

Bohemia Nugget

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NEWS OF THE WEEK

In a Condensed Form for Our Busy Readers.

A Resume of the Less Important but Not Less Interesting Events of the Past Week.

The cotton mill strike at Fall River, Mass., continues with both sides determined not to give in.

The grand of the Federal grand jury goes on, and another report for the expected public will soon be made.

Sliver is growing scarce. The price has advanced, and the market is such that the consumer waits on the producer.

Chicago held memorial services December 30 in remembrance of the Iroquois theater disaster, the occasion being the first anniversary.

Preparations are being made at Vladivostok for the reception in the dry docks of any of the Baltic squadron that may need docking when the fleet reaches that port.

The London city police have arrested two members of an international gang which for two or three years is alleged to have been conducting extensive forgeries in 45 Bank of England notes.

Boston's submarine tunnel is open for business. The tube is a mile and a half long, and connects Boston and East Boston, running under the harbor. The cost was three million dollars. About three and one-half years was consumed in constructing the tunnel.

Owing to the crisis in Morocco, the French navy yards show great activity. England is again enveloped in a heavy fog and all ships are detained at the mouth of the Thames, unable to proceed.

Admiral Kassinoff has been recalled as Russian commissioner in the North sea inquiry and will be replaced by Vice Admiral Dubasoff. Sickness is given as the reason.

The Montana agricultural exhibits at St. Louis are being packed for shipment to Portland. The mineral exhibit will leave Butte for the Lewis and Clark fair shortly.

Kuropatkin is absolutely certain that he will ultimately win over the Japanese, while the vice governor of Japan's national bank says Japan must win; that no sacrifice is too great.

The Japanese attempts to raise the Russian cruiser Varang have been discontinued. It will be impossible to commence work before spring, by which time the steel plates forming the hull will be useless.

The Colorado canvassing board has given certificates of election to two Republican senators, whose places were contested by Democrats. Democrats regard it as highly probable that Governor Peabody will be re-elected by this action.

Prince Yildoroff has been reported as among the killed in a recent list sent to St. Petersburg.

The recent retirement of Rear Admiral Rias Terry has resulted in the promotion of Captain Joseph E. Craig to be admiral.

An officer from an English steamer just out from Vladivostok says no Russian torpedo boats have arrived there from Port Arthur.

Reports from points along the shore of Lake Michigan indicate that the damage resulting from the storm will aggregate \$500,000.

An unknown steamer has been stranded in Hell's Hole, off Cape Hatteras, as a result of the storm raging along the Atlantic coast.

M. A. Meyerdorff, a special land agent, on the way to Portland to help in the land fraud cases, attempted to commit suicide at Denver.

Two Japanese cruisers have been sighted off Hong Kong. It is believed they are scouting vessels from the fleet sent after the Russian Baltic squadron.

Chinese warships are keeping a close watch on the Russian war vessels at Shanghai to prevent their escape or of the officers and men on them.

Governor Pardee desires to have the Mission type of architecture exemplified in the construction of the California state building at the Lewis and Clark fair. The work will start soon.

The president is presenting his ideas on railroad freight rates to congressmen personally.

Vice Admiral Lord Charles Beresford will assume command of the British Mediterranean squadron May 1.

Many Russians believe a brighter day is in store for their country when the announced reforms are put in practice.

Several lives have been lost in Chicago as a result of the severe storm.

Congress will have to buy silver bolts to make much needed small coins.

Great Britain has assumed control of the legal and financial administration of the Tonga islands, the native chiefs consenting.

T. C. Powell, of Portland, is to be appointed United States marshal at Nome, Alaska, to succeed Frank Richards, recently removed.

The government of Holland announces that the same neutrality will be observed in her colonies as at home in regard to the Far Eastern war.

A British tramp steamer is ashore on the Atlantic coast on Fire Island bar. Owing to the storm the vessel will be a total wreck. The entire crew was lost.

Free press, freedom of conscience and compulsory elementary education have been promised in Russia.

The Dawes commission says the rights of aborigines have been well protected in Indian Territory.

A GENERAL MOVE.

President is Making Several Changes Among Ambassadors.

