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WAR BETWEEN RUSSIA AND JAPAN IS CERTAIN

Such Is the General Opinion in London, Where Conditions in China Cause the Greatest Anxiety.

Imperial Troops Engage in Battle With "Boxers" Near Peking, and 200 Dead Are Left on the Field.

Special Cable to The Call and New York Herald. Copyright, 1900, by the Herald Publishing Company.

LONDON, June 7.—Anxiety respecting events in the Far East is greater to-day than yesterday. Over and over again I heard the opinion expressed that nothing can prevent war between Japan and Russia. In diplomatic circles nothing else is talked about. There now exists an excitement among diplomats such as has not been known for years and which has entirely eclipsed all attention hitherto given to war in South Africa. A visit to the city revealed an increase in anxiety. There exists in financial circles all the preliminaries of a panic, which sentiment has affected all markets and quite neutralized the anticipated effect of the good news from South Africa.

It only needs little, if anything can be judged from to-day's appearance, for a very serious break in prices to take place. Public sentiment is urging the Government to take a more active interest in the Chinese developments. All day long communications were going on between the Foreign Office and Tientsin, and generally the situation is regarded as more serious.

LONDON, June 7.—A special dispatch from Shanghai, dated 7:30 p. m. today, says the Dowager Empress has ordered General Neih Chong with 3000 men to protect the railroad at Peking. A severe fight, it is added, has occurred with the "Boxers," whose ranks include many soldiers from other generals' commands. When the battle ended 200 dead were left on the field.

The dispatch goes on to say:

"One hundred and eighty British marines, with a machine gun, are about to force a passage from Tientsin to Peking. Altogether about 900 British have been landed from the fleet; a greater number have landed from the combined vessels of the other powers. This evidence of Great Britain's intention to assert her position strongly gives great satisfaction here."

For Protection of Europeans.

BERLIN, June 7.—The officer commanding the German squadron at Chefoo has been directed by cable to send a detachment of sailors and marines to Tientsin, and after conferring with the German Minister at Peking to arrange with commanders of the other squadrons regarding further measures to be taken for the protection of Europeans. It is understood that Germany has officially declared her readiness to act in concert with the other powers. But having no interests outside of Shantung Province, she is not disposed to take the leading part in intervention in China.

The German newspapers claim to have discovered that the alleged secret agreement arrived at between Russia and Japan to act together against Great Britain in the Far East is purely fictitious. The National Zeitung avers that Great Britain stands hand in glove with Japan.

Great Britain's Stand.

LONDON, June 7.—It is said here that if the United States expects Great Britain to take initiative or independent action in China, as might be gathered from special cable dispatches quoting Congressman Hitt, it is depending on a contingency which appears very remote indeed. From every Continental capital to-day comes evidence of how keenly the powers appreciate the Far Eastern crisis, yet the British Foreign Office retains the apathetic attitude which for years has distinguished its Chinese policy. Though the Boxers' outbreak has doubled in virulence, and international complications have since cropped up, the Marquis of Salisbury appears to have taken no new steps to meet the emergency. A representative of the Associated Press was informed officially to-day that the British Minister at Peking, Sir Claude M. Macdonald, and his assistants, are still in complete charge of the situation, and are relied upon to meet any circumstances which may arise, armed as they are with authority to call upon the British China squadron for more troops, if they are needed.

The Government understands that the diplomatic and naval authorities on the spot are co-operating harmoniously, and so long as this state of affairs continues Lord Salisbury sees no immediate necessity for taking steps over the British Minister's head.

Sounding Other Powers.

In spite of the fact that the Associated Press is officially informed that Great Britain has neither sounded other powers with the view of securing co-operation in a new and vigorous Chinese policy nor been sounded as to such action by any power, there are many rumors that such steps are under consideration. A member of a foreign embassy in London says that it is certain the British Foreign Office is contemplating sending instructions to all its ministers to secure the support of other governments, especially the United States, in a plan of action. Though Russia might be invited to join, this concert would have for its ulterior object the frustration of any designs Russia may harbor for making capital out of the present troubled state of affairs in China. This statement the British Foreign Office categorically and emphatically denies. But even if the denial is prompted by motives of policy, it can be said without reserve that Great Britain will take no action on her own initiative beyond the mere protection of her own subjects. No public pressure could induce Lord Salisbury to enter into further complications until the South African war is finished.

