

CHINA PLACES IMMENSE CONTRACT FOR MODERN RIFLES IN GERMANY

"Yellow Peril" Is Alarming This Government.

Trouble May Follow Arming of Mongols.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

CALL BUREAU, HOTEL BARTON, WASHINGTON, March 16.—This Government was brought close to a realization of the "yellow peril" to-day by official information that China is purchasing vast quantities of modern firearms. The fear was expressed in many quarters that once the Chinese have modern breech-loading rifles in their hands they will realize the immense power of their 400,000,000 population and will give rein to their natural hatred of foreigners.

The information which caused the State Department officials more uneasiness than they would admit, was contained in a report to the Department of Commerce and Labor from B. H. Warner, United States Consul at Leipzig, Germany, which says: "The Waffenfabrik at Steyr, Austria, has just received an order through a Berlin house for a large number of small arms for the Chinese Government. Such a quantity of rifles has been ordered that it will take the Steyr factory several years to fill the same, even with the additional force of men to whom it has recently given employment."

The plenipotentiaries of the powers at Peking following the Boxer outbreak insisted upon the insertion in the protocol signed on September 7, 1901, of this provision:

"China has agreed to prohibit the importation into its territory of arms and ammunition, as well as of materials exclusively used for the manufacture of arms and ammunition."

PROHIBITION HAS LAPSED.

The prohibition was, however, limited to two years from August 25, 1901. The period was not extended, although the Russian Government, which had held that the period of prohibition should be ten years, addressed practically all of the powers on the danger of permitting unrestrained importation of arms to China. These representations met with indifference from practically all of the powers, including the United States. Congressional action would have been necessary for this Government's action. Secretary Hay was disinclined to recommend it, even though urged to do so many times by Count Cassini, the Russian Ambassador.

The protocol provides for a renewal of the period of prohibition two years at a time in case of a necessity recognized by the powers. Action to this end may now be taken by the powers. The Steyr factory is probably the largest small arms factory in the world. It has built guns for nearly every nation of Europe. It supplied the German army with the service rifle, which is considered a highly effective military weapon.

ENDANGERS NEUTRALITY.

An order which will tax the capacity of the Steyr factory evidently means many hundreds of thousands of guns. It is feared that the acquisition of modern arms by the Chinese army will lead to a greater strain upon the Empress Dowager's desire to maintain the neutrality spoken by Secretary Hay. The State Department is willing to give considerable time and probably approval to any suggestions coming from Minister Conger or United States Consul Miller at Newchwang respecting the detention of the United States gunboat Heelan at that place, provided it is made to appear that by remaining the ship can give necessary protection to American lives and property there. Otherwise the State Department will make no request to have the Navy Department's instructions to withdraw the ship repealed.

LONDON, March 16.—George R. Parkin, representing the trustees of the will of the late Cecil Rhodes, called for New York today from Southampton on the North German Lloyd steamer Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse in connection with the holding of examinations in the United States and Canada for Rhodes scholarship at Oxford.

DR. PIERCE'S REMEDIES.



When the life of Mrs. Ruff was hanging in the balance she used Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription and was restored to health. Her experience made her the firm friend of the medicine that cured her. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription has no equal in its cure of womanly diseases. It establishes regularity, dries the drains that weaken women, heals inflammation and ulceration and cures female weakness. "Five years ago when my life was hanging in the balance, Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription was brought to my home by my friend, Mrs. Caroline Ruff, Director of German Orphan's Home, residing at 139 Rowan Street, Detroit, Mich. I took it and it won me back to health. Ever since that time, I have been its firm friend. We frequently have mothers come to our 'Home' who are suffering with uterine troubles, inflammation, tumors and ulcerations. One great remedy for a female trouble is Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription, and we have found nothing so far which would so quickly cure the disease. It is a good friend to women." Dr. Pierce's Common Sense Medical Adviser, in paper covers, is sent free on receipt of 21 one-cent stamps to pay expense of mailing only. Address Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.

FEATURES OF THE CALL'S WAR NEWS

From the Far East come indications that the great armies are slowly but surely advancing and that the first decisive land battle is not far distant. The main Russian force has crossed the Yalu and taken up a position in Northwest Korea.

