



CALLED TO WHITE HOUSE. LEADERS ARE SUMMONED.

Conference To-morrow on Tariff, Special Session and Economy.

(FROM THE TRIBUNE BUREAU.) Washington, Jan. 5.—The President has invited the leaders of the Senate and House to a conference at the White House to be held on Saturday afternoon to consider the best time to call Congress in extraordinary session for the purpose of readjusting such tariff schedules as it may be deemed necessary to change.

With the possibility of a special session of Congress to be called about June 1 confronting them, the leaders in Congress are disposed to reconsider their former objections to a special session to follow immediately after March 4, and sentiment in favor of a spring session is rapidly developing.

The announcement that the President was seriously considering the advisability of calling Congress in extraordinary session about June 1, which was made exclusively by this bureau in its dispatches printed in the Tribune on Wednesday morning, created consternation at the Capitol, and was followed last night by a series of conferences among Senators and Representatives.

The result of these preliminary conferences was a general accord of opinion that a spring session would be preferable to one called in June or July, although a number of Senators and Representatives still believe that an extraordinary session in November would be better than one called at an earlier date.

Senate leaders when called on by members of the lower house for information admitted their inability to guarantee that a tariff bill sent over to the Senate at the regular session would be disposed of by any particular date. Some members of the House assert their belief that postponement of tariff readjustment until the regular session would entail protracted debate in the Senate, with the result that many Representatives would be renominated before the bill became a law and might then suffer in their campaigns from the positions they might be compelled to take with regard to certain tariff schedules.

In brief, there are many members of the House who, now that they are convinced that changes in some of the tariff schedules are inevitable, see the force of the President's original argument that so delicate a subject had best be disposed of at the earliest possible moment, and as far in advance of the Congress elections to occur in November, 1906, as is practicable. Those members of the House whose majorities are not nominally overwhelming and who appreciate the trouble mischievous Democrats may make are, therefore, urging the Speaker to exert his influence in favor of a spring session.

Opposed to the spring session are a number of influential Senators, some of whom regard any change in the tariff schedules as unnecessary, perhaps dangerous. Others pronounce a special session entirely superfluous. If tariff changes are contemplated, and still others believe that a session called for October or November would accomplish all that is desired. On the other hand are men who believe many schedules are so antiquated that they are unjust, and the sooner they are rectified the better for the country.

One of the reasons why a special session called at an early day to dispose of the necessary tariff changes appeals strongly to the President is that it would leave Congress at its regular session free to consider those recommendations in his message relating to federal control of railway rates, the suggested policy of licensing corporations engaging in interstate commerce and similar measures designed to effect the so-called anti-trust policy of the President. Right here it should be emphasized that the President is not insistent on any form of legislation suggested, although he deems it of the utmost importance that some legislative measures be passed which will effectually dispose of the evils to which he has called attention. If, therefore, the Swayne impeachment case can be disposed of at this session, and the tariff at a special session, the checks will be cleared for action in the direction of properly regulating the interstate commerce of the nation.

NIEDRINGHAUS NAMED.

Selected for United States Senator by Missouri Caucus.

Jefferson City, Mo., Jan. 5.—The Republican caucus to-night nominated Thomas K. Niedringhaus for Senator, insuring his election.

Mr. Niedringhaus is a man of forty-two years of age, and was educated at Wesleyan University, Middletown, Conn. He is the general manager of the National Stamping and Enamelling Company, in St. Louis. In the recent campaign he was chairman of the Republican State Committee, and did much to carry Missouri for Roosevelt.

BANKER TO SUE OFFICER.

Complaint Against Patrolman Who Searched Higginson Boy Dismissed.

James J. Higginson, the banker, sued yesterday that he intended to sue Patrolman Edward O'Neill for \$5,000 damages for stopping and searching his son. His case has been put in the hands of his lawyers, Carter Ledyard & Co., and they will serve papers on the policeman. Mr. Higginson said he had written a letter to Police Commissioner McAdoo, expressing to him his view, but that he would not pursue the affair further in the Police Department.

