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## PACIFIC SQUADRON WILL TAKE BACK TRACK

### Russian Authorities Said to Have Reached a Decision to Recall Vessels

St. Petersburg, Jan. 5.—It is stated on high authority that a decision has been reached that the Russian second Pacific squadron will return to European waters.

Chefo, Jan. 5.—The disarmament of the seven destroyers has been completed to the satisfaction of the Japanese authorities.

WeHai Wai, Jan. 5.—The British cruiser Andromeda, which sailed from here yesterday for Port Arthur, with hospital stores, returned today, not having been able to make a landing at Port Arthur. The Japanese refused offers of assistance, and warned the vessel against unlocated mines.

Manila, Jan. 5.—The Japanese cruiser Takensu approached the entrance of the harbor this morning, but when signalled sailed away.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 5.—The announcement that General Stoessel would have to come home and stand court-martial for surrendering Port Arthur, provokes the following comment from the Novo Vremya: "By all means let us have a court-martial, and make it, if possible, severe and cruel. The judge will perhaps deal leniently with those who have given their blood and lives for their country, and perhaps also the court will determine why the fortress, which was known to be threatened with a blockade, was not supplied with the necessary food and ammunition to enable it to hold out."

Manila, Jan. 5.—Steamers from the

south report that a Japanese cruiser is patrolling the straits of San Bernardino, west of Luzon.

Tokio, Jan. 5.—The supplementary agreement published today provides the appointment of commissioners to superintend the enforcements of the provisions in the capitulation of Port Arthur, and deals with the treatment of officers and men. The commissioners met at Pehyu Mountain at noon on Tuesday, and the officers and officials were allowed to wear their side arms, but the use of arms was prohibited. The agreement provides for the transfer of the hospitals, and the immunity of non-combatants as to their freedom of action and removal of private property. It reserves the right of removal of objectionable persons, and the release of Japanese prisoners.

Tokio, Jan. 5.—It is announced that the civil officials at Port Arthur, who did not serve as volunteers, will be released without parole.

Tokio, Jan. 5.—The Mikado gave a New Years luncheon to the diplomatic corps at Tokio. His majesty toasted the various rulers of the world.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 5.—The Czar this morning returned to Tsarko Selo from Minsk where he went to review the troops.

Tokio, Jan. 5.—The Japanese commissioners began to assemble at Yokusai at 9 o'clock this morning to effect the formal turning over of the city to General Nogai.

## FORMER STATE LAND OFFICERS ARE SUED

### Ex-Governor Geer, Agents L. B. Geer and W. H. Odell Made Parties

George Summers has filed a complaint against T. T. Geer, L. B. Geer and W. H. Odell for the purpose of collecting claims against the gentlemen above named as follows:

George Summers \$480, E. Clark \$312, Mabelle Starr \$240, Mary Bannard \$420, J. H. Dobbin \$150, W. Waldo Chase \$50, Florence M. Johnson \$100, Thomas Powell \$258, James F. Davis \$400, John M. Swanson \$400, Wm. J. Alams \$400, W. B. Palmer \$312.50, C. L. Hartshorn \$100, Geo. Mack \$350, Albert Hartshorn \$150, Albert E. Battson \$400, Chas. S. Schlenker \$400, Geo. Wilson \$400, Victor J. Chapman \$350, P. B. Howard \$480, Anna Keenan \$480, Wm. Wurtzweiler \$480, Mattie Summers \$480, Mrs. Alameda Fuller \$560, Walter Hammond \$281.75, John B. Erickson \$60.

Mr. Summers also asks for \$1000 as punitive damages, and the other causes of action have been assigned to him by the respective parties. Mr. Summers lives in Prineville, and a number of the claimants are prominent business men from that section of the state.

The facts alleged in the complaint are that Governor T. T. Geer, acting as land commissioner of the state of Oregon, appointed L. B. Geer and W. H. Odell as land agents of the state, and that the plaintiff and the parties claiming through him agreed to purchase of the state land.

The complaint sets out that W. H. Odell, while state land agent, acted as a go-between broker, selling the information that ordinarily would be of public record to the parties named as claimants, for various figures, from \$1 to \$2 per acre. The claimants were to pay the regular price to the state in addition to the amounts handed to the land agent.

The complaint states that the defendants failed to sell and deliver the land purchased, and the parties seek to recover the amounts paid to W. H. Odell for the inside information fur-

nished to the claimants, also alleging that Governor T. T. Geer and L. B. Geer were parties to the whole transaction, and participated in the profits of the sale of the supposed mineral base.

