

# THREAT CHINA

## Russia Again Says She Will March on Peking.

### TROOPS BECOMING TOO ACTIVE

#### General Requests Recall of Force Outside of Wall—Firm Denial is Response—China Abandoning Neutrality.

London, March 21.—The Standard's Peking correspondent says that Paul Lousar, Russian minister to China, has renewed his protest against the dispatch of Chinese forces outside the great wall and has intimated that unless they are withdrawn, Russia may be compelled to act on the assumption that China is abandoning her neutrality in favor of Japan. The minister is also reported to have renewed his threat that on the slightest movement on China's part, Russian troops will march on Peking. It is said that in reply to this, the correspondent adds, China refused to recall her troops.

There are vague rumors of unsuccessful attempts of the Port Arthur and Vladivostok fleets to join forces.

### SUNK BY LINER.

#### British Submarine Boat Run Down and Her Crew Lost.

Portsmouth, England, March 21.—British submarine boat No. "A-1" was run down and sunk off the Nab light ship today by a Donal Curry liner and 11 persons were drowned including Lieutenant Mansergh, the senior officer engaged in the submarine work. The liner passed on and reported that she had struck a torpedo.

At the time she was struck the submarine boat was off the lightship engaged in the maneuvers, and was lying in seven fathoms of water waiting the approach of a battleship. The boat was one of the newest of the fleet of submarine vessels and was built from the latest models, but she had always been a bad diver. She was inspected recently by both King Edward and the Prince of Wales.

The name of the liner which struck the submarine boat is the Berwick Castle, from East London, South Africa. The loss of the boat was not known for several hours after the liner had reported to the maneuvering fleet that she had struck a torpedo. The officers of the liner say that they saw a glistening torpedo like shape in the water, and it is supposed, therefore, that the submarine boat rose just before she was struck. There is no doubt that all the members of the crew died in the steel tube. It is thought that the Berwick Castle, in striking, upset the trim of the boat and spilled the gasoline in the tanks, rendering her helpless. The crew was batted down and must have met death from suffocation in the absence of air and owing to the fumes.

### GREAT INSURANCE TRUST.

#### Fire Companies Will Have Uniform Rates in All Cities.

Philadelphia, March 19.—The Inquirer tomorrow will say the National Board of Fire Insurance Underwriters, at a meeting held in New York City today, came to an agreement by which all fire insurance companies in this country and all foreign companies represented here will form a combination.

Uniform rates, says the Inquirer, are to be fixed for the same class of risks in all cities, uniform legislation in all states and cities is to be advocated, and all technical work of all the companies is hereafter to be done by a central board, instead of local, state or city boards, as has been the custom.

Old insurance men state this is the first time the companies have been able to agree upon plans, although the subject has been frequently proposed.

A special committee of seven was appointed at the New York meeting to carry out the plans, and an assessment made upon each company doing business in this country to make up a fund of \$100,000 annually to carry on the work.

### Great Building Strike Almost Sure.

New York, March 21.—Twenty thousand bricklayers and laborers, and about 2,000 ironworkers are on strike, and unless a settlement can be reached at once the strike probably will spread until about 100,000 men are involved. The employers, considering it improbable that any settlement will be reached, are preparing for the strike which they think will follow. Members of other unions who will be out of work because they cannot proceed with building without the bricklayers, are said to be indignant.

### Cuba Authorized to Make Loan.

Havana, March 21.—It is said here that Speyer & Co., of New York, recently interrogated the United States government as to whether the Cuban loan of \$35,000,000 for the payment of the revolutionary war veterans was satisfactory to it and in accordance with the terms of the Platt amendment. The reply received, it is said, was to the effect that Cuba was entirely authorized to close the business in accordance with the contract.

### President Signs Supply Bill.

Washington, March 21.—The president today signed the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill. This is the second of the big supply bills to become a law.

