

# THE DAILY PIONEER.

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## PROBABLY UNTRUE

### Report That Japan Had Declared War Could Not Be Confirmed in London This Morning.

London, Jan. 4.—A persistently circulated report much in vogue at the foreign offices to the effect that Japan had declared war against Russia could not be confirmed by the Japanese embassy this morning and is very probably untrue. Russia's answer to Japan is completed and will be transmitted shortly. Its nature is not officially known, but it is not expected to relieve the situation in the Orient materially. War talk is rife at present and a formal declaration is expected within the next three days unless something at present unforeseen and improbable as well should transpire to put a new phase on the situation.

## TROUBLE LOOKED FOR

### LITTLE HOPE ENTERTAINED.

#### JAPAN CABLES CLYDE MARINE ENGINEERS TO PROCEED TO FAR EAST AT ONCE.

#### Reply of Russia Likely to Refuse Japan's Demands.

London, Jan. 4.—No word has yet been received here tending to show when the Russian reply to Japan may be expected. Foreign Secretary Lansdowne has informed Baron Hayashi, the Japanese minister, that he fears that the war party in Russia is in the ascendant and that he has faint hopes of Japan receiving a favorable reply. Baron Hayashi says he has received no news of the intended dispatch of a Japanese squadron to Masampho. The last news he heard was that a Russian cruiser was there. The minister pointed out that the dispatch of a squadron to Masampho would not necessarily be a warlike action, though it could scarcely help being regarded in the line of other precautions which Japan has openly taken.

#### INSTRUCTIONS SENT THEM IN CIPHER

#### ENGAGED MONTHS AGO TO BE CALLED ON WHEN SERVICES WERE REQUIRED.

The weekly papers here share in the general feeling of alarm current in Great Britain. The Spectator says war draws ever nearer and adds:

"If we are dragged into this war, as we may be, the country will not be divided in sympathy, dislike of Russia being as strong among the masses of our population as it was in 1855."

The paper surmises that Russia may keep her ships in her harbors, as she did during the Crimean war, thereby forcing land actions or a dangerous

attempt by Japan to seize Port Arthur and Vladivostok.

The Saturday Review adopts a somewhat similar tone, saying that the likelihood of Chinese intervention menaces the commercial interest of all Europe and of the United States.

### REPORT IS DOUBTED.

#### Not Believed Japan Will Seize Korean Port.

Tokio, Jan. 4.—The report is current that the Japanese squadron of six armored cruisers under Admiral Kamimura, now at Saseho, will seize the port of Masampho, Korea. In well informed circles, however, it is doubted that Japan would seize Masampho or any Korean port except to forestall Russia in the event of the latter showing evidences of any intention to take such a step, or in the event of the negotiations between the two countries finally ending in failure.

Great activity prevails and the force of workmen has been increased at the Osaka arsenal.

The holidays of the arsenal operatives have been curtailed in order to hurry up the work in hand.

### CONFERENCES CONTINUE.

#### Russian Reply Not Yet Forwarded to Tokio.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 4.—It appears to be true that Russia has decided not to accept Japan's proposals, but the foreign office here informed the Associated Press that Foreign Minister Lambsdorf and the Japanese minister, M. Kurino, are still conferring with the view of arriving at an amicable settlement.

Unofficially the situation is regarded as being most serious.

The Associated Press is officially informed that there is absolutely no truth in the report from Berlin that the czar has received a dispatch from Viceroy Alexieff and called his ministers to a midnight conference.

#### Omaha, Jan. 4.—In a little dilapidated shack in South Omaha, surrounded by filth and squalor, John Walker, a laborer at Armour's packing plant, is dead of pneumonia. He had been ill for a week but would not summon a physician till a few hours before he died. After his death his personal effects were examined by the clerk of the county court, who found sewed securely beneath the inner linings of Walker's clothing \$8,000 in bills. Walker lived alone, had no associates and was looked upon as a miser.

## INVESTIGATION BEGUN

### ACCOUNTS OF INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION BEING LOOKED INTO.

### TREASURY EXPERTS DOING THE WORK

### ACTION TAKEN AS RESULT OF PERSISTENT RUMORS OF IRREGULARITIES.

Washington, Jan. 4.—Treasury department experts have instituted an investigation of the accounts of the interstate commerce commission. The action is taken at the instance of Acting Chairman Clements of the commission as a result of persistent rumors of irregularities in the drawing of vouchers, etc.

When the expert accountants, Nathaniel L. Amrose, Richard H. Taylor and James L. Chase, the latter of the office of the auditor for the state and other departments, reached the commission rooms, they sealed the safe and examined Secretary Edward A. Mosely, H. S. Milstead, the cashier, and other employees. Milstead has not been suspended.