The state of Oregon received, under the laws of the general government, about 80,000 acres of land, which has since been declared more valuable for mineral than for any other purposes. Whenever a sufficient affidavit is filed with the U. S. land department setting forth that the character of the land is mineral, the government allows the state to select lieu land in place of the base. The complaint alleges that the parties conspired to sell this information to purchasers, instead of perfecting title to the state, as by law required.

According to a well-informed citizen who talked to The Journal this morning the lieu land scandal will involve a number of prominent men in the state, and may become a factor in the federal cases now before the grand jury. It is alleged that several citizens are guilty of gross misconduct and conspiracy in defrauding the state out of thousands of acres of valuable timber land, which was selected in place of school land in Eastern Oregon, which was worthless for any purpose, except perhaps for grazing.

The timber land selected was the most valuable in the state, but only brought the school fund small prices, ranging from \$1.25 to \$2.50 per acre, although land adjoining readily sold for from \$10 to \$15 per acre.

The outcome of the cases against the old administration will be watched with interest, following, as it does, immediately after the report of the present state land agent, Oswald West, in which many charges were made as to irregularities in the office during its occupation by several of his predecessors. M. E. Pogue appears as attorney for the plaintiff.

## SENATOR MITCHELL MAY RESUME HIS SEAT

Washington, Jan. 5.—Senator Mitchell arrived in Washington today. While the senate is in session his course will be closely observed, as there is general curiosity to see whether or not he will appear on the floor of the senate while resting under indictment. Should he adhere to precedent, he will not go in to the senate chamber, but will remain in his committee room. If he acts in accordance with the wish of many of his colleagues, expressed to Senator Fulton today, he will disregard custom and resume his seat, as if nothing had happened. It rests entirely with Senator Mitchell to determine what course he will follow. If he chooses to continue in the proceedings of the senate, no objection is likely to be raised.

Interest in Senator Mitchell's case was revived today by the publication in the Washington papers of Puter's statement.

"Dozens of senators have come to me today," said Senator Fulton, "and have uniformly denounced the indictment of Senator Mitchell on the testimony of a man like Puter. I find the

universal sentiment of the senate is with Mitchell. I have yet to find a single senator who entertains the slightest doubt as to his innocence. On the contrary, much wonderment is expressed that any grand jury should have indicted any man on such a flimsy statement as that made by Puter.

"Since the question of the propriety of Senator Mitchell's appearing on the floor has been raised, senators from all sections have asked me to persuade Senator Mitchell to come into the senate as soon as he returns, notwithstanding precedent. Democrats and Republicans alike say he should not remain away, but should resume his seat."

In case Senator Mitchell decides to resume his seat, it is probable he will make a statement to the senate, declaring his innocence and explaining his connection with the land frauds in which he is charged with being implicated. It is his privilege as a senator to make a statement in his own defense, and he will be given full sway whatever he may deem proper.

## COLORADO LEGISLATIVE DOINGS

Denver, Col. Jan. 5.—In the supreme court this morning the ballots in precinct 7, ward 5, were inspected. Of 225 ballots inspected up to noon, 169 were written by one person, 159 being Democratic and 10 Republican.

The Republican legislature caucused this morning to determine the action in the gubernatorial situation. A reflex wave of sentiment has set in strongly favoring the seating of Peabody, and having Adams file a contest, and then have a rapid and thorough investigation of the alleged frauds.

## FIFTEEN CHILDREN DROWNED

Vienna, Jan. 5.—Fifteen children were drowned at Selabings, Moravia, this afternoon, by falling through a hole in the ice, while on a pond skating.

**Standard Oil Cuts.**  
Toledo, Jan. 5.—The Standard Oil company today cut the price of Eastern crude 5 cents and Western 3 cents. No reason is given for the cut.

**Famous Singer Dead.**  
London, Jan. 5.—Mrs. Bellecole, the famous American singer, died this morning of diabetes.

## POLICEMAN KILLED IN BATTLE WITH THUGS

Chicago, Jan. 5.—In a desperate battle with alleged hold-up men and train robbers, at 11 o'clock this morning Policeman James O'Keef was killed and Policeman Richard Birmingham probably fatally injured. The officers went to arrest Ollie Feinberg and Frank Gaygan, for shooting a police-

man recently. The desperadoes immediately opened fire, and O'Keef fell at the first fusillade. Birmingham continued to fire until he fell wounded. Gaygan had a wound in his arm when arrested. Feinberg was shot in the back and surrendered later, but will probably die.

