

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Activity in War Circles, Yet Officials Very Reticent.

SECRETARY BLAINE AND MINISTER MONTT CONFER.

Although Secretary Tracy Held Conferences With the Various Chairmen and Members of Committees Having Charge of the Snafus of War, Nothing Can be Learned as to the Situation in Regard to the Chile Trouble.

Special to the RECORD-UNION.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—Secretary Tracy's office presented a busy scene this morning. Within an hour he saw Senator Allison, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Appropriations; Senator Cameron, Chairman of the Committee on Naval Affairs; Senator Butler, member of the same committee; Senators Frye and Hale, Chief Constructor Wilson, Chief Engineer Melville, Captain Phillips, who is to command the cruiser New York; Lieutenant Mason, executive officer of the same vessel; Commodore Elmer, Chief of Ordnance; Commander Chadwick, and lastly, Charles Cramp, the ship-builder.

Notwithstanding this sign of official activity and the reports printed of unusual work at the navy yard, officials of the Navy Department deny that there is the least speck of a war cloud in the diplomatic horizon.

Assistant Secretary Soley says he has already expressed his views as to the navy yard work. When asked where the San Francisco is bound, he declined to give a definite answer, but when he was reminded that the last time she went out for "gun practice" he was in the department, he said the vessel had no orders for Chile.

A naval officer who should know, when asked if the cruiser San Francisco was bound for Acapulco, replied that she would not go to Acapulco, Mexico. He also stated that the Baltimore is now probably north of Panama on her way to San Francisco.

Commodore Felger, Chief of the Ordnance Bureau, added to the general denial by saying there is no unusual activity at the navy yard.

Cramp also says that his force was not working faster or longer than usual. He said he had received no instructions from the department to hurry work on the naval vessels. The sign of war in the yards, Commodore Wilson, Chief of Constructors, had gone over to Philadelphia to inspect the progress of naval work, and on Saturday he returned to the man of the 3,000 employes at work. Moreover, Cramp did not believe his force was at work to-day, as they are keeping the holiday season with Secretary Blaine for half an hour.

It was impossible to get more than a hint of what passed between the Secretary and the minister, but it is probably sufficient to warrant the supposition that matters are now proceeding in a manner satisfactory to the government. The sign of war, as desired. Notwithstanding the fact that Secretary Blaine is now dealing almost entirely directly with the Chilean Minister, instead of through the State Department, though the intervention of Minister Egan, it does not appear that the result has been a saving of time, and there is reason to believe that the sign of war is chafing at the delay he encounters in securing a final response to the representations made by the government concerning the attack upon an expeditionary force.

During the afternoon Representatives Lodge and Boutwell called at the Navy Department, and the latter, in the presence of the House Committee on Naval Affairs, the Chairman of which, Representative Herbert, is absent from the city. Unless the House of Representatives recurs to the old Randall rules, the Naval Committee will retain in its charge all matters relating to appropriations during the day, but will create the concurrent action of the committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Naval Affairs is usually necessary to secure provision for any naval expenditures.

Secretary Tracy has been in communication with members of each of those committees during the day, but with what purpose is not definitely known.

An officer of the department, speaking of the consultations, said: "It means just this; that we are abiding by George Washington's maxim, 'In time of peace prepare for war.' We do not believe there will be war, but if the Administration failed to exercise all of its power in the matter of preparations it would be open to severe criticism if hostilities actually ensue."

News reached the Navy Department this afternoon that the cruiser San Francisco had arrived at San Diego, California, and was at anchor in the harbor. It was rumored that she would await the Chilean minister at that place, and transfer to the latter vessel certain munitions of war which she carried from San Francisco.

WAR ALL NONSENSE.

The Acting Secretary of War said to-day, when asked for an explanation of the unusual activity in army circles: "It is nonsense to talk of war with Chile. Why do they not talk of war with Italy?"

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 28.—The United States steamer San Francisco, which left San Francisco at 3 o'clock p. m. Saturday, arrived at the office at 2 this morning and entered the port at 8 o'clock. The ship was made direct, with stopping at Monterey, as was expected. The San Francisco is the flag-ship of the Pacific station, and Rear Admiral Brown is on board. He said that he would wait the Chilean minister at that place, and transfer to the latter vessel certain munitions of war which she carried from San Francisco.

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that will want some ammunition," was the only answer.

