

cable was the rupture of diplomatic relations, which occurred January 11.

The "Temps," in a leading article this afternoon, after giving a detailed history of the dispute with Venezuela, says:

President Castro probably hopes to find in the interior reprisals to be carried out by France a pretext for the non-fulfillment of his engagements toward others. It is, however, clear that France, whose moderation is generally approved in Europe and America, will not furnish him a pretext. She will choose a method of proceeding against Venezuela which will not hurt any one's interests, and at the same time bring to his senses this strange dictator, who in the end will be brought to account by Venezuela herself.

M. Rouvier's notification yesterday to M. Maubourguet to leave France was couched in most courteous terms. After a full explanation of the matters leading up to the rupture, the Premier referred to France's long suffering attitude, in spite of President Castro's protracted proceedings, which had in the mean while become more aggressive, until France's patience became exhausted, and diplomatic relations between the two states were broken off. The notification proceeded:

France now considers your mission terminated, and I request you to indicate the point of the frontier where you desire to leave France, and the same time handing you your passports and taking the necessary measures for your security.

An additional paragraph added later to this communication read:

Concerning the damage to French interests resulting from the abrupt measures of the Caracas government, reparations therefor will be ultimately claimed by France.

The "Journal des Débats" says:

President Castro's latest insolence makes necessary an immediate lesson. France cannot be satisfied with a platonic rupture of relations to which Castro is indifferent. We must claim more positive satisfaction, by force if necessary. Orders in this sense have already been given for reinforcing the Antilles squadron. Undoubtedly a naval demonstration will occur, and we hope the United States will support France's efforts to obtain her rights. France knows how to obtain an honorable apology.

M. Loubet, in the meeting of the Ministers, expressed admiration of the calmness and dignity displayed on the occasion of the election of his successor at Versailles, adding that he hoped France would benefit therefrom in the eyes of the world. M. Rouvier replied that France could feel proud of setting such a dignified example.

After the Council had adjourned the Cabinet Ministers presented to M. Loubet a superb silver cup as a souvenir from the last Ministry of M. Loubet's term as President.

M. MAUBOURGUET AT LIEGE.

Liege, Jan. 19.—M. Maubourguet, the former chargé d'affaires of Venezuela, who was expelled from France last night by the French government, has arrived here. He will remain a few days in this city, and will then go to London.

JAPANESE STARVING.

Government Would Welcome Foreign Aid in North.

Washington, Jan. 19.—According to information received at the Japanese Embassy here the northern provinces of Japan are suffering from a severe famine which only the quickest relief will be able to check. The information shows that the rice crop this year has been about 15 per cent of the average crop, and that a famine is causing great suffering in the three northern provinces of Fukushima, Miyagi and Iwate, which have altogether a population of about two million seven hundred thousand. Many of the people are engaged in the silk trade, and the failure of the silk output has augmented the general suffering.

In answer to an inquiry made by persons in this country whether any help from a foreign country would be accepted, the Japanese government has sent a cable message to the chargé d'affaires in this city, saying that such help would be very welcome at this moment. The dispatch adds that the government investigation into the conditions in the above named provinces has confirmed the extreme seriousness of the situation. The scheme of the government is to establish works and give employment to the distressed population instead of distributing money promiscuously.

AMNESTY IN SANTO DOMINGO.

General Arias Departed—Strong Element in Favor of Treaty.

Santo Domingo, Jan. 19.—The government on the surrender of Monte Cristi permitted the revolutionary Governor, General Arias, to depart for Porto Rico, and granted general amnesty to the other insurgents.

The collapse of the revolution within fifteen days was due to lack of funds and the inability of the rebels to control custom houses as bases for their operations. The customs receivership nowhere interfered with the complete neutrality of the American navy, and the tenders of the good offices of the commanders to prevent unnecessary waste of life have resulted in a friendly sentiment among all concerned. The government and the public, appreciating the good effect of the modus vivendi, are more favorable to the pending treaty with the United States than at any time since it was proposed. The opinion is generally expressed that the complete failure of the recent attempt to cause a revolution will prevent any further disturbances while the existing financial arrangement continues. Business is improving.

HEAVIER GUNS IN BRITISH FORTS.

London, Jan. 19.—The War Department has decided to re-arm all the coast defense forts from the Thames to Plymouth with 6-inch and 8-inch guns, the present armament, 4.7-inch guns, being considered inadequate.

CUBANS STRIKE FOR AMERICAN MONEY.

Havana, Jan. 19.—Some of the employees of the Cuban Central Railroad declared a strike to-day because the company would not agree to pay their wages in American money.

GENERAL BARTOLOME MITRE DEAD.

Buenos Aires, Jan. 19.—General Bartolome Mitre, former president of the Argentine Republic, died at 4:40 o'clock this morning.

BRITISH SHIP WRECKED AT VANCOUVER.