Washington, Jan. 3.—President Roosevelt is devoting some time at present to consideration of important appointments in the diplomatic and consular service, which are to be made formally by him at the beginning of next March. Secretary Hay had a conference with the president today before the meeting of the cabinet, and it is understood that the matter of appointments in the diplomatic service was one of the subjects discussed. While no official announcement of the president's intention regarding the positions has yet been made, it is known that he has decided upon several changes. Joseph H. Choate, ambassador to Great Britain, has indicated that he does not desire to continue in that position. He will be succeeded by Whitesell Reid, proprietor of the New York Tribune, who was at one time minister to France.

General Horace Porter, American ambassador to France, will retire from that position soon after March 4. He was appointed by the late President McKinley, and, with the expiration of his present term, will have served the United States at the French capital eight years. The president has decided to appoint a definite successor, but at this time no announcement of his decision can be made. Charlemagne Tower, American ambassador to Germany, and Robert S. McCormick, American ambassador to Russia, will continue at their respective posts. Bellamy Storer, American ambassador to Austria-Hungary, will continue in his present place until the president decides to transfer him to another post in the diplomatic service.

As to the ambassadorship to Italy, nothing definite can be said now. It has been rumored that Ambassador George Von L. Meyer is to succeed General Porter at Paris, but it can be said that such a change is not certain. The probabilities are that Mr. Meyer will remain at Rome. General Powell Clayton having decided to relinquish his post as ambassador to Mexico at the end of the present administration, he will be succeeded by Edwin H. Conger, now United States minister to China. It is not expected that Mr. Conger will continue long at the Mexican capital, as he is understood to intend to return to his home state of Iowa to be a candidate in succession to Governor Cummins. He will be succeeded by David E. Thompson, of Nebraska, who at present is minister to Brazil. Mr. Thompson accepted the appointment to Brazil with the understanding that he would be appointed to a higher place in the diplomatic service as soon as an opportunity afforded.

Mr. Conger will be succeeded at the court of Pekin by William W. Rockwell, at present director of the bureau of American republics, who is recognized as an authority on all subjects pertaining to China and the Chinese. John K. Gowdy, who was appointed by President McKinley American consul general at Paris, will be succeeded by F. H. Mason, who is now consul general to Berlin. In succession to Mr. Mason, John Lewis Griffiths, of Indianapolis, will be named.

It is expected that some other changes will be made in the corps of American ministers, but at this time they are not obtainable for publication. **New Fraser River Mill.** New Westminster, B. C., Jan. 3.—A large sawmill on the Fraser river that has been closed for 15 years will open in a few weeks to cut 250,000 feet of lumber a day, under American capital. The mill was purchased by Lester W. David, for years manager of the Monarch lumber mills in Blaine. The company will be known as the Fraser River Lumber Mills company and will employ nearly 300 men. It will ship both by rail and vessel. In the marine shipping, E. J. Dodge, the millionaire lumber man of San Francisco, will use his own fleet of lumber vessels. Already a market has been opened in Australia and the first cargo sent by water will go there.

Cunning of the Japanese. Mukden, Jan. 3.—Irrefutable evidence has been obtained at headquarters that the Japanese are not only hiring Chinese bandits to operate on the Russian flanks, but that they are enlisting Chinese under Japanese officers. The Japanese are adopting cunning expedients to defeat surprise attacks of the Russian scouts, from which they have suffered so much. They cover the steep approaches of their trenches with water, which freezes, forms ice slides and makes the scouts slip and fall in confusion.

Sultan's Life in Danger. London, Jan. 3.—Ion Perdicaris, the American who, with his son-in-law, Cromwell Varley, a British subject, was kidnapped and held prisoner for ransom by Raisuli, the Moroccan bandit, in a signed dispatch to the Standard, says: "The present situation in Morocco is most serious. The sultan's life is endangered, and those who now direct affairs in the Moorish court are liable at any time to go on horse to the insurgent leader, who claims the throne as the elder brother of the present sultan."

