

PROTEST TO FRANCE

Broken Neutrality May Involve Her in War with Japan.

WOULD MEAN AID OF ENGLAND

Russian Fleet Must Either Leave Kamranh Bay or Fight Battle in the Harbor.

Tokio, April 20. — Japan is contemplating declaring war on France and calling on Great Britain for support. This action follows the sending of a formal protest to France against the use by the Russian Baltic fleet of Kamranh bay as a rendezvous and the coupling therewith of a statement that if France refrained from acting Japan will send a fleet of war vessels to attack the Russians in the shelter of a neutral port.

A conference of elders was held last night at which the entire situation was discussed. Immediately afterward the mikado was notified that the elders believed that the time had come when France should be forced to live up to her declarations of neutrality, and the note of protest was drafted and forwarded.

It is felt here that the situation is extremely grave, and there is no doubt that if France does not act quickly the consequences will be far-reaching.

A dispatch from Sasebo states that a Japanese squadron is getting in readiness there to sail for Kamranh bay and attack the Russians there, while Admiral Togo continues to hold the passage toward the Pacific.

It is reported that an American and a British squadron is in touch with the Russians, watching for violations of neutrality or the endangering of British and American shipping. The belief is growing here that the stay of the Russian fleet in Kamranh bay was pre-arranged.

THEY RESIGN UNDER FIRE.

Accused Examiners Who Gave Pensions to Carpet Soldiers.

Washington, April 20.—Nine of the ten pension examiners constituting the board of review were separated from the government service today. Commissioner of Pensions Warner transmitted the nine resignations to Secretary Hitchcock, with the recommendation that they be accepted, and Mr. Hitchcock took the desired action without delay.

The resigned examiners assert that representations were made to them, purporting to come from the commissioner, that should they hand in their resignations, the matter would be relieved and restorations would be made at some date in the near future. Mr. Warner, however, made no such representation to the secretary of the interior. The difficulty involving the board of review was its approval of several pensions to applicants whose only claim was enlistment in a Pennsylvania and a New Jersey regiment of volunteers for service in the Civil war, but the services of whom were never availed of by the government.

MORE FIRMS ARE INVOLVED.

Chicago Strike is Spreading and All Efforts at Conciliation Fail.

Chicago, April 20.—Although influences are still at work in the hope that an amicable adjustment of the difficulty existing between the teamsters and Montgomery, Ward & Co., can be reached, the indications tonight are that the strike of the teamsters will spread to other concerns. Today 150 drivers employed by the E. M. Forbes Teaming company were ordered on strike because the firm insisted on making deliveries to Montgomery, Ward & Co. President Spear, of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, declared tonight that he would order out all drivers engaged by firms that insist on delivering supplies to the big store.

Barrett Has Resigned.

Washington, April 20.—John Barrett, of Portland, Or., United States minister to Panama, has saved the State department the embarrassment of ordering his recall. He has asked that he be relieved of his post, so that he may retire from the diplomatic corps. The government has been dissatisfied with some of Mr. Barrett's acts, and it was decided months ago that he should be succeeded at Panama by Judge Charles Magoon, of the Insular bureau, but it was the intention to assign him to another post.

Great Snowstorm in Wyoming.

Denver, April 20.—At midnight it was announced that all telegraph and telephone wires leading into Cheyenne were down as result of a heavy fall of wet snow. Previous to this, however, the Postal Telegraph company had one wire working and information came that trains were running behind the schedule. It is impossible to learn any details, but it is known that the storm was unusually heavy over Southern Wyoming.

British Engineer Named.

Washington, April 20.—Sir Mortimer Durand, the British ambassador, today informed Secretary Taft that the British government had, at the secretary's invitation, selected Chief Engineer Hunter, the builder of the Manchester ship canal, to act as one of the consulting engineers of the Panama canal board.

RUSSIANS SEEKING TOGO.

Baltic Fleet Joined by Third Squadron of Five Battleships.