From other sources it is inferred that the Chilean minister, now on her way from Honolulu to Acapulco, is to meet the San Francisco here and take on extra ammunition. The Baltimore is also coming from Chilean waters and may want the ammunition. While the officers refuse to state future plans, it is easy to learn that the vessel is ready for any emergency.

NEWS FROM OREGON.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—An officer of the State Department said to-night that, as far as he was aware, nothing had been received from Washington in regard to the inauguration of President Montt. The Chilean Minister also yet remains officially unadvised of anything pertaining to the inauguration.

Secretary Tracy said to-night that the United States steamer San Francisco, which arrived at San Diego, Cal., was there for the purpose of engaging in target practice. He said further that no other orders had been issued her commander.

ARBITRATION WOULD BE WELCOMED.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—A Herald's Valparaiso special says I have been told that much foundation for the report called here from Washington that the Chilean government is likely to propose arbitration. The Herald, however, may safely say that a proposition to arbitrate will be welcomed by the Chileans, in order to get the matter out of the hands of Blaine and Tracy.

The rumored reason of Egan's absence from the inauguration ceremonies was the President's illness. His reply to the Procurotor Fiscal has not completed his review of Foster's report on the Baltimore. The cruiser Boston, before leaving here, bought 140 tons of coal for 50s. a ton. She will get enough coal at Callao to fill her bunkers, but will have to pay from 60s. to 70s. a ton.

NO ORDERS TO RUSH WORK.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 28.—Henry T. Scott of the Union Iron Works to-day stated that no instructions have been received from the navy department on the coast defense vessel Monterey. Everything is ready for the armor plates which are being made at Bethlehem, Pa. The armor plates are now completed and sent to the Government proving yard at Annapolis. It will take about two months to get the plates on, but when they get to the yard, the Monterey at Maro Island is also waiting for her armor plate.

THE CHILEAN.

SAN DIEGO, Dec. 28.—Interest in the arrival of the cruiser San Francisco this morning was intensified to-night by a report that the cruiser Charleston had arrived here and anchored off the Hotel del Coronado. The report, however, is the hour and the darkness of the night it was impossible to substantiate the report, as a vessel, if she is there, displayed no lights.

NO AGREEMENT REACHED.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—None of the officials of the Department of War have any knowledge of any agreement made with this Government with that of Italy to pay an indemnity on account of the New Orleans affair, as reported by an English correspondent at Rome. So far as learned, the English report is a fabrication between the two governments, which was interrupted last spring by the recall of the Italian Minister, has never been repeated.

Suit Against General Butler.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—An interlocutory decree was made to-day concerning the demurrer in the suit of E. N. Darling against Benjamin F. Butler of Lowell, Mass. Darling made arrangements with respect to a tract of land in New Mexico of 27,000 acres, and was individually interested in it. General Butler, who had agreed to purchase Darling's interest for \$70,000, and payments were made by him amounting to \$11,057. These payments the Judge ruled were a sufficient part of the performance in equity.

Lynched by a Mob.

NATCHEZ (Miss.), Dec. 28.—From Blackwater, La., the place where T. F. Hart was murdered on Christmas eve, comes the news that an uncle of the murderer was hanged last night by a searching party. Developments go to show that the murderer is a young man named Hart, in which several negroes were implicated, and the citizens determined to rid themselves of the entire gang.

Secretary Foster's Health.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—Secretary Foster spent a short time at his office this afternoon, for the first time since November 17th, when he was taken ill in New York. He looked a trifle paler and thinner than when last on duty, but said he was feeling all right again. He will not take active charge of the business of the department for several days yet.

Bank President Arrested.

ST. PAUL (Minn.), Dec. 28.—A special to the Pioneer Press from Ellendale, N. D., says: There are many rumors in connection with the recent Farmers' and Merchants' State Bank failure. The statement has been received that the charge of receiving deposits when he knew the bank was insolvent. He waived examination and was bound over.

Both Engines Badly Wrecked.

BEATRICE (Neb.), Dec. 28.—A passenger train on the Union Pacific collided with a switch engine in the yards this afternoon, badly wrecking both engines. The engines and firemen of both engines were slightly hurt and the passengers given a lively shaking up, but none were injured.

Assistant U. S. District Attorney.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—The Attorney-General has appointed Matthew T. Allen as United States District Attorney for the Southern District of California. The appointment is merely preliminary to Allen's promotion as United States District Attorney next week, in place of Willoughby Cole, the present incumbent.

