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JAPS READY FOR WAR.

Expect Sympathy of the World in Fight Against Russia. Colombian Army Moving—Mad Mullah Routed—Bids For New Battleships. Convicted of Double Murder—Another Victim of Iroquois Fire—Call For Republican Convention.

The Japanese nation is now prepared and grimly reconciled to war. Political and other distinctions have disappeared and the country is patriotically united. The government is receiving many offers of contributions in the event of war, amounting to many millions of yen. The Japanese people would welcome an honorable peace, but are resolved to fight before receding from their position in Oriental affairs. They fear the aggression of Russia and believe



MUTSUHITO, EMPEROR OF JAPAN.

If it is not stopped now it will never be stopped. They are confident that their demands are fair and moderate and that their diplomacy, which has been patient, has gone to a reasonable limit. They expect the world's sympathy in the struggle and have a splendid confidence in their army and navy. In the event of reverses or a national disaster it is thought that England and the United States would intervene to preserve a balance of power in Eastern Asia.

General Level of Values Higher. Though not thoroughly opened yet, except at the Southwest, spring trade is beginning to liven up, and this, coupled with a large volume of clearance sales by retailers, gives an appearance of activity to midwinter operations. The industrial situation shows improvement, particularly in the putting into blast of more coke furnaces.

War talk has lost its power of affecting speculative deal in products this week, but quotations are either equal to or above last week's close for a variety. Cotton is higher on the week after considerable irregularity, alleged heavy liquidation by bull interests being a feature.

Colombians Marching on Panama. The United States naval authorities at Colon are convinced from the tenor of the reports which are continually brought in that Colombia is determined to send an army to attack Panama. The Colombian troops at Titumal number at least 4,000 men, well armed and supplied with ammunition and provisions.

News has been received that the Colombian officers have requested the Indians to provide 300 boats to be used by the army at Titumal in crossing rivers. Colonel Villamil, who is now stationed at Rio Mandinga, at the mouth of the San Blas bay in command of 100 Panamanian soldiers, says his scouts make reports confirming the belief that the mountain trails between Colombia and Panama are very difficult.

Mad Mullah Routed. The London war office gave out a dispatch from General Egerton, commanding the Somaliland expeditionary force, in which he said that he advanced 12 miles to Jiddball with a force of 2,200 regulars and 1,000 native troops. Attacked Jiddball, which was held by 5,000 Dervishes, thought to be the main force of the Mad Mullah. Enemy broke and fled and was pursued 10 miles losing 1,000 killed and 400 rifles and many prisoners. British lost two officers killed and nine officers and five men wounded of the regulars, and of the irregulars nine killed and 18 wounded.

Bids For New Battleships. Bids for the new 13,000-ton battleships Idaho and Mississippi were opened at the navy department on Friday last. The bidders were as follows: Cramp & Sons, Philadelphia, one vessel \$2,200,000; or two vessels at \$2,999,500 each; Newport News Shipbuilding company, one vessel at \$3,147,000; Maryland Steel company of Baltimore, one vessel at \$3,472,000; Fore River Shipbuilding company, Quincy, Mass., one vessel \$3,468,000; New York Shipbuilding company, Cam-

den, N. J., one vessel at \$3,500,000. It was practically decided to award the contracts for both ships to the Cramps.

Convicted of Double Murder. Charles Bonier, who is 75 years old, was Saturday convicted of murder in the first degree at Buffalo. The jury went out at 6 o'clock and agreed after six ballots, returning at 8 o'clock. Bonier is charged with killing Mr. and Mrs. Franz Frehr, in their house in Jefferson street, Nov. 20. He beat them to death with a hammer and buried their bodies under a shed back of the house. Then he forged a deed to the property and moved in. When the bodies were found Bonier fled to Erie, Pa., where he was arrested. The evidence was entirely circumstantial. Bonier's victims were five years older than he is. He is a muscular old fellow, with a long gray beard. He heard the verdict without any sign of feeling.