Paris, April 21.—If the French authorities are to be believed, news of momentous import may be expected from the Far East very soon, as, according to Foreign Minister Delcasse, the Russian fleet under the command of Vice Admiral Rojestvensky sailed early on Thursday from Kamranh bay. Its destination is unknown, but it is believed here that it will now sail to endeavor to locate the Japanese fleet and give battle.

Naval experts here believe that the third Pacific squadron of the Russian navy, which is commanded by Admiral Nebogatoff, has joined Rojestvensky, and that the latter now has eight first-class battleships, three second-class battleships, three armored cruisers and a number of other vessels of not quite so good a type. He is also believed to have received large quantities of ammunition which had been shipped to him some time ago, to have filled the coal bunkers of his ships, and generally to have placed his command in condition to give a good account of itself.

It is believed here that Admiral Jonquieres, who is in command of the French naval force in the waters of French Cochinchina, agreed to get a message to the Russian commander today, and that the departure of the Russians followed. Such action has been expected, as the French authorities consider that the protest of Japan against Russia's using neutral waters to recoup and refill depleted ammunition magazines was well founded, and, if Russia has been asked to move by the French commander in the Far East, a difficult situation has been cleared up.

CHINA AGREES TO PAY UP.

Will Make Good Deficit in Indemnity Due to Fall in Silver.

New York, April 21.—After two years' discussion, the powers and China will sign an agreement today, according to a Herald dispatch from Peking, regarding the payment of the deficit in the indemnity due to the fall in the price of silver, and providing for the future payment of the indemnity in gold.

The agreement comprises three paragraphs, and briefly states sets forth that China is to pay 15 days after the signature of the document the sum of \$6,000,000 and interest at 4 per cent on this amount from January 1, 1905, which sum is to be accepted in full payments of all deficits due to the change from silver to gold.

In the second paragraph China agrees to sign immediately fractional gold bonds, expressing the amounts due to each country in the coinage of that country.

By the third paragraph China undertakes in the future to pay the amount due each year in 12 equal monthly installments, credited every six months. China will be allowed interest at 4 per cent on the monthly payments made in advance of these biennial periods. China will pay also in gold bullion, gold drafts or telegraphic transfer of silver at the average monthly London rates, each foreign government selecting the method it prefers.

PARDEE NAMES THE DAYS.

National Irrigation Congress Will Be Held August 21-24.

Sacramento, Cal., April 21.—Governor Pardee, as president of the National Irrigation congress, has issued an announcement that the next session of the congress will be held in Portland, from August 21 to 24. The session is to follow shortly after the Trans-Mississippi congress, which takes place from August 16 to 19.

Governor Pardee states that he expects this meeting to be one of the most interesting as well as the most important. The United States Reclamation service will be one of the subjects of discussion. There is some hope that President Roosevelt will attend the session for one day, and President Diaz, of Mexico, has also been invited. An effort will be made to have both dignitaries present on the same day.

Given Time to Fix Up Their Books.

Topeka, April 21.—Representatives of the Swift, Armour and Dold packing companies and the McDowell Stock company appeared before the State Board of Railroad Assessors to explain their failure to make complete reports of their private car lines as required by the law passed at the recent session of the legislature. They said it was impossible for them to comply with the law at once, as they had not been keeping their records in a way to make the obtaining of information easy. The board gave them until May 10 to report.

Japanese Accumulating Stores.

Yinkow, April 19, via Tientsin, April 21.—Few transports are now arriving at Ninchwang. This contrast with the rush of traffic since the opening of the Liao river indicate that precautions are being taken against possible interference by the Russian Pacific squadron. Vast accumulations of stores have already been made along the Japanese lines of communication, assuring full supplies to the armies in the field, even if the transport service is interrupted.

Stock Transfer Tax Law.

Albany, April 21.—Gov. Higgins tonight signed the stock transfer bill imposing a stamp tax of 2 cents on each \$100 of par value of all corporation stock securities sold or transferred.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

STRIKE IN THE MONUMENTAL.

New Discovery Made in a Well Known Old Mine.

