy bill on Wednesday, and Stone, of Missouri, announced that he would speak on the Aldrich currency bill tomorrow. An amendment to the mail subsidy bill was introduced by Lodge, which authorizes the postmaster general to contract for carrying ocean mail in vessels of the third class and to pay a subsidy of \$2 per outward mile on voyages of 4,000 miles or more.

An amendment to the Aldrich currency bill was introduced by Stone.

Washington, Feb. 17.—The legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill, one of the largest supply measures of the government, was passed by the house today after several hours' discussion. The amount carried is practically as reported by the committee, \$32,336,573. Macon, of Arkansas, continued his policy of attacking all increases in salaries and they were accordingly rejected on points of order by him.

There was a lively debate over the provision giving discretion to heads of departments to remove or reduce incapacitated employees. A provision was adopted that incapables should not draw pay.

Representative Hughes introduced an amendment to the Sherman anti-trust law remedying defects affecting labor agreements.

State Line Not Marked.

Washington, Feb. 18.—If the house of representatives acts favorably on Senator Heyburn's bill, recently passed by the senate, a nice fat surveying contract will be awarded early in the coming summer to some man who wants to remark the boundary line between Idaho and Washington. The senator's bill appropriates \$25,000 to defray the expense of resurveying this line, which was originally laid off in 1874. It has been known for some time that the line has not been completely marked and does not conform with the boundary prescribed in the statutes.

Senator Clay Ill.

Washington, Feb. 18.—Senator Alexander S. Clay, of Georgia, is ill with an attack of acute indigestion at his apartments in this city.

Lease Lands for 15 Years.

Washington, Feb. 19.—The house committee on territories today favorably reported a bill limiting the duration of leasing of agricultural lands in Hawaii to 15 years. The committee also favorably reported a bill authorizing the payment of Hawaiian postal savings bank deposits. When the territory of Hawaii was created the affairs of Hawaiian postal savings banks were wound up with the proviso that the depositors be paid by the United States.

"SPIRIT OF THE GOLDEN WEST"

All Oregon Represented by Floats Indicative of Its Resources.

Portland's great annual institution, the Rose Festival, which was inaugurated last June under such auspicious circumstances, will, this coming June, be consummated on a scale so broad and grand that it will have a general appeal to the whole state of Oregon, and an individual appeal to every community in the commonwealth. The grand jubilee, which will be one round of pleasure for the whole week beginning Monday, June 1, and ending in a blaze of glory the following Saturday night, is not for Portland or Portland people alone.

One of its most spectacular and brilliant features is to be the magnificent street pageant. This is a competitive event open to all cities and towns of Oregon outside of the Rose City. There will be grand prizes, the capital prize being a princely sum in cash with a number of costly souvenir cups and other trophies of great value and beauty.

Up to the present time about 20 cities and towns of Oregon have been heard from, each showing great interest in the special state parade, and several of these towns, through their business organizations and "boosting" clubs, have sent representatives to this city to confer with the Festival management with reference to character of the floats which will make the most effective showing for their communities.

The Festival association has secured the services of a master float builder from the East, who is now here with a corps of assistants ready to advise with all who desire to enter the lists.

The railroads of Oregon, and the whole West, in fact, are planning to give special reduced rates on all lines, good for the whole week of the Festival. Special low rates from Portland to all points in Oregon.

Every town in Oregon is invited to enter some characteristic float in the "All Oregon" parade, and the Festival association invites correspondence and personal conference with cities and towns, large and small, in this all important matter.

Publications for Farmers.

The following publications of interest to farmers and others have been issued by the Agricultural department of the Federal government and will be furnished free, so long as they are available, except where otherwise noted, upon application to the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.:

Bulletin No. 119.—Report of Irrigation Investigations for 1901, under direction of Elwood Mead, chief of irrigation investigations. Pp. 401, pls. 64, figs. 12. Price 50 cents. This is the third of the annual reports of the irrigation investigations of this office. It deals chiefly with the duty of water, but contains also reports from four stations in the humid states, where irrigation is not a necessity, but a means of increasing the returns from farm lands; a report on the underground water supply of the San Bernardino valley California, and the second progress report on silt measurements.

Bulletin No. 86.—The Use of Water in Irrigation. Report of investigations made in 1899, under the supervision of Elwood Mead, expert in charge, and C. T. Johnston, assistant. Pp. 263, pls. 50, figs. 18. Price 30 cents. This bulletin explains the methods in use in the arid states in the distribution and use of water in irrigation. It gives a large number of measurements made to determine the duty of water and the losses by seepage and evaporation from canals, and discusses the methods by which the water supply may be more effectively and economically utilized in the production of crops.

Bulletin No. 104.—Report of Irrigation Investigations for 1900, under supervision of Elwood Mead, expert in charge of irrigation investigations. Pp. 334, pls. 25, figs. 29. Price 50 cents. This report covers the second year of investigations relating especially to the duty of water. The reports of the field agents contain also a large amount of information on laws and customs, agricultural methods, crop returns and other subjects related to irrigation. A progress report on the quantities of silt carried by a number of southern rivers is also contained in this volume.

Idaho Corn Show.

