

# The Bemidji Daily Pioneer

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TEN CENTS PER WEEK.

## PERPLEXING PROBLEM

### Practically Entire Time of Cabinet Meeting Given to Discussion of Chinese Exclusion.

### CHINA DENOUNCES EXISTING TREATY SOON TO EXPIRE BY LIMITATION.

### Suggested That Negotiations For Another Treaty May Be Opened. But Terms For Its Basis Not Outlined as Indicated.

Washington, April 9.—Practically the entire time occupied by the cabinet meeting was consumed in a thorough discussion of the Chinese exclusion question. China has denounced the existing treaty, which will expire by limitation next December. It has been the hope, if not, indeed, the expectation of China, to negotiate a more favorable treaty than that which is now in force, but an intimation has been conveyed to the Chinese government that it is improbable that a treaty of a character more favorable to the Chinese than the existing one

could be ratified by congress. The day's discussion developed the fact that the whole situation is clouded in doubt. It is possible that China's denunciation of the treaty may be withdrawn, but no official intimation of such action has been received by this government. The suggestion is made that another treaty may be negotiated, but the terms of it are not indicated beyond the fact that its basis will be the existing treaty. No conclusion was reached on the subject at the cabinet meeting. Serious consideration will be given to the subject during the next few months. In the event of failure to negotiate another treaty the Geary exclusion law will be enforced against Chinese immigration. This is far more drastic than the treaty. A few matters of departmental detail were discussed at the meeting, but nothing of particular importance was accomplished.

### DISTINGUISHED MEN PRESENT.

President Roosevelt made a speech. To his right sat Count Cassini, Russian ambassador, dean of the diplomatic corps, and on either side of them were Secretary Hay, M. Jussorand, French ambassador, Baron von Stornburg, German ambassador, Justice Peckham of the supreme court, William B. Howland, president of the

maser, and other members of the society. The president arrived about 10:30 o'clock and remained throughout the reception which followed the dinner. He was the first speaker. The French ambassador, Dr. Henry Vandryke, Dr. John R. Findley, Charles H. Taylor, Jr., Robert E. Spear, Dr. Edward Everett Hale, S. S. McClure, Walter H. Page, Dr. Albert Shaw and Frank S. Black delivered addresses.

### MRS. BOTKIN CONVICTED.

Twice Found Guilty in Poisoned Candy Case.

San Francisco, April 9.—Mrs. Cordelia Botkin has been found guilty of the murder of Mrs. John P. Dunning by means of poisoned candy sent by mail from San Francisco to Dover, Del., several years ago. The penalty was fixed at imprisonment for life.

This is the second trial for Mrs. Botkin. She was found guilty in the first trial.

Mrs. Botkin was charged with poisoning Mrs. Dunning and her sister, Mrs. Deane, daughters of Representative Pennington, five years ago. The cause alleged was her love for Dunning.

Mrs. Botkin was arrested at San Francisco, where she has been kept in custody, notwithstanding attempts of the Delaware authorities to have her taken to that state for trial. In 1898 Mrs. Botkin was found guilty and sentenced to life imprisonment. She secured a new trial, which was begun on March 10.

A dispatch from Tokio dated April 1 said the first party of correspondents, consisting of sixteen men, mostly British and Americans, had left Tokio that day for the front and that they would sail from Moji, Japan, on April 5 for an unknown destination. While the departure of these newspaper men from Moji has not been reported, possibly because of the Japanese censorship, it is possible that the correspondents referred to in the above dispatch are those who were to have left Moji last Wednesday. Chemulpo is about a two days' run from Moji.

MOUNTAINS A BARRIER. Both Japs and Russians Have Trouble in Moving Artillery.

Shanghai, April 9.—It is stated by Chinese that Russian advance guards only are collected on the north bank of the Yalu river and that the main force is with General Kurapatkin along the Liao river.

Russians remaining on the North Yalu is that it is impossible to advance over the mountains, the roads being impassable for artillery. The Japanese advance has been checked by the same cause. The Chinese are still pushing the Russians considerable trouble, destroying railway and telegraphs. The Port Arthur fleet continues to make reconnaissances. A Chinese report states that another attack has been made on Port Arthur.

TROOPS MOVING CONSTANTLY. Russia Will Be Ready to Take the Offensive Shortly.

Berlin, April 9.—The Tagblatt's war correspondent, Major Gaeke, writing on a train while nearing Harbin, March 13, said: "One's six trains daily pass east on the railroad to Manchuria and only four thence to Harbin, but these consist of as many as thirty-eight cars. The railroad apparently is able to meet the military demands."

The correspondent added that the Russians will be ready to take the offensive about the middle of this month.

JAPS CROSS THE YALU. Advance Guard Occupies Position in Manchuria.

Seoul, April 9.—The advance guard of the Japanese army has established itself in a strong position on the north bank of the Yalu river, where it will await the arrival of the main army from Korea, which is rapidly concentrating on the south bank of the Yalu.