Granite—A strike has just been made in the old Monumental mine, near here, that bids fair to cause no little excitement and prove of great value to the mining interests of Eastern Oregon. It was made in a winze being sunk from the lower level of the mine. The winze is now down 100 feet and for some time Manager Allen has had a crew drifting from the bottom. The new discovery shows a vein 20 feet wide. On the hanging-wall side of the ledge is two feet of solid quartz, heavily charged with antimonial ruby silver, characteristic of the deposits of silver ore formerly found in this vein, while on the opposite side of the vein is a strong seam of gold ore carrying three ounces of gold per ton. Between these two rich shoots the entire vein is of a good milling grade. This discovery was made at a depth of about 600 feet below the apex of the Monumental ledge.

For the past four years the property has been owned by the Portland Mining & Reduction company, of which C. J. Allen, of Portland, is manager.

Logging Engine for Curtiss Road.

Albany—An immense logging engine for use on the new logging road of the Curtiss Lumber company, in the Cascade mountains near Mill City, has arrived in Albany, and will be put in operation on the road this spring. The engine comes from the Lima Locomotive works, in Ohio, and is the first of its size and kind to be put into use in the lumber business in Oregon. It is of a type calculated to do very heavy, rather than speedy, work, and marks the beginning of a new epoch in the lumbering industry in Linn county.

Will Have Special Car.

Independence—The Independence Improvement league is making arrangements for a special car to take its members to Portland to attend the State league convention April 26. The Lewis and Clark club will be asked to decorate the car, and the "Blue Ribbon" county will be well represented by enthusiastic members of the league. The league is taking up the matter of beautifying the town, and a large committee of both ladies and gentlemen will be appointed to look after this work.

Rogue River Fruit Unharmed.

Medford—The recent light frosts in the Rogue river valley have done comparatively no harm; in fact, have been a benefit by thinning out the fruit somewhat on overloaded trees, and the best apple and pear crop ever raised in the valley is now practically assured. With the exception of some apple orchards which were allowed to overbear last year, and in consequence which could not set fruit buds for the present season, the fruit bloom was never better locally than now.

Heading Off the Standard Oil.

Astoria—The city attorney has been instructed by the public property committee to prepare an ordinance for introduction at the next meeting of the council forbidding the storage of crude oil or other explosives in larger quantities than 100 gallons at any one place inside the city limits. The reason for presenting this ordinance is the announced intention of the Standard Oil company to erect a large storage tank on its property near the foot of Sixth street.

New Opera House for Silverton.

Silverton—Work has begun on the foundation of the new opera house. The building will occupy a half block, and will be 21x140 feet and two stories high. The opera house will be on the lower floor, and will be 60x90 feet. On the second floor will be a dance hall 60 feet square and two lodge rooms. Besides the opera house there will be three stores on the lower floor. The building will be ready for use by July 1.

Fish Cannot Get Over Dam.

Pendleton—Complaints are coming from residents on the Walla Walla river that trout are unable to get over the Northwestern Gas & Electric company's dam across the river and that above the dam there is very little fishing. The dam is seven feet high and is not fitted with fish ladders. Those who have visited that locality say that fish are constantly seen leaping in their endeavor to scale the obstruction.

Gives Roseburg a Chance.

Eugene—The local directors have decided that the Second Southern Oregon District fair shall not be held in Eugene this year and Roseburg has been given the privilege of giving it there. It was thought that the interest taken in the Lewis and Clark exposition by Eugene people would detract from the success of a district fair, so the matter of holding it here this year was given up.

Orange Boxes for California.

Marshfield—General Manager Valigin, of the Coos Bay Furniture factory at North Bend, announces that he has made a contract with Southern California shippers to manufacture 3,000,000 orange boxes, and that his factory will be kept running night and day for a year. He is installing this week his own sawmill, which will cut 50,000 feet of spruce lumber daily.

DEBTORS MUST GIVE UP HALF.

After May 18 One-Half Their Wages May Be Taken by Creditors.