Victoria, B. C., Jan. 19.—The British ship King David was wrecked on Bajos Point, Vancouver Island, on December 13. A. Wainman, the mate, and six men are missing. The remaining members of the crew were saved. The crew managed to get on shore and reached an Indian village. The chief officer with six seamen started on one of the ship's boats, bound for Cape Beale, to seek assistance. Heavy winds prevailed and they are believed to have been lost. The steamer Queen City, which reached Clayoquot this afternoon, reports having picked up Captain Cottrell and the survivors, eighteen in all, from the beach on January 15. The men had suffered privations, and Donald McLeod, sailmaker, died on board the Queen City on January 10.

The King David was 114 days from the Mexican port of Salina, bound for Puget Sound. She was reloaded at 35 per cent. She was a steel ship of 2,240 tons, owned by the Glasgow Shipping Company.

SALVAGE OF \$25,000 ON THE BREMEN.

London, Jan. 19.—The Admiralty Court has awarded the British tank steamer Luigen \$25,000 for services rendered on September 19, 1905, in towing to Halifax the North German Lloyd steamer Bremen. The Bremen became unmanageable, her port tail shaft having broken.

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OPEN REVOLT GIVEN UP. LIBERALS STILL GAIN.

Russian Workmen's Plans—Hopes Placed in Douma.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 19.—There is little prospect of any disorder on Monday next, though the revolutionary labor organizations and the vast mass of the Liberals of Russia are determined to honor the memory of the ill-starred followers of Father Gapon by the cessation of work on the anniversary.

"The anniversary of Red Sunday will be observed as a day of mourning and not of strife," said a leading member of the revolutionary committee to-day. He said he expected no collision with the troops, who, after the fighting at Moscow and elsewhere, must be considered loyal to the government. He added:

In view of the preparedness of the government and its evident desire to provoke a conflict, we even have decided to abstain from peaceful demonstrations, to remain at home and to manifest our sympathy only by draping our windows in black. We have assurances that fully half the proletariat in St. Petersburg will cease work, including the electric lighting operatives, though the printers and many others say they prefer to devote their earnings for the day to the benefit of the widows and orphans of the slain.

A dispatch from Moscow says that no bloodshed is expected there. Another sign of the abandonment of open rebellion was given at today's session of the convention of the Constitutional Democratic party, when a proposal to boycott the elections to the Douma met scant favor. The general sentiment expressed by many speakers under the ten minute rule was that in no Douma, even though the government resorted to the manipulation of the elections, should the Liberals sulk in their tents, because by so doing they would simply turn over the lawmaking body to the hands of the reactionary party, and thereby abandon a brilliant opportunity to get a constitution.

The convention resolved to send a greeting to the Liberal and Labor parties in Great Britain on the victory achieved by them, which the delegates looked upon as the dawn of a new and better era for that country.

To-day's celebration of the Feast of the Epiphany, the fourth of the great festivals of the church, passed quietly, though significant of the new attitude in Russia toward both church and state. The churches were less crowded than usual, and many merchants ventured to disregard the unwritten law and kept their stores open.

The ceremony at Tsarskoe-Selo was not so impressive as usual, owing to the absence of the diplomatic corps, to whose members no invitations were sent.

The retirement of seventeen supernumerary generals of the Council for National Defence was gazetted to-day, and this action will be followed soon by the retirement of a score of inactive veterans of the Alexander Committee for the Relief of the Wounded and seven members of the Council of the Empire. This step is dictated by reasons of economy. The three bodies have hitherto been regarded as resting places in which faithful servants who had outlived their usefulness could be shelved at full salary and rank instead of being retired on half pay.

A POLITICAL PRISON CLOSED.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 19.—The Schlüsselburg prison in the fortress of that name, noted as the place of incarceration for so many political prisoners, has been closed. The prison was practically emptied on the occasion of the publication of the amnesty decree last fall.

A RUSSO-AMERICAN ACADEMY.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 19.—In order to further good relations between Russia and America, Professor Boris Gardner, an American, a professor at the School of Technology and for many years a resident of Russia, has applied to the Minister of Education for permission to open a Russo-American academy, under the name of Franklin College. In addition to the usual Russian branches, the curriculum will include courses in the English language, American history and political and economic science. The instruction will be conducted in Russian.

MOORS PRAY FOR NATION.

No Session of Algeciras Conference—Jewish Question.

Algeciras, Jan. 19.—This being the Mahometan Sunday, there was no session of the international conference on Moroccan reforms out of deference to the Moroccan delegates. A Moorish villa served as a mosque, where the Moors redoubled their prayers for the preservation of their country.

In the mean time the exchanges of views among the delegates of the powers have brought an agreement not to consider questions outside of the prearranged Franco-German programme. One result of this is to exclude the religious subjects which the Vatican is said to desire to introduce through Austria. One of the Ambassadors says, however, that the Jewish question can come up not as a religious issue, but as incidental to the protection of the subjects of the Sultan.

Mohammed el Torres, head of the Moroccan mission, has informed the delegates that the Sultan is prepared to abolish the harsh laws requiring the Jews to prostrate themselves before the mosques and other humiliating practices, but the delegates doubt the wisdom of their abolition, as Mohammed el Torres and the foreign ministers residing in Morocco say that the non-performance of this traditional observance by the Jews would excite an anti-Jewish outbreak.