Good Health on Isthmus. Washington, Jan. 3.—Commissioner Greene and Examiner Snyder, of the civil service commission, returned here today from a three weeks' visit to the Panama canal zone, where they went for the purpose of introducing the commission's rule for the employment of people connected with the canal. There has been an average of 1,500 Americans on the Isthmus for the past eight months, and not one death has occurred among them.

Chicago Is Not Liable. Chicago, Jan. 3.—Judge Charles M. Walker today decided that the city of Chicago is not liable for damages growing out of the loss of life in connection with the Iroquois theater fire. This was the last day in which, under the law, claims for damages could be filed. In the last hour of the court today 49 suits aggregating \$490,000 were filed in the circuit and supreme courts.

ATTEMPT A BREAK

Seven Convicts at Folsom Make Dash for Liberty.

THREE ARE KILLED BY GUARDS

Four Are Fatally Wounded and One Slightly—Two Guards Hurt by Bullets of Comrades.

Folsom, Cal., Dec. 31.—A break that was clever in plan and bold in execution took place at the penitentiary here this afternoon. The guards obeyed the standing orders of the warden to shoot regardless of the danger to free men, and as a result seven of nine convicts, who had planned to get away, were almost riddled with bullets, three being now dead and three in a critical condition.

The break was similar in general plan to that of last July, but the fact that it was made within the range of the guns of seven reliable guards, all dead shots, and one of those within 50 feet, makes it more bold and desperate.

The convicts who engaged in the break were all employed on the rock crusher, where 325 of the most desperate prisoners were at work. Captain Murphy was acting as general overseer about the rock crusher, and four other attaches, L. Daley, M. Hogan, Charles Taylor and Charles Jolly, were employed as "pushers" to keep the men at work.

A large sledge hammer was thrown into the crusher, causing the ponderous machinery to come to a standstill. This attracted Captain Murphy, Charles Jolly and Taylor to the place immediately. Thereupon the desperate convicts rushed to seize Murphy, Jolly and Taylor. They succeeded only in catching the two first mentioned. During this time the scene of trouble was under cover, and the guards on the outside could not see the struggling men, although they soon had an intimation that something was wrong. Five of the gang surrounded Captain Murphy and two others had Jolly. The convicts had knives in position for immediate execution, should the guards attempt to free themselves. The convicts were very bold as they approached Guard Harris, who stood ready to act according to the standing orders to shoot regardless of consequences.

When within 40 feet of the outside guards, one of the convicts gave the command: "Hand out your gun, or we will stab Murphy to the heart." Instead of handing out his rifle, Harris sent a bullet into the fellow's body, and he fell to the ground. In quick succession Harris fired at each of the remaining convicts, who were trying to shield themselves behind Murphy and Jolly.

In the meantime bullets from other posts were flying thickly about, many of them striking the convicts. Captain Murphy was struck by one of them, a slight wound being inflicted in the leg, and Jolly was struck in the neck, the bullet coming out through the cheek and inflicting a very serious wound, though probably not a critical one. Two of the convicts, named Campbell and Ford, intended joining the others, but their courage failed them when the shooting began.

Moors Commit Outrage. New York, Jan. 2.—In a garden of a British subject, only one mile from Tangier, a bold murder has been committed by Moorish robbers, according to the Herald correspondent of Tangier. The Moors entered the garden and carried away four cows belonging to the British owner, after murdering a Spaniard working on the place. One of the robbers was severely wounded by the wife of the Spaniard. It is rumored from Tetuan that the garrison there has deserted and fled from the town. Two months' pay was due them.

Santa Claus to World. New York, Jan. 2.—The United States played Santa Claus to the world, according to reports secured from the money order division of the New York postoffice. From December 1 to December 24, the night before Christmas, no less than 334,084 international money orders were forwarded to other lands from this city, and these orders called for \$4,667,692. The remittances were the largest in the history of the postoffice. [The figures show an unusual distribution, too.]

Want Horses for Army. Seattle, Wash., Jan. 2.—Pacific coast stockmen will soon have an opportunity to bid on 1,000 head of horses to be furnished Uncle Sam's cavalry and artillerymen now stationed in the Philippines, word to that effect being received by Captain F. A. Grant, of the local army quartermaster's office. Specifications as to the kind of horses desired have not yet been received by Captain Grant. These are expected by mail from the quartermaster general within a few days, when the bids will be called for.