Cleveland's Three-Cent Fare. At a meeting last Thursday of the directors of the Cleveland Electric Railway company the proposition to accept the McKenna ordinance, establishing a 3 cent fare within certain zones of the city, was not ratified. The company is willing, however, to begin a 99 days test of the new plan and to make monthly statements of its practice to the public, and if it is satisfactory to the company and public the former is willing to negotiate with the city for a 20 years' extension of franchise.

Another Victim of Theater Fire. Rev. Charles L. Roberts, pastor of the Hamlin avenue Methodist church died of injuries received in the Iroquois theater fire. His death brings the total to 572. As a result of orders issued by Building Inspector George Williams, only eight of the 29 churches closed for violations of the building law remained with closed doors Sunday. The others opened with either no limit to their attendance or with capacity limited by Commissioner Williams to a degree considered safe.

St. Louis Convention City. St. Louis was selected as the convention city for the next Democratic national convention. There were two roll calls to select the city. On the first ballot St. Louis received 23 votes, Chicago 20 and New York 6. On the second ballot St. Louis received 28 and Chicago 21. The date was fixed on July 6, on motion of Colonel J. M. Guffey of Pittsburg.

Senator Hanna Not a Candidate. Senator Marcus A. Hanna said in Pittsburg: "I have sent out 2,000 personal letters denying that I am a candidate for the presidency and I do not want to be considered as such. I consider all such talk a 'closed incident.' The alleged opposition to the nomination of President Roosevelt has been overestimated and magnified greatly by Democratic papers and others with Democratic proclivities."

Blair Had \$1,000,000 Insuranc. James L. Blair of St. Louis, who died in Florida on Saturday, left life insurance policies amounting to nearly \$1,000,000. Most of them, it is stated, have been assigned to his creditors and those who aided him in his financial troubles, but it is believed that a sufficient sum has been reserved for his family to insure comfort.

Coasting Party Struck by Trolley. A bob sled laden with 15 young persons was hit by a trolley car at the intersection of Washington and Court streets in Newark, N. J. Tuesday evening, and eight on the sled were seriously hurt. All the others were less severely hurt and taken to their homes. The car was on the Kinney street line.

Prohibition Convention. At a meeting in Chicago of the national executive committee of the Prohibition party it was decided that the guarantee of ability to take care of the National Prohibition convention by Kansas City was not satisfactory. The convention will therefore be held in Indianapolis June 29.

To Acquire Francaux's Tavern. Condemnation proceedings to acquire for the city of New York the historic Francaux's Tavern on Broad street, the scene of Washington's farewell address to his officers of the Continental army in the revolution, was authorized by the board of estimate and apportionment.

Call For Republican Convention. Senator Marcus A. Hanna chairman of the Republican national committee, has issued the call for the Republican national convention to meet in Chicago at noon June 21, 1904, to select candidates for president and vice president.

Bakers' Ten-Hour Law. The court of appeals of New York state by a divided court decided that the state law prohibiting the employment of bakers more than 10 hours a day or 60 hours a week is constitutional.

Livery Drivers' Strike Ended. The livery drivers' strike in Chicago was settled Friday afternoon, the employees securing a "closed shop" agreement and arbitration of the issue as to an advance in wages.

M. Santos-Dumont arrived on the Savoy to make arrangements to win the one hundred thousand dollar prize offered by the St. Louis exposition for the best air-ship in flight.

SENATE GETS PAPERS.

President Transmits Correspondence With General Reyes. Claims Injury to His Country by Course of the United States and Proposes Reference of Dispute to The Hague Tribunal—Secretary Hay Declines Reference.

Washington, Jan. 19.—President Roosevelt transmitted to the senate additional correspondence touching the relations of the United States with Colombia and Panama covering the period from Dec. 23, 1903, to Jan. 5 last. A statement of grievances on the part of Colombia was presented to the state department by General Reyes. Dec. 13. General Reyes says that the course of the United States has worked deep injury to Colombia and he cited the treaty of 1846 as showing that the independence and sovereignty of Colombia was to be maintained intact between the two governments.

General Reyes said with reference to the Hay-Herran treaty that the same course was followed in Bogota as was pursued in Washington, that Colombia exercised a veto right in rejecting the treaty, and that its rejection did not prevent the consideration of another treaty. He says he believes Colombia would have passed the treaty with amendments acceptable to the United States but for the declaration of the American minister that no amendments would be accepted.

