

## TROOPS HURRYING TO THE FRONT AND SHIPS CLEARED FOR ACTION



VLADIVOSTOCK, Feb. 3.—The Russian fleet at this port has been prepared for immediate service at sea. All of the wood fittings of the ships were removed yesterday.

The warships here are the Cromober, 13,366 tons; the Russia, 12,130 tons; the Bogatia, 6,750 tons; the Rurik, 10,923 tons, and the transport Lena.

The harbor is being kept open by ice breakers.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 3.—The preparations for war, although made as secretly as possible, can no longer be disguised. Troops are being mobilized in large bodies and prepared for an active winter campaign in Korea and Manchuria. The Russian soldiers are sturdy, fine-looking men, injured to hardships and bitter cold and they think nothing of making winter marches through the winter snows of Russia and Siberia.

It is believed here now that Russia will be presented with an ultimatum from

Japan, and that the latter will finally strike the first blow, which will precipitate the Eastern conflict.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 3.—The Seoul-Fusan railway, according to a dispatch from Vladivostock, has been occupied by Japanese troops. The Japanese have also taken guns to Seoul for the protection of their legation.

LONDON, Feb. 3.—A letter from a leading man in Tokio to friends here states that everything is in readiness in Japan for war, and that an outbreak is inevitable. Russia's concessions are not likely to suffice and this is the last phase of the negotiations before a resort to arms. Influential Japanese citizens in Europe, including noted diplomats, have advised Japan that now is the time to strike.

TOKIO, Feb. 3.—An important council was attended by the mikado, Marquis Ito,

three admirals and the war minister today. It is believed the Russo-Japanese situation has reached a climax. The highest officials make no effort to conceal their exasperations at the tardiness of Russia's reply.

## DEMOCRATIC ARRANGEMENTS

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 3.—The democratic national committee adjourned at noon to meet again April 10. It was decided to make no reservation for seats in the convention until the April meeting, when newspaper men will be appointed to take charge of the matter. The committee reserved the entire Jefferson hotel for convention headquarters.

are of the opinion that the channel has shoaled at that point.

Said a ship captain this morning: "The sand bar that was left there is one of the worse pieces of business I know of, and that dredger can get it, and none too soon for the good of the harbor."

"The trouble now is, they began at the wrong end of the channel to work. There have been times when there were a dozen ships at the warehouses loading. If a fire had started and tugs had tried to move them, the chances are that one would ground there, swing athwart the channel and block the others in. The wheat shipping industry would receive a blow then that would be hard to get over."

The Lamorna was in charge of Captain Burley yesterday with the tugs Fearless and Falcon. The condition the ship's rudder is in made her hard to manage. But even with the rudder in good condition the ship would have had trouble, say the waterfront men. In their opinion, when Captain Burley cannot get a boat out there is something wrong.

## BEEF FOR SOLDIERS

A call has been issued from the United States quartermaster's department for 6,000,000 pounds of fresh frozen beef and mutton for shipment to the Philippines. Bids will be opened March 19. A certified check for the sum of \$20,000 must accompany each bid.

They have asked for \$3,000,000. The land is now mostly owned by white settlers. The government acknowledges the Indians' claim to the land.

## DANGEROUS SHOAL IN THE CHANNEL

The British ship Lamorna touched bottom again yesterday afternoon while being shifted in to the dock to have a part of her wheat cargo removed. This occurred just off the Commercial dock, and tugboat men

## READY FOR THE WAR IN THE FAR EAST

Everything That Takes Place During Coming Struggle Will Be Noted for the Readers of The Times

The crisis in the far east is now at its height and the scales are tilting between peace and war. If war breaks out the Times is prepared to care for its readers. Capable newspaper men will be on the ground, ready to rush, direct from the front, the best possible news of the struggle.



W. B. COLVER,

Who goes to the far east for the N. E. A.



WILL B. BRILL,

Who goes to the far east for the N. E. A.

At the head of this enterprise are three newspaper men who are already well known to the readers of The Times. Now on his way to the Orient is Mr. W. B. Colver, whose trip through Central America last year during the Panama canal agitation was followed by a series of excellent descriptive articles, and who recently gave to the public the first authentic news from the Cripple Creek region in Colorado.

respondents who will be chosen at every strategic point in the vicinity of the coming conflict, will form a vast news bureau which will rush, direct to the Times' readers, everything that will be of interest. There will be illustrations, descriptive matter and features, as well as actual news.