### GOOD SUM TO FAIR.

#### House Committee Will Favor \$700,000 Appropriation.

Washington, March 19.—The house subcommittee on industrial arts and expositions today favorably reported a substitute for the Lewis and Clark exposition bill, recently passed by the senate, carrying a total appropriation of \$450,000. The substitute bill contemplates the expenditure of \$250,000 for a government exhibit, \$75,000 for the erection of a government building, \$175,000 for the erection of buildings for the Alaska, Philippine, Hawaiian, Oriental and Oceanic exhibits, and \$250,000 for an Alaska exhibit, in addition to amounts heretofore appropriated for the Alaska exhibit at St. Louis.

At its next meeting, the full committee will consider the substitute bill, and may possibly add an appropriation for a forestry building.

In addition to making provision for the various buildings and the government and Alaska exhibits, the substitute bill provides for free admission of foreign articles imported for exhibit purposes, and creates a government board to collect, install and care for the government exhibit, as was done at St. Louis and authorizes, in connection with the government exhibit, a fish commission exhibit and a life saving station.

The subcommittee will further report in favor of authorizing the coinage of 250,000 souvenir gold dollars, which are to be coined at such times and in such quantities as the exposition authorities may desire. These coins are to be sold to the exposition corporation at part and may, by them be sold at a premium of \$1 each, thus enabling the exposition to increase its earnings.

While the subcommittee made no recommendation as to Sunday closing of the exposition, it is expected that the full committee will amend the senate bill by striking out the Platt Sunday closing amendment, and leave the matter entirely in the control of the state.

Chairman Tawney, speaking of the subcommittee's report, says that an appropriation of \$450,000 for Portland is equivalent to an appropriation of \$900,000 or \$700,000 at any other exposition, as Portland will enjoy the advantage of having many of its exhibits already collected, requiring only transportation from St. Louis. He says Portland will have a better government exhibit than Buffalo had for \$300,000, and should also have as fine if not finer exhibit from Alaska, the Philippines and the Orient than will be made at St. Louis this year.

### PRESERVE FUR SEAL INDUSTRY.

#### Senate Desires President to Negotiate With Britain for Change in Rules.

Washington, March 19.—After eliminating all but three sections of Senator Dillingham's Alaskan seal bill, the senate committee on foreign relations has authorized Senator Foraker to make a favorable report on the measure. The bill as originally introduced was practically the same as had been presented in the house by Representative Tawney, of Minnesota. The first section of the bill prohibited the killing of male fur seals on the Pribyloff group of seal islands, except 5,500 to be used as food for the natives of the islands, and this was stricken out by the committee.

As passed, the bill provides that the president of the United States shall negotiate with Great Britain for a revision of the rules and regulations which now govern the taking of fur seals in the open waters of the North Pacific ocean and Behring sea, pursuant to the treaty articles of award of the Behring sea tribunal of arbitration made at Paris, August 16, 1893.

The revision of the regulations is for the purpose of restoring and preserving the fur seal industry, and to abate the killing of nursing mother seals on the high seas.

It is provided also that the president shall endeavor to conclude negotiations with the governments of Russia and Japan for the purpose of securing their agreement to any satisfactory revision of the rules that may be had.

### Only Settlers Can Remain.

Washington, March 19.—Senator Ankeny and Representative Jones today received letters from General Counsel Bunn, of the Northern Pacific railway, stating that his company intends to deal liberally with bona fide settlers on the lands within the "overlap" limits, which passed to the railroad company under the recent decision of the supreme court. Settlers who settled upon these lands in good faith prior to July 1, 1898, and have made their homes thereon, will be permitted, under the act of 1898, to retain title.

### Wants to Use Chinese Road.

Peking, March 19.—Russian commissariat officers have applied to the Chinese railway officials at Hsin Min Tun for permission to use their line for the transportation of troops and stores. The officials have replied that the matter presents many difficulties, and that they must refer the application to the authorities at Peking. Some questions were also asked regarding the possibility of purchasing fodder and other supplies.

### No Hope for Mrs. Miles.

Washington, March 19.—Mrs. Miles, wife of Lieutenant General Nelson A. Miles, retired, is lying ill at her home in this city. Her condition has been exceedingly critical and although some improvement is noted today, no hope is held out for her recovery.