Storm Destroys Jetty. Astoria, Or., Dec. 31.—Five thousand feet of jetty superstructure was carried away in an 80-mile-an-hour gale off the mouth of the river yesterday morning, leaving only 500 feet of the outer end remaining. To repair this work, together with the portion that was carried away by previous storms, will take several months, so that it is unlikely that there will be any extension of the jetty until late next summer, if at all during the coming year.

Tried to Reach Vladivostok. Shanghai, Jan. 2.—According to private advice from Sasebo received here today Commander Pelem, of the Russian torpedo boat destroyer Rastoropya and another officer of that vessel have been identified among those on board the captured British steamer Nigretia.

BILL BY ELKINS.

Its Object is Regulation of Railroad Freight Rates.

Washington, Dec. 31.—Senator S. B. Elkins, of West Virginia, chairman of the senate committee on interstate commerce, is busily engaged in framing a bill for the purpose of carrying out the views of the president in relation to the abolition of freight rebates. The senator, in discussing the subject today, said among other things:

"There should be some power in this country to declare what rates should be on the railroads. The United States supreme court has decided that the fixing of a railroad rate is a legislative and not a judicial power. So we cannot depend upon the interstate commerce commission to fix these rates, and, in fact, no commission or other court can be depended on for that important function. What we can do is to empower a court to declare when a rate is excessive and in that way send the rate back to the railroad to be lowered."

"I do not think we need fear that the roads will attempt to evade the execution of such instruction in good faith by attempting to come back again with another rate, slightly lowered, so as to result in no benefit. We can depend upon public opinion as a power to force them to accept this method of regulating the rates in good faith. If the lower rate they fix is not low enough, it can again be declared to be too high and would go back to them."

"For several reasons I think the interstate commerce commission is not the proper tribunal for the fixing of rates by this method. It should be done in a circuit court of the United States, and that court should be presided over by a justice of high character, who ought to receive a salary of \$10,000, \$12,000 or \$15,000 a year. Such a judge would, of course, be appointed for life, and would be in a position to fix these rates. He could devote his entire thought to the questions that would come to his attention."

CHOATE COMING HOME.

To Resign as Ambassador to England After the Inauguration.

London, Dec. 31.—While numerous statements have been published here that Ambassador Choate is about to retire from diplomatic service, it can be stated that Mr. Choate has not in his resignation by any communication on the subject. President Roosevelt or the state department, nor has he received any inquiry either from the president or secretary of state concerning his future plans. It can be safely asserted, however, that Mr. Choate's intention is to leave his resignation soon after the inauguration of President Roosevelt.

"Six years is a long time since out of the life of a man of my age," said Mr. Choate, recently, to friends here, "and while I have enjoyed the life and people I have met in England, I have determined to go home and devote the remainder of my time to looking after my own affairs."

Dredges Stop Work.

Portland, Dec. 31.—All but two of the river dredges operated by the United States engineers in the Columbia river and its tributaries are laid up for lack of funds with which to carry on operations. The W. S. Ladd, on the lower river, will probably continue in operation for a month yet and then will quit for the same reason. The dredge Willows, on the Snake is also laid up, but the Columbia dipper dredges, No. 1 and No. 2, and the snag boat are all out of commission, as the engineers have not sufficient funds with which to operate.

Mail Service in Bad Shape.

Chicago, Dec. 31.—As a result of storm conditions, trains on nearly every railroad entering Chicago were one to four hours behind schedule today. Great difficulty was experienced by railroad officials in securing telegraphic reports of the movements of trains. Wires were down in many places. Points in the northwestern states could be reached only by circuitous routes. The mail service of the entire middle west is in bad condition. Transfer connections with a number of outbound trains were missed.

Paralleling Circle of Forts.

Tokio, Dec. 30.—It is understood that the Japanese paralleling and dynamiting against the eastern section of the main circle of forts around Port Arthur is progressing favorably. The right wing of the besiegers continues a heavy and effective shelling of the new town, preparatory to operations which are nearing completion. It is probable that the next attack will be simultaneously directed against the east and west faces of the fortress in an endeavor to divide and weaken the resistance of the defenders.