Mr. Higginson's son was stopped and searched by O'Neill six weeks ago. The banker offered \$100 reward for the name of the policeman, and when it was furnished paid the \$100 into the Police Pension Fund. He preferred a complaint against O'Neill, which was heard before Deputy Commissioner Lindsley a week ago and adjourned to yesterday. It was first on the calendar then. When Mr. Higginson's name was called and he did not respond, Commissioner Lindsley at once dismissed the case. Ten minutes later Mr. Higginson entered the room with his son.

"This means," said Mr. Higginson later, "that any detective who gets his own sweet will, and on what he may please to call suspicion, arrest and search and half frighten out of their senses any little children who are carrying a bundle. When did the carrying of bundles on arm or in pocket become illegal? Every woman carries bundles."

A STOCK TAX PROPOSED. FOR STATE REVENUES.

Would Net \$2 for Each Transaction of a Hundred Shares.

(BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.) Albany, Jan. 5.—A measure is now under consideration imposing a tax of \$1 a hundred for all shares of stock bought or sold, that is, \$2 for each transaction in 100 shares of stock. It is generally conceded by those familiar with the condition of State finance that either a new source of revenue must be discovered or else there must be an immediate return to direct taxation. Against the latter proposition Governor Higgins has taken a definite and decided stand. Accordingly, the present Legislature will have to devise new sources of revenue by indirect tax, and the stock operation tax is the one now most seriously under consideration. The amount of revenue that would be derived from this source is not exactly defined, but it is estimated as adequate to meet all the present exigencies.

Aside from the stock sales proposition there are two other possible sources of indirect revenue, first, an increase of the excise tax, and second, a mortgage tax law. The first is considered unlikely. The 60 per cent increase of a few years ago has worked well, but a further increase is regarded as inadvisable. There remains a mortgage tax. The Tribune has already told of the plans for a flat 5 mill tax on mortgages, and also of a record tax. Financial experts in tax legislation assert that the record tax, unless the rate were fixed so high as to be excessive, would not meet the existing deficiency. Moreover, it would be opposed by the rural legislators, who have up to the present time succeeded in defeating it. The flat tax, on the other hand, would be opposed by the interests which advocate a second tax, which is, in its essence, a mortgage exemption measure.

In his message Governor Higgins recommends keeping the expenditures down to \$2,000,000. This is believed by many legislative experts to be impossible. The present unfortunate situation is not the result of any increase in expense, present or prospective. It is due to a decision of the Court of Appeals, which not merely wipes out \$2,000,000 of money already on hand, which must be refunded, but also an almost equal sum of annual income. Then there are pending unpaid salary increases amounting in a single measure to \$250,000. This is an expenditure of \$800 per capita for inmates of the State insane institutions is in sight. All this is law and must be provided for, and the task is before the present Legislature.

The tax on stock sales is not a novel proposition. It has been suggested before, but there is a belief that in view of the public agitation over general stock speculation, as well as in the entirely limited field of the tax operation, the measure will excite the opposition of only a single class of the community, and that it will impose a burden where it can best be borne. In the mean time the Governor is working preparing an exhaustive statement of the condition of State finances that will be available when the Legislature again meets.

MUST SAND ICY STREETS.

List of Companies City Officials Can Hold to Contracts.

The search of the contracts of the Department of Public Works began some days ago at the request of The Tribune to determine the asphalt paving companies which are responsible under their contracts for sanding the streets when they become slippery was completed yesterday. It developed the interesting fact that 349 contracts containing the sanding clause are still in force. Some of them have as much as ten years to run and a considerable portion of the street sanding burden will be taken off the shoulders of Commissioner Woodbury of the Department of Street Cleaning, who has assumed it out of humanity and not because it is one of his legal duties.

The list of asphalt contracts containing sanding clauses covers twelve closely typewritten pages and nine companies can be forced to sand the streets in slippery weather. The Barber Asphalt Company is responsible in 155 contracts, and the Sicilian Asphalt Company in 68 contracts. The Warren-Scharf Company is third with 60 unexpired contracts. Other companies are the Frun-Bambreck, 21; the Atlantic, 32; William Booth, 8; Asphalt Construction Company, 7; the Metropolitan, 5, and the Frun-Bamb, 3.