Censor Getting Busy. London, April 9.—The brief dispatches from the seat of war in the Far East appearing in the London newspapers during the last few days have all been of a stereotyped character, indicating that an active censorship is prevailing there. This applies particularly to the points under Japanese control.

Under French Protection. St. Petersburg, April 9.—It is officially announced that in consequence of the departure of Russian representatives from Korea the protection of Russian interests in that country has been temporarily entrusted to the French diplomatic and consular representatives.

TORNADO IN TEXAS. Three Persons Killed and Nine Seriously Injured.

Houston, Tex., April 9.—A tornado which passed near the town of Mexico killed three persons and injured nine others, three of whom, it is feared, fatally. The dead are: John Ballard, Mrs. Ballard and a four-year-old child of the Ballards. The Ballards were killed outright. Many houses were demolished and much damage done to growing crops.

## ON AN IMMENSE SCALE

### JAPANESE COMPLETE THEIR ARRANGEMENTS FOR INVASION OF MANCHURIA.

### TWO ARMY CORPS ON TRANSPORTS

### FLEET ON GUARD AT PORT ARTHUR CLOSELY WATCHING RUSSIAN SHIPS.

London, April 9.—The news from the Far East all indicates that the Japanese have completed their arrangements for the invasion of Manchuria on a great scale.

The presence of the fleet of Kwantung peninsula, on which Port Arthur and Dalny are situated, with other reports of fleets of transports in the Gulf of Korea and the Liaung gulf, is taken to mean that Admiral Togo is determined that there shall be no chances taken of Admiral Makarov making a sudden dash with the cruisers and torpedo boat destroyers at the Japanese transports.

The news indicates, in the opinion of expert observers, that two corps of the Japanese army are moving, the destination of one being some point on the coast of the Japanese empire, while the other's destination is believed to be some point on the west coast of the Liao gulf, to the north of Shanhaiwan, which would permit the use of the railroad to Sinningting.

It is true that the Russians have sought to declare the territory west of the Liao river neutral, but Japan has expressly excepted Manchuria from the operations of the agreement to observe the neutrality of China, and as the strip of coast in Manchuria and would give her a splendid base, with comparatively good roads and a railroad to move on Newchwang, and as far north as Mukden, it is not likely that Japan will limit her operations to the country east of the Liao.

### CORRESPONDENTS ON BOARD.

Steamer Sunmyoo Maru Arrives at Chemulpo.

Seoul, April 9.—The steamer Sunmyoo Maru called in at Chemulpo during the day to take on board 300 men belonging to the first division. The newspaper correspondents on board the Sunmyoo Maru were not permitted to leave the ship, but were allowed to wait for the Japanese troops who were refused permission to embark on the steamer.

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### ESCAPES WITH A FINE.

Chicago Man Pleads Guilty to Swindling Newspapers.

Chicago, April 9.—Pleading guilty to using the mails to further a scheme by which newspapers all over the country were swindled of a large sum John H. Dalton has been fined \$1,500 by Judge Humphreys in the United States circuit court. Dalton accepted the penalty on the same charge two years ago because the United States circuit court of appeals reversed the sentence of the lower court. He was charged with organizing an advertising agency through which he is said to have swindled 7,000 newspapers.

### KERWIN IN THE LEAD.

Election as Wisconsin Supreme Court Judge Conceded.

Milwaukee, April 9.—An Evening Wisconsin special from Madison says the manager of the Lusk campaign announces that they have given up hope of electing their candidate to the supreme court justiceship and acknowledge the election of James C. Kerwin of Neenah.

Almost complete returns to the Evening Wisconsin give Kerwin's majority as 5,236.

### EARTHQUAKE IN MACEDONIA

TWENTY-FIVE PERSONS KILLED AND FIFTEEN HUNDRED HOUSES DESTROYED.

Vienna, April 9.—According to a dispatch to the Neue Presse an earthquake, April 4, killed twenty-five persons, injured forty, destroyed 1,500 houses and caused great distress in the vilayets of Kosovo and Salonika, Macedonia.

MUCH DAMAGE REPORTED. Nebraska Swept by Worst Blizzard of the Year.

Lincoln, Neb., April 9.—Nebraska was swept by the worst blizzard of the year and the most severe April storm known in many years. A fine sheet of sleet and snow was driven by a wind that at times reached the velocity of a hurricane. Minor damage was reported from several towns. Cattle on the ranges, turned out for spring grazing, will suffer, the temperature having fallen twenty degrees.

Kansas City, April 9.—A blizzard raged all night and day over Northern Missouri and Eastern and Central Kansas. A light snow fell and the wind blew at an average velocity of thirty miles an hour. The temperature fell rapidly and it is believed that damage was done to fruit trees and garden truck.

Burlington, Ia., April 9.—A heavy snow storm prevails throughout Southwestern Iowa. The storm is accompanied by cold, high winds.