Panic in Jute Mills.

New York, Dec. 30.—Engineer Charles J. Hebe was instantly killed, his assistant, Daniel Ferrer, probably fatally injured, and the lives of hundreds of young women endangered today, when the cylinder head of the great power engine in the Chelsea jute mills in Brooklyn blew out. The noise of the explosion threw into a panic the 1,200 young women at work in the building. Many of them were badly bruised and hurt in their efforts to escape.

Big Dock for the Navy.

Washington, Dec. 30.—The bureau of yards and docks, Navy department, today awarded the contract for the completion of the drydock at the Mare island navy yard to the Schofield company, of Philadelphia. The amount of the contract is \$1,385,000, and the drydock is to be completed in 33 months. This drydock will be the largest in the United States navy.

BEFORE GRAND JURY

Senator Mitchell and Representative Hermann Appear.

WERE CALLED BY GOVERNMENT

Congressmen Were Not Informed Before They Entered Jury Room of Testimony Against Them.

Portland, Dec. 29.—The Federal grand jury listened to the testimony of Senator Mitchell all of yesterday morning and for a part of the afternoon. The rest of the time was taken up by Representative Hermann, who was in the jury room when the session was adjourned for the day. He will resume his examination this morning and will in all probability finish by noon. In spite of the fact that both Senator Mitchell and Mr. Hermann had announced that they would not appear before the jury unless the names of the government witnesses and the charges to be made against them were shown prior to their entrance to the jury room, both congressmen were ready to answer the call of the government attorneys when it came.

Senator Mitchell went into the room at 10 o'clock in the morning and remained until noon. The senator is much chagrined at the notoriety he is receiving as the result of the land fraud investigations and does not take kindly to any of those who are conducting the case. Before entering the room in the morning he was silent and distant. He emerged at noon tired and showing the strain which the ordeal had apparently been to him. Upon the conclusion of his testimony in the afternoon he left the building for his hotel. The afternoon with the jurors might have been a session of congress, however, for all the effect it had upon Mr. Hermann. He appeared shortly after 2 o'clock in the afternoon and went into seclusion in the inner office of the district attorney, after he had greeted a few acquaintances in the outer office and the hall. When called to the jury room shortly before 3 o'clock he shook hands with those whom he knew in the corridor and passed Mr. Henry heartily on the back as he entered the door. When the session had closed for the afternoon, Mr. Hermann remained in the jury room for some time conversing with Mr. Henry and the jurors, among whom he found several whom he had known in various parts of the state. These he gave cordial handshakes.

PRESIDENT TO GIVE HIS VIEW

No Railroad Administration Measure To Be Sent to Congress.

Washington, Dec. 30.—President Roosevelt embraced the opportunity today to take up with the members of the cabinet many questions of detail in departmental administration, the semi-weekly meeting of the cabinet being longer than usual. At the conclusion of the meeting the members of the cabinet said in response to inquiries that little business of serious importance was considered. After other members of the cabinet had left the executive offices, Attorney General Moody discussed with the president some phases of the railroad freight questions. Both the president and the attorney general recently have devoted much time to that problem. The latter is giving particular attention to the legal side of the question, so that he may be prepared to advise with the president on the subject and wish such members of congress as may wish to consult him. It is understood not to be the intention of the president and attorney general to prepare and press the consideration in congress of an "administration measure," dealing with the railroad freight problem. Such a bill, it is thought, (to quote a member of the cabinet), would be destined to defeat.

Burning Their Cotton.

Fort Gaines, Ga., Dec. 30.—The farmers and merchants of this county met today at Fort Gaines and decided to burn their share of 2,000,000 bales of surplus cotton. A starter was made today when a bonfire was made on the streets. It is not yet determined where it will stop. The farmers have decided to set the pace, and are moving determinedly. A large crowd paraded with much spectacular ceremony. The object is to show that the farmers are ready to sacrifice a few bales for the benefit of the masses.