Salem—Oregon merchants will have a good remedy against many of their bad debtors after May 18, when the act of the last legislature regarding the exemption of wages from execution will go into effect. This act amends the law by making one-half the earnings of the debtor subject to execution proceedings if the debt be for family expenses. Prior to 1903 all the earnings of a debtor for 30 days next preceding the service of an attachment, execution or garnishment were exempt if the earnings were needed for the support of a family. Under that law men with considerable monthly incomes would escape the payment of their debts. The legislature of 1903 amended the law by limiting the amount of earnings exempt to \$75, but leaving the law otherwise the same. As there are comparatively few men working for wages who receive over \$75 a month, this law still enabled men to avoid debts which they should be compelled to pay, and the legislature of 1905 amended the section still further by adding this clause: "Except when the debt is incurred for family expenses furnished within six months of the date of the service of such attachment, execution or garnishment, 50 per cent of such earnings shall be subject to such attachment, execution or garnishment."

As construed by the courts, the term "family expenses" includes such items as provisions, fuel, rent, furniture, wearing apparel, pianos, organs, jewelry, medical attendance, etc.

Oregon Days at the Fair.

Portland—Oregon days, as set apart by the Lewis and Clark fair management are as follows: June 5, Monday—Salem; June 6, Tuesday—Baker City; June 7, Wednesday—Pendleton; June 8, Thursday—The Dalles; June 9, Friday—Prineville; June 10, Saturday—Astoria; June 11, Sunday—Albany; June 12, Monday—LaGrande; June 13, Tuesday—Medford; June 14, Wednesday—Grants Pass; June 15, Thursday—Roseburg; June 16, Friday—Eugene; June 17, Saturday—Cottage Grove.

Specialty of Fine Chickens.

Milton—W. C. Hopson, manager of the Milton Fruitgrowers' union, is raising chickens on a large scale on his farm four miles up on the Walla Walla river. He has four large incubators and four brooders. Mr. Hopson is making a specialty of raising fine chickens, keeping several varieties of pure bred fowls. At present he is hatching Rhode Island Reds and is marketing the tiny chickens at \$3 per dozen, with a ready market for all he hatches. A number of other residents of the vicinity of both Milton and Freewater are purchasing incubators and engaging in the poultry business.

Take Over Light Property.

Baker City—Articles of incorporation have been filed incorporating the Baker Light & Power company, with a capital stock of \$400,000. The incorporators are F. N. Averill, J. H. Parker and C. A. Johns. The company has been formed to take over the properties of the Baker City Gas & Electric company and the Rock Creek Power & Transmission company, recently purchased by Isaac W. Anderson, of Philadelphia, who is here to complete his organization. The officers of the new company will be elected soon.

Cancel Deeds if Fraudulent.

Salem—In reply to questions submitted by Governor Chamberlain, Attorney General Crawford has rendered an opinion holding in substance that the state land board has authority to cancel all deeds and certificates to school lands wherein fraud appears on record, but that it is not within the power of the board to take arbitrary action in the matter. In other words, fraud must be alleged and proven before the board has authority to cancel certificates of sales.

Wasco Land Brings \$45.

The Dalles—One of the best land sales ever made in Wasco county has just been closed. It was the sale of 725 acres of wheat land adjacent to the town of Dufur, which brought the owner, A. J. Dufur, \$33,625, or \$45 an acre. The purchasers were Johnston Bros., the well known merchants and land owners of Dufur. It is all fine wheat land, and last year 46 bushels of wheat to the acre were harvested off the entire tract.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 86¢@87¢ per bushel; bluestem, 92¢@94¢; valley, 88¢.
Oats—No. 1 white, 28¢@29¢ per ton; gray, 27¢@28¢.
Hay—Timothy, \$14@16 per ton; clover, \$11@12; grain, \$11@12; cheat, \$11@12.
Eggs—Oregon ranch, 18¢@19¢ dozen; Butter—Fancy creamery, 18¢@22¢ c.
Potatoes—Oregon fancy, \$1@1.10; common, 80¢@90¢.
Apples—Fancy, \$1.75@2.50 per box; choice, \$1@1.25.
Hops—Choice 1904, 23¢@25¢ per pound.
Wool—Valley, 20¢@24¢ per pound; Oregon, 15¢@18¢; mohair, 31¢@32¢ per pound.