Yesterday Chief Engineer Olney of the Bureau of Highways wrote to the Commissioner of Public Works, inclosing the long list of contracts. He outlined the clause of the contracts which says that the companies must sand when called on to do so by the commissioner. Mr. Olney asked that the Commissioner send out notices to the companies when sanding is necessary.

The searching of the records for these contracts was ordered by Borough President Ahearn, on the suggestion of The Tribune. He declares that he can enforce the sanding clause without much difficulty, as the city holds back a certain sum on each contract until its expiration.

The contracts cover streets in all parts of the city. Fifth-ave., from Sixtieth to Ninetieth-st., and from One-hundred-and-tenth to One-hundred-and-thirty-seventh-st., is fully covered by contracts, and must be sanded on the request of the commissioner. The Deacon-McLain Company is responsible for the sanding of Long Acre Square. With the exception of a few blocks, Madison-ave. from Twenty-third to Eighty-sixth-st., is fully covered. Sixth-ave., from the Tenderloin district, and practically every cross street in the shopping district are included. West End-ave. from Sixty-ninth to Seventy-sixth-st., and from Ninety-ninth to One-hundred-and-fourth-st., must also be sanded.

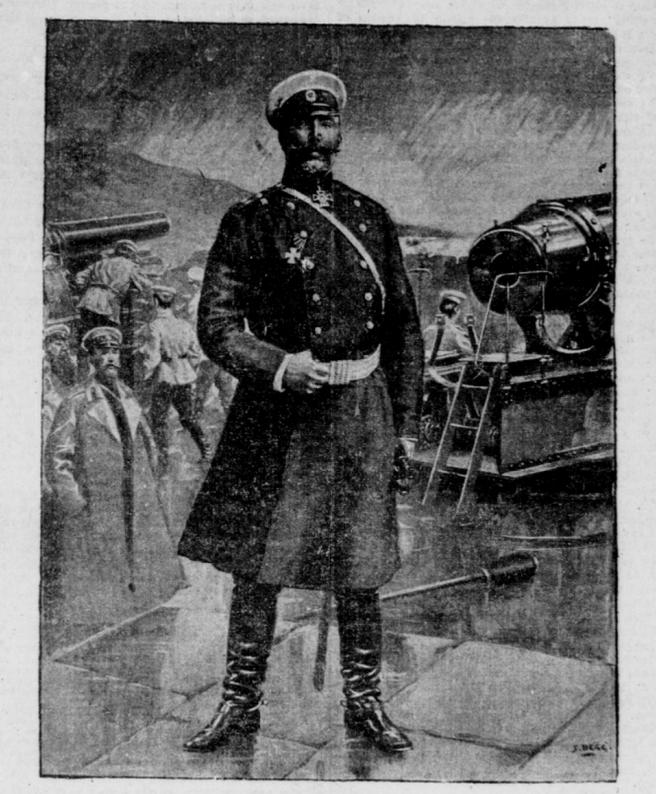
DR. HICKS SAID TO BE INSANE.

Has Had Large Practice as Specialist—Father Will Apply for Committee of Lunacy.

(BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.) Newport News, Va., Jan. 5.—Dr. S. Delaney Hicks, of Washington, apostle of aestheticism, who until recently moved in the most exclusive social circles of Washington and Richmond, and who has circles of well-to-do friends here for two weeks awaiting a hearing on the charge of forgery, has been insane for ten years, according to the story told by his father, a wholesale tobacconist of Washington, who has come to the rescue of his son.

The elder Hicks will ask for a committee of lunacy and endeavor to have the doctor released on a plea of insanity. The alleged lunatic has enjoyed a specialist for six years. He was educated abroad and is a man of culture and refinement. He has practiced his profession in New-York, Philadelphia, Washington and Richmond.

THE MAN WHO IS TO BE COURT-MARTIALED.



FACTS ABOUT GENERAL STOESEL.

