

SOVIETS PREPARE FOR JAPANESE WAR

Concentrate Troops in Siberia for Offensive in Spring. Well Armed

BUFFER STATE IS FEARED

By the Associated Press
Harbin, Manchuria, Feb. 23.—Military operations by the Russian Bolsheviks against Japanese forces in Siberia are believed to be forthcoming by Soviet concentrations of troops in the eastern end of the country. There were 50,000 Bolshevik soldiers in China recently, and more are said to be arriving at intervals. Units are declared to be proceeding to points further east, assembling principally in the Primorsky district and along the Manchurian frontier. While badly clothed and fed, these soldiers are reported to be well armed and under severe discipline.

Eighteen thousand troops have arrived at Verkhne Ussinsk from Moscow. At Khabarovsk, on the Amur river, about 40,000 Bolshevik troops are concentrated and these are gradually being moved south to points on the Iman and Ussuri rivers. The official reason given by the Bolsheviks for dispatching troops to Khabarovsk is that there are large supplies of grain there, sufficient to maintain the troops for a year. On the other hand, reports from there indicate that the supplies available are sufficient for about a month.

Troops are distributed along the whole line of railway from China east to the Manchurian frontier. At Manchuria, on the border, Bolshevik organizations have been formed and are reported to be smuggling agents through into Manchuria for the work of propaganda.

The Bolsheviks fear, according to information received here, that the Japanese may create an opposition "buffer

state" in the Primorsky region by spring, in which event they might have use of the Kappel and Semendoff troops, whose experience in guerrilla warfare would be extremely valuable. The appointment of the Japanese General Tachibana to command troops in Siberia is commented upon as significant.

FRENCH WARSHIPS SHELL BOLSHIEVIKI

Shah of Persia Held Captive by Cossacks Who Seize Teheran

By the Associated Press
Constantinople, Feb. 23.—French destroyers cruising along the eastern coast of the Black sea have been engaged with Soviet forces at Gagra, a town fifteen miles northwest of Sukhinkale. Reports received here state the Bolsheviks lost heavily from the fire of the French warships.

Tiflis appears to be still in the hands of the Georgians, who have, however, suffered quite heavy losses. Dispatches received in this city state that the advance of the eleventh Soviet army against Tiflis has been disavowed by the Bolshevik Government in Moscow.

Special Cable Dispatch, Constantinople, Feb. 23.—The capture of Teheran, capital of Persia, following the capture of Tiflis, capital of Georgia, which is the second staggering blow and an unexpected contribution to the London conference, was officially confirmed here yesterday. Approximately 2,500 Cossacks landed on the south shore of the Caspian sea and marched to Kashin, from where they moved to Teheran. They stormed and captured the Persian capital on the night of February 21. At the same time the Reds entered Tiflis. Cossacks are holding the Shah a prisoner.

It is reported the Cossacks secured popular support for their attack on account of the anti-British feeling in Persia against the Anglo-Persian agreement of August 9, 1919.

RIGOROSE MISURE SANITARIE IN ITALIA

Il Governo ha Preso Precauzioni per Prevenire l'Entrata Delle Malattie Infettive

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Roma, 23 febbraio.—Rigorose misure sono state prese dal Governo Italiano per prevenire l'entrata in Italia di malattie infettive, specialmente la febbre tifoidica, secondo quanto ha dichiarato l'on. Corradini, sotto segretario di Stato per l'Interno, al Senato del Regno.

«Gli rispondendo alle interrogazioni presentate dal Senatore Lustig riguardo le misure adottate o contemplate per proteggere il Paese, disse che il Governo era pienamente conscio della sua responsabilità. Reverso la grande attenzione durante la guerra contro le epidemie, con pieno successo, l'on. Corradini concluse dando dettagli sulle istruzioni emanate alle autorità marittime e portuali per la esclusione di persone che soffrono di malattie infettive. Assicura il Senato che il problema igienico ha avuto la più accurata attenzione possibile da parte del Governo.

Il Senatore Lustig protestò contro l'azione delle autorità sanitarie in New York e contro gli articoli che sono apparsi sopra i giornali americani, i quali fecero apparire l'Italia come una nazione barbara e centro di tutte le epidemie.