On the 2d, 3d and 4th of December, 1908, there will be held at Moscow a state corn show under the management of the Idaho Agronomy association. Not only will there be a show, but also a rousing program, which in itself would pay the farmer to come to Moscow. The subject of corn will be taken up and discussed from a practical and scientific point of view; the soil will be considered in its different phases; irrigation and dry farming will be talked about and the various live stock, dairy and horticultural subjects will be considered.

There will be some good premiums offered to the winners of the show. Now is the time to begin preparing by planting some good corn and getting it in line.

Tell your neighbors about it.

Do not forget the date. Mark those days on your calendar and plan to come. For further information address, R. E. Hyslop, Superintendent Idaho Agronomy Association, Moscow, Idaho.

Preserves.

Make a syrup of five pounds sugar and two cups water; boil until clear. Wash, stem and seed one gallon cherries, drop in the syrup and boil thirty minutes; skim well. Fill air-tight jars, seal and put in a cool place.

To Clean a Steel Knife.

Cut an Irish potato in half, dip one of the pieces in the brickdust which is generally used for cleaning knives. Rub the blade of the knife and the stain will immediately disappear.

GREATEST STRIKE KNOWN IN STATE

Fabulously Rich Ore Uncovered at Rawhide, Nev.

More Than 200 Men From Reno Rush to Scene—Ore Clear Across Opening Uncovered Assays Over \$600 to the Ton—Apparently Is a True Contact Vein.

Reno, Nev., Feb. 18.—At the 50-foot level of the lease of John Kearns, on Balloon mountain, at Rawhide, today, Tom Kearns set off a shot that uncovered a breast of ore literally alive with gold and assaying clear across the six-foot opening more than \$600 per ton in gold and silver, making it by far the largest gold discovery in the history of Nevada, if not in the world.

The strike is only a short distance from the estate of the Balloon Hill company's property which sold last week for \$600,000. Not since the discovery of Tonopah has the excitement been so intense in Reno. Tonight more than 200 residents of this city, many of them business men and others clerks, left for the scene. This rush has been going on for the past ten days on reports of strikes from the camp, but the confirmed story of the Kearns strike this afternoon has added to the excitement.

The population since last week has grown to 6,000 and is being added to as rapidly as conveyances can carry fortune seekers to the camp. The ore to all appearances is in place. The vein forms a contact between the main backbone of Balloon hill and joins the country rock to the west, which is altered porphyry. The gangue is in a moderately solidified kaolinized rhyolite carrying about \$3 in gold to \$1 in silver.

WAR FEVER IN RUSSIA.

Rushing Troops to Frontier to Fight Turkey.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 18.—The alarmist reports of the possibility of hostilities between Russia and Turkey, which have permeated all strata of Russian society, have assumed the proportions of a veritable war scare, to which the sensational press is devoting its biggest headlines.

The situation is taken seriously, not only in military circles, but also by conservative politicians. M. Gutchkoff, leader of the majority in the duma, announced his intention tonight of raising at the next meeting of the committee of national defense the question of the nation's readiness for war. This, he believes, is of the most vital importance, in view of the news from the Caucasus and all parts of Europe. He also proposes to interpellate the minister of communications on the ability of the railroads to transport troops quickly to the frontiers.

The duma, according to M. Gutchkoff, will be guilty of criminal negligence if it permits the country again to be drawn into a war for which it is wholly unprepared. The surest means to avoid a rupture, he said, is serious preparation for any eventuality.

SWEDEN FEARS RUSSIA.

Strained Relations Over Coaling Station May Bring War.

Stockholm, Feb. 18.—The relations between Sweden and Russia are decidedly strained at present. The tension has arisen because Russia insists upon being released from the agreement made when Sweden surrendered Finland, that no naval stations or fortifications should be established on the Finnish shores adjacent to Sweden. The pact taken by Russia in the Norwegian integrity treaty and her present attitude on the Baltic "closed sea question" also have greatly irritated Sweden.

War is feared in Sweden, because Russia for some time past has been preparing to establish a naval station on the western shores of Aland island, which is 25 miles from the Swedish coast and only a few hours by steamer from Stockholm.

Prosecutors in Conference.

Los Angeles, Feb. 18.—Following the report of impending Federal and state prosecution of the railroads of California upon charges of violation of the law, H. E. Duncan, special agent of the Department of Justice at Washington, was today in consultation with United States District Attorney Oscar Lawlar. Members of the State Railroad commission and Assistant Attorney General Raymond Benjamin arrived today for the purpose, it is said, of examining the books of the Santa Fe and Salt Lake Railroad companies.

Canada Will Stand by Japs

Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 18.—The Japanese consul was inquiring at the department today as to the truth of a report from Vancouver about the arrest of two Japanese under the Natal act. The Justice department has no information but its officers have instructions to test every case by habeas corpus or otherwise, so as to permit the Japanese to land. As soon as the official copy of the Natal act has been received here, it will be disallowed.

Standard Declares Dividend.

New York, Feb. 18.—The directors of the Standard Oil company declared a quarterly dividend of \$15 per share. The same amount was paid in the corresponding quarter last year. Standard Oil is an unlisted stock. The amount of stock outstanding is \$100,000,000.