# END LAND EVIL

## Senate Committee Decides for Repeal of Timber Act.

### FORESTS TO BE SOLD AT AUCTION

#### Secretary of Interior Will Accept the Highest Bid—Funds Will Be Used for Irrigation Work.

Washington, March 18.—By unanimous vote, the senate committee on public lands today favorably reported a compromise bill intended to modify the public land laws so as to minimize the opportunity for fraudulent operations, and to insure the settlement of the public lands by bona fide entrymen. This compromise is the result of a protracted and heated discussion of the public land question, and, to a large extent, carries out the recommendations of the public land commission.

The bill agreed upon authorizes the secretary of the interior to sell to the highest bidder the right to cut and remove timber from any unappropriated, non-mineral surveyed public lands after first having such timber appraised and giving due notice of such sale. The funds derived from timber sales in the arid and semi-arid western states are to be placed to the credit of those states in the fund ultimately to be expended in the construction of national irrigation works.

The bill repeals the act permitting the entry of timber lands, though it does not affect the acquisition of stone lands. It provides further that lands chiefly valuable for timber shall hereafter not be subject to entry under the commutation clause of the homestead law. This last provision removes the most objectionable feature of the commutation clause, and the one under which the government has heretofore been generally injured. The committee did not feel justified in going further in the way of modifying the land laws.

The unanimous report on the bill today is thought to insure its early passage by the senate, and it may get through the house this session, though there are several members of the house public lands committee who will oppose it and attempt to prevent a favorable report. Nevertheless, advocates of reform in the land laws are greatly encouraged by the action of the committee today and regard it as a long step in the right direction.

No bill introduced in congress in several years has been pushed with more vigor by its friends, or fought more stubbornly by its enemies. For two years the committee on public lands has had the measure almost constantly before it. Last year the committee reported the bill over the head of the chairman, Senator Hansbrough, but he served notice that it could not be passed, and it died with the congress. This year all the Democratic members of the committee except Senator Dubois and three Republican members, Bard, Nelson and Dietrich, were again against it, making a majority of one in favor of reporting the land bill. Chairman Hansbrough declined to put the motion for reporting the bill without having a chance to be heard in opposition to the measure. He was charged with filibustering, but remained steadfast. Chairman Hansbrough talked to members of the committee individually, and gave as his view that the bill, if passed, would upset the land laws of the entire country and turn to Canada the great stream of immigration that was now building up the west. He declared the homestead law vital to the interests of the unimproved west, and suggested to the friends of the bill that a measure be introduced for the repeal of the timber and stone act only. He won Senator Nelson to the same view, and the bill was introduced by Senator Quarles and approved by the committee.

### On Trial for Soliciting a Bribe.

Kansas City, March 18.—Jesse J. Jewell, state senator, of Kansas City, was brought to trial in the criminal court here today upon a charge of soliciting a bribe. The charge is that Senator Jewell went to J. W. Hess, manager of a baking powder company, and offered for \$9,000 to influence legislation that would be beneficial to the company. E. C. Crow, attorney general of the state, and his assistant, Samuel B. Jeffries, will personally conduct the case.

### Trade Suffers Heavily by War.

Odesa, March 18.—The influence of the war on trade, and especially on the coast of foodstuffs, is daily growing more marked. The prices of flour, beef and other necessities continue to soar upward and are already almost beyond the reach of people even in moderate circumstances. Reports from Kieff, Kharkoff, Pollava and even Astrakhan and Caucasian ports show a similar state of affairs existing there. Everywhere trade is suffering.

### Russian Gunboat Now Dismantled.

Shanghai, March 18.—The dismantling of the Russian gunboat Mandjur has now been completed, and all of the essential parts of the guns are in the possession of the Chinese port authorities. The officers and crew of the Mandjur have taken passage on a French steamer for Russia, after having first pledged themselves to take no part in the war unless first exchanged.

### CANAL-ZONE LEGISLATION.

#### Any That is Enacted Now Will Be of Preliminary Nature.

Washington, March 17.—Whatever legislation may be enacted at the present session relating to the Panama canal will be largely preliminary in character. The president has discussed the matter with members of congress and with such members of the isthmian canal commission as are in the city, but it is understood that no definite decision yet has been reached as to what are the precise needs of legislation on the subject.