L'on. Tittoni, presidente del Senato, dichiarò che come delegato alla Lega delle Nazioni rifiutò di contribuire alla difesa dell'Europa Centrale contro il tifo che travagliava la Polonia, perché la contribuzione fu domandata in lire sterline. L'on. Tittoni aggiunse che in detta occasione egli fece presente che il cambio a quel tempo era così dannoso per l'Italia e che siccome la questione

del cambio non era considerata come una questione internazionale, l'Italia rifiutava di fare qualsiasi pagamento in oro all'Estero. Esaltò infine l'eccezionale delle organizzazioni igieniche italiane.

Roma, 22 febbraio.—In tutta la penisola continua l'attività dei fascisti contro i socialisti ed i comunisti. In varie città sono avvenuti altri conflitti e i socialisti hanno avuto la peggiore. A Milano il convegno fascista è riuscito imponente, e senza incidenti. Dopo il convegno la folla ha abbandonato ordinatamente il Teatro Lirico, ma nel pomeriggio i fascisti si sono riuniti sotto gli uffici del giornale socialista "Avanti!" per una dimostrazione ostile. Durante il percorso i fascisti assalirono un carrozzone elettrico guidato da un socialista e ciò provocò uno sciopero protesta da parte dei tramvieri.

A Torre Annunziata, vicino Napoli, ha avuto luogo una grandiosa manifestazione di Fascisti.

LANGDON INCIDENT CLOSED

U. S. Satisfied With Japan's "Sincere" Action, Says Colby
Washington, Feb. 23.—(By A. P.)—The incident of the fatal shooting by a Japanese sentry of Lieutenant W. H. Langdon, an American naval officer, at Vladivostok, last month, was regarded by officials today as definitely closed, except for the matter of reparations, as a result of the action of the Japanese Government in punishing those responsible for the tragedy and its renewed expressions of regret, as conveyed in its reply to the recent American note.

This view was expressed by Secretary Colby, who in commenting on the Japanese reply as transmitted in substance by the American embassy at Tokyo, to the State Department yesterday, declared the action of the Japanese authorities had been "prompt and sincere and undoubtedly would be received with appreciation in this country."

Ex-Service Man Tries to Die
Nelson Wilson, a former service man who was "gassed" overseas, inhaled gas in an attempt to kill himself last night at his home, 2146 Carpenter street, according to the police. Physicians at the Polylinic Hospital believe that Wilson, a Negro, will recover.

AMERICAN KING'S COUNSEL

Robert Newton Crane First From U. S. to Receive Such Honor
London, Feb. 23.—Robert Newton Crane, an international lawyer of long residence in London, and a member of the English bar since 1894, is the first American to become a king's counsel.

Mr. Crane was born in New Jersey in 1848. After journalistic work in New York and St. Louis he went to England as consul at Manchester in 1874, and has resided there permanently since

1894, representing the United States Government on many occasions. It is interesting to recall that Judah Benjamin, secretary of state of the Confederate States of America, who went to England after the Civil War, where he had a brilliant career at the bar, was made a queen's counsel in 1872.

Two Men Taken From Colliery—One in Serious Condition
Mahanoy City, Pa., Feb. 23.—After

being entombed for several hours hundreds of feet beneath the earth's surface in the dark depths of the Boston Run mine, Ted Kennedy and Richard Sherry, cousins, working as contract miners, were reached by a rescue force early today.

By the fall which closed the men in, Kennedy was struck by rock and fell fifty feet down the steep sides of his chamber. He received a fracture of the skull and body injuries. He was removed to the Fountain Springs Hospital in a serious condition. Sherry was uninjured and walked to his home.

SPRACKLIN WITNESS DIES

Pneumonia Victim on Eve of Trial of Preacher for Manslaughter
Sandwich, Ont., Feb. 23.—(By A. P.)—Ernest Desjippe, one of the principal witnesses in the case of Rev. J. O. Trumble, an inn keeper, in a road house last November, died of pneumonia here today.

He was stricken Sunday evening. It is understood the evidence given by him at the inquest will be used at the trial now in progress.



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