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VESSELS IN VERY BAD SHAPE

Russ Says They Would Not Be Able to Reach the East.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 29.—In an outspoken article, in reply to a recent letter of Admiral Bierloff, which appealed to Russians not to criticize the condition of the navy openly, the Russ today declares the time is past for silence, in view of the fact that the "old system of concealing facts is responsible for the loss of 150,000,000 roubles' worth of warships and has covered us with shame and grief. It would be absurd to hide the defects that can still be repaired in the ships which remain at Cronstadt and Liban. We have already criminally wasted enough time."

The Russ enumerates the defects in the ships still in Russian waters, availing that the "peculiarities of structure of several of the vessels destined for the Far East make the voyage dangerous, and the torpedo boats are in such a shocking condition that it is a matter of surprise that the authorities accepted their delivery. Torpedo boats intended to reinforce Vice Admiral Rojostvensky must clearly not be dispatched with the numerous defects which have been proved to exist in them."

"Even if Admiral Rojostvensky is a clever leader and his 12,000 comrades are heroic sailors, everyone knows that we have imposed upon them an almost superhuman task in consequence of our not being furnished with a true account of the gravity of the events which have occurred since the fatal night of February 8."

WILL TRY SEVEN.

Federal Grand Jury Files New Indictments in Land Case.

Portland, Dec. 29.—The Federal grand jury made its second public appearance yesterday afternoon, at which time it returned indictments against Salmon B. Ormsby, of Salem; William H. Davis, of Albany; Clark E. Loomis, of Eugene; Henry A. Young, George Sorenson, of Portland; John Doe and Richard Roe. The charge is that the indicted men entered into a conspiracy on December 29, 1901, having as their object the defrauding of the government of the United States out of a portion of its public lands in township 11 south, of range 7 east, and that by means of false and forged affidavits and proofs of homestead entry and settlement, some in the names of real and some in the names of fictitious persons, the government was induced to issue patents to the lands.

It is charged that in furtherance of the conspiracy William H. Davis swore to an affidavit before S. B. Ormsby in which he said that he had resided upon the claim taken by him as by law required, and it is also alleged that the conspiracy was a part of the one entered into by S. A. D. Parley, Horace G. McKinley, D. W. Tarpely and Emma L. Watson.

IN FOG AND ICE.

Great Storm Rages from Rocky Mountains to Atlantic.

Chicago, Dec. 29.—One of the severest storms of recent years has raged throughout the territory lying between the Rocky mountains and the Great Lakes since early this morning, and has caused much trouble to street car companies, railroads and telegraph companies. The latter were the greatest sufferers from the blizzard, which swept through the West and Northwest during the last 24 hours, and which was preceded by a heavy fog and drizzling rain, which made the wires almost unworkable. The intense cold and terrific gale that followed close upon the fog coated the wires with ice, and later in the day three poles to the ground, crippling the companies badly. Railroad trains were badly delayed all through the west, some of them being 24 hours late. Street-car traffic in all the cities of the West and Northwest was practically at a standstill at some time during the day.

In its extent the storm was the most widespread of any during the last 15 years. Counting the fog as a component part of the storm, it stretched from the Rocky mountains to New York, and from Winnipeg to New Orleans.

Will Make Lots of Money.

Portland, Dec. 29.—It was decided yesterday that the offer from the government to install two coin machines in the government building at the fair will be accepted, though the cost of operation will fall on the management of the exposition. The machines will be run by electricity and an expert will be sent from Washington to take charge. All the workings of a large mint will be shown in this exhibit, and the methods of making coins displayed. It is expected to be one of the chief attractions of the government building.

Rain and Sleet in New York.

New York, Dec. 29.—Rain and sleet, with a rising temperature, followed yesterday's snow storm, having greatly impeded traffic in and about New York. Telegraphic communication has been considerably handicapped, and all through trains from the west and north are delayed, owing to slippery rails. In the city the rain and sleet, freezing as soon as it struck the ground, made walking hazardous and inconvenient, and whenever there was a grade on the surface roads there was great trouble.

Porter Is To Retire.