General Reyes concludes: "No one will wonder that under the pressure of threats, so serious and irritating, and in the presence of a formal notification from the party which had the authority to serve it that no amendment would be accepted." "As to the recognition of Panama General Reyes says the attitude of the United States constitutes, according to the most ancient and modern authority on international law, not only a great offense but also a formal act against Colombia's wealth. He says Colombia has sufficient force to suppress the revolution.

General Reyes continues: "Before the coup d'etat which proclaimed the independence of the isthmus took place at Panama, there were in this very city agents of the authors of that coup, in conference with high personages clothed with official character, as is asserted by reputable American newspapers.

"I have received information to the effect that a bank in New York opened a considerable credit in their favor with a knowledge of the general use for which it was intended, even though unaware that it was to be applied, in part, to the bribery of the large part of the garrison at Panama."

Before the news was divulged that a revolution was about to break out on the isthmus, General Reyes says that American cruisers, which reached their destination precisely on the eve of the movement, were plotting the waters of the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. A United States military officer, he says, stopped the railway from carrying to Panama a battalion of troops from Bogota, which had just arrived at Colon "at the very time when its arrival at that city would have impeded or suppressed any revolutionary attempt."

General Reyes said that in leading the Colombian army to restore order on the isthmus he (Reyes) had the honor to address a note to Rear Admiral Coghlan, to which he received a reply without delay as follows: "His (Coghlan's) present orders are to prevent the landing of soldiers with hostile intent within the boundary of the state of Panama."

At this time the Colombian army consisted of 10,000 men, which General Reyes declared to be more than sufficient to suppress the Panama revolution had not the United States prevented the landing of troops. In this connection he calls attention to the fact that there is no way to reach Panama overland.

The Panama revolutionists, continues General Reyes, were counseled by speculators of several countries who had assumed the direction of affairs and he asserts that thousands of the inhabitants of Panama condemned the separatist movement.

General Reyes says that Panama has become independent because the government of the United States desired it; because with the incomparably superior force the United States prevents the landing of Colombian troops; because even before the separatist movement was known in Bogota, the United States had its war vessels at the entrance of Colombian ports, preventing the departure of Colombian battalions; "because without regard to the precedent established by statesmen who have dealt with this matter, the United States has not respected our rights in that strip of land which Colombia considers as a divine bequest for the innocent use of the American family of states, and finally because the government of the United States involving and putting into practice the right of might has taken from us by bloodless conquest, but by conquest nevertheless, the most important part of the national territory."

"In this crisis of the life of my country," he says, "as unlooked for as it is terrible, Colombia rests its most comforting hopes in the sentiments of justice which animates the government of your excellency and confidently trusts that that government, which has so many times surprised the world by its wisdom, will on this occasion astonish it by its example."

Gen. Reyes cites the 35th article of the treaty of 1846, providing that when either country feels itself offended it shall lay before the other a statement of such injury or damages, and concludes by proposing that the Colombian controversy be laid before The Hague.

Secretary Hay answered this note Jan. 5. He says the government has carefully considered the grave complaints made and assures General Reyes our most friendly sentiments for Colombia. The questions submitted, he says, can be considered only in the light of accomplished facts, of which one is that the republic of Panama has become a member of the family of nations.

SUMMARY OF THE NEWS

Short Items From Various Parts of the World.

Record of Many Happenings Condensed and Put in Small Space and Arranged With Special Regard For the Convenience of the Reader Who Has Little Time to Spare.

Gen. Reyes prepared to sail for Bogota, after having announced that his mission was a failure. Russia assures the powers she will respect all rights in Manchuria set forth in the treaty with China. An engagement with the British advance in Somaliland the forces of the mullah suffered a loss of 1,000 men. State Engineer Bond will resign his present position to accept an appointment by the governor on the barge canal commission. Ex-Congressman Edmund H. Driggs was sentenced in Brooklyn to one day in Raymond street jail and to a fine of \$10,000. Twenty persons, of whom three will probably die were hurt in the wreck of a fast train on the Erie railroad at Hancock, N. Y.

