

JAPAN SOON TO LEAD AMERICA IN SIZE OF NAVY

Admiral Vreeland, Navy Jingo, Claims That Mikado's Strength at Sea Will Soon Surpass That of the United States.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—Unless the United States builds battleships at a lively rate Japan will soon become the stronger power at sea. Rear Admiral Vreeland was reported to have told the house naval committee today, and may insist on the repeal of California's anti-alien land law by virtue of its superior strength. The admiral expressed himself behind closed doors, no record was made of what he said and the committee afterwards discussed it reluctantly, but it was known he went deeply into the Japanese warship building program.

Navy League Activity
As a member of the naval strategy board Vreeland was called on naturally to give his views, and did so as a climax to a story session of the committee, during which Congressman Buchanan of Illinois, a "little navy" advocate, grew so angry that he left the room.

Buchanan and Congressman Hensley of Missouri clashed violently with Vreeland over the Navy League's activity in fomenting sentiment for more fighting ships, even charging that members of the league were interested in corporations engaged in selling naval supplies to the government.

Vreeland was said to have insisted on the necessity of four battleships a year instead of the two proposed by Secretary Daniels.

Mikado Wants Philippines
Referring to Japan, members of the committee asserted that the Mikado wants the Philippine Islands as an outlet for his surplus population; but the United States could not get time to get ships to hold them in the event of war; that Japan might even be able to seize the Hawaiian group before an American fleet could reach there; if war should break out between the two countries, Japan's first act certainly would be to strike at the Philippines and that the California anti-alien land law might serve as an excuse.

The admiral admitted that he did not think the Mikado's forces could capture Alaska or the Panama canal, and concluded that Japan had no regular warship building program, but constructed new vessels as far as its resources and credit permitted.

CLOUDLESS SKIES MARK END OF FIVE DAYS RAIN STORM

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Jan. 28.—Cloudless skies marked today the end of the five days' storm that swept southern California. The government weather bureau predicted clear weather for at least a week. A forty-mile wind prevailed throughout the night here, dropping to a fifteen-mile velocity at daybreak. Low temperatures and general frost was prevented by the winds.

The southern half of the state was recuperating slowly from the effects of the storm. It will be many days, however, before normal transportation and communication facilities are restored. Wire traffic was resumed to almost all points, but a dozen towns were without rail communication.

Santa Barbara remained isolated. No trains have entered or left there since last Friday. A great section of Ventura county is cut off from the world. Many miles of railroad tracks are under water or landslides, and scores of railroad and wagon bridges are out.

Citrus experts agreed that little damage was done the orange and lemon crops. Other crops generally were benefited by the rains, though thousands of acres of farm lands were inundated and their crops ruined. The waters everywhere were receding today.

ANARCHY REIGNS AT HAYTI WHEN PRESIDENT FLEES

Battleship South Carolina Steaming at Full Speed Toward Port Au Prince to Protect Foreign Residents Endangered in Revolution.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—The battleship South Carolina was steaming at full speed today from Guantanamo toward Port au Prince, Haiti, to help the cruiser Montana in protecting foreign residents endangered by the latest revolution.

With President Oreste's sudden resignation and flight on board the German cruiser Vineta, it was said complete anarchy prevailed at the Haitian capital. Shooting was said to have been continuous throughout the night.

American bluejackets from the Montana were on guard over the United States legation, the cable station and the French hospital. The other legations and German stores in the city were guarded by detachments from the Vineta.

REGIONAL BANK HEARING, SEATTLE

PORTLAND, Or., Jan. 28.—Secretary of Agriculture Houston and Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo, members of the federal reserve bank organization committee, and party arrived here at 7 o'clock this morning in a private car over the O. W. R. & N. from Denver and left for Seattle an hour and a half later, where regional bank hearings will be held tonight and tomorrow.

