

WILL FIGHT IT OUT

When Peace Is Wanted, Roosevelt Will Be Mediator.

ALL HAVE CONFIDENCE IN HIM

Europe Agrees Our President Will Be Chosen to Bring About Peace When Time Comes.

Washington, Jan. 9.—Japan has not made overtures for peace to Russia, directly or indirectly, through the United States or any other power, and contemplated no such action, and now that Port Arthur has fallen, purposes to press the war in the North all the more vigorously by reinforcing the Japanese armies at Liao Yang with the greater part of the troops which have been besieging Port Arthur. This, in brief, represents the views of Mr. Takahira, the Japanese minister.

"The fall of Port Arthur," said the minister, "is but a step in the war which Japan is waging for a principle. Certainly it is an important step, but nothing could be further from the truth than the assumption that, because Japan has captured a stronghold, the fall of which has long been expected, the Japanese government will now make overtures for peace. Japan is too busy fighting. We are as much in earnest today as we were at the outset of the war. We have made no overtures for peace, either directly or indirectly, nor have the powers approached us with an idea of intervention."

The Russian embassy reiterated that Russia would fight all the harder in view of the temporary loss of Port Arthur.

Europe, it is learned, is firmly of the conviction that, however dark the outlook for peace at this moment, when the prospect brightens, it is to President Roosevelt that the neutrals as well as the belligerents, will look as the intermediary through whom peace negotiations will be initiated. As a European ambassador said today, the American government is practically the only government to which both belligerents will be willing to look for assistance in reaching a settlement when that time comes, and, aside from this fact, the high personal regard in which the president is held, both at St. Petersburg and at Tokio, makes it all the more probable that through him, when Russia and Japan have fought their fight, the powers hope for peace.

Must Act on Freight Rates.

Washington, Jan. 11.—President Roosevelt had another conference today regarding pending legislation. He consulted Representatives Eech, of Wisconsin, and Townsend, of Michigan, both members of the house committee on interstate and foreign commerce, regarding proposed legislation respecting railroad freight rates. They told the president that the people they represented wanted something definite done, and wanted it done soon.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 85c; blue-stem, 88@90c; valley, 87c.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$1.32½@2.35; gray, \$1.35@1.40 per cental.

Hay—Timothy, \$14@16 per ton; clover, \$11@12; grain, \$11@12; cheat, \$12@18.

Potatoes—Oregon fancy, 75@85c; common, 60@65c.

Apples—Baldwins, \$1.25; Spitzenbergs, \$1.75@2 per box.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 27½@28½c.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 25@27½c.

Hops—Choice, 29@30c; prime, 27@28c per pound.

Wool—Valley, 19@20c; Eastern Oregon, 10@17c; mohair, 25@26c per pound.

WILL BE SMALL.

River and Harbor Appropriation Bill Will Be Cut.

Washington, Jan. 10.—The river and harbor committee has adopted the policy of appropriating only for waterways which are being partially improved at state or municipal expense.

Representative Williamson today laid before Chairman Burton a long statement showing that the city of Portland has expended up to December a total of \$1,898,000 in channel improvements from Portland to the sea, and that the state of Oregon has appropriated \$165,000 for building a portage road from The Dalles to Celilo and \$100,000 additional for the purchase of right of way for a government canal between these points.

In view of these large expenditures Mr. Williamson urged the committee to deal liberally with all Columbia river projects.

The conference of Republican leaders at the White House today, taken in conjunction with the announcement of Mr. Burton, is taken to mean that there will be little or no appropriation for rivers and harbors at this session.

Before his conference with the Republican leaders the president talked over the situation with Mr. Burton and expressed in very forceful terms his conviction that it would be wise, in view of the depleted condition of the treasury, to postpone the river and harbor bill, and to expend any available surplus in carrying out a liberal naval program. Mr. Burton has not yet abandoned the idea of passing a river and harbor bill this session, and his committee will go ahead with its work, hoping to complete a bill by the end of next week. The bill, however, will be small, and will provide only for the more important projects, cutting out all small waterways which have no real commerce, and which are not supported in any way by state appropriations.

If such a bill is brought in, it will provide for the mouth of the Columbia river—the river from Portland to the sea—and for the Dalles-Celilo canal, and may possibly make some provision for the acquisition of the canal and locks at Oregon City, provided the state is willing to bear part of the expense. Aside from these items, however, there seems at this time to be little prospect that congress will do anything this session for the waterways of the North Pacific.

DRAWN INTO NET.

Land Officials at Roseburg, Oregon, Have Been Suspended.

Washington, Jan. 11.—By direction of the president, Secretary Hitchcock has suspended Register J. T. Bridges and Receiver J. H. Booth, of the Roseburg land office, at the telegraphic request of Mr. Heney. Heney reported that Booth and Bridges by continuing in office, were able to "thwart the ends of justice."

He said an investigation of that office showed its affairs were in bad shape, and said that further investigation should be had. The suspension of Bridges and Booth virtually closes the Roseburg land office, except for the filing of papers.

This morning Secretary Hitchcock took up the Roseburg case with the president, and it is by the president's order that radical action was taken, as recommended by Heney. It is Heney who will direct further investigation at Roseburg.

Another New Russian Loan.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 7.—Official announcement of the issue of a new loan is published here for the first time. The amount of the loan will be \$115,750,000 bearing interest at 4½ per cent from January 1. The first call of bonds will not be made earlier than 1917. The whole loan will be extinguished in 1985.

BLIZZARD IN EAST

New York in Grasp of Storm of Ice and Snow.

