

AFFAIRS JUST DRIFTING

Japanese Government Awaits Russia's Reply With Intense Anxiety.

WILL BE WAR OR PEACE VERY SOON.

No Dispatches Have Been Received in Washington in the Last Few Days Either from the Foreign Office or the American Embassy at London Through Much Additional Light on the Situation.

Washington, D. C. (Special).—United States Minister Griscom reports to the State Department from Tokyo that there has been no change in the situation there relative to the Russian negotiations. Intense interest is exhibited, but the Japanese are awaiting with patience for the decision of Russia.

Although he called for another purpose, Sir Mortimer Durand, the British ambassador, had an informal talk with Mr. Loomis, the acting secretary of State, about affairs in the far East. No dispatches have been received here in the last few days either from the foreign office or the American embassy at London throwing much additional light on the situation, but it is known that the Japanese government is awaiting the arrival of the Russian reply with "intense anxiety."

The British ambassadors throughout the far Eastern negotiations has been closely advised on both sides of the question.

St. Petersburg.—The necessity of an exchange of views between Russia and the other powers interested regarding the application of their rights in Manchuria, "so as to avoid misunderstandings and harmonize the interests of Russia and the other powers in that province," is emphasized in Russ.

This paper says it learns authoritatively that the announcement that Russia has recognized the inviolability of the rights acquired by foreign powers in Manchuria under existing treaties has no connection with the ratification of the commercial treaty between the United States and China or the Japanese-Chinese treaty. The Russ also denies that Russia has given her assent to the ratification of these treaties, "because, as China is not a vassal to the state, she has perfect liberty to conclude any treaty."

"Nevertheless," adds the Russ, "foreign powers must take into account the Russian occupation of Manchuria, which, although it does not eliminate the authority of the Chinese government, places certain restrictions on the exercise of that authority which cannot escape the notice of foreign representatives who wish to enter into relations with the Chinese administration of that province."

London.—There is no confirmation here of the reports that Japan has occupied Masampo, Baron Hayashi, the Japanese minister, not only discredited them, but said that the Japanese government had previously decided not to take any half measures, or any steps which could be construed as being prejudicial to the negotiations, so long as they are proceeding.

"When Japan decides to take action," he added, "she will announce it frankly to Russia and the rest of the world."

According to Baron Hayashi, the situation is unchanged. He continues to take the gloomiest view of the situation.

Beating the Death Trust.

Chicago (Special).—The end of the "death trust" is in sight, according to a statement made by Secretary Pritchard, of the City Health Department. Mr. Pritchard announced that within 48 hours the medical profession of Chicago will be supplied with antitoxin serum at a premium far below that of the alleged trust's prices. What the sources are from which the Health Department expects to secure the supply Secretary Pritchard was not prepared to say, but every effort is being made to frustrate the attempt of the three antitoxin manufacturing firms to form a monopoly at the expense of human life.

Boodlers to the Bar.

Kansas City (Special).—The grand jury which for the past month has been investigating charges of boodling in Kansas City, Kan., in connection with the Board of Education in the appointment of teachers and the awarding of school contracts, and the city officials in the protection of gambling and illicit saloons, practically finished its work and, it is said, has decided to return 17 indictments. Although the citizens committee which was formed some time ago to push the investigation urged the grand jury to continue its work, Attorney General Coleman, who has had charge of the jury, declined.

Arrests Follow a Hold-Up.

Jacksonville, Fla. (Special).—S. A. Petty and M. Petty, charged with holding up and dynamiting the Seaboard Air Line passenger train at Sanderson on January 17, have been captured. When arrested the men had dynamite in their possession. They have been identified by the engineer and baggage man. The United States authorities will charge them with firing into a mail coach and jeopardizing the life of the mail agent.

To Vaccinate Calves.

Berlin (By Cable).—Every calf in Germany will be vaccinated upon reaching its third month with specially prepared tuberculosis bacilli, taken from human beings, if the proposals of Prof. Behring are accepted.

School Teacher Murdered.