A Clothing Dealer Falls.

LEXINGTON (Ky.), Dec. 28.—J. W. Weitz, who has been in the clothing business in this city over forty years, assigned today. He left \$100,000 in a clothing manufacturing establishment in New York, and \$50,000 as surety for a relative in Chicago. The assets exceed the liabilities.

Must Explain.

LEXINGTON (Ky.), Dec. 28.—The officers of the National Exchange Bank of Lexington were summoned to appear before the United States Court at Frankfort to explain an overdraft of \$100,000 made by W. H. Cheppit, a book-maker. The capital stock of the bank is \$100,000. The institution is solvent.

Wife-Murderer Hanged.

NASHVILLE (Tenn.), Dec. 28.—Lem Jones was hanged at Oliver Springs this morning for the murder of his wife and child last year. On the scaffold he said that drink was responsible for the crime. Jones was a deacon in the church, and County Superintendent of Schools.

Actor Scandalized.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Actor William J. Scanlan, shattered in mind and body, lies at the residence of his manager, where it was to-day stated that he was growing weaker rapidly, and was more violent in his ravings. His physicians believe death is only a few hours off.

ENCOUNTERED A STORM.

Oregon Steamers Have a Rough Passage From Astoria.

OVER A HUNDRED HOURS IN MAKING THE PASSAGE.

Snow and Rain in Oregon and Northern California—Shooting Affray at Reno—The Twenty-fifth Annual Session of the State Teachers' Association Convenes at Riverside.

Special to the RECORD-UNION.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 28.—The steamers Oregon and Columbia, from Portland and Astoria, arrived in port this morning, after a long and rough trip down the coast. Both vessels encountered the full force of the storm which has been raging during the past week. Saturday afternoon a huge wave pitched over the Oregon's bow, smashing in the windows of the pilot-house, breaking the skylight over the forward hatch and breaking in the forward companion-way to the lower deck. The Oregon will sail again tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock. The officers are rushing things, in order to discharge the cargo and take on freight. She was 102 hours in making the usual run of 48 hours.

The Columbia came into port about eight hours ahead of the Oregon. When off Cape Mendocino last night, an immense sea dropped on board, and the vessel was pitched overboard. It smashed in the port and starboard iron-plate bulwarks and carried away even the iron railing on the forward side of the forward rail on both sides of the ship.

RAIN AND SNOW.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 28.—Weather conditions and general forecasts: A storm is advancing from the ocean toward Western Washington, and will reach the coast about to-day. It will bring a brisk to high southeast wind, with rain or snow, and will extend to the interior of Northern California. The Sacramento and San Joaquin valleys will also doubtless receive some rain.

The Oregon and Columbia in California, Oregon and Nevada has not delayed railroad travel to any extent. Trains are running regularly over the Central Pacific, and the Union Pacific, and the same may be said of the Northern and Southern routes, the only delay having been at a point where the westward-bound passenger train was delayed by a landslide for six hours.

DUNSMITH, Dec. 28.—A wet, drizzling snow has continued since last evening, and it is still raining very hard. A cyclone plow was taken out to-day, but before it got out of the yard the steam pipe burst and it is being repaired. The snow is too soggy to be blown away. Other plows are kept on the move, so the trains are only a few hours late.

SISSONS, Dec. 28.—The snow is three feet deep and it is still snowing. The wind is south. Trains are running about on time. The railroad company have a large force of men at work on the snow, with snow plows running continually.

PORTLAND (Or.), Dec. 28.—Unusually heavy rains have prevailed in the Willamette Valley since last evening, and it is still raining very hard. A cyclone plow was taken out to-day, but before it got out of the yard the steam pipe burst and it is being repaired. The snow is too soggy to be blown away. Other plows are kept on the move, so the trains are only a few hours late.

COUNCIL OF EDUCATORS.

Annual Session of the State Teachers' Association.

RIVERSIDE, Dec. 28.—The twenty-fifth annual session of the California Teachers' Association convened in this city to-day. Educators in large force are coming in by every train from all parts of the State. The opening exercises took place in the Loring Opera-house this afternoon, a large audience being in attendance. Nearly all the prominent schoolmen of the State are in attendance. The session promises to be of exceptional interest.