General Davis called attention to the provisions for executive regulations contained in the bill providing for the construction of the canal and suggested that they were ample to cover all needs in the direction of governing the canal zone.

Suggesting the machinery for the government of the zone, he mentioned the appointment of a governor or perfect chosen from the commission. In addition there should be a secretary of state, an attorney general, treasurer, sanitarian, superintendent of schools, justices of the peace, police judge and three judges of courts of the first instance.

The work of sanitation would cost \$500,000 the first year and the policing of the zone would necessitate the expenditure of \$300,000 a year. Autonomy for the people of the zone General Davis believed to be a thing for distant consideration. The nature of the work would attract the rougher or criminal classes. The total cost of administering the government after preliminary expenditures had been met would amount to \$1,000,000, according to the belief of General Davis.

### ARMY TO STRIKE.

#### Japanese are Ready to Begin Their Forward Movement.

Wei Hai Wei, March 17.—The extensive forward movement on the part of the Japanese army may be expected to be begun at once.

The Haimun has encountered very little ice and in skirting the coast line, it is clear they are nearly clear, and that nothing now stands in the way of the Japanese transport fleets proceeding to the landing places selected in the northern part of Corea.

The fact that the Japanese have recalled all correspondents from the headquarters of the army at Ping Yang also indicates an important movement is contemplated. The Japanese commanding general, Baron Hasegawa, who, with the imperial guards, will take the lead in the movement against the Russians north of the Yalu river, is strongly opposed to permitting any correspondents to accompany his column until after the first land battle has been fought, and it is known he has succeeded in winning over to his way of thinking the members of the staff.

General Hasegawa was chief aid to Field Marshal Oyama during the operations which resulted in the capture of Fort Arthur by the Japanese in 1894, and is expected to strike quickly and effectively against the Russians.

### WILL BUY IN NORTHWEST.

#### Japan Wants to Secure Good Horses for the Army.

Vancouver, B. C., March 17.—Ten thousand horses for the Japanese army will be purchased within the next ten months in Eastern Oregon and Washington. The contract for the supply of these remounts has been awarded to Dr. Armstrong, of Nelson, B. C., through the consulate in this city. The agreement specifies that 1,000 animals per month be delivered, and this will make ten months before its expiration. The price is not mentioned, but it is needless to state the quality of the horses will be of the best; in fact, the announcement has been made here that none other will be accepted. Some of the horses will be procured from the ranches near Kamloops, B. C., and other points in the interior of the province, but by far the greater majority will be purchased from the breeders in Eastern Oregon and Washington, where the strain is better, and where good horses have been bred with great care for many years past.

### Statehood Bill Completed.

Washington, March 17.—The statehood problem today was taken up by the subcommittee of the house committee on territories, recently appointed to draft statehood bills for Arizona and New Mexico and Oklahoma and the Indian Territory. The bill making a state of the first two named was practically completed. The difficulty of adjusting the taxation and other questions with regard to the admission of Oklahoma and the Indian Territory as a state are the next to be taken up.

### Do Not Believe Report.

Paris, March 17.—The St Petersburg correspondent of the Echo de Paris says that rumors to the effect that the Vladivostok and Port Arthur squadrons had been united are received, with incredulity by the general staff. The correspondent believes the rumors are probably due to Vice Admiral Makaroff's frequent sorties. He says General Zilinsky is now Viceroy Alexieff's chief of staff and is acting under his orders.

### Colombia May Yet Fight.

Paris, March 17.—The Paris edition of the New York Herald publishes a letter from Dr. Jorge Holguin, ex-minister of foreign affairs in Colombia, and now financial agent of the Colombian government, denying that Colombia has withdrawn its suit against the Panama canal company, or has recalled the troops sent against the republic of Panama.



#### "Merely Mary Ann." Mr. Zangwill's now famous novelette, has been published in a large edition in paper covers.

Houghton, Mifflin & Co. report that two editions of "The Oligarchy of Venice," by Mayor McClellan, were called for in advance of publication.