Thursday. A hobnobbed, laden with 15 young persons, was hit by a trolley car at Newark, N. J., and all were injured, eight seriously. The national Democratic committee decided upon St. Louis as the place for holding the national convention, beginning July 6. Hon. Charles Denby of Evansville, Ind., for 12 years United States minister to China, died suddenly at Jamestown, N. Y., aged 70 years. A correspondent at Port Arthur says it is regarded as probable that the Japanese will seize Mukpho as a feint to make Russia fire the first shot. The United States Steel corporation has extended its profit-sharing plan and invites subscriptions to the preferred stock from employees at \$5 per share instead of the original price of \$82.50.

Friday. The estate of the late Mary E. Schenley in Pittsburg and Allegheny, according to her will, is valued at \$48,000,000. Judge Wells at Welland, Ont., has decided to hold James Abel for extradition, but he will not be surrendered for 15 days. C. G. Chaffee of Great Bend, Pa., aged 79 years, while returning home in a driving snowstorm, drove in front of a train near Binghamton and was instantly killed. Alois Eckstein was acquitted of complicity in the murder of Mabel Bechtel at Allentown, Pa. The prosecuting attorney was rebuked by the judge, who adjourned the case until next day. Ten employees of the Brown Shoe company building in St. Louis were crowded into an open elevator shaft and fell six stories. Six were killed instantly and two died afterwards.

Saturday. Fifteen churches have been closed in Chicago for violations of the building ordinances. The belief is widespread in Panama that a hostile force of Colombians is marching on the isthmus. A dispatch from Seoul says the principal Korean newspaper is inciting the people to attack foreigners. China's treaty with the United States now goes into force, ratifications having been exchanged, and a statement given out by Mr. Hay implies that it will insure China's control over Manchuria. By the explosion of the boiler of a locomotive on the Onondaga Lake Shore road at Syracuse Engineer George Mitchell and Brakeman R. N. Wetherlow were killed and Fireman F. M. Henry was fatally injured.

Monday. Senator Hanna issues call for Republican national convention at Chicago on June 21. Charles Bonier, aged 75, was found guilty at Buffalo of the double murder of Franz Frehr and his wife on Nov. 19. An additional squad of United States marines has arrived to protect American citizens, says a dispatch from Seoul, Korea. The Kentucky house committee on suffrage reported the Haffin bill. This measure disfranchises the negroes on ground of illiteracy. It is said John B. Stanchfield of Elmira received a fee of \$30,000 for defending Richard A. Canfield in the recent gambling cases. Mrs. Catherine Bechtel was placed on trial for murder of her daughter at Allentown, Pa., and broke down when a witness told of tragedy.

Tuesday. More than \$62,000,000 will be added to the annual pension rolls if the Dooliver service measure becomes a law. The independent gas companies in Venango and Clarion counties have been absorbed by a new corporation recently organized by Pittsburg capitalists. Reports were persistently circulated in Washington that neither New York nor Pennsylvania would instruct her delegates to the Republican national convention. There is a good deal of irritation in St. Petersburg over the failure of Russian diplomacy. It is recognized that the conclusion of the Chinese-American treaty has materially affected Russia's prestige.

Wednesday. Peoria, Ills., Jan. 19.—A out of cars on the Iowa Central broke away from a switch engine and rushing down hill at a fearful rate of speed collided with a work train at the bottom, just outside the city limits, and instantly killed Allan E. Hrov, car repairer; Peter Johnson, car repairer, and Albert O. Schwartz, car repairer, all of this city. Two section men are badly hurt.

REWARDED FOR BRAVERY.

Young Philadelphia Butcher's Claim to Bequest Reveals Strange Tale.

Philadelphia, Jan. 16.—A claimant for a legacy of \$25,000 bequeathed by an elderly woman of Red Oak, Ia., to Ernest A. Roebor of this city, who once saved her life, has just been unearthed. A young man of that name, it was found, served a butcher's route about Fernwood and Lansdowne in Delaware county. The young butcher was finally located at the residence of Howard Thomas in Marple township, about five miles from Clifton Heights. "Are you Ernest A. Roebor?" was asked. "Yes."