Besides Secretaries Houston and McAdoo, the party consisted of W. W. Callender, secretary to Houston; G. R. Cookson, secretary to McAdoo; T. R. Gray, McAdoo's confidential clerk; Miss Nona McAdoo and Miss Ellen Robinson, a friend.

By prearrangement no committees from Portland commercial bodies met the train, and none of the party left the car.

STRONG TESTIMONY AGAINST JUDGE SPEER

SAVANNAH, Ga., Jan. 28.—Strong testimony against United States Judge Emory Speer of Macon, charged with using his office unlawfully, was given here this afternoon before the house investigating committee by Attorney General Thomas B. Felder of Georgia.

Felder stated positively that Judge Speer had issued orders to cover up the manner in which juries in his court were selected. He declared that in one case a jury had been selected by a marshal instead of being drawn from a box as required by law.

Felder also accused Judge Speer of directing prosecutions from the bench and of making speeches during trials which were intended to prejudice juries.

DEATH KNELL OF PUGILISM IN ARIZONA

PRESCOTT, Ariz., Jan. 28.—Superior Judge Frank Smith sounded the death knell of prizefighting in Arizona today when he ruled that, to conform with the state law, all matches must be held without a referee or seconds, that no principal may receive any sort of remuneration or prize, and that no blow sufficient to cause a knockout or any injury may be struck.

The decision was given in a test case in which Danny Mathews and Phil Knight, who met in a Prescott ring, January 9, appeared as defendants. Although technically guilty the fighters were released from custody. Attorney General George P. Bulard argued the case for the state.

PLOT SYMPTOM OF DISCONTENT WITH DICTATOR

Huerta Makes Light of Conspiracy, But It Was Really Most Formidable—Huerta's Elimination Now Desired by All Interests.

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 28.—President Huerta and his friends tried today to make light of the plot discovered against the dictator's life Monday night, but everyone on the inside of the situation here knew that really it was very formidable.

Not only had it gone so far that all preparations were completed and the blow might have been struck if the conspirators had been a mere trifle more prompt, but several extremely prominent men were involved in it. Some of them, too, had been known as Huerta supporters, so that the president hardly knew today whom he could trust.

Again, it was a symptom of the growing dissatisfaction with the present regime. Times are so bad and Huerta has levied his financial exactions so heavily that in business circles literally hundreds of men of importance long for the dictator's elimination, no matter by what means.

War Minister Blanquet issued a statement today denying that any of the arrested conspirators had been executed.

Fidencia Hernandez and Guillermo Mijaro, former members of congress, were arrested today, charged with complicity in the plot.

LEAH ALEXANDER CRAZED FROM DRUGS

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Jan. 28.—Miss Leah Alexander and her aged mother wept together today as Assistant Prosecutor Fred L. Berry accused the girl, in his opening address to the jury in Superior Judge Dunne's courtroom, of the premeditated murder of J. D. Van Baalen.

Berry made no defense of Miss Alexander, but he contended that because the man had done wrong was no excuse for the woman who killed him.

Attorney Tom O'Connor asserted that he will prove the girl tried to kill herself the day before the tragedy because Van Baalen had refused to see her and was crazy when she shot him, from a dose of strychnine, iodine and bromide.

FEDERAL OWNERSHIP FOR RADIUM PLANT

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—Government ownership of a radium extracting plant will be proposed in a bill to be introduced in the house of representatives tomorrow. The plan proposed by the house mines committee probably will eliminate the proposal of Dr. Howard Kelly of Baltimore to be a partner of the government in extracting radium.

The committeemen announced that Secretary of the Interior Lane's plan to withdraw radium lands may be modified so as to give prospectors a free rein under a system by which the government will have preferential right to purchase all ores extracted from such lands.

BERTH ROBBER IS CAPTURED ON TRAIN

ZANESVILLE, O., Jan. 28.—A man giving the name of Harry Warner was arrested here today on a charge of robbing Pullman berths occupied by passengers on a Baltimore & Ohio train. He was overpowered by passengers on the train and a number of missing articles were found in his pockets. Warner is believed to have had an accomplice who escaped.