Born in Magdeburg, Saxony, about sixty years ago. Military training received in Pavloff Academy, with Kuropatkin. Served with distinction in the Russo-Turkish War. Performed administrative duties in Siberia and elsewhere. In command of Russian forces at Port Arthur for the eleven months of the siege.

Issued statement on February 27: "We must fight to the death, and I will never give the order to surrender."

On November 15 ordered his men to die at their posts and never to surrender to the enemy.

After a most stubborn defence, only paralleled by the desperate assaults of the Japanese, he was persuaded by his generals to make the offer to capitulate on January 1.

NOT FOR WAR, BUT A RACE. SAYS HE TOOK \$206,000.

GREGORY OFF TO FRANCE. Nixon's Yacht Will Compete from Havre to New-York for \$10,000.

Scarcely a hundred days have elapsed since the keel of Lewis Nixon's twin screw motor yacht Gregory was laid in his shipyard at Perth Amboy. At 2:15 o'clock yesterday afternoon she passed out by Sandy Hook, fully manned and equipped, bound across the Atlantic, under her own power, for a port in the Mediterranean, where she is to be joined by her owner.

Although built somewhat on the lines of the nine torpedo boats which, it is said, Mr. Nixon made for the Russian government, the Gregory is not in any sense a torpedo boat. She was built by Mr. Nixon for his own use, but chiefly to compete for the \$10,000 prize offered last fall by M. Charley, of Paris, for the winner in a race of motor boats from Havre, France, to New-York, to take place next summer.

Scientists and shipping men are equally interested in the departure of the motor yacht Gregory. The sending of this vessel across the Atlantic in midwinter is looked upon as a triumph for American engineering.

"That the Gregory will make the trip safely and speedily," said a friend of Mr. Nixon yesterday, "we have no reason to doubt. She is commanded by Captain August W. Loose, an experienced navigator, and her chief engineer is Philip R. Adams, one of the best known gas engine experts. She carries a crew of nine men, and ample provisions, water and gasoline to carry them five thousand miles. When Mr. Nixon bade them 'bon voyage' this morning he told the captain to use his own judgment as to the route he takes. He may touch at Charleston, S. C., and then follow the route of the United States torpedo boat destroyers sent last year to Manila, or he may go to Bermuda, from there to the Azores, and thence to Gibraltar."

The Gregory, which is ninety feet long and twelve feet beam, is painted white, and is built of steel, of the greatest possible tensile strength. She is a twin screw vessel, of the conventional motor boat type. She is equipped with two reversible engines of about 350-horsepower each, and as she is entered for the race from Toulon to Algiers, she will probably need all this power to win the Mediterranean Cup. This trophy is offered by the "Matin" in the preliminary contest for the purpose of testing the speed and seagoing capacity of the boats entered for the transatlantic race. Sufficient gasoline is carried on the Gregory in airtight tanks to take her five thousand miles. She is also fitted with two masts, with emergency sails, a large standard compass and many of the modern requirements. Her hull is so strong that it is estimated it will stand any sea that she is likely to encounter. In rough weather the crew remain below, the helmsman steering from a conning tower that is watertight. The boat is lighted and heated by an electric plant. It is estimated that the yacht, which has already shown a speed of thirty miles an hour, will be able to cross the Atlantic in ten days, including stops at several harbors.

COLLISION IN DRIVING SNOWSTORM.

Passengers Injured on the Twentieth Century Limited.

Cleveland, Jan. 5.—A rear-end collision occurred last night between the Twentieth Century Limited and the Chicago, Boston and New-York special on the Lake Shore road, near Angola, N. Y., as a result of which eight passengers were injured, but none fatally. Both trains were eastbound. The Twentieth Century Limited was running at reduced speed, owing to a hot box on the engine. A blinding snowstorm prevented the engineer of the train following from seeing the black signal which those hurt was H. G. Morton, of New-York, who was injured internally. Neither engine nor cars left the track. The second train was running at less than full speed, owing to the heavy snowstorm.

REFUSAL FOR RICHARD CROKER.