The Tokio correspondent of a Paris newspaper claims to have reliable authority for the statement the Japanese army advancing through Korea consists of 70,000 men; that another army of the same strength has landed at Gensan and will sail thence to a destination at present not revealed, and that the mobilization of a third army began on March 7. Japan will have in the field 210,000 men.

Makarov, the new commander of Russia's naval forces in the Far East, is a veritable "man of mystery." Tokio advises state that Japan is still unable to locate the Port Arthur fleet and is uncertain as to whether it has left the harbor. Since the recent bombardment of Vladivostok the Russian Vladivostok squadron has not been heard from, and there is a possibility that some joint coup is being attempted by the two naval forces.

Port Arthur's situation continues to be serious, but rumors of Russia's alleged intention to abandon her stronghold are again denied, the St. Petersburg newspapers being particularly bitter in denouncing those with whom the reports originated and attributing stock jobbing motives to the fabrications.

From Port Arthur comes a bulletin declaring that all is quiet there and that there is no sign of the enemy.

Russia is reported to be moving an army corps from Vladivostok toward Korea, while dispatches from the Newchwang district indicate that the Russians have taken up strong positions in well fortified towns thereabouts, including Ashan Shan, where the Japanese army concluded its advance during its war with China.

Much alarm has been caused by news that China has placed an enormous order for modern rifles with a European factory. So great is the order that it will require years to fill it.

Czar Is Said to Favor Kaiser's Mediation.

Would Welcome a Proposal to End War.

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BERLIN, March 16.—A persistent rumor is circulating in court and official circles that the German Emperor has been sounded by the Czar as to whether he would be inclined to give his aid to putting an end to the war in the Far East by personal or international mediation. Though for the moment he will do nothing beyond feeling the pulse of Europe, he will not in his incidental interviews with the sovereigns of Spain, Portugal and Italy, during his Mediterranean cruise, altogether ignore the subject. Though it is expected the Russian Government would officially refuse to consider the question of intervention at the present moment and until after the first battle, whether she wins or loses the Emperor might come forward with proposals of mediation.

It is said that Emperor William is convinced of the advantage which would accrue to Germany should she succeed in bringing the war to a speedy conclusion.

The Czar is supposed to have appealed to him to end the war because he is of the opinion that Germany, being allied to neither belligerent, has a better prospect of success than either France or England, and his personal wish to put an end to the war is complicated with the fear of internal dissension and trouble in the Balkans and the certainty of eventual financial difficulties.

MAIN RUSSIAN FORCE IS NOW ON SOIL OF KOREA

YINKOW, March 16.—The only reliable reports at the present moment from the main Manchurian cities show a quiet movement along the railway, and such cities as Mukden, which are off the main line, are undisturbed and not in possession of definite news of outside events.

The chief movement on the Fungwangchong military road is the dispatch of riders to and from the Russian advance forces.

A creditable native arrived here today bringing a report as late as March 12 from Fungwangchong to the effect that the main body of the concentrated Russian forces had crossed the Yalu, leaving small bodies of troops at Antung to guard the river. A fortnight ago a few spies visited Antung, but since then no Japanese have been seen west of the Yalu.

The continuing attacks of the Japanese have compelled the steady occupation of the Liaoting Peninsula. The last bombardment of Port Arthur rendered every part of the fortress of Port Arthur unsafe. Residents assert that fragments of Japanese shells fell everywhere, and that some railway coaches and buildings were destroyed, though most of the damage on the shore was unimportant.

Foreigners choosing to remain in the interior must now sign an agreement restricting their movements and stipulating that a special pass is necessary when leaving their bounds.

SPLENDID RECORD MADE BY ADMIRAL EVANS' WARSHIPS

WASHINGTON, March 16.—The Navy Department has published a report from Admiral Evans in which he invites attention to the records made on the recent trip of the battleship and cruiser squadrons from Yokohama to Honolulu and thence to Cavite. The admiral says:

"During the run from Yokohama to Honolulu the seas were the worst I have ever experienced, practically throughout the entire run. The weather conditions from Honolulu to Cavite were better. During this run of 8500 miles to Cavite no repairs or overhauling were done on the engines of any vessels by any outside force. The speed maintained by the battleship squadron from Yokohama to Honolulu was twelve and one-half knots. The battleship squadron arrived in Cavite after this run in as good condition as when it started out from Yokohama, and ready for any service that it might be called to perform."