It is expected that the American delegates will strongly favor an improvement in the condition of the Jews.

SEVEN LOST AT SEA.

British Ship Wrecked at Vancouver—Eighteen Rescued.

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INSURANCE MEN CONFERENCE.

Representatives of States and Armstrong Committee Discuss Report.

That the insurance laws of the different States might be made as uniform as possible was the chief aim of the conference between the Armstrong Insurance Investigating Committee and the insurance commissioners of several States, which was held yesterday at the Hotel Cadillac, Broadway and 43d-st. As the views of the Armstrong committee are in almost perfect harmony with those of the visiting commissioners, it is likely that in its report on legislation the committee will set the pace not only for New-York State but for the entire country. When the visiting commissioners learned yesterday of the changes in the insurance code which the committee will recommend to the legislature several of them declared that they would attempt to have their States take similar action.

The full membership of the Armstrong committee and representatives of the insurance departments of eleven States made up yesterday's conference. The session was executive, and the visitors were particularly asked to say nothing which might be used to forecast the Armstrong report. At the close of the afternoon session it was said that, although 90 per cent of the suggestions which the committee has received since its organization had been rejected on one ground or another, there remained fifty distinct topics which were deemed worthy of discussion. From this it is evident that the Armstrong report will be a long one. The joint conference discussed about twenty-five of these topics yesterday.

The conference was called for the Normandie Hotel, and met there early in the morning. Senator Armstrong's suite proved too small, however, and an adjournment was taken to the meeting room of the Hotel Cadillac. According to one of the members of the committee, no time was lost in formalities, but the discussion began immediately under the leadership of Senator Armstrong.

It was said before the conference that the Armstrong committee would read to the visitors its forthcoming report. The report, however, has not yet been written. The committee will spend another week discussing the report, which will then proceed to the writing of the report, which will probably take about a week. The report will be presented to the legislature about February 1.

Senator Tully was asked to give some hint as to the nature of the committee's findings. "They will be drastic enough to suit the public if not the insurance companies," he said. "In fact, if our report is followed you won't be able to recognize the insurance code of this State when the legislature gets through with it."

Members of the committee declare that they have received assurances from members of the "big three" that there will be no lobbying at Albany against the report of the committee. Presidents Morton, Peabody and Orr are all said to have made representations to this effect. They say that they realize the need of reform and that they will abide by any legislation that may be passed.

Considerable time was given yesterday to the subject of mutualization. R. E. Folk, commissioner from Tennessee, taking the lead among the visitors. Mr. Folk said that he had been in communication with the Truesdale committee and had suggested a plan of bringing the policyholders into closer touch with the affairs of the company. Mr. Folk's suggestions are: That the policyholders of the various States should actually vote for the directors and that each State should be given a representation proportionate to the amount of business done by the company in that State.

It is certain that the Armstrong report will recommend radical changes in the matter of proxies, though it is not likely that it will ask their total abolition. Yesterday individual voting at the home offices, voting direct by using the mails and the giving of limited proxies were discussed.

"You may be sure," said one of the Senatorial members of the Armstrong committee, "that when the legislature gets through it will no longer be possible for a company to hold 25,000 proxies in its vaults and to turn them loose whenever anything against the administration comes up."

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Two Rewards for Slayer of White Woman.

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Nearly a score of suspected negroes have been taken into custody, and all will be taken before the Walker child, who is the only person who saw the murderer. The police of Newark, Trenton, Philadelphia, Pottstown and Wilmington have arrested negroes, and several have been arrested in Camden, Woodbury, Riverton and nearby towns.

A WARNING TO AMERICANS.

"Chinese Imperial Reform Army" Seeking Recruits Here.

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MISS RICHMAN FOR SUPERINTENDENT.

Women Teachers Plan to Put Her in Algeron S. Higgins's Place.

If the women teachers in the public schools have their way, Miss Julia Richman, now one of the three women district superintendents of the city, will succeed Algeron S. Higgins, associate city superintendent. Miss Richman has been held back in her career in the school service, her friends charge, by her pronounced Republican opinions. Her politics may react against her again when the Board of Education is called on to appoint a successor to Mr. Higgins.

The man who is said to have the strongest boom for Mr. Higgins's place is District Superintendent Edward B. Shallow, of districts Nos. 22 and 26, Brooklyn. Mr. Shallow's candidacy was announced a year ago. His friends have been carefully polishing up his boom ever since, and some say they have worn it perilously thin in spots.

Other mentions for the place are District Superintendents John Dyer, John H. Haaren and Gustave Straubenmuller, of Manhattan.

Mr. Higgins will not retire without a struggle. He said yesterday that his opponents in the Board of Education could not force him to resign. He said:

I desire to end a life's service in the school system by being re-elected for a full term. This is a just and natural ambition. After I am re-elected the question of my retirement will be a matter of course. As soon as I see that I am showing signs of inefficiency I will ask to be retired. I do not want to be forced into retirement, and I hope to convince the Board of Education that I should be re-elected.

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