President Seaman, after calling the meeting to order, delivered an address, reviewing the public school system of the State, and suggesting remedies for the evils which exist. Professor Jones of the State University read an address on the teaching of history, and Superintendent Anderson spoke of the work of the schools and institutes of the State. The committee on the next place of meeting was chosen, consisting of Superintendent Fosby of Monrovia, Kirk of Fresno, Turner of the State at Alhambra, San Diego, Mrs. Martin of Sonoma County and Pennell of Marysville.

A committee to submit amendments to the constitution of the State, and to attend the meeting of the National Teachers' Association at Chicago, was also chosen. The meeting adjourned until to-morrow at 10 o'clock.

Railroad Extension.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 28.—A surveying party was sent to Phoenix, Ariz., by the Southern Pacific Company about a week ago for the purpose of making a survey for a road from Phoenix to Prescott by the Black Canyon route, connecting Phoenix with the Arizona Central and Bullock road. The route is in charge of Chief Engineer Lides of the Southern Pacific Company. Colonel Crocker to-day said the work of grading and construction would begin immediately. The proposed road will open up the richest mineral belt in that country. It will extend through a lonesome valley and will open up the Verde county and afford an outlet for deposits of rock salt and nitre along the Verde River.

Only Got Eighty Dollars.

STOCKTON, Dec. 28.—Sheriff Cunningham returned this afternoon from New Hope, where he investigated the robbery of an old man named Vincent Glenn. No trace of the robbers was found, but the Sheriff found a lamp which he believes was theirs. Old man Glenn and his brother are very wealthy, owning a large tract of land in Sacramento County. It was recently printed in a paper that Glenn and his brother had large sums of money buried, being afraid of the banks, and this is believed to have prompted the robbery. He says one is tall and the other a short man. They struck him several times, but he was not hurt. All they got was \$80.

Oil and Gas Company Incorporated.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 28.—The California Oil and Gas Company filed articles of incorporation to-day. The capital stock is \$5,000,000, of which \$405,000 has been subscribed. The directors are W. H. Hart, M. J. Donogh, G. H. Umben, W.

H. Snedaker, R. J. Davis, J. P. Kelly and David E. Hayes.

San Bernardino's Grand Jury. SAN BERNARDINO, Dec. 28.—The San Bernardino County Grand Jury filed its final report to-day. The report commends the county officials in the conduct of offices, and finds an honest administration of affairs. It criticizes the Supervisors for levying a direct tax to build a courthouse, and for making unnecessary changes in the manner of keeping the books in the Recorder's office, and in allowing claims before the Supervisors. Fifteen indictments were found against parties charged with crime.

Seeking for Missing Men.

CARSON, Dec. 28.—Jake Kleinsent word to Lake Tahoe this morning, to find his son, dead or alive, and offered \$200 reward. The steamer Meteor left Glenbrook immediately for Hobart, where a relief party was made up and is now searching for the lost men, who left Placerville to walk over the mountains and who are supposed to have lost their way and perished in the violent snow-storm of the last few days.

Southern California Oranges.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 28.—Shipments of oranges from southern California have begun in a desultory way and growers are now about prepared to begin the work of shipping in train-load lots. The crop will be a large one this year, but close estimates have been received. Southern Pacific Company officials say that they will have cars enough on hand to take the crop without any unnecessary delay.

Change in Divisions.

STOCKTON, Dec. 28.—On the 1st of January the Stockton division of the Southern Pacific Railroad will be merged into the divisions of J. H. White at Fresno and A. E. Wilder at Oakland. Superintendent Placerville will be transferred to Lodi, and will have the San Joaquin and Sierra Nevada narrow-gauge Railroad under his charge.

The Drug Puffed Fatal.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 28.—Leah Benjamin MacGregor, who with her husband took morphine at the Hotel Ramona, Sunday morning, with suicidal intent, died at 8 o'clock this evening. It is now believed that MacGregor first took poison and then forced his wife to take the deadly dose. An inquest will be held on both bodies to-morrow.

Shooting at Reno.

RENO, Dec. 28.—A man named Ben Pierce shot Patsy Hampton, an employe of the Nevada and California Railroad, in the U. S. House last night. The wound is said to be a serious one, and it is being treated at the hospital. Pierce is said to have been without provocation. Pierce is in jail.

Death of a Stockton Merchant.

STOCKTON, Dec. 28.—Elias Gumpert, a merchant here for more than twenty years, died this evening after a long illness. He was 70 years of age and had been in Tuolumne County from 1850 to 1859, and had many friends throughout the State.