COLONEL GORGAS NOMINATED FOR SURGEON IN CHIEF



President Wilson has nominated Colonel William C. Gorgas, chief sanitary officer of the Panama canal, to be surgeon in chief of the army, and thus reward has come to the man who did as much as Colonel Goethals to make the canal possible.

Without the work of Colonel Gorgas on the canal unsanitary conditions would have killed their thousands long before the work had been brought to its present state. But he used radical measures and now the canal zone, though in the tropics, is one of the healthiest spots on the face of the earth.

MANY SMASH-UPS CAUSED BY DENSE NEW YORK FOG

NEW YORK, Jan. 28.—The heaviest fog in years caused two smash-ups and dire confusion on New York bay today.

One accident was the ramming of the Laekawanna ferryboat Scandinavian by a car float. Not much damage was done, but the Scandinavian's passengers were thrown into a panic and the officers had hard work to quiet them. Later the municipal ferryboats Brooklyn and Manhattan crashed and there were two more panics, though nobody was hurt.

The fog settled over the bay as thickly as a blanket last night, and six trans-Atlantic liners, together with eight smaller craft, inward bound, dropped anchor outside Sandy Hook rather than risk trying to dock under the circumstances.

The haze lifted somewhat as today advanced, and the vessels nosed their way in, though one of the smaller boats went ashore in doing it. Altogether, about 10,000 passengers were delayed in landing.

WORKING WOMEN TO STORM CAPITAL

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—Arrangements were completed today for a gathering of four hundred working women in Washington Monday to demand of President Wilson a federal constitutional equal rights amendment.

The delegation is to represent every line of activity in which women are engaged and will march on the white house carrying banners bearing quotations from the president's writings interpreted as expressing his belief in the justice of woman suffrage.

MARRIED TWICE BUT DIDN'T DO WRONG

OAKLAND, Cal., Jan. 28.—James E. Duncan, an actor, was arrested here today on charges of bigamy. He admitted that after marrying Nellie Josephine at San Jose in 1906 he also married Eva Azer, an actress, here January 17.

HEAR ARGUMENTS UPON PROPOSED POSTAGE INCREASE

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—Chairman Moon of the house postoffice committee announced that on February 9 the committee will hear arguments for and against an increase in second-class postage rates.

PRESIDENT FIRM IN OPPOSITION TO POLITICAL BOSS

Flat Denial of Reports That Wilson Would Support Thomas Taggart and Roger Sullivan in Their Campaigns for the Senate Issued.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—Flat denial of reports that President Wilson would support the senatorial candidacies in Illinois and Indiana of Thomas Taggart and Roger S. Sullivan, political bosses in those states was voiced today at the white house. The reports followed a conference at the executive mansion last night between the president, W. F. McCombs, chairman of the democratic national committee and several administration officials.

"President Wilson is not taking part in local fights anywhere," declared Private Secretary Tumulty.

It was understood, however, that President Wilson later will take a firm stand against Taggart's candidacy.

WOMAN EXPLAINS WIDNEY'S EXTORTION

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Jan. 28.—Mrs. Mary Vaughn, on trial here on a charge of attempting to extort \$500 from Judge R. M. Widney of Los Angeles, took the stand in her own defense today. She flatly denied that she ever offered to secure the dismissal of a white slave charge against Widney's son, Robert.

"I approached Judge Widney in behalf of Vivien Lyons," said Mrs. Vaughn. "She claims that Widney owed her \$500. She told me Robert offered to have his father write out a note for \$5000 payable to Mrs. Lyons. I met young Widney in a hotel and he wrote out a note for \$5000. He then left to secure his father's signature, as he said."

"Young Widney returned, presently with a folded note and asked me to put it in my purse immediately. I did so. When I got home I found that it was not the note I had seen young Widney write, but another, agreeing to pay me \$500 if I would secure the dismissal of the case against Arthur B. Widney, another son."