GERMAN RAILROAD TO KIAOCHAU BAY OPEN TO TRAFFIC

SHANGHAI, March 16.—The first regular train on the Shantung Railroad arrived at Sianfu from Sintang last night, having covered the distance, 252 miles, in fourteen hours. The train was decorated with a Chinese and a German flag and had on board a number of Germans. The station at Sianfu was brilliantly illuminated.

Sianfu is the terminus of the German railroad at the entrance of Kiaochau Bay, the naval station of Germany in China. Sianfu is about 215 miles south by east of Peking.

Paoingfu, the southernmost station of the railroad running southwest from Peking, is about 150 miles from Sianfu. Therefore, it would seem that at no distant date Kiaochau Bay and Peking may be connected by rail.

Crudo Murder Trial Proceeds.

The trial of Nicola Crudo on the charge of murder was resumed before a jury in Judge Lawlor's court yesterday morning. He is accused of shooting and killing Prospero Migaleo at Green and Kearny streets. Nearly all day was taken up in the examination and cross-examination of Antonio Dematti, who was walking home with the defendant at the time of the shooting.

Russian Traitor in Manchuria Is Shot.

Guilty of Selling War Secrets to Japanese.

ST. PETERSBURG, March 16.—Captain Ivkov of the Manchurian commissariat service has been summarily court-martialed and shot for acting as a spy in the pay of the Japanese. When arrested on suspicion of espionage documents found in Ivkov's possession left no doubt of the truth of the charges that he had long been revealing military secrets to the Japanese. The tragic story became public through a simple announcement in the army journal today that Ivkov had been excluded from the service.

The reports of the abandonment of Port Arthur continue to arouse the bitterest resentment, the papers denouncing the story as a stock jobbing scheme. One paper remarks: "Let other countries be fed on such tales, but while Russian blood is flowing they should not allow the people to be disturbed by such falsehoods. The official telegrams are believed and trusted by every one."

BUILDING ARMORED TRAINS.

The Government is building some armored trains for use on the Manchurian railroad, after the model of those used by the British in South Africa. They will not be employed so much on account of the fear that the Japanese may cut the road as for their moral effect on the Chinese robbers, who may become emboldened by the war. It is believed that when the bandits see the iron monsters they will not come near the railroads.

The Russ prints a long leading article contorting a series of articles in the Novoe Vremya claiming that the war was brought on by the machinations of the Jews in revenge for the Kishenev occurrences, declaring that the Novoe Vremya's contention is absurd and scoring the latter for its sowing race hatred at such a critical time.

Komanoff, the leader of the Pan-Slavists, replies in the Svet to the statements recently made by Kurino, the former Japanese Minister in St. Petersburg, declaring that Japan was solely to blame for the war, "the political savages of Japan having ensnared their country in this wild adventure."

The Novosti prints an article by an expert to prove the feasibility of the Baltic fleet making the northern passage by the way of the Bering Strait to join the Pacific squadron in the spring. A military expert in the Russky Invalid contends that the Japanese advance in covering their forces at Pingyang, Korea, and at their bases, Chemulpo, Chemsampo and Seoul, means that detachments have moved out along the Vellimkang, which may be compared to a miniature Tugela River. A number of these detachments, it is added, have crossed the Vellimkang at Panchen, eight miles from Anju.

INSPECTS NEW WARSHIPS.

The Emperor and his brother, the Grand Duke Michael, heir-presumptive to the throne, wearing naval uniforms, visited Galoni Island to-day and inspected the battleships Borodino, Orel and Andrew. They were accompanied by the Grand Duke Alexis, high admiral, and Admirals Avelan and Rjstvensky. Captain Sevelianoff received the august visitors on board the Borodino, which the Emperor inspected, minutely examining the arrangement of her guns and torpedo tubes and manifesting special interest in the stoutness of her armor. He examined the guns already on board the Orel. The Andrew is so little advanced in construction that she was not inspected by the Emperor. His Majesty conversed with the dockyard employees and told them their work would soon be finished, requested them to exert their best efforts and promised to repeat his visit in a month.