Charged With Assault on Murderer.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 28.—Joseph Urban was to-night arrested on a warrant issued by a Fresno Justice of the Peace on charge of assault on a murderer in Tuolumne County from 1850 to 1859, and had many friends throughout the State.

Fire at Reno.

RENO, Dec. 28.—A fire last night destroyed the dwelling-house and contents of a family living on Second street. Loss, \$1,000. Insurance, \$1,000. The origin of the fire is not known.

A Pioneer Passes Away.

GROVEY, Dec. 28.—Julius Martin, a pioneer of 1843, died here Saturday of apoplexy, aged 87.

THE HASTINGS WRECK.

Brakeman Herrick Makes a Statement of His Actions. POUGHKEEPSIE (N. Y.), Dec. 28.—Timothy Herrick, father of Albert Herrick, the fugitive New York Central brakeman, says his son left New York Saturday and had a long talk with him. He says he urged his son to go to the railroad officials and tell his story, but he would not do so because of the excited state of public feeling. Then the father got him to make a written statement, which was sent to Superintendent McCoy to-day. In it they stated that when his train slowed up, but while yet moving, he dropped off and placed two torpedoes on the track. He got back to the train, which was still moving, and as it slowed up more, took his lights and started down the track to stop the Croton locomotive. When he got there he placed the torpedoes on the track, and was showing south, and went in to ask how the local was. The agent did not know, and Herrick sat down and remained the express. He struck up his light and tried to attract the engineer's attention, but it was too late. He followed on up the track, and soon met a man who had a reception ready for him. He deemed it prudent to go to the wreck, so he turned about and came to New York. He adds that he fully realizes the awful position in which he is placed, and can only say he felt sure the train to come first was the local.

A LOOKING-GLASS FIGHTER.

Jack McAlliffle Classed as Such by Billy Meyer's Backer. CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—Alf Kennedy, the backer and manager of Billy Meyer, was in Chicago to-night with Meyer and had something to say regarding the challenge issued by Jack McAlliffle. "Two days ago McAlliffle challenged Meyer, it has been stated," says Kennedy, "for a side stake of \$7,500, to which the New Orleans Olympic Club added a purse of \$10,000. The time set for the fight is this short. Beside McAlliffle's purse we the forfeits due \$1,000 before we engage in any further business with him." A reception was ready for him. He deemed it prudent to go to the wreck, so he turned about and came to New York. He adds that he fully realizes the awful position in which he is placed, and can only say he felt sure the train to come first was the local.

Fire in a Theater.

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 28.—A Sentinel special from Liberty, Ind., says: During a performance in the Opera-house this evening the building caught fire, and a panic followed. The crowd rushed for the windows, and before prevented several persons from being injured.

Walt Whitman Improving.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 28.—Walt Whitman is improving to-day. The doctors say he is stronger than for several days.

AFTER THE CZAR'S LIFE.

League Formed in Russian Poland to Assassinate Alexander.

LARGE NUMBER OF CONSPIRATORS PLACED UNDER ARREST.

The New Canadian Ministry Hissed as They Pass Through the Streets of Montreal—A Distinguished English Diplomat Dies From Influenza—The British Forces in India Make a Successful Movement Against the Hunza and Nagier Tribes.

Special to the RECORD-UNION.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 28.—The police have made a large number of arrests in Russian Poland as the result of the discovery of a secret league, the object of which was to assassinate the Czar. It is thought many persons connected with the conspiracy have taken flight with the knowledge of their plans by the police and will seek safety by fleeing from the country, so the authorities have ordered the frontier to be closely watched, and it is believed further arrests will shortly be made.

At Milan, the Capital of Courland, Baron Hann, a well-known landowner, was sentenced to three months' imprisonment for tearing down the imperial coat of arms which stood over the doors of the court at that place.

VICTIM OF INFLUENZA.

Berlin, Dec. 28.—Sir William Arthur White, British Ambassador to Turkey, died from influenza here to-day. Sir William was the son of Arthur White of the Consular and Colonial Service. He was born in 1824 and after a course at college entered the diplomatic service in 1857 at Warsaw. He was made Consul at Dantzic in 1864, and represented French interests at Dantzic during the last war between France and Germany. In 1875 he went to Serbia as Consul-General and was summoned to Constantinople in 1877. He was transferred to Bucharest and promoted to be Envoy Extraordinary to Roumania in 1880. He was in the same capacity at Constantinople and conducted the conference in the Servo-Bulgarian difficulty. He was sent afterward to Bucharest, and then to Sofia, where the Bulgarian question returned to Constantinople as Ambassador. He was created K. C. M. G., March 16, 1885.