WILL USE HIS TORPEDO FLEET.

Togo Will Not Risk His Big Vessels Against the Russians.

London, April 19.—Baron Hayashi, the Japanese minister to Great Britain, expressed the opinion to the Associated Press today that Admiral Togo would not give battle to Admiral Rojestvensky with his entire squadron, but would continue the cautious tactics which has characterized his attacks on the Port Arthur squadron, not because he feared defeat, but owing to his desire to inflict the greatest amount of damage on the Russians with the least possible loss to himself.

While confident of his ability to accomplish the total destruction of the Russian squadron in a big battle, there is danger of Togo losing one or two of his big ships. Therefore, Baron Hayashi believes, Togo will employ his torpedo boats and torpedo boat destroyers, which number more than 100 and are vastly superior to the Russian torpedo boat flotilla, in harassing the Russians while gradually picking off the Russian warships.

He said the coasts of Japan, Corea and Formosa lend themselves to night work with torpedo boats, while the narrow channels will make the maneuvering of large war ships difficult and dangerous.

BREAKS ALL RECORDS.

Steamer Minnesota Crosses Pacific in Very Fast Time.

Seattle, April 19.—The steamship Minnesota, of the Great Northern Steamship company's Seattle-Oriental fleet, and the largest freighter carrier afloat, reached port last night, on her return voyage from the Orient, having broken all trans-Pacific records on her trip across. The Minnesota's time from Yokohama was 13 days, 21 hours and five minutes.

Among her passengers were a number of Russian officers and their wives being sent home on parole from Shanghai, whither they were taken at the time of the capture of Port Arthur. There were also a number of American army officers coming from Manila, either on leave or under orders to report at Washington, D. C. Altogether the Minnesota brought 162 passengers, 47 of whom were first-class, and a little more than 7,000 tons of general freight, of which hemp formed the bulk.

MUST HAVE TRIBAL TIES.

What Indian Children Can Have Share in Lands.

Washington, April 19.—Indian Commissioner Leupp today promulgated the order defining what children of Indian parentage are entitled to share in lands and annuities of various Western tribes. Under his instructions all children whose parents are both Indians may share in these benefits, as may all children whose mothers married white men, provided the mother is still a recognized member of the tribes and affiliates with its members. Whenever an Indian woman, after marriage to a white man, has withdrawn and is no longer identified with her tribe, her children are not entitled to lands or annuities allowed that tribe.

NEUTRALITY IN PHILIPPINES.

Admiral Train is Having All Waters Well Patrolled.

Manila, April 19.—Admiral Train, determined to maintain the neutrality of the Philippine waters, will immediately dispatch additional vessels to patrol the Basilan straits, as a result of the reports that both Russian and Japanese vessels have been sighted there. Saturday the United States gunboat Quirós was sent to inspect six Russian colliers which are reported to be lying in the gulf of Lingayen. A gunboat is also scouting for Japanese vessels.

A report has reached here that 16 Japanese cruisers have been sighted off Sempalok point. The cruisers are said to be scouting in force for stray scouts, ships and colliers of the Russian fleet.

Judge Upholds the Law.

Denver, April 19.—Judge N. Walter Dixon, in the District court today, upheld the constitutionality of the law of 1897 relating to building and loan associations, under which President E. M. Johnson and other officers of the defunct Fidelity Savings association have been indicted on charges of making false reports. The law was attacked by Johnson's attorneys on the ground that the legislative records concerning its passage were incomplete, a leaf apparently having been torn from the journal of the house.

Fifty Boys Were Injured.

Indianapolis, April 19.—No deaths have been added to the list of four boys that lost their lives in the crush of the new building last night, eager to obtain free theater tickets for a performance at the theater. The revised list of the injured shows that no fewer than 50 were more or less injured. Of this number, fully 25 were seriously crushed and the death list may be increased.

Fifty Hurt in Strike Riot.

Wheeling, W. Va., April 19.—Fifty men were hurt in a fight between 60 nonunion men from Pittsburgh and 150 strikers from the Whitaker mill. Clubs, stones, knives and pistols were used, but the nonunion men finally scored in getting into the mill.