Herbert B. Turner & Co. are preparing a novel by John Wesley Johnston entitled "Paul Bedford of the House of Milltrum." It is a story of finance, love and travel.

The author of "Rock of Ages"—Augustus Montagu Toplady—died in August, 1778, but not until a few weeks ago was a memorial placed in the parish church of Fareham, where he was born.

"Beauty Through Health" will be the title of the book which Dr. Emma E. Walker is engaged upon. It will appear in the Woman's Home Library, edited by Mrs. Margaret E. Sangster for A. S. Barnes & Co.

A revival of interest in Shelley has been noted in this country and in England. To meet this revival there is soon to be brought out a reprint of the account of Shelley's experiences at Oxford, which forms some chapters of T. J. Hogg's book about the poet.

The last chapter has been written in the life of "Loveliness," the little silver Yorkshire dog whose story, in Mrs. Elizabeth Stuart Phelps Ward's book by that title made such a stir in antisection circles a few years ago. Mrs. Ward now has a new dog, which she calls Fay.

Henry Harland, the author of many graceful romances, claims the unique privilege of choosing his own birthplace. "Who's Who" says he was born in St. Petersburg, Russia, and the legal records have it that he was born in Brooklyn, but Mr. Harland votes for Norwich, Conn., because he likes the place." So let it stand that Mr. Harland was born in Norwich, Conn., in 1861.

William Morris once heard one of his poems read by a famous elocutionist, says W. B. Yeats, the Irish poet. The reader was carefully omitting all the original rhythm in order to give what he conceived to be the proper expression. Mr. Morris sat in uneasy silence for some moments, but at last he could stand it no longer. "Young man," he exclaimed, "it cost me a great deal of trouble to put that into verse! I wish you would read it as it is written."

A very good idea of Japanese character and life may be had from Lafcadio Hearn's volume entitled "Kokoro," which, as its title signifies, goes to the heart of things. One chapter gives a vivid description of the conditions in Japan during the war with China—the intense patriotism, the calm feeling of national strength. The announcement of each victory resulted in an enormous manufacture and sale of rude colored prints and ingenious mechanical toys burlesquing the Chinese.

The statement frequently appears in the press that George William Curtis was editor of Harper's Magazine. This is not true, though Mr. Curtis for years conducted the "Editor's Easy Chair." As a matter of history, Harper's Magazine has had but three editors since its inception in 1850. The first editor was Henry J. Raymond, who founded the New York Times one year afterward. He was succeeded by Dr. Alfred H. Guernsey, and Dr. Guernsey by Henry Mills Alden, author of "God in His World" and "A Study of Death." Mr. Alden has occupied the editorial chair of the magazine for about thirty-five years. Before going to the Harpers he had taught, and had written editorials for the New York Evening Post and Times. He was first associated with the Harpers as editor of their "Pictorial History of the Civil War," and later was offered an editorial position on the weekly. Fletcher Harper, who edited the weekly, said to Mr. Alden, then a young man of 26, "Do you think you could manage the weekly?" And Mr. Alden replied, with modesty and tact, "I think I could help you do it." He helped so efficiently that six years later he was made editor of Harper's Magazine. It is interesting to record that the first manuscript he read in his new capacity was a short story by Louise Chandler Moulton.

### Confession Postponed.

Here is the way a Benton County man confessed at a revival: He had been pressed to repent, and finally got up and said: "Dear friends, I feel the spirit moving in me to talk and tell what a bad man I have been, but I can't do it while the grand jury is in session." "The Lord will forgive," shouted the preacher. "I guess that's right," said the penitent, "but He ain't on the grand jury."—Warrensburg (Mo.) Journal.

### Literally True.

"Why, she told me she had a good job in a candy store."  
"So she did, but she literally ate her head off."  
"How was that?"  
"She ate so much candy the boss fired her."—Philadelphia Press.

### Product of Meat and Grain.

Since 1840 the world's production of meat has increased 57 per cent and grain 420 per cent.