Berford, Ind. (Special).—The body of Miss Sarah Schaefer, teacher of Latin in the Bedford High School, was found in a carriage house. She had been assaulted and robbed and the body badly mutilated. The appearance of the shed indicated a terrific struggle. Miss Schaefer came here from Elkhart, Ind., a year ago and was much admired. There was much excitement over the murder and bloodhounds will be put on the scent.

SMALL BIRTH RATE; HIGH LIVING.

Chicago Professor Blames Love of Luxury for Many Small Families.

Chicago (Special).—To the high standard of living today is the alarming decrease in the birth rate in the United States was the declaration of Prof. H. J. Davenport, professor of sociology at the University of Chicago.

In speaking to a class Professor Davenport said the American birth rate would soon be almost nothing as compared with that of European nations, if the present luxury of home life is kept up or increased.

"Americans will not have children if they cannot afford to support them in luxury," said the Professor. "They have to follow every fashion and spend their money foolishly. Many men with salaries or incomes of \$3000 a year will not marry. Women today must have everything they want."

NEWS IN SHORT ORDER

The Latest Happenings Condensed for Rapid Reading.

Domestic.

Dr. Ashbel P. Grinnell, of the University of Vermont, secured a verdict for \$12,500 damages against Edwin Weston in New York, who had him arrested as a swindler.

Seventeen indictments were found by the grand jury that investigated the charges of boodling in Kansas City. Charles Bonier was sentenced in Buffalo to be electrocuted during the week beginning February 20.

Ned H. Fowler, leading man of the Empire Theater Stock Company, committed suicide in Columbus, O.

Harry Landon, arrested in South Norwalk, Ct., for passing counterfeit coin, committed suicide.

Vincenzo Roccho, an Italian contractor, was shot and killed in New York by Marco Trebbi.

Bishop Thomas Underwood Dudley, of Louisville, died of heart disease.

A fine specimen of Ichthyosaurus was found in South America.

Three men are dead, three will probably die and seven others were seriously injured as the result of the explosion at the Cambria Steel Company's plant at Johnstown, Pa.

Former Judge Alfred Hugg, the Nestor of Camden county bar, was accidentally asphyxiated in his bedroom in Camden, N. J., by the fumes escaping from a gas stove.

Ex-Alderman James O. McCool and ex-City Clerk Isaac F. Lencoreaux, accused in Grand Rapids, Mich., of accepting bribes, changed their pleas of not guilty to guilty.

The cyanide mill of the United States Reduction and Refining Company, north of Florence, Col., the largest in the world, was destroyed by fire. Loss \$100,000.

The stock warehouses of the Shelby Tube Steel Company at Shelby, O., were destroyed by fire.

Foreign.

The third anniversary of the death of Queen Victoria was observed in England, the King and the Queen and other members of the royal family attending memorial services. Emperor William attended a memorial service at the English Church in Berlin and unveiled tablets in memory of Queen Victoria and the late Emperor Frederick.

The expulsion from France of an Alsatian priest has revived the animosities growing out of the Franco-Prussian War, and a pro-Alsatian demonstration in Paris resulted in the arrest of 60 persons.

The Sultan of Turkey ordered that general amnesty be granted the Bulgarians and Macedonians who have been imprisoned for participation in the disturbances of last summer.

The chief of the bacteriological laboratory of the Russian Imperial Institute of Experimental Medicine died at Fort Alexander from the plague.

Middle European Economic Society was formally organized in Berlin to wage commercial war on America.

Secretary of State Gromov was wounded in the right hand in a duel near Budapest.

Lieut. Prince Prosper von Arenberg of Germany, who was sentenced to 15 years imprisonment for the murder of a native suspected of being a British spy while engaged in the colonial service in German Southwest Africa, has been granted a new trial, it being doubtful whether he is sane.

The British Chancellor of the Exchequer, in a speech at a banquet, said the Somaliand campaign had proved more costly than anticipated and that he was afraid he would not be able to propose to Parliament a remission of taxation.