English Jockey Club Will Not Let Him Train Horses on Newmarket Heath.

London, Jan. 6.—The Jockey Club has refused to give permission to Richard Croker to train his horses on Newmarket Heath. As usual, no reason was given. Free of Mr. Croker's yearlings recently arrived at Newmarket to be trained by the Australian, J. F. Brewer.

SEEK MRS. GELSHENEN. RUSSIAN WARSHIP SUNK.

WANTED IN DODGE CASE. REPORTED IN PARIS.

Subpoena Bearers Fail at Her Fifth-ave. Home—Son Served.

After an unsuccessful attempt on the part of a subpoena server representing Mr. Jerome, the District Attorney's office last night made public a letter written to Mrs. William R. Gelshenen, of No. 1,905 Fifth-ave., whose testimony before the grand jury is wanted to-day in the Dodge case. The servants and her son, William R. Gelshenen, refused to acknowledge Mrs. Gelshenen's present whereabouts. A number of witnesses from her household will to-day appear before the grand jury.

It was said that Abraham Hummel last yesterday afternoon had received a subpoena to appear at the District Attorney's office at 1 o'clock. A number of exhibits now in the District Attorney's hands include checks drawn by Charles W. Morse.

For several days District Attorney Jerome has been making unsuccessful efforts to reach Mrs. Gelshenen through letters and in other ways, to get her to meet a representative of his office and to appear before the grand jury.

A letter under date of December 30 was sent to her at her home, and another to her address at Atlantic City. This apprised her that if she did not appear at the District Attorney's office before yesterday that official would take means through the public press to inform her that she was a necessary witness in an investigation of great importance to the people of this community. No reply was received to any of these communications, and last night a body of subpoena servers were sent to her home to reach her if possible, and if not to serve every other person therein.

At 11 o'clock last night Assistant District Attorney Garvan, who has had the matter in charge, made the following statement:

No response having been made to the requests of this letter, and because the District Attorney's office has been unable to reach Mrs. Gelshenen by its process to ascertain her whereabouts, and because we are informed that she intends to sail for Europe on Saturday, the District Attorney has directed me to give this letter to the press for the reasons explained in it.

Since the return of Charles F. Dodge many efforts have been made to reach Mrs. Gelshenen, but, although representatives have followed her to Atlantic City and other places, she has, the District Attorney says, evaded them. It is known that two weeks ago last Wednesday night Mrs. Gelshenen occupied a box at the opera which is known as the C. W. Morse box. Mr. Morse was an executor of the large estate left by Mrs. Gelshenen's husband.

The letter which Mr. Jerome gave out, and which was addressed to Mrs. Gelshenen, read as follows:

Mrs. William R. Gelshenen, No. 1,905 Fifth-ave., New-York City. Dear Madam: There is pending in this office an investigation into the commission of a crime of very great importance to the people of this community. In my opinion your testimony is of importance. How or in what manner you do not appear to you or your advisers, but as District Attorney of this county, charged with the prosecution of crime, I desire to have a personal interview with you, that you may be apprised of the facts that you will be called upon to testify to before the grand jury meeting on Tuesday, January 3, 1905, and as I understand that you desire to go abroad very shortly I will examine you before that body on either Tuesday, the 3d, Wednesday the 4th, or Thursday, the 5th, of January next, whichever date may be most convenient to you. I regret to give you this trouble, but feel assured from your position in the community that your jury will not place you in the light of one either endeavoring to obstruct the administration of justice or as a fugitive, to the end that you may not give testimony which can be construed as an attempt to evade to be highly important to the public interests.

I beg, madame, that you will immediately, upon the receipt of this, communicate with me in this city, or shall be at my home to-morrow, and every day next week, and on Sunday will be in this city at No. 3 Rutgers-st., during the greater part of the day, and should you be within reach of my office, you will not place yourself in the light of one either endeavoring to obstruct the administration of justice or as a fugitive, to the end that you may not give testimony which can be construed as an attempt to evade to be highly important to the public interests.