### MAKE EATING A BUSINESS.

#### Indiana Pay Professionals to Perform Feats of Gastronomy.

One of the most striking customs of the past that are preserved by the Indians of to-day is found among the tribes on the Devil's Lake reservation in North Dakota. Supervisor Wright, of the Indian service, gives the following account of this peculiar practice:

"From time immemorial the Devil's Lake Sioux have adhered to an old custom in regard to the treatment of a guest. According to their etiquette, it is the bounden duty of the host to supply his guest with all the food he may desire, and, as a rule, the apportionment set before the visiting Indian is much in excess of the capacity of a single man. But by the same custom the guest is obliged to eat all that is placed before him else he grossly insults his entertainer. It was found that this practice would work a hardship, but instead of dispensing with the custom the Indian method of reasoning was applied and what is known as the professional eater was brought to the front.

"While the guest is supposed to eat all that is placed before him it serves the same purpose if his neighbor assists in devouring the bountiful repast, the main object being to have the plate clean when the meal is finished. It is not always practicable to depend upon a neighbor at table to assist in getting away with a large dinner and in order to insure the final consumption of the allotted portion visiting Indians call upon these professional eaters, whose duty it is to sit besides them through a meal and eat what the guest leaves. The professional eaters are never looked upon in the light of guests, but more as traveling companions with a particular duty to perform. These eaters receive from \$1 to \$2 and even \$3 for each meal where they assist. It is stated by the agent at the Devil's Lake reservation that one of the professional eaters has been known to dispose of seventeen pounds of beef at a sitting. That they are capable of eating an almost fabulous amount I myself can testify."—Hygienic Gazette.

### NOT ON A SOUND FOOTING.

#### Russian Railways Are Not Paying the Cost of Construction and Operation.

The condition of the great Russian railway systems is not what it might be from the financier's standpoint. The federal roads are worked at a tremendous loss, supposed to be some \$200,000,000 a year.

The Siberian railroad, which would be chiefly used in case of war with Japan, is not yet completed around Lake Balkal. Ten millions are asked to complete that link in communication and \$300,000 to connect the Trans-Balkal with the Manchurian road.

Consul Greener, in Vladivostok, reports that the Ussuri line is a financial failure. The deficits have been considerable. The Pekin-Kaigan line is to be built as a "Chinese road" and to have Chinese employes, but the money is furnished by the Russo-Chinese bank. That Russia is it.

The manner in which trade conditions are subordinated to military needs is shown in this extract from Mr. Greener's report to our State Department:

"The Moscow manufacturers seem to have given up all intention of competing with the Japanese, who have taken complete possession of the Manchurian dry goods trade to such an extent that it seems impossible for the Russians to dislodge them.

"With regard to the transportation of tea, the Russian importers are still shy of the Manchurian railway, receiving the product by other ways, for the reason that they cannot get their goods insured by Russian companies for transit across Manchuria."

This seems almost incredible, and if true it enables the inventor to put his finger upon the weak point in the Russian armor. The bear is not businesslike. And in the end war bows to business.

Meanwhile the tourists can have lots of fun with the Siberian road. A round trip first-class ticket from London or Paris to Peking—either going by rail both ways or going by rail and returning by steamship about Asia, with stop-off privileges—will soon be available for \$204. Considering the distance this is cheap enough.—New York World.

### Bobbie Burns.

The nature of the Scots has been likened to the cold mist and granite of their native hills, and perhaps with truth; and yet it must be warm in the hearts of a people whose eyes grow dim with tenderness when they sing the songs that were born over a century ago in the love-warm heart that thrilled not only for the mighty Wallace and noble Bruce, but also for the little dying field mouse whose frightened heart ceased beating at his feet. Burns was the voice of a silent people, giving expression to the emotions they hide under a cold exterior.

And how much colder and grayer the old Galloway land would seem without the memory of Robert Burns, who may be likened to a glowing rose growing upon the gray rocks; a rose that will never die, for to be forgotten is the only death.—Four-Track News.

### Returns from Texas.

Returns of the revenue from indirect taxes in France in 1903 show that receipts amounted to \$568,380,390, an increase of \$26,557,580 over the estimates and \$30,175,900 over 1902.

The average man's idea of a business transaction is one in which he gets the best of the bargain.