Kenna's Somali Infantry had a brush with the Mad Mullah's forces near Eilinaide, killing 50 spearmen.

The Far East.

Japanese railway men have been attacked by Koreans along the Seoul-Fusan Railway, and the Korean authorities have been notified that if the disorders are not stopped Japanese troops will be sent for that purpose.

The answer of Russia to Japan's latest note will, it is said, be dispatched in two days, and the Russian view, as made known in Paris, is that the real issue is the maintenance of white supremacy in Northern Asia.

The United States government quietly made inquiries of the foreign powers with a view to learning whether anything could be done to bring Japan and Russia together, but the principals were not willing.

It is reported that the Dowager Empress of China is determined, if necessary to fight for the freedom of Manchuria from foreign control.

A Russian squadron, including battleship, a cruiser and six torpedo-boat destroyers, sailed from Suez for the Far East.

Financial.

Pig lead was advanced \$2 a ton. Nearly all the professionals are bulls. Coffee, sugar, cotton, wheat and stocks are all moving upward.

European capitalists were induced to buy securities on the more hopeful outlook in the far East.

Amalgamated Copper directors declared the regular quarterly dividend of one-half of 1 per cent.

The Southern Pacific has sold \$3,000,000 of its 4 1/2 per cent. bonds at 98 to two large banking houses.

PANIC IN A SKYSCRAPER

Exciting Fire and Miraculous Escapes in Masonic Temple.

MANY P. RSOVS INJURED IN RUSH.

All Occupants of the Big Building Escaped Without Serious Injury Through the Bravery of the Elevator Men, Who Remained at Their Posts, Operating the Cars While Dense Clouds of Smoke Filled the Building.

Chicago, Ill. (Special).—Fire in the Masonic Temple here caused a panic among the 4,000 occupants of the building and damaged the stock and fixtures of tenants to the extent of \$20,000.

All occupants of the building escaped without serious injury through the bravery of the elevator men, who remained at their posts, operating their cars while dense clouds of smoke filled the building. The fire broke out in the suite of five rooms on the fifth floor occupied by Robert Friedlander & Co., manufacturers of X-ray apparatus.

A lighted match carelessly thrown by an employe into a pile of excelsior lying in a corner of the packing room is believed to have started the fire.

There was a large number of X-ray vacuum tubes stored in the company's rooms and these exploded the moment the heat reached them. Robert Friedlander, senior member of the firm, realized the danger from these tubes and worked until overcome by smoke throwing them out of the window. The fire spread rapidly from the packing room to the other rooms and in a few minutes the entire suite was in flames and the light shaft of the building was filled with flames.

The occupants of the building, with the memory of the Iroquois Theater holocaust, which occurred but one-half square away, fresh in their minds, were alarmed when clouds of smoke filled every floor and rushed to the elevators. Many women fainted in the scramble to get into the elevators, but none were seriously injured. The large building was emptied within half an hour after the fire was discovered. Hundreds of men and women groped their way through the smoke and came down the stairs.

That the damage to property and injury to individuals was not greater was probably due largely to the efficiency of the fire drill of the employes, but more seriously injured. The large building was emptied within half an hour after the fire was discovered. Hundreds of men and women groped their way through the smoke and came down the stairs.

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IROQUOIS RESPONSIBILITY.

Manager Powers Blames the Tragedy on the Theatre Builders.

Chicago (Special).—Harry J. Powers, one of the "resident owners and associate managers" of the Iroquois Theater, took the stand as a witness before the Coroner's Jury.

Mr. Powers said the Iroquois Theater had no fire apparatus cause the house fireman, Sallers, had not ordered it, as was Sallers' duty. He also placed responsibility on the Fuller Construction Company, which, he said, was supposed to be constructing the building according to law.

Manager W. J. Davis, when called to the stand, said that a few days before the theater opened he had talked with Building Commissioner Williams after the latter had inspected the theater, and said that Mr. Williams declared that it was the safest and most complete theater building he had ever seen.