As I am informed that you are about to sail for Europe on January 7 it is of course important that I should be immediately apprised of your departure. I have enclosed this letter to you at your house in Fifth-ave. and have also sent a copy of it by mail addressed to you at Atlantic City, N. J.

It hardly seems possible that you could have left your home in the city here without leaving your servants or the custodian of your house or with the postal authorities directions where to forward your mail. I have no reason to assume that one of these letters will reach you by Monday afternoon, but it seems to me the requests that I have made of you in this letter are manifestly my duty to make and plainly your duty to comply with. Should I not hear from you on Monday afternoon, I shall be forced to inform the grand jury of the facts of this case, and inasmuch as the papers published in this New-York City are so widely circulated throughout all the States east of the Mississippi River that anything published in them is almost sure in order to make any intelligent person who may take the liberty of communicating to the press my desire to have an interview with you in New-York City, I have no doubt that your request embodied in this letter shall be brought to your attention Respectfully,

WILLIAM TRAVERS JEROME, District Attorney.

The grand jury meets at 10:30 o'clock this morning, and, as there are a number of subpoenas exclusive of those served last night, it is expected that most of the day will be taken up in the investigation of the Dodge case.

At the home of Mrs. Gelshenen last night her son would neither deny nor confirm that he and the servants had been served with subpoenas. One of the servants declared that Mrs. Gelshenen was out of the city, but refused to say where she had gone or how long she had been away.

William H. Gelshenen was during his life one of the most prominent men in the financial world. He was for seven years connected with the Garfield National Bank as an officer, and for nine years president of the bank, the office he held at his death on March 21, 1902.

Mr. Gelshenen married Miss Katherine Walter, and had four children—William H., Jr., Danne B. and the Misses Gelshenen. He lived with his family in a magnificent home at No. 1,905 Fifth-ave. The banker at his death left a fortune of almost \$3,000,000. It was all in personal property, consisting of stocks and securities. The gross value of his estate was fixed at \$2,727,600. Deductions from this sum for debts due by the estate and expenses of administration and other disbursements aggregated \$749,900, leaving a clear fortune of \$1,977,700 to his widow and children.

Summoned to testify regarding their connection with the much entangled Dodge-Morse divorce and marriage case, A. H. Hummel and A. H. Kaffenburgh, Mr. Hummel's partner, presented themselves before the grand jury yesterday. They were the only witnesses examined. They were present when the grand jury convened, but on the plea that they had an important case in the Supreme Court they were excused for several hours.

From the length of time they were in the grand jury room it was supposed that they had been put through a rigorous examination, but the story went around that they had brought to nothing the District Attorney's efforts by refusing to answer questions on the ground that these questions referred to "privileged communications" between lawyers and clients.

SARASOTA, FLA.—WEST COAST.

Tarpon fishing. Superb climate. Reasonable hotel. Quickly reached via Seaboard Air Line. Office, 118 Broadway.—(Adv.)

The Kniaz Souvaroff Said to Have Hit a Rock.

Paris, Jan. 6.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Paris edition of "The Herald" telegraphs that Vice-Admiral Rojestvensky's flagship, the battleship Kniaz Souvaroff, has struck a rock and foundered.

The Kniaz Souvaroff, which was launched in 1902 at St. Petersburg, and was completed shortly before the Baltic fleet started on its trip to the East, was of 13,516 tons, 16,000 indicated horsepower and 18 knots indicated speed. Her belt armor is 9.4 inches thick, her deck 4 inches and her heavy gun positions 10 inches. Her battery consists of four 12-inch, twelve 6-inch, twenty 3-inch, twenty 3-pounders and six one-pounder guns, and six torpedo tubes. She carries 740 men.

It was reported from Tamatave, Madagascar, on January 2 that Rojestvensky's squadron of five battleships and three cruisers, with smaller craft, had anchored in the harbor of Sainte-Marie.

CZAR CALLS WAR COUNCIL.

Internal Affairs May Force Russia to Conclude Peace.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 5.—Emperor Nicholas returned this morning to Tsarsko Selo, fifteen miles south of St. Petersburg. An extraordinary council is expected to be held at Tsarsko Selo immediately, and it is believed that the whole situation will be reviewed. General Kuropatkin has been called on to telegraph his opinion of the situation at home, which cannot be disregarded in considering the future.