## BARD STANDS GOOD CHANCE FOR SENATOR

Sacramento, Jan. 5.—The senatorial fight is given a new phase by the declaration of George Knight that Senator Bard is the second choice of his supporters, and that Southern California must agree on Bard, or the senatorship

would come from the north. The declaration resulted in Knight gaining strength, there being no evidence of Southern California agreeing on a candidate, and a conference of leaders at San Francisco Saturday is expected to clarify the situation.

## GOVERNOR PEABODY'S MESSAGE

Denver, Jan. 5.—At 2:30 this afternoon the legislature met to hear Governor Peabody's message, in which he recommended a "reasonable" eight-hour law, the disfranchisement of the regular army and national guard deserters, and the compulsory arbitration of labor troubles, subject to review by the supreme court.

**Business Section Suffers.**

Berlin, N. H., Jan. 5.—Fire early this morning destroyed the Clements opera house, the Thorndyke hotel and several business blocks. Four were injured by jumping. The loss is \$150,000.

**Germany Favors Peace.**

Birmingham, Jan. 5.—The Post hears that Germany is seeking to arrange a German-American arbitration treaty similar to the Anglo-American treaty.

**Currency Bill Is Up.**

Washington, Jan. 5.—The house this afternoon voted to take up the Hill currency measure, and its consideration was immediately begun in committee.

**Conger Goes to Manila.**

Pekin, Jan. 5.—Minister Conger left today for the Philippines.

## CANVAS ELECTORAL VOTES

Washington, Jan. 5.—The senate occurred in a joint resolution to meet the house representatives at 1 o'clock Wednesday, February 8th, for the canvassing of the electoral vote.

Washington, Jan. 5.—The nomination of Wm. D. Crum to be collector of customs at Charleston, S. C., was today reported favorably by the senate committee on commerce. It is understood that after the nomination is confirmed that Crum will resign.

**Food Pure—Business Bad.**

Battle Creek, Mich., Jan. 5.—The body of N. S. Phelps, the missing financier, who was connected with several large pure food concerns in this city, was found in the river here today. He has been missing several months, and it is believed that he committed suicide on account of business reverses.

**Montana Land Frauds.**

Great Falls, Mont., Jan. 5.—Government agents are on the way to Montana to inspect the alleged wholesale land frauds, according to private advices received here. It is said the frauds are far-reaching, embracing immense tracts of timber and mining land.

## An Old Store

With

## A New Name

The most prominent feature of our business during the past thirteen years has been our

### SPOT CASH PLAN

to which we attribute our remarkable success. Wanting to make this feature still more prominent in our advertising, we have decided to change our name to

## BARNES' CASH STORE

There will be no change in the policy of the store. Our extremely low prices, due to our CASH PLAN and economical business management, have made us grow. We intend to continue growing along the same lines. Our merchandise is the standard of quality. Our prices are lower than at "regular stores. Formerly The New York Racket, now

## BARNES' CASH STORE

SALEM'S CHEAPEST ONE-PRICE CASH STORE.

E. T. BARNES, PROPRIETOR

## Go's Meyers & Sons

SALEM'S GREATEST STORE  
THE "WHITE CORNER" (TRADE MARK)  
REPUTATION

## The Constant Growth

Of this establishment is not due to chance. Every detail of this business was arranged and considered with the deepest concern for future growth through present satisfaction. Our methods for attracting in the future, as in the past, shall be such as must interest and appeal to you. Meanwhile we mention a few items of important interest, to the many who are desirous of making big savings on dependable merchandise.

### Women's Stylish Suits

Just think of the saving on new style, ready-to-wear garments for ladies, that we are showing. Not a lot of old stock, but bright, up-to-date garments of this season's showing. A fine assortment of \$15 garments.

\$7.50



Silk Waists at Half Price

This season's showing of the best styles of Peau de Soie, Taffetas, Peau de Cygne, etc., in great variety of colors.

1-4 OFF



Men's Suits and Over-Coats at Less Price

Save whether you buy a suit or a coat

You have the choice of our entire stock of clothing at greatly reduced figures. No reserve—the cut prices affect every garment in our stock. Choose early, as a great many are taking advantage of this extraordinary sale.

\$15 to \$16.50 suit or overcoat.....	\$10.50
\$18.50 to \$20 suit or overcoat.....	\$15.00
\$22.50 to \$25 suit or overcoat.....	\$18.50