Great crowds greeted the Emperor on his arrival and departure. He will go to the new admiralty yard to-morrow and later in the week to the Baltic works.

The Emperor to-day, receiving the German attaches Lanenstein and Teat-ta, who are to leave for the front on March 18, said among other things:

"Gentlemen, all Europe now realizes that Russia tried to avoid war and to obtain a peaceful settlement. Many of the powers strove also to attain this end, but Japan forced the war, infringing all international law. Furthermore, you will be able in the Far East to see how Russia observes humane and correct conduct during war."

The Grand Duke Cyril arrived at Port Arthur yesterday and will serve as the first officer of the battleship Petropolavsk.

Fast Amateurs Will Box.

The San Francisco Athletic Club will open the new Woodward's Pavilion to-morrow night with a mammoth amateur boxing carnival. Ten good bouts are on the card, the competitors including some of the fastest boys in the State. The main event will be an especially good one, as both Walter Mareno and Owen Sullivan are heavyweights of ability and in their previous fights have shown great skill and gameness. The rest of the bill is made up of amateur boxers of every class. This will be a good chance for all those who intend witnessing the Britt-Corbett contest to get a line on the new ring and seating arrangements at Woodward's Pavilion.

Chicago Team Defeated.

BAKERSFIELD, March 16.—The Chicago National League baseball team was defeated by a score of 3 to 2 in a ten-inning game to-day against the Portland nine of the Pacific Coast League, which is training in this city.

A slight cold neglected will often bring on serious trouble and should be carefully avoided whenever possible by using a gas heater in damp weather from San Francisco Gas & Electric Co., 415 Post street.

Lull in War Game Japanese Fail to Locate Foe's Warships.

PORT ARTHUR, March 16.—Everything is quiet here. There is no sign of the enemy. Advice from Fungwangchong, about forty-five miles northwest of Wiju, say the Russian troops are showing admirable spirit in surmounting the difficulties and hardships of the march over the frozen tracts of East Manchuria.

Another passenger of the steamship Argun, captured by the Japanese off the coast of Korea on February 7, and taken to Sasebo, who returned here yesterday, declares that he saw two damaged warships towed into Nagasaki on February 25, one being the Asurua and the other a cruiser, said to be a flagship, having a heavy list.

Other passengers on the Russian merchant vessel captured by the Japanese warships arrived here to-night from Japan. In the course of interviews these passengers claimed that they observed general drunkenness among the Japanese troops, though the sailors maintained an excellent bearing. They report that the Japanese cavalry makes a pitiful appearance, the horses being small and weak looking.

The passengers brought evidence that the Japanese had worked out a plan of campaign and fixed a date for the commencement of operations at least two weeks before hostilities began.

The Russians are indignant over the conduct of an Englishman who had lived in Vladivostok, who cheered the Japanese troops.

TICKETS ARE MADE UP BY CLUB WOMEN

By Sally Sharp.

The nimble ballots of the California Club—all that were in the little black box by 2:30 o'clock on Tuesday—are counted, and let it be announced after that no Denver political tricks entered here, and peace, sweet peace, reigned supreme. From the decisions of that day will be made two tickets from which on May 2 the officers will be elected. And now comes the real struggle.

The following will make up the first ticket: President, Mrs. A. R. Cotton; first vice president, Dr. Dorothea Moore; second vice president, Mrs. A. W. Scott; directors—Mrs. Arthur Cornwall, Mrs. Virginia Bradley, Mrs. Charles Warren, Mrs. J. J. Scovel, Mrs. E. P. Schell, Mrs. C. L. Hovey, Mrs. Horace Coffin and Mrs. H. H. Fassett.

The second ticket is as follows: President, Mrs. J. W. Orr; first vice president, Mrs. Sara Reamer; second vice president, Mrs. Dorothy Harnden; directors—Mrs. Aaron Schloss, Mrs. F. L. Strickland, Miss Susanne Patch, Mrs. C. Mason Kline, Mrs. J. D. Sibley, Mrs. N. I. Marion, Miss Laura Musto and Mrs. Loren Barnes.

And now will the political fever wax warm as the April days glide by, for the destiny of the club is dependable upon the deeds of that second day of May, and the standard toast at the table is, "May the next administration be as pacific and progressive as the one now unhappily passing."