CLAIMS TOLL OF SEVEN LIVES

Many Persons, Benumbed With Cold, Fall and Break Bones—Street Cars Blockaded.

New York, Jan. 6.—Not in several years has New York been visited by a storm of such proportions as that which commenced yesterday and continued until early today. Nine inches of snow fell, paralyzing traffic, and brought untold suffering to the city's poor. Seven deaths in New York and vicinity were reported, while many persons, overcome by cold, dropped to the street, some of them fracturing bones.

Five of the seven men who met death from the results of the storm died from exposure and another slipped on the icy platform of an elevated station, fell in front of an approaching train and was ground to pieces. The seventh, a conductor on the Pennsylvania railroad, blinded by the driving snow, stepped in front of the "Congressional Limited" train at South Amboy and was instantly killed.

It is estimated that the storm will cost the New York city railway company over \$100,000.

Incoming ocean liners report a blizzard at sea.

Today 5,000 men were put to work clearing the streets of New York and tomorrow the number will be doubled.

The effects of the blizzard were felt at most points along the New England and Middle Atlantic coasts. So far no marine fatalities have been reported.

In New York city traffic of all kinds was impeded, trolley lines were tied up and the streets, swept by a gale driving before it fine snow that cut like sand and piled in great drifts, were practically impassable. Railroad trains from all points were delayed from a few minutes to three hours, and the elevated lines were operated with the greatest difficulty, without regard to schedule. At sea the conditions must have been severe, but so far no disaster has been reported.

Krupp Gun Works Visited.

Berlin, Jan. 11.—Extensive experiments are being made with new guns and projectiles at Messrs. Krupp's range at Meppen, on behalf of a commission of Japanese officers. Should the trials prove satisfactory, large orders will be given by the Japanese government. A deputation of Russian officers has arrived at Essen for a similar purpose. It is reported from Zurich that the Japanese government has ordered large amounts of chocolate from various Swiss manufacturers. Several firms have had to decline the orders.

Naval Station at Arthur.

Tokio, Jan. 11.—The Japanese intend to establish a naval station at Port Arthur. Vice Admiral Shibayama will probably be placed in charge of it. The military administration at Port Arthur will retain only a small garrison as soon as the prisoners are withdrawn and order is restored. The fleet is busily engaged in clearing mines, but owing to their great number navigation will be unsafe for a long time. Only government craft enter the harbor.

Decrease in Anthracite Output.

Philadelphia, Jan. 10.—The total anthracite production in Pennsylvania for the year 1904 was almost two million tons below the output of 1903. The total production for 1904 was 57,492,522, as compared with 59,362,831 during the previous year.

SHAH PAYS PRICE.

Bountiful Indemnity for Murder of an American Missionary.

Washington, Jan. 11.—Information has reached the State department that, complying with the insistent demands of the United States, the Persian government has made to the widow partial reparation for the murder of the Rev. Benjamin W. Labarree, an American missionary, by a gang of fanatics, and has promised that all the guilty persons involved in the crime will be punished. The following statement regarding the case was made by an official of the State department:

"March 15th last the Department of State received the telegraph intelligence of the murder of Rev. B. W. Labarree, an American missionary, near Ouroma, in Persia, by a gang of fanatic Kurds.

"A demand was immediately made for the arrest and trial of the murderers, whose leader, Seyd Mir Ghafar, was looked upon as a lineal descendant of the prophet. This circumstance and the fear of arousing religious disturbances evidently interfered with the prompt and efficient action on the part of the local authorities. The most pressing and earnest representations of the American legation at Teheran remained fruitless until October 12, when Mr. Ray instructed its minister by cable to make known to the government of the shah the president's concern in the adequate punishment of all the criminals and his intention to lay the matter before congress with appropriate recommendations, with his demands for full justice, were further delayed.

"The murders were thereupon arrested, but the Persian government, holding the life of a descendant of the prophet sacred, offered a pecuniary indemnity in lieu of the death penalty for Seyd Mir Ghafar, and promised execution of the accomplices. After consultation with the widow of Rev. Mr. Labarree, the offer was accepted and an indemnity of \$30,000—greatly in excess of the sum named by the widow—was paid to the American legation June 3. Solemn assurance was given that the guilty would receive effective and swift punishment and that no special tax would be levied on Christians in the province to recover the amount of the indemnity."

BEGIN THIS YEAR.

Oregon Irrigation Projects to Receive New Impetus.

Washington, Jan. 10.—If plans formulated at a conference today between Senator Fulton and F. H. Newell, chief of the reclamation service, and his assistants, J. B. Lippencott and Henry N. Savage, shall be consummated according to expectation, the government will be able during the coming summer to begin construction of two enormous irrigation projects in Oregon, one in the Klamath Basin, costing \$5,000,000 or more, the other on Malheur river, costing \$2,000,000. Senator Fulton met the engineers to talk over the situation and ascertain just what is standing in the way of construction of these great works.

It was agreed that three material obstacles must be removed before the Klamath project can be formally adopted, notwithstanding it has already been adjudged entirely feasible and declared to possess many attractive features. This project proposes not only to drain Lower Klamath and Tule lakes, but to lower the level of Upper Klamath lake and to diminish the flow of Link and Lost rivers by diverting their waters into irrigating canals. All these waters are navigable and there fore cannot be used for irrigation save by special act of congress. To remove this obstacle, Senator Fulton will cooperate with Senator Bard, of California, and endeavor to get the latter's bill passed through both houses this session. He anticipates that no objection will be raised.