CRUSHED TO DEATH

Four Boys Killed and Many Injured by Alarm of Fire.

AFTER FREE THEATER TICKETS

Hundreds Were Waiting at Indianapolis Masonic Temple When Panic Started.

Indianapolis, Ind., April 18.—Frenzied by a false alarm of fire, several hundred eager newsboys, struggling to obtain their share of free tickets to a local theater, which were being distributed by a traveling representative of a patent medicine company, stampeded in a narrow stairway in the Masonic Temple tonight, crushing the life out of four boys and seriously injuring several others.

Long before the time approached for the distribution of the tickets, the stairs of the Masonic Temple, at the southwest corner of Washington street and Capitol avenue, were crowded with a pushing, yelling crowd of newsboys, each anxious to be first to receive his pass. When the distribution began, the excitement became more intense and the efforts of several policemen who had been detailed to prevent trouble were unavailing.

It is alleged that one of the boys, in the endeavor to hasten the exit of those who had received their passes, shouted "Fire!" Immediately those at the top faced about and almost with superhuman strength began to force their way to the bottom of the stairs.

Shrieks and physical encounters followed for a few seconds, when from some cause those near the top fell headlong on the struggling mass at the bottom. Immediately policemen from the central station, who responded to a riot call, began the work of rescue.

Four of the boys were dead when extricated from their position at the bottom of the stairs. Others, believed to have been fatally crushed, were taken out as fast as they could be disentangled from their frenzied companions, who fought and clung to each other in desperation.

CANNOT LIMIT HOURS.

Supreme Court Declares New York Bakers' Law Unconstitutional.

Washington, April 18.—In an opinion by Justice Peckham, the Supreme court of the United States held to be unconstitutional the New York state law making ten hours a day's work and 60 hours a week's work in bakeries in that state. Justices Harlan, White, Day and Holmes dissented and Justice Harlan declared that no more important decision had been rendered in the last century.

The opinion was handed down in the case of Lockner vs. the state of New York, and was based on the ground that the law interferes with the free exercise of the rights of contract between individuals. The court of Appeals of the state upheld the law and affirmed the judgment of the trial court, holding Lockner guilty.

The law involved in the case is section 110 of the New York state labor law, prescribing the hours of labor in bakeries in the state. Lockner is a baker in the city of Utica and was found guilty of permitting an employe to work in his bakery more than 60 hours in a week, and fined \$50. The judgment was affirmed by the New York Appellate courts.

Senator Thurston is Retained.

Sioux City, Ia., April 18.—John M. Thurston, ex-United States senator from Nebraska, has been retained to press claims for indemnity on account of the massacre of several Americans by Yaqui Indians in Sonora, Mex., January 19. The claims will aggregate \$450,000, \$100,000 each for the four men killed, J. K. McKenzie and Dr. Robert McCoy, of Chicago; Walter Stubinger, of Kewanee, Ill., and M. H. Call, of Sioux City, and \$25,000 each for the terrible experience of the two survivors.

Hoodoo Boat May Be Accepted.

Washington, April 18.—The report of the naval board which conducted the recent trial of the Goldsborough in Puget sound has been received at the Navy department. In substance it shows that although the speed is not altogether satisfactory, due probably to the natural deterioration of the machinery since its installation, about five years ago, the vessel is structurally sound and otherwise in good condition. The disposition of the naval authorities is to accept her.

Death Rate is Decreasing.

Chicago, April 18.—In closing his 19 years of service as commissioner of health for the city of Chicago, Dr. Arthur R. Reynolds presents in his annual report significant data showing the decrease of the death rate in the city. During the 10 years from 1885 to 1894, inclusive, the yearly average of death rate was 20.02 in every 1,000 of population. During the succeeding 10 years the rate decreased to 15.1 in every 1,000 of population.

American Missionary Slain.

Shanghai, April 18.—A native Christian who has arrived here reports that a band of Chinese have murdered an American missionary named Kennedy at Kuhnongsen, near Hangchow. He could give no particulars of the alleged crime.