The Indian tea at the home of Mrs. George Law Smith, 2226 Jackson street, on the afternoons and evenings of Friday and Saturday—the Animals' Refuge beneficiary—is to be the smartest philanthropic affair of the week. Indian stunts, in Indian garb, in Indian tepees, will constitute one—only one—of the alluring features, flanked splendidly by an exhibition of basketry, blankets, beadwork, etc.

The admission ticket for children on Saturday afternoon. Here is a splendid motive—likewise are the attractions seductive—for we all, little and big, love to see the savage Sioux, or the hungry Hiawatha, in their native wigwags—minus their scalping steels, of course; and therefore everybody's going to that "pow-wow."

To-night at 8:30 Miss Florence Mayer will become the bride of Joseph A. Sheldon, the clever clubman and raconteur. The ceremony will be quietly performed at the Eddy-street home of the bride by Dr. Leavitt of the Unitarian Church. The bride, a young woman of fine style and personality, has but recently returned from an extensive European trip.

Discontinue Use of Union Label.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., March 16.—The use of the union label has been discontinued by more than thirty of the large wholesale clothing manufacturing firms of this city. The manufacturers say they are disgusted at the attitude of the unions and refuse to be dictated to any longer.

Witnesses in Botkin Murder Case Arrive.

In Party Are the Husband and the Relatives of the Late Mrs. J. P. Dunning.

The Santa Fe overland last night brought to this city the much looked for witnesses for the prosecution in the case of Mrs. Cordelia Botkin, whose second trial on a charge of murdering Mrs. John P. Dunning by sending her poisoned candy to Delaware, has recently begun. In the party, which came West in charge of Detective E. B. McFey of Dover, were John P. Dunning, the well known war correspondent and husband of the murdered woman; the Misses M. A. and Elizabeth Dunning, J. D. Deane and Miss Lella Deane, all of whom register from Philadelphia; Ethel J. Wellington, Lizzie L. Kemp, H. C. Pennington, L. H. N. Bishop, Dr. and Mrs. P. L. Downs, Miss Bateman of Dover and Dr. and Mrs. T. R. Wolf of Newark, N. J.

The party was met at the ferry depot by carriages and driven to the Occidental Hotel, which will be the headquarters of the witnesses during their stay in this city.

Further than a statement that they had had an uneventful trip the members of the party declined to be interviewed regarding the case in which they are to testify.

SANTA ROSA, March 16.—As the result of a circular letter sent out by the District Attorney a few weeks ago the slot machines went out of commission in Sonoma County to-day. No opposition upon the part of the dealers will be made as far as the coin machines are concerned, but the cigar men will test the law by an agreed suit.

Tremendous Havoc Is Wrought at Port Arthur.

Scores Are Killed by Japanese Shells.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

LONDON, March 17.—A cablegram to the Daily Mail from Shanghai says: "The Norwegian steamships Brand, Argo and Seirast left Port Arthur on Sunday night and arrived here to-day. Before sailing the captains were taken into the port and compelled to swear not to reveal what had occurred. I have, however, obtained these authentic particulars from members of the crews of the vessels, which had been chartered by the Russian Admiralty to transport coal, of what occurred during the last bombardment:

"As the Argo lay alongside the Retvizan in the harbor a Japanese shell exploded on the deck of the Russian battleship, killing nineteen officers and men. The crews of the merchantmen in the harbor deserted and fled to the promontory.

"The greatest damage inflicted by the Japanese bombardment was in the new town, where the shells played great havoc. Practically all the business buildings on the main street were demolished and scarcely a residence was left unharmed. The Japanese fire was marvellously accurate.

NON-COMBATANTS PERISH.

"The inhabitants were panic-stricken. Many took shelter in rude bomb proofs. A shell exploded in the midst of a throng of spectators on a hill, who were watching the enemy, and killed twenty-five persons. Three Government clerks were killed while fleeing from the port admiral's office.

"The highest fort at the entrance to the harbor was the worst damaged. There was one tremendous explosion at the Tribunal, blowing up the magazine arsenal. The sailors were uncertain as to its location.

"A two-funneled cruiser anchored near the Retvizan, probably the Diana, was struck on the water line and set afire. Eight on board perished.