New York, Dec. 29.—The Herald will say tomorrow: "It has been definitely decided that General Horace Porter, of New York, shall retire as ambassador to France and he will have his resignation in the hands of President Roosevelt before his inauguration. This announcement was received by the Republican state leaders. General Porter's successor to Paris will be George Von L. Meyer, the present ambassador to Italy."

Hurry Work on Black Sea Fleet
Sevastopol, Dec. 29.—The dockyard laborers have been released from their obligation as members of the reserves in order that they may continue the work on the vessels of the Black sea fleet, which is being pushed with great energy.

BUSTLE AT TOKIO

Great Army Is Now Being Mobilized for War.

HALF MILLION MEN FOR OYAMA

Thousands of Recruits are Pouring In—Infantry, Cavalry and Artillery Are Drilling.

Tokio, Dec. 28.—Tokio is again a great military camp and the scenes of last spring, when the first armies were mobilized and dispatched, are being duplicated. Thousands of recruits and reservists are being assembled, drilling and equipping preparatory to taking the field. The permanent and temporary barracks are filled and it is necessary to billet the soldiers brought to the city.

Oyama Field is the center of activity, where infantry, cavalry and artillery are constantly drilling. The batteries fire blank cartridges for the purpose of breaking in the new horses. The general military preparations are enormous. It is planned to give Field Marshal Oyama a rough total of 600,000 men, with a heavily increased artillery arm, besides providing a defense for Formosa and the Southern islands in anticipation of the Russian second Pacific squadron's attempt to seize a base.

The port of Kelung, in Formosa, has been declared in a state of siege and other positions in Formosa and the Pescadores are progressing.

STRUCK HIS CHIEF.

Japanese General Has Been Recalled From the Front.

Paris, Dec. 28.—The Tokio correspondent of the Temps wires that Lieutenant General Kodama, Field Marshal the Marquis Oyama's chief of staff, has been recalled from the front for striking the field marshal. Lieutenant General Kodama is without doubt one of the greatest, if not the greatest, of Japan's generals, and at the time of the outbreak of the war it was generally believed that he would be appointed commander in chief of the Manchurian army. The announcement of his appointment to be chief of staff was received with general satisfaction as the preparedness of the Japanese army was generally credited to his foresight and wonderful executive ability.

For years prior to the outbreak of war General Kodama was engaged in perfecting both the home defense and the means of mobilization of the army on short notice. The scope of the work was a revelation even to the government, for General Kodama had worked out many details.

WILL BATTLE FOR NEW MEXICO

Gen. Lew Wallace Will Leave Sick Bed to Aid Toldado Statehood.

Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 28.—General Lew Wallace, who has been ill for months, and who is believed to be dying by inches, is very indignant over the statehood bill, and declares that it is a great outrage on New Mexico, of which he was once territorial governor. He said:

"I consider it nothing short of a criminal mistake that congress seems able to force New Mexico to accept statehood with Arizona. It means that the name 'New Mexico' is to be forever lost. It means the practical disenfranchisement of the whole people of both territories."

As he warmed up to his subject, his old vigor returned. Fire leaped into his eyes as he leaned forward in his chair and raised his hand with the lean index finger tremblingly shaking with pent-up emotion his anger brought out as he said:

"And this thing will never be brought about as long as I can fight it. I'll go down there to those people and help them fight this battle at the polls."

Sleet and Snow in Kansas.

Topeka, Kan., Dec. 28.—A severe winter storm prevails over Kansas tonight. Much sleet and snow have fallen with a rapid fall in temperature. There will be little suffering among stock, the farmers being generally well prepared for the winter. There is a blizzard sweeping over Indian Territory. There was a drop of 35 degrees in the temperature. Stockmen assert that the cold wave will not effect cattle as they are in excellent condition and able to stand much cold weather. Feed is plentiful.

Jar Breaks Glass.

Hallfax, N. S., Dec. 28.—A portion of the Ardenia powder company's works at Waverly, ten miles from this city, blew up today and the concussion shook the country and broke windows for 20 miles around. Fortunately, no one was killed or seriously injured, although ten of the employes who had just left the powder works when the explosion took place were thrown violently to the ground and stunned. The plant is situated a mile outside of Waverly, yet every window in the town was broken.

Zero in the Dakotas.