AMERICANS DEFEAT BOXERS OF BRITAIN

NEW YORK, Jan. 26.—Two more victories by American fighters over English glovemen were recorded today, following contests here last night between Owen Moran and Young Shugrue and Sapper O'Neill and Johnny Dundee. O'Neill and Moran are Englishmen.

Moran quit at the end of the seventh round to Young Shugrue of Jersey City. Moran declared he had been fished but his claim was not allowed. Shugrue was giving Moran the trimming of his life.

Dundee gave O'Neill a terrific body lacing. Dundee outclassed the visitor from the start, but O'Neill was game, Dundee weighed 125 and O'Neill 135.

BUILD STATE ROAD BIGGS TO WASCO

SALEM, Or., Jan. 28.—To furnish employment for a large number of Portland's unemployed, the state highway commission has today authorized Governor West and State Highway Engineer Bowly to advertise for bids for building a road from Biggs to Wasco, a distance of nine and one-half miles.

Terms of the contract will bind the successful bidder to employ as many men as possible and give those new out of work the preference.

The state plans to spend \$30,000 of the state road fund on the project.

SENDING OF AID FROM JAPAN TO MEXICO DENIED

White House Asserts Circumstantial Story of Assistance Sent Huerta by Mikado is Baseless and Foolish—Great Powers Support Wilson.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—The circumstantial story that Japan is sending arms and ammunition to President Huerta was not only denied today at the white house but was referred to as "baseless and foolish." "It's an old story revamped," said Private Secretary Tumulty. "It's as old as last summer, and it's utterly foolish."

So far as Japan's attitude toward Mexico is concerned, it was added that the Washington administration was not prepared to hold the Tokio government responsible for the actions of the Mikado's officers and sailors in Mexico City. It was not denied, however, that Huerta might make capital out of their presence there.

President Wilson, it was declared, is supported passively by every one of the world powers in his Mexican policy and eventually it was asserted that this surely will mean peace.

It was not stated when the embargo would be removed on the shipment of arms across the border from the United States into Mexico.

Confidential reports received by President Wilson today showed that the rebels were in control of more than half of the republic. He was convinced that the elimination of President Huerta is but a question of weeks. It was known, however, that Huerta recently received a large shipment of machine guns and rifles from Europe.

ADMITS PLANTING DYNAMITE BOMBS FOR BLACK HAND

NEW YORK, Jan. 28.—The trial of Angelo Sylvestro, charged with planting a bomb in a Houston street tenement house, was resumed here today. Antonio Sedaitis, Sylvestro's alleged accomplice, turned states' evidence. He corroborated much of the testimony given yesterday by Alfred Lehman, who gave details concerning a desperate Black Hand gang operating in New York and nearby states.

Sedaitis testified that he had participated in 23 dynamite bombings. He denied, however, that any of the bombs planted by him had caused death.

Rocco Puccelarello was another witness. He said he usually acted as lookout for the gang. Lichoilo Eschile and Louis Goldstein, alleged gangsters, were indicted today on charges of murdering a Chinese August 8. The arrest of eight additional members of the alleged Black Hand gang was also expected.

UNEMPLOYED CAUSE TROUBLE IN CHICAGO

CHICAGO, Jan. 28.—Precautions to prevent further trouble from Chicago's army of the unemployed were taken here today when extra police were placed on duty in the vicinity of the Maxwell street station. This action followed the receipt by Captain Thomas Storen of a letter threatening to blow up that police station unless six alleged rioters, arrested last night and arraigned today, were released.

Two boys delivered the letter to Captain Storen. They said a man gave them a dime for their trouble. The letter warned Storen that unless the six prisoners were released by noon, the station would be dynamited.

An all day meeting of Industrial Workers of the World was held in Workingmen's Hall. It was attended by hundreds of jobless men.