Acting Commissioner Clements stated that he did not know that anything was wrong but that the rumors had become so persistent that they could no longer be ignored and the treasury department was, therefore, asked to take charge of the accounts. Mr. Mosely is under \$25,000 bonds as disbursing officer.

It is understood that the rumors include allegations of payments for service at one place while the payee was engaged elsewhere and similar irregular methods. The investigation will be thorough and every phase of the accounting work of the commission will be thoroughly overhauled. The commission handles about \$275,000 annually.

### STOCK MARKET PANICKY.

#### War Scare Affects Wall Street Speculators.

New York, Jan. 4.—The war scare took possession of the speculative mind during the day for the first time since the situation has become threatening between Russia and Japan and general and heavy liquidation developed. The favorite active stocks were the most affected as affording the readiest market for realizing. Such stocks as Amalgamated Copper, the Pacifics, the local tractions and United States Steel preferred suffered to the extent of 2½ to over 4 points. The last prices were not at the lowest, but the rallies were spasmodic and due to hasty profit taking by successful bear traders. Wall street has accepted the extreme likelihood of war for some time past and has seemed to view this probability with equanimity up to now. The published news afforded no additional factors in the situation to account for the semi-panicky outbreak, but the violent break in prices gave rise to apprehension that ulterior complications involving other great powers in Europe were threatening. London was a very heavy seller here, disposing of 40,000 to 50,000 shares of various stocks. The war outlook dominated the market and other considerations, including the money outlook and the bank statement, were without influence.

### REYES AWAITING ANSWER.

#### Will Leave United States if Reply is Unsatisfactory.

Washington, Jan. 4.—General Reyes has not yet received the reply of the Washington government to his note in which he officially charged the United States with violating the treaty of 1846 in preventing Colombian troops landing on the isthmus for the purpose of putting down the rebellion. Until he knows the character of this reply and whether it precludes the expediency of further parleys General Reyes cannot fix the date for his departure for home.

If the answer gives hope of any action by the United States in the direction of relief for Colombia, however small, the negotiations probably will continue. If the note be final in its refusal to consider any of the proposals of General Reyes it will, in the eyes of Colombia, assume the form of an ultimatum and General Reyes and Dr. Herran will lose no time in leaving the country. Their departure will mark the suspension of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

### THREE PERSONS KILLED.

#### Four Others Injured in a Hotel Fire at Chicago.

Chicago, Jan. 4.—Three persons were killed and four others injured in a fire that destroyed the Louvre hotel. Nearly 100 guests were in the hotel at the time the fire broke out, several of whom had retired for the night. With the remembrance of the Iroquois theater horror fresh in their minds, everyone in the place became panic stricken and rushed madly for the streets as soon as it became known that the hotel was on fire. The dead are:

Patrick Ryan, retired merchant; Mrs. Florence Chapin, Bissell Chapin, twelve-year-old son of Mrs. Chapin.

All had been overcome by smoke and had not been touched by the flames.

## GETS A MAJOR GENERALSHIP

### Senate Committee on Military Affairs Favorably Considers General Wood's Name at Washington Today.

Washington, Jan. 4.—The name of General Wood was favorably considered for a major generalship this morning by the senate committee on military affairs. His nomination for the position was accomplished by a vote of seven to two. Senators Scott and Blackburn voted in the negative.

## WARRANTS ARE ISSUED

### MOVE TO PROSECUTE MANAGERS OF IROQUOIS THEATER AND BUILDING COMMISSIONER.

### MANSLAUGHTER THE CHARGE MADE

### COMPLAINT SWORN TO BY ARTHUR E. HULL, WHO LOST WIFE AND CHILDREN.

Chicago, Jan. 4.—Mayor Harrison has ordered the closing of every theater in Chicago without exception until it has been definitely ascertained that they are not violating any city ordinance. This is supplementary to the mayor's previous order which closed nineteen theaters, about half the total number of playhouses in the city.

Chicago, Jan. 4.—Warrants charging Harry J. Powers and Will J. Davis, owners and managers of the Iroquois theater, and Building Commissioner Williams with manslaughter have been issued by Justice Underwood on complaint of Arthur E. Hull, whose wife and three children were killed in the Iroquois theater fire.

The complaint states that these defendants did willfully and maliciously cause the death of Helen Hull by failing to provide the proper protection against injury and death by fire in the construction and management of the Iroquois theater.

Mr. Hull appeared with his attorney, Thomas V. Knight, before Justice Underwood and signed the charges on which the warrants were issued.

Word was sent to Managers Davis and Powers and Commissioner Williams that warrants were out for their arrest and if they would come in and give bail they would not be subjected to arraignment.

State's Attorney Deneen, when told of the filing of the complaint and the issuance of the warrants said that he would take charge of the case and prosecute it to the full extent of the law.

The arrest of stage hands and the actors of the Bluebeard company is declared by Mr. Hull to be a farce. It was the men who were responsible for