### STREETS FLOODED WITH WATER.

New York Firemen Have Hard Fight in Subduing Blaze.

New York, April 9.—After a hard fight that lasted two hours and a half firemen succeeded in subduing a menacing fire in the six-story iron building at the corner of West Broadway and Franklin streets, occupied by James Barron & Co., wholesale dealers in paints and various household articles, all of a highly inflammable nature.

Twice there were terrific explosions that scattered the fire, each time giving it a fresh start. The damage was estimated at \$150,000.

So great were the quantities of water poured into the building that West Broadway was flooded to a depth of two feet and the cellars of adjoining buildings were filled.

## HOMESTEADERS SUSTAINED

### Supreme Court Decides Contest For Railroad Lands in Big Stone and Swift Counties.

### RAILWAY COMPANY NEGLECTED TO PERFECT TITLE TO LAND.

St. Paul, April 9.—Settlers gain title to 25,000 acres of land in Swift, Big Stone and Chippewa counties by a decision of the supreme court.

The decision was in the case of Russell Sage, an assignee of the Hastings and Dakota Railroad company, against Theodore Maxwell, a settler in Swift county.

The points involved are identical to those in 150 other like suits, involving the 25,000 acres of land.

The land was originally set apart as a grant for the railroad company, but settlers took possession before all of the formalities of the grant had been completed.

Justice Start, in deciding the case, says inasmuch as the company had not complied with all of the requirements of the United States land department before settlers located on the land, that the rights of the settlers take priority.

### AFTER PROLONGED HEARING

### HOUSE COMMITTEE KILLS BILL TO REPEAL THE DESERT LAND LAWS.

Washington, April 9.—By a vote of 8 to 3 the house committee on irrigation of arid lands defeated the bill to repeal the desert land laws. Those voting against the bill were Chairman Mondell of Wyoming and Representatives Trenchard (Mont.), Dwight (N. Y.), Marshall (N. D.), Williamson (Ore.), Cooper (Pa.), Hitchcock (Nebr.) and Bell (Cal.). Those in favor of the repeal were Representatives Tanager (Kan.), Van Duzer (Nev.) and Underwood (Ala.).

The vote was taken after protracted hearings.

### ROOT TO FIGHT HARRIMAN.

Will Represent Hill in Injunction Hearing at St. Paul.

New York, April 9.—The Northern Securities company will be represented by Elihu Root, former war secretary, in the suit brought against it by E. H. Harriman.

In the examination before Commissioner Alexander in the Sully proceedings Mr. Root explained that he had to be in the federal circuit court in St. Paul next Tuesday.

That is the day E. H. Harriman's petition against the Northern Securities company comes up in that court. When asked if he was going to have anything to do with the case Mr. Root said:

"I am going to oppose Mr. Harriman's application. I am counsel for the Northern Securities company."

### PRESIDENT OUSTS JUDGE.

Honolulu Jurist Removed After He Had Suspended Work.

Washington, April 9.—John W. Kalua, United States judge of the second circuit at Honolulu, has been removed from office by President Roosevelt.

Recently an intimation was conveyed to Judge Kalua that upon the expiration of his term on June 5 he would not be reappointed. A few days ago the judge practically suspended the work of his court by adjourning all pending criminal cases until June 6, the day after the expiration of his term of office.

This action elicited a vigorous protest from the people of Honolulu and Judge Kalua's removal followed.

### HUNGRY BOYS IN HOLDUP.

When Purloined One of Them Suicides by Shooting.

Council Bluffs, Ia., April 9.—Two boys, aged about eighteen and twenty, held up a saloon on South Main street, securing a small sum. They were pursued by the bartender, who captured the younger.

The other escaped to the railroad yards, where he crawled into a threshing machine and fired a bullet through his brain.

The boy under arrest gives his name as Dick Duran of Chicago and says the dead boy is his brother. He says they were half starved and became desperate.

### EXPLOSION IN GAS PLANT.

Three Men Killed and One Fatally Injured.

Washington, April 9.—Three men were killed and one fatally injured in an explosion at the Pintsch Gas Compressing company's plant in Southwest Washington. The dead are: Stephen Hanson, Joseph Cumberland and an unknown man.

The explosion caused \$2,000 damage to the building, covered by insurance. Its origin is unknown and the superintendent of the plant says that probably Hanson only knew the cause. Hanson was the engineer and was fifty years old. Cumberland was the fireman and

## Housecleaning

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- Ingrain Carpets at 65, 75 and 90c a Yard
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- Rugs from 85c to \$20 Each
- Matting from 25 to 75c a Yard
- Linooleum from 55 to 75c a Yard

- Lace Curtains from 50c to \$15 a Pair
- Draperies from \$2.50 to \$14 a Pair
- Window Shades from 25c to \$2 Each
- Bissel's Carpet Sweepers from \$2.50 to \$3.50 Each



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