LIVE WASHINGTON AFFAIRS

Significant Action of Dr. Herran Colombian Charge.

Dirty Money May Be Abolished.

To abolish dirty money a hearing will be given by the House Banking Committee this week. No longer able to resist the demand of bankers throughout the country for clean bills, members of the House will make a strong endeavor to secure legislation at this session abolishing the use of dirty money.

A bill has been introduced providing that when a bank has accumulated \$1000 in bills it can forward such bills to the Treasury for redemption. The Government is to pay the charges for shipment both ways.

Some time ago a bill was received from Cuba which was found full of microbes. Instances are numerous where the Treasury has received filthy money to be disinfected and later the office had to be disinfected.

Field Maneuvers Cos. by.

A request for an appropriation of \$1,245,366 for field maneuvers for 1905 and of \$1,252,446 for the same purpose for the fiscal year 1906 was transmitted to the House from the War Department.

A communication from General Chaffee accompanies the request, in which he declares field maneuvers to be of great professional value. It is the general scheme, he says, to hold the maneuvers in two of the four military divisions of the country each year. During the present year they are to be held in the Atlantic and Pacific divisions and in 1905 in the Northern and Southern divisions. It is also proposed to increase the number of troops participating to 40,000, from 10,000, and the time likewise to be lengthened.

To Preb Smoot Charge.

The Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections decided to investigate the charges made against Senator Reed Smoot, of Utah, in connection with the demand for his expulsion from the Senate and authorized Senator Julius C. Burrows (Rep. Mich.), chairman of the committee, to present a resolution in the Senate permitting the committee to send for witnesses and documents.

The committee did not attempt to decide at present how extensive the inquiry should be. Some of the members express the opinion that when the investigation is once entered upon it will be impossible to prevent opening the doors wide and going into all the points thoroughly. They agree it is wise to leave the extent of the work to be done to future developments.

Morgan's New Canal Bill.

Senator Morgan caused surprise by introducing a bill which specifically recognizes the independence of the Republic of Panama, provides for its annexation to the United States and for the construction of the waterway. His colleagues do not think Mr. Morgan would vote for his own bill, and attribute its introduction to a desire on the part of the Senator from Alabama to complicate the situation by giving the people of the new Republic to understand that the United States intends to annex it.

Pure Food Bill Passed.

The House passed the Hepburn pure food bill on a rising vote—201 to 68—its opponents being unable to secure a roll call on the bill.

The bill fixes the standard of foods and drugs as to their purity, strength and character, and defines what shall be considered adulterations or misbranding of food and drugs. It also prohibits interstate commerce, importation and exportation of such misbranded or adulterated articles.

Land for Every Citizen.

Representative Tanager, of Massachusetts, introduced, by request, an amendment to the Constitution providing that the lands of the United States shall be so divided as to give each citizen of the country eight acres, in as nearly a square piece as possible.

In the Departments.

The commission has selected the triangle at the junction of Pennsylvania avenue and Thirteenth streets, Northwest, for the statue of Pulaski, and one of the corners of Lafayette Square for that of Von Steuben.

Chief Justice Fuller and Justice Harlan called on the President to complain of the action of Mayor McCawley in giving the diplomats precedence over them.

The Democratic senators at a conference decided to introduce a resolution asking for the correspondence with Colombia.

The Urgent Deficiency Appropriation Bill, as compared by the House Committee, carries a total of \$1,251,308.

It has been practically determined that there will be no financial legislation at the present session of Congress.

The House Committee on Rivers and Harbors decided that there should be no river and harbor appropriation bill at the present session of Congress, although a few surveys may be authorized.

Senator Foraker presented the credentials of Senator Hanna for the term of six years, beginning March 4, 1905.

LIVES LOST BY FLOOD

Thirty-Seven Killed and Many Hurt in Tornado.

AN ALABAMA TOWN IS WRECKED.

In the Middle of the Night the Storm Sweeps Through Moundville—People Struck to Death in the Ruins of Their Homes—Depot and Hotel Destroyed—Freight Cars Blown From the Tracks.