## HEALTH OFFICER SCHUG REFUSES TO GIVE FACTS TO THE PUBLIC CONCERNING TYPHOID CASES

Claims That Many Have Been Brought to the City From Outside Points for Treatment, But Refuses to Give Exact List—Admits That He Recently Became Suspicious of the City Water and Made an Investigation But Discovered Nothing Wrong

"No, sir, I must decline to give you the list."

So spoke Health Officer Schug, when approached by a Times reporter with the request that the doctor furnish the public with an exact list of the typhoid fever cases reported to him in this city during the month of January just closed.

"Let me say, further," continued Dr. Schug, "that I prefer this matter of typhoid cases in Tacoma should not be agitated. It does not help the town to have such matters discussed in the public prints."

"But, doctor, is it not the right of the people to know whether there is anything the matter with their water supply, and if there is, to demand that it be remedied? How is public sentiment upon the subject to be aroused if facts are suppressed?"

"There is nothing the matter with the city water, so far as I know. I recently went out to Clover creek and looked up and down it for any evidences of typhoid conditions. I asked doctors who practiced in that vicinity, and was told there was no typhoid. I carefully inspected the city

reservoirs. Further, I had an analysis of the city water made last Friday, and no typhoid germs were discovered."

"Then you did suspect something was wrong?"

"I did not say that. For your information I may add that the majority of the typhoid cases reported to me during January came from out of town for treatment in city hospitals."

Would you, then, be willing to let the public have the list of these cases and the residence of each patient?"

"No, I will not give you the list. And how did you know that there were 70 cases of typhoid during January? How did you get any information on that subject? You did not get the number exactly right. Nobody except one or two persons in Tacoma knows the exact number of cases."

No full and proper analysis of the city water has ever been made by experts provided with the latest modern equipment for the work. Some weeks ago an expert offered to give the city a full and com-

plete analysis, but he wanted \$350 for the job and the city council did not see fit then to pay the money.

In view of the widespread public concern over the matter, it is quite possible that the council will again take the matter up and ascertain, once for all, the exact quality of the fluid which is being served up to Tacoma people.

Dr. H. W. Dawey, when asked today in regard to some typhoid fever cases in his care, said:

"I do not know of anything else to attribute this typhoid fever to but the city water. During the past fall and winter I have had from one to two cases all the time. They were all people who live here in the city, and I cannot see where the disease came from if not from the water. To say the least, the city water supply is open to very grave suspicion, and my advice is to boil all the drinking water."

## CASHIER GETS LONG SENTENCE

CLEVELAND, O., Feb. 3.—George Ross, cashier of the Produce Exchange bank, who embezzled \$100,000, was today sentenced to ten years in the penitentiary.

estate men, architects and contractors all express the opinion that if only a part of the proposed plans are carried out this year Tacoma will see one of the busiest years in the history of the town.

## SEVEN KILLED

HALIFAX, N. S., Feb. 3.—The Canadian Pacific express on the Intercolonial railway was wrecked near here this morning. Seven persons are reported killed.

## MEMORIAL CONCERT

Tonight at the First Presbyterian church will be given a concert as a tribute to the memory of the late Prof. Gibbons. The program for the evening will include some fine selections rendered by the Tacoma Saengerbund under Professor Hermann; the St. Cecilia club, and such vocalists as Miss Grace H. Bradley, Mr. G. Magnus Schutz and Mr. Henry Hanlin.

Organ numbers will be contributed by Mr. Alexander, of Seattle, and a string trio composed of Messrs. Newell and Bull and Miss Foster.

The steamship Centennial left out for San Francisco this morning.

## MANY NEW BUILDINGS FOR TACOMA THIS YEAR

The hospital for the insane at Fort Steila-

con, C. A. Darmer reports the following:

Three-story stock house for Pacific Brewing & Malting company, now being erected on Jefferson avenue and Twenty-fifth street at a cost of \$40,000. J. C. Dick-

son is the contractor.

Car barns for Puget Sound Electric Rail-

way company now building at the corner of Twelfth and A streets.

Warehouse for the Continental Loan & Storage company, cost \$2,000. O. F. Lar-

son is the contractor.

Three-story brick building on lot 5, block 1105, between Commerce and C streets.

Three-story building, 100x120 feet, to be erected on Pacific avenue near Twenty-

first for J. B. Stevens. J. E. Bonnell is the contractor.

Improvements at the baseball park are reported by Russell & Heath 421 Califor-

nia building. About \$2,000 will be expended there. New grandstand and bleachers will be built, the former with a seating capacity of 1,500 and the latter with a capacity of 2,500, making the total seating capacity 4,000.

Besides the above many other building enterprises are being considered. Real

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