But the tone of the British press is in acute contrast of the official attitude. The afternoon newspapers to-day are unanimous in urging a combination of the powers with a greater object than a mere temporary suppression of the "Boxers."

Attitude of America.

WASHINGTON, June 7.—An indication of the care exercised by the State Department is afforded by the instructions to Minister Conger, sent yesterday, to draw upon Admiral Kempff for any force needed to protect his legation and such refugees as might properly claim the right of asylum there or in the consulates. The Minister was not even charged to send out the United States naval forces and marines to points where American missionaries are reported to be beset and in jeopardy, although much pressure has been brought to bear upon the State Department by the missionary interests to secure an order to this effect. Mr. Conger's powers are regarded as ample, but he is not expected to take action in the matter of dispatching military expeditions to the interior of China that might be equivalent to a declaration of war on our part. In adhering closely to its old-time policy of abstention from interference with internal matters in China, especially by refraining from entangling movements in connection with the projects of other powers, the State Department is confident that it can properly care for all the legitimate interests in China during the present crisis without becoming involved itself and without loss of prestige.

MOST GLOOMY NEWS COMES FROM CHINA

LONDON, June 8.—The situation in China, as measured by abundant unofficial telegrams, continues full of interesting possibilities, but apparently it has not grown worse during the last twenty-four hours, although the favorite adjectives of London and Continental commentators are "perilous," "grave" and "dangerous."

The naval commanders in Chinese waters have received identical instructions as to procedure, the question as to an emergency being left to their discretion. No fears are entertained as to the safety of the legations at Peking. European residents, however, are escaping from the capital to the coast. Peking is still under control, according to a dispatch to the Morning Post, dated yesterday, but in a very excited state. A thousand foreign guards were garrisoning the legation houses. Six hundred international troops are at Tientsin with six guns. A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Shanghai, dated June 7, takes a gloomy view of things, which are pictured as going from bad to worse. The correspondent says: "The authorities are displaying palpably guilty supineness in dealing with the Boxers and the powers are more and more taking matters into their own hands. The Boxer revolt is spreading and is rapidly changing its character. The Boxers are getting arms, preparing to meet force with force. There has been no communication between Peking and Tientsin since Tuesday, although one miserable abortive attempt has been made by Chinese soldiers to reach the capital. The troops were fired upon and the train had to come back. Another station has been burned on the line."

A news agency dispatch from Tientsin, dated yesterday, says: "The Boxers are still raiding and pillaging over a wide area. They have wrecked and burned the stations at Long Fong and Langoo. It has been definitely ascertained that Mme. Astier and Messrs. Ossent and Cades have been murdered. General Nieh claims to have defeated the Boxers, killing 500."

The morning papers, in long editorials dealing with the Chinese situation, refer to the possible course of the United States. The Daily Mail, which goes beyond any other in urging America to take the lead in intervention, under the caption, "McKinley's Opportunity," says: "The United States have secured definite pledges as to the maintenance of the open door and their intervention would not produce friction, danger of which is to be anticipated should either England or Russia act alone. We have no desire to provoke a world-wide conflict. Yet our movements are regarded with so much suspicion by many Russians that serious complications might ensue did we land a strong force near Peking. The same applies to Russia, face to face with ourselves, but the United States have traditions with Russia and a community of interests with England. Their action would, therefore, assure the hostility of neither power. It need scarcely be said that they would have the moral support of the British people and our material support also, if only the policy of our Government in the Far East were stronger than it is. They would certainly be assisted by Japan. In this way a world conflict disastrous to the interests of all great states could be best avoided, and at the same time the pledges which the skillful negotiations of Mr. Hay have extricated from the various powers would be vindicated. The opportunity for America has come. Will she be equal to it or will she let it slip from her hands and lose her vast potentialities of trade in Northern China?"