There is evidence that the revolutionary agitators have decided to take every advantage of the government's embarrassment, and the moderate Liberals who are trying to force the government's hand and compel the summoning of a national assembly are beginning to redouble their efforts. The newspapers, despite the punishments inflicted on them, are speaking out with great boldness. Seemingly reckless of the consequences, they are using every pretext for savage criticism of the bureaucracy. The Zemstvos, in defiance of the government's note of warning, continue to memorialize the throne for the programme adopted at the meeting of the Zemstvos' delegates here.

Consequently, in spite of the loud protestations of the official world that peace is impossible, the opinion is held by exceedingly shrewd observers that the government may be forced to conclude peace with Japan in order to have free hands to deal with the internal situation. With the increasing complications M. Witte, president of the Ministerial Council, looks up larger as the strong man to whom the Emperor will turn in the present crisis.

The Emperor Nicholas to-day received the reports of M. Witte, Finance Minister Kokovtsov and Minister of Justice Muraviev, representing the Committee of Ministers, in regard to the progress of their work in drafting the reform measures. Subsequently M. Witte took luncheon with his majesty and had a long conference with him.

The exact time for the extraordinary council of war is not known. It is remarkable that the dispatches from the front are absolutely silent on the subject of the army's reception of the news of the fall of Port Arthur. This is thought to indicate that the announcement has been withheld.

WILL TRY STOESEL.

Announcement of Court Martial Causes Indignation in Russia.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 5.—Few incidents of the whole war have aroused more bitter criticism than the blunt announcement, officially issued by the general staff, that General Stoesse will have to come home and stand court martial for surrendering the fortress of Port Arthur.

While this is an ancient regulation and quite according to law, it is bitterly resented on all sides that such an announcement should have been gratuitously made in the same bulletin containing General Stoesse's appeal to the Emperor for "lenient judgment on a garrison reduced to shadows, who have done all that was possible for human beings to uphold the honor of Russia in the face of her enemies."

The "Novoe Vremya," despite the suspension of "The Russ" yesterday, says: "By all means let us have a court martial, and make it, if possible, severe. The cruel judge will, perhaps, deal leniently with those who have given their blood and lives for their country. Perhaps also, the court will determine why a fortress known to be threatened with blockade is not supplied with necessary food and munitions to enable it to hold out. Perhaps such a court will bring to light many dark, hidden things and expose the creeping, underground enemies of Russia, who are infinitely more dangerous to the nation than the foe who fights in the open."

WILL REFORTIFY AT ONCE.

Japanese Well Prepared to Strengthen Port Arthur's Defences.

Che-Poo, Jan. 5, 11:30 p. m.—Dispatches received here from Japanese sources say that the condition of Port Arthur is chaotic, but that General Nogi and General Stoesse are rapidly systematizing affairs there.

General Nogi is prepared, the dispatches say, through agents who have been recruiting coolies for months, to put a horde of Chinese at work in the fortifying of Port Arthur as soon as the Russians are disposed of. Vast quantities of cement and timber are ready on the Yalu River for this purpose, while steel plates and other manufactured necessities are ready in Japan for transportation to the fortress. The Japanese are confident that the re-fortification of Port Arthur will place the fortress in a better condition than ever, with the Russian defects eliminated, long before Russia can besiege it, if such a thing ever occurs at all.

Ammunition, food and medical supplies to last for years will be sent to Port Arthur, Japan being heedful of the mistakes made by the Russians.

MOET & CHANDON CHAMPAGNE LEADS ALL BRANDS.

The importations of Moet & Chandon Champagne into the United States in 1904 were 127,385 cases, placing them at the head of the importation list, being by far the largest quantity of any one brand ever imported into the United States. The sales of Moet & Chandon in 1904, including foreign countries, were 258,028 cases, beating a record ever made. The quality of the celebrated brand of "White Seal" is unquestionably the finest dry Champagne ever imported.