"Do you know any one named 'Dobbs?'" "Certainly I do. Why, I saved the life of an old woman of that name in Pittsburg over 10 years ago. She afterward went to Red Oak, Ia. where her daughter now lives." Roebor was told of the legacy that was reported to have been bequeathed to some one of his name, who could prove to Thomas C. Dobbs, the nephew of the donor, and a Pittsburg glass manufacturer, that he was the worthy son.

Young Roebor was surprised, but said the aged woman told him she would never forget him for his bravery. "I remember the accident well," said Roebor. "A runaway took place near Pittsburg in the summer of 1893. I was working for Dunley, a butcher. The old woman was Mrs. Martha Dobbs. I was working with her at that time. I was worth more than \$2,000,000. I was driving cattle up Nuns Hill, nearly Sewickley. Mrs. Dobbs was in a carriage with her daughter, Mrs. Louis E. Martineau, and her baby grandchild. "The animals ran away. Mrs. Martineau and the baby were thrown out and both died of their injuries. I ran into the middle of the road and stopped the horses. "The old woman was profuse in her thanks. 'I will never forget you,' she said, and took my name and address. I at one time afterward visited Red Oak, Ia., and saw her there."

MURDER AND SUICIDE. While Crazed by Illness Edward K. Landis Killed His Wife and Himself. Philadelphia, Jan. 16.—Rendered insane by illness, Edward K. Landis, a widely known expert chemist, shot and killed his wife, Emma, and then ended his own life with the same weapon. The tragedy was enacted in the Landis residence in West Philadelphia. Mr. Landis had been a sufferer from asthma for many years. Two months ago he was compelled to give up his laboratory work and had been confined to his bed for the past two weeks. Mrs. Landis with her sister, Mrs. H. W. Potts, and Mrs. Patton, a dressmaker, were in the room adjoining the apartment occupied by Mr. Landis. The sick man called to his wife, complaining that the ringing of the door bell annoyed him. When she entered his room, Landis raised himself in bed, and fired upon her, the bullet taking effect in her breast. She screamed and fled to the adjoining room, her husband following. Mrs. Potts and Mrs. Patton attempted to disarm the frenzied man, but he brushed them aside. Grasping Mrs. Landis by the hair he pulled her forcibly backward and shot her through the temple. The woman died instantly. Landis hastened back to his own room, where he shot himself in the head, ending his own life. He was 52 years of age and his wife was about 45. He was graduated from the University of Pennsylvania 30 years ago, after which he traveled extensively and studied in many of the European universities. Fifteen years ago he opened a laboratory here.

Didn't Know It Was Loaded. Connelleville, Pa., Jan. 18.—Mary Mehallick, 14 years of age, of Summit Mines, two miles from here, was shot and instantly killed Saturday evening by John Hudock. The young girl in company with Joe Mehallick and his bride were returning from Connelleville, where she acted as bridesmaid at the wedding. The men of the party began to celebrate by firing revolvers. Hudock after firing his weapon remarked that it was empty and put the hand over the muzzle and pulled the trigger. The ball passed through his hand and penetrated Mary Mehallick's forehead. Hudock protested that the shooting was accidental.

Independent Gas Companies Absorbed. Oil City, Pa., Jan. 18.—The Independent gas companies in Venango and Clarion counties have been absorbed by a new corporation recently organized by Pittsburg capitalists called the Pennsylvania Fuel Supply company with a capital of \$1,000,000. C. F. Crawford of Pittsburg is president of the company.

Stole Coal to Save His Family. Harrisburg, Pa., Jan. 16.—Lent Geisey of Middletown pleaded guilty before Judge Kunkel to stealing coal from the Pennsylvania railroad. The court suspended sentence when he learned that the man had a sick wife and two small children and had been out of work when the theft was committed.

Mr. Corey Sails For Europe. New York, Jan. 16.—W. E. Corey, president of the United States Steel corporation, sailed for Europe on the steamship LaSavoie for a few months' recreation. Pennsylvania Republican Convention. Harrisburg, Pa., Jan. 16.—The Republican state convention will be held here April 6.