England's financial interests in China, interests that can be named on the Stock Exchange, aggregate £40,000,000. These, on an average, have declined 1 per cent. There are also many trading companies and syndicates holding concessions, which are capitalized for vast unknown sums. The English money in China is probably close to $500,000,000.

GERMAN LINER ASHORE.

BERLIN, June 7.—The new Hamburg-American liner Deutschland ran high aground off Stettin upon her trial trip, and has not yet been floated. The work of dredging her over the bar will require ten days, and her start for Hamburg is now fixed for July 5 instead of June 21. Emperor William has sent warships to aid in the work of floating the liner, and has given special instructions on the subject.

ALAMEDA GRAND JURY HAS INDICTED ASSESSOR HENRY P. DALTON.

Inquisitors Also Demand His Removal From Office for Failure to Properly Collect All Personal Property Taxes.

COUNTY Assessor Henry P. Dalton was indicted by the Grand Jury of Alameda County yesterday for the destruction of one of the personal property rolls of his office in order to avoid the liability imposed by law for failure to collect all personal property taxes. The Grand Jury at the same time presented an accusation against County Assessor Dalton, ordering the District Attorney to bring suit against him to oust him from office for failure to properly prepare the personal property rolls of the county and to properly collect the personal property taxes.

Mr. Dalton now has one civil suit against him to recover the fees received by him for preparing the assessment roll of the City of Oakland, a suit has been ordered instituted against him by the Board of Supervisors for the commissions upon the poll taxes withheld from the county, and now is to be added a suit to remove him from office and an indictment for destroying public records.

Mr. Dalton makes indignant denial of any criminal actions, announces his intention of forcing all of these suits to an early issue, and charges that every one of these is a political move intended to injure him.

Perhaps not the least incident in a day of sensations is the charge that is made to-night by Mr. Dalton's organ that Superior Judge W. E. Greene, in whose court the Grand Jury was acting, ordered these indictments.

Grand Jury Presenting Its Report to Judge Greene.

Following is the personnel of the Alameda County Grand Jury whose indictment and accusation of Assessor Henry P. Dalton has created a sensation:

T. L. BARKER (Foreman)
JOHN DICKSON
WILLIAM DAY
A. L. FISH
ERNEST A. BRANGS
EDGAR BISHOP
GEO. B. M. GRAY
MINOR HILLYARD
FRANKLIN BANGS
SAMUEL HAYWOOD
LOUIS HOMEIER
IRA M. WENTWORTH
ANDREW J. NOR
JOHN B. GREENLEAF
GEORGE BURBECK
ROBERT M. TURNER
JAMES MOFFITT
C. P. HOAG
HUGO ABRAHAMSON

OAKLAND, June 7.—The long expected and much discussed report of the Alameda County Grand Jury was handed to Judge Greene of the Superior Court this morning, but was not made public until afternoon, in order that the District Attorney might be given time to prepare a warrant upon the indictment found and to prepare the accusation against Assessor Dalton so that it could be served.

The Grand Jury had been called to meet at 10 o'clock this morning, but, though the jury was ready to report last Tuesday, it found that there was still an hour's business to be done, and District Attorney Allen was closeted with the jurors for that time. It was approaching the noon hour when the jury finally filed into the box and Foreman T. L. Barker arose and presented three papers, two to Judge Greene and one to District Attorney Allen.

One of the documents handed to the Judge was the formal report of the Grand Jury, and the other was evidently an indictment, but those present in the courtroom missed the value of the third paper and supposed that it was merely a copy of the report until District Attorney Allen, late in the afternoon, announced that he had served upon County Assessor Dalton an accusation by the Grand Jury and a suit to remove him from office.

It was this latter act that surprised everybody, for while the indictment was generally expected, that the Grand Jury should go still further and order suit to be brought to remove Mr. Dalton from office was like a bolt from a clear sky and created a sensation.

The warrant upon the indictment was served by Deputy Sheriff Wales, and Mr. Dalton at once furnished a bond in the sum of $1000, with H. H. Havens and A. J. Reed as sureties. Mr. Haven is a retired attorney and brother-in-law of the late F. K. Shattuck and A. J. Read is the foreman of the mechanical department of the Enquirer.