Tuscaloosa, Ala. (Special).—The most disastrous cyclone that ever swept over this section visited Moundville, Ala., a town of 300 inhabitants, 15 miles south of Tuscaloosa, at 1 o'clock a. m.

Twenty-eight persons were killed and more than 100 injured. Every business house in the town except a small drug store was destroyed.

The cyclone struck the town from the southwest. Its path was a quarter of a mile wide.

Following is a list of the white persons who were killed.

E. P. Seymour, of Nashville, Tenn., who accepted a position as telegraph operator at the railroad station only last evening.

A. H. Warren, of Birmingham, employed by the Alabama Grocery Company.

J. H. Redmond, of Nashville.

Robert Powers, of Tuscaloosa.

Miss Nettie Farley, of Tuscaloosa. The negro dead are:

W. N. Miles, wife and six children.

Albert Holstein, wife and three children.

Isaac Holstein, wife and three children.

Five other negroes yet unidentified.

The following is a partial list of the seriously injured:

Mrs. W. A. Grubbs, of Kentucky, dislocated hip.

R. T. Griffin, sprained back.

Mrs. R. T. Griffin, arm broken.

Lee Griffin, badly bruised.

A. B. Griffin, eyes torn out.

Mr. Farley, blinded.

Mrs. Farley, face cut and ankle broken.

Mrs. F. T. Gailey, badly lacerated.

A. B. Taylor, leg broken.

Mrs. McCaney, breast crushed.

The names of the injured negroes have not yet been obtained.

Surgeons were rushed to Moundville from Greensboro and Tuscaloosa.

By the force of the storm persons were blown hundreds of feet from their beds in the darkness of night. Through terror, a father, mother and three children fled from their home to seek refuge, and in their excitement left a 5-year-old boy in bed. In the morning he was pulled from beneath some timber, and thus far it is impossible to find any other member of the family.

Bedding, carpets and wearing apparel are scattered for ten miles through what was a forest, but is now as clear as if it had been cut by the woodman's ax.

Freight cars were torn to splinters, the trucks under them being hurled hundreds of feet from the track.

The depot, the hotel, warehouses, cotton gins, 30 homes, the stores occupied by R. W. Griffin, A. W. Wiggins & Son, W. J. Domenico, A. D. Griffin and W. P. Phifer, together with their stocks, were destroyed. Where they stood it is impossible to find even the pillars on which the buildings rested.

Bales of cotton stored in warehouses were blown to atoms, the fragments of lint, together with the debris lodging in the trees, making it appear as if the section had been visited by a snowstorm. Heavy iron safes were carried away by the storm and the doors torn from their hinges.

A young clerk employed by W. P. Phifer, hearing the terrific roaring of the approaching cyclone, let himself down into a well in the center of the store. He no sooner had found his place of safety than the store was demolished. Later he was drawn out uninjured.

STEEL TRUST LOSES \$3,000,000.

Entire Product of Shelby Tube Company Destroyed by Fire.

Shelby, Ohio (Special).—The United States Steel Corporation sustained an enormous loss by fire at the plant of the Shelby Steel Tube Company. The fire started in one of the smaller stock rooms from a defective electric wire, and spread to the larger stock rooms completely destroying all of them. The product of the entire plant for the past six months was destroyed within an hour, consisting of 800,000 tons, making in all 25,000,000 feet of finished product and valued at \$3,000,000.

Battered and twisted, the finished product lies in a heap and is almost a total loss. Tube works officials state that a portion can be worked over, but it will require the entire capacity of the plant and will delay the mills on other orders. The stock consisted mostly of locomotive boiler flues and other government work of various kinds. The fire was confined to the stock buildings, which were built at an expense of \$100,000.

The tubing manufactured by the Shelby plant was used extensively by the government for boiler flues in United States war vessels. The demand of the government alone is sufficient to keep a good sized plant running continuously the year round. The United States government has been the best customer of the local plant. The plant was erected in 1890 and has made gigantic strides forward.