CANADA'S NEW CABINET.

The Ministers Hissed as They Passed Through the Streets. NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—A Montreal special says that the feeling of the English people in Montreal over the dismissal of the Mercier Government was shown Saturday night in the reception of the new Ministers. All of the members of the Tory cabinet, who were recently called to office arrived from Quebec. The Tory papers had been appealing to their friends for several days back to give the Ministers a big reception, and brass bands were engaged, but the reception turned out a dead failure. The Ministers were hissed as they passed through the streets and had great difficulty in getting a hearing. After the meeting, a mob of most of those present repaired to the residence of Mercer and tendered him an ovation. The joke was that Mercer is going to obtain the office of Connaught is another triumph. The Minister has been charged with his Ministry has embezzled millions of dollars from the treasury.

MISHAP TO A PRINCE.

Accidentally Shot by the Duke of Connaught. LONDON, Dec. 28.—The injuries from which Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein-Sonderburg is suffering were the result of an accident. The Queen and members of the royal family were spending the Christmas holidays at Osborne House, Isle of Wight. The day before Christmas a party was hunting, and the birds rose between the Duke of Connaught and Prince Christian. The former fired, but unfortunately did not aim high enough and three shots were discharged. One of the shots struck Prince Christian's face, one destroying one eye. One pellet entered at the top of the Prince's eye, and descended at the back of the eye, causing acute pain until the eye was removed. The shooting was purely accidental, and it is uncertain from whose gun the pellets came, although the Duke of Connaught is believed to have fired them. The wounds in the Prince's face from the other pellets which had struck were almost spent, and had glanced from the forehead of Prince Christian. The Prince is cheerful, and able to walk about the room.

SCENE IN THE DEPUTIES.

Dispute Over the Bulgaria Matter Continued. PARIS, Dec. 28.—Ribot, Minister of Foreign Affairs, to-day made to the Chamber of Deputies a statement of the relations between France and Bulgaria. The Minister gave no new details, but said the matter was now in the hands of the Porte, who had demanded of Bulgaria an explanation. Millevoje expressed regret that diplomatic action was transferred from Sofia to Constantinople. Maillefeu held that the affair was much exaggerated. Bulgaria aimed at freedom, and her Ministry committed neither atrocious nor acts of violence. Millevoje protested that Maillefeu spoke contrary to what was known to be the truth. Maillefeu shouted: "You are not in your right senses." A tumult ensued. The President had to repeatedly call for order before the uproar subsided. After the sitting Millevoje sent seconds to Maillefeu. The trouble between Millevoje and Maillefeu was afterward smoothed over.

ADULTERATED WITH CHALK DUST.

Flour Dealers in Russia Likely to Get Into Serious Trouble. ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 28.—The scandal arising from the discovery of adulterated flour here is apt to make trouble for a number of people. A consignment composed of 300,000 pounds (780,000 English pounds) of barley flour was purchased from dealers in Liban with a view to regulating the price of wheat in the St. Petersburg market, as well as afford relief to the famine sufferers. Investigation proved that the entire consignment was adulterated with chalk dust and other substances. They comprised such a large proportion of the consignment that the use of the alleged flour would constitute a health hazard. The health of those who partook of it. In speaking of the gigantic fraud, the *Novos Vremya* remarks that if

such frauds can be perpetrated in the Capital of the empire, the appalling accounts of similar crimes in the famine-stricken provinces cannot be exaggerated.

PETERS PENCE.

A Commission of Cardinals Will Hereafter Administer the Funds. ROME, Dec. 28.—The deposition of Mgr. Fochi from the position of Prelate and Vice-Camerlingue of the Apostolic Chamber is considered an evident sign of the inexactitude of the past administration. This degradation is the result of a report of the commission of Cardinals appointed to inquire into the financial position of the Holy See. The administration of Peter's Pence and of the Vatican's finances will henceforth be intrusted to a commission of seven Cardinals. The deficit brought about through the mismanagement of Fochi amounts to between 18,000,000 and 25,000,000 lire.

The British in India.

CALCUTTA, Dec. 28.—A dispatch from Gilgit, on the Cashmere frontier, states that the British forces have made a forward movement against the Hunza and Nagar tribesmen