Later the accusation was served upon Mr. Dalton by Deputy Sheriff Welch.

Two Charges Made.

There are two distinct charges made by the Grand Jury against Mr. Dalton, though both of them grow out of the personal property roll matter. The indictment is upon the charge that Mr. Dalton destroyed one of the assessment books of the county in order to protect himself from the liability for uncollected taxes. The accusation upon which his removal from office is asked is that Mr. Dalton did not perform his duty as Assessor and enter upon the personal property roll the names of all of those in the county who possessed personal property and collect taxes thereon.

The law requires the County Assessor to collect the personal property taxes of the county, and in order to force the collection of these taxes a penalty was imposed, making the Assessor and his bondsmen responsible for all the uncollected taxes upon personal property. It is charged that in order to shield himself from this liability that the County Assessor destroyed the memorandum books in which his deputies made the original assessment of the personal property of the county, and it is specifically charged that he destroyed one book entitled the "Oakland City Assessment Roll of Personal Property for the Year 1899."

The accusation is based upon another alleged effort to avoid this liability for the uncollected personal property taxes. It is charged that the Assessor did not enter on the personal property roll of the county the names of those who became delinquent upon their personal property tax and that this was done to avoid the liability under this law.

District Attorney Allen's Statement.

District Attorney Allen, who drew the documents and who will have to prosecute them in the name of the county, said to-night:

"Both of the proceedings hinge upon the law in regard to the collection of personal property taxes. This law contains a strict provision intended to force the collection of these taxes, and the actions depend upon the constitutionality of this law. The personal property roll of the county is practically made up from the stubs of the receipts for personal property taxes. As a matter of protection the Assessor does not enter upon the personal property roll the names of those who do not pay their personal property taxes, even though they may have been assessed. The indictment is based upon the destruction of a personal property book that was supposed to contain the names of those owning personal property on which taxes had not been paid. Everything depends upon the legality of the clause inflicting a penalty upon the Assessor for non-collection."

The Indictment.

The essential charges in the indictment are:

That certain assessments of certain personal property in Alameda County, at 12 o'clock meridian of the first Monday of March, A. D. 1899, made and entered by said deputy assessors in said memoranda book as aforesaid and copied into said book so entitled "Oakland Assessment Roll of Personal Property for 1899" as aforesaid, contained in said book so entitled, were not copied into said assessment book of personal property of Alameda County, delivered to said clerk of the Board of Supervisors as aforesaid, and no other record of said certain assessments than was contained in said book that was entitled "Oakland City Assessment Roll for 1899" was preserved by said assessor.

That during all the times herein mentioned said book was the property of the said County of Alameda, and during said time became an official record of the Assessor's office of the said County of Alameda.

That on or about the —— day of February, 1900, at the said County

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BOERS TO BATTLE AT MACHADODORP

Kruger Has Rallied Some Twenty-Five Thousand Men With Which He Intends to Make a Fight.

Transvaal President Tells Why He Fled From Pretoria and Declares the War Is Not Over by Any Means.

Special Cable to The Call and New York Herald. Copyright, 1900, by the Herald Publishing Company.

LONDON, June 8.—The Daily Mail publishes this dispatch from its special correspondent:

LOURENZO MARQUES, June 7.—President Kruger and his government are still at Machadodorp, where it is stated a stand will be made with probably twenty to twenty-five thousand men. In view of the present circumstances it is not probable that the defeated Boers will retain means or courage to move their army north, although the more desperate wish to do so. A number of British prisoners from Waterfall have been moved to Novitgedacht.

Trains are still arriving from the Transvaal with straggling passengers.

LONDON, June 8, 3 a. m.—The executive offices of the Transvaal Government are in a railway car, which is shunted on a switch at Machadodorp station. President Kruger caused the interior of the coach to be reconstructed some time ago with a view to contingencies that have now arrived. The correspondent of the Daily Express who went from Lourenzo Marques to see President Kruger was received yesterday. The President sat smoking a long pipe. He looked worried, but his bearing was quiet and determined. He did not make the least objection to being interviewed. The correspondent was equipped for the interview by cables from London.