"The Russians sank five old steamships at the entrance to the channel, in line with the lighthouse, reducing the navigable way to the channel to less than 300 feet. The channel is marked out by buoys.

DEATH COMES SUDDENLY TO MRS. F. M. SMITH

LOS ANGELES, March 16.—State Senator Fred M. Smith returned home to-night and found his wife dead in her bedroom. She had been dead several hours, and the fact that in another room was found her untouched luncheon leads to the belief that she died before noon. The features were much discolored, but there was nothing to indicate that there had been any struggle or convulsions. It is believed that the cause of death was either heart disease or apoplexy.

When her husband left home this morning his wife was in an unusually cheerful frame of mind, and they planned to spend the evening at the home of friends. He did not go home to lunch, but agreed to come to an early dinner. When he reached the house he found his wife's body on a bed, and the shock so prostrated him that he is under the care of a physician to-night.

DASH FOR VLADIVOSTOK.

One thousand five hundred Cossacks have been arriving daily since the bombardment and Viceoy Alexieff and Admiral Makarov have issued encouraging proclamations. There has been a marked improvement in the discipline at Port Arthur since Makarov's arrival. The repairs to the damaged warships have been carried on with speed. The Retvizan and Cesarevitch are reported to be hopeless wrecks.

"The Norwegians insist that before they sailed the Russians steamed out to make a dash for Vladivostok, leaving in the harbor only the Retvizan, the Cesarevitch and the Sevastopol. The latter is in the dock, having been damaged by two shells.

"During the bombardment the Russians did not return the Japanese fire, except the cruisers Novik and Bayan, which steamed out with bands playing, in an attempt to rescue the Russian torpedo-boats. The crews cheered as the 'forlorn hope' steamed out. The cruisers returned an hour later undamaged.

"When the Norwegians left the only vessels in the harbor were two transports, four small merchantmen, one whaler and the hospital ship Mongolia. Japanese shells hit the Mongolia, killing six persons. The Japanese carefully aimed to damage the docks."

MANY HONOR MEMORY OF DEPARTED PIONEER

Funeral of the Late William G. Badger Attended by Throng of Representative Citizens.

Impressive ceremonies marked the funeral of the late William G. Badger yesterday afternoon. At Grace Church, where the services were conducted, a large concourse of friends assembled shortly after 2 o'clock and the auditorium was filled when the strains of the funeral march announced the approach of the cortege.

Bishop Nichols conducted the services, assisted by the Rev. Dr. McClure. A tenor solo, "Be Thou Faithful Unto Death," was rendered by Alfred Wilkie and the Grace Church quartet sang four selections, "Crossing the Bar," "Lead Kindly Light," "Good Night" and "Abide With Me." Both Bishop Nichols and Dr. McClure delivered addresses in keeping with the life of the deceased and the services closed with benediction. The body was then taken to the L. O. O. F. cemetery, where it was cremated. At the cemetery the services were conducted under the auspices of Templar Lodge, L. O. O. F. The pall bearers were Pelham Ames, Henry L. Davis, Colonel A. S. Hubbard, N. D. Hudson, E. B. Holladay, S. W. Holladay, E. A. Blicher, ex-president of the Sons of Vermont; Charles Webb Howard, W. A. Grubb, W. B. B. Ingalls, J. J. Mahoney and P. S. Teller.

The escort from the California Commandery consisted of M. E. C. Thomas Brown and other officers of the commandery. The escort for the Exempt Firemen consisted of N. D. Hudson, J. J. Mahoney, J. J. Gullfoyle, James Grady, James O'Donnell, N. Wheeler, D. A. Finn, C. B. McFarland, James Smith, S. S. Cohn and J. Nengle.

Small Panic at Pittsburg Theater.

PITTSBURG, March 16.—A small panic at the Alvin Theater to-day resulted from the announcement that Virginia Harned refused to appear in her advertised part. Fully 2000 people, mostly women, had been seated for the performance at the usual "bargain matinee," 50 cents for any seat in the house, and when the announcement was made that Miss Harned refused to appear before a cheap house a grand rush was made for the box-office to get their money back. The theater officials were powerless to check the rush that followed, and many women were hurt, but none seriously.