"Yes," said President Kruger, "it is quite true that the British have occupied Pretoria. This, however, does not end the war. The burghers are fully determined to fight to the last. They will never surrender so long as 500 armed men remain in the country. I feel deeply encouraged by the fine work Steyn and De Wet are doing in the Free State."

The correspondent suggested that the war was over, inasmuch as the capital had been taken.

Where the Capital Is.

"The capital!" explained Mr. Kruger with energy, "what is a capital? It does not consist of any particular collection of bricks and mortar. The capital of the republic, the seat of government, is here in this car. There is no magic about any special site. Our country is invaded, it is true, but it is not conquered. The Government is still effective."

Referring to the reasons why he left Pretoria, Mr. Kruger said:

"I was not foolish enough to be taken prisoner. I provided this means of locomotion precisely for the same reason as our burghers supply themselves with horses when they take the field. It is necessary that I should be able to move quickly from place to place. That is all. By and by this car will take me back to Pretoria. For the present it enables me to keep away from Pretoria, where I could be of no service and where I should only play into the hands of the enemy."

"They say, Mr. Kruger," remarked the correspondent, "that you have brought with you gold to the value of £2,000,000?"

"It is not true," replied the President. "Whatever monetary resources I may have with me are simply those which we require for state purposes. At the same time I am not going to tell you where our treasure is. Let Roberts find it if he can."

Kruger Will Not Flee.

"They also say in London, Mr. Kruger, that you contemplate taking refuge on a Dutch man-of-war at Lourenzo Marques."

"That is again a lie," retorted the President with vehemence. "I know of no such Dutch war vessel. I am not contemplating refuge anywhere. I shall not leave my country. There will be no need of my doing anything of the kind."

The correspondent said, "Then, sir, there is much surprise at your having left Mrs. Kruger behind."

President Kruger replied: "But why? Mrs. Kruger is quite safe in Pretoria. She would only be put to personal inconvenience here. All communication between us is stopped, of course, but she will await my return with calmness and courage. She is a brave woman. I am here awaiting further information. We are surrounded by faithful burghers and are quite safe."

Secretary of State Reitz remarked: "You may depend upon it that the war is not yet over. Guerrilla warfare will continue over an enormous area. We intend to fight to the bitter end and shall probably retire upon Lyndenburg, where we can hold out for many months."

"Yes," observed Mr. Kruger, "it is only now that the real struggle has begun. I fear that there will still be much bloodshed, but the fault is that of the British Government."

Then raising his voice to an almost passionate height Mr. Kruger exclaimed: "The time has passed for us to talk. We have done plenty of that, but it has done us no good. The only thing left for us to do is to keep on fighting, to keep on fighting."

The correspondent who secured the interview telegraphed it direct from Machaddodorp station yesterday, when the wires were working as usual to Lourenzo Marques.

The Daily Express in commenting upon the interview refers to the "unabated defiance of the chief of the Transvaalers."

Nine hundred British prisoners arrived Tuesday at Nooitgedacht. They were penned in a barbed wire fence of four acres on the open veldt.

Roberts Intercepts Two Trains.

According to a dispatch from Lourenzo Marques dated yesterday Lord Roberts is reported to have intercepted two trains full leaving the vicinity of Pretoria. Telegrams from the British side are exceedingly scanty. Two brief ones received from Pretoria say that Mrs. Kruger still occupies the Presidency and that a number of engines and cars have been secured. The British under Major de Lisle captured a machine gun and caused the Boers heavy loss, the British casualties being slight. Boer officials removed $300,000 in gold from the National Bank June 4, but did not touch the cash holdings of the other banks.

Some of the Boers are surrendering voluntarily and the townspeople of Pretoria are described as showing considerable enthusiasm over the British arrival. Mr. Prevost Batteresby in a dispatch to the Morning Post from Pretoria, dated June 5, says:

"The Boers pledged themselves to twenty British officers not to take British prisoners away if these officers would control them and prevent an outbreak. Nevertheless, they began their removal. After 900 had been taken British shells struck a train that was loading and the Boers desisted and retired. The British officers at Daspoort refused to leave their quarters and made the Boer commandant a prisoner, releasing him at midnight on condition that he would cancel the order for the removal of the prisoners. The Pretoria forts were found without guns. All the artillery had been got away."

Another dispatch says: "Sixteen hundred British prisoners were removed. After the Government had taken away most of the stores the burghers were given a free hand to help themselves. All the British found was a few hundred bags of coffee and sugar."

Yeomanry Lost Heavily.

LONDON, June 7.—The list of casualties now coming through indicates that there was severe fighting before the Thirteenth Yeomanry surrendered. Already the names of nineteen men killed and twenty-eight wounded have been issued. The killed include Sir John Elliott Cecil Power, baronet, and among the wounded is the Earl of Longford.

Kruger and the Dutch.

LONDON, June 7.—The Birmingham Post, organ of Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the Colonies, says it hears from an official source at The Hague that a serious question concerning President Kruger is now before the Netherlands Ministry. The paper adds that the President, up to last Friday, had decided to seek refuge on board the Dutch cruiser Friesland, now off Lourenzo Marques, and asserts: "There is beyond doubt good reason to believe that instructions on the subject have been cabled to the commander of the warship."

Lansdowne and Wolseley at Outs.

LONDON, June 7.—The strained relations between the Secretary of State for War, the Marquis of Lansdowne, and the British commander-in-chief of force, Lord Wolseley, appear to have reached such a pitch that, but for the exigencies of the situation, Lord Wolseley would have resigned. It seems that Lord Lansdowne attempted to usurp some of the authority already heretofore wielded by the commander-in-chief, and the latter is now said to have laid the whole matter before Lord Salisbury.

Must Become British States.

LONDON, June 7.—The Liberal leader in the House of Commons, Sir Campbell-Bannerman, speaking at Glasgow to-day on the attitude of the opposition toward the South African question, said it was not for the government, who had allowed the war, to deal with what it left behind. The members of the opposition admitted they were only onlookers and critics. The two conquered republics must in some form become states of the British Empire, and while the success of the army relieved them from anxiety, South African affairs still demanded intense, watchful interests.

Not the Time to Return.

LONDON, June 7.—The following dispatch has been received at the Colonial office from the British High Commissioner in South Africa, Sir Alfred Milner:

"CAPE TOWN, June 7.—It is reported by telegram that large numbers of miners and others are about to start for the Transvaal from Southampton on Saturday. Cannot a public notification be issued warning the people against premature return here? They will be delayed at Cape points, and will only increase the numbers supported by charity. It must be a couple of months at least before the bulk of those now in the colony and in Natal can be allowed to return or work generally can be resumed."

Boer Envoys Welcomed.

ST. PAUL, June 7.—Dr. Abram H. Fischer and William Wessels, two of the Boer envoys, arrived in this city at noon to-day. Mrs. Fischer accompanied her husband. A special reception committee welcomed the visitors to the Northwest. There was a large crowd at the depot and the Minnesota State band played patriotic American airs. Governor Lind called on the visitors at the Ryan Hotel soon after their arrival. A public reception was held from 1:30 to 3 o'clock this afternoon, and a drive about the city followed later in the day. A mass-meeting was held in the Auditorium to-night.

NEW TRAGEDIES IN THE STREET CAR STRIKE

Three Policemen and a Photographer Shot as the Result of Riots.

ST. LOUIS, June 7.—Three police officers were shot in various parts of the city to-night as the result of riots. Michael Gibbons was hit in the ankle and B. J. Boland in the knee and W. O. Coates in the back. The latter's wound is serious. Gibbons and Boland were acting as guards on Union line cars and Coates was on a patrol wagon guarding property of the Transit Company.

While standing on the rear platform of a north-bound Union line car, John Goetlin, a photographer, 20 years of age, was shot and seriously wounded to-night at Fifteenth and Chambers streets. The City Hospital physicians say that Goetling will probably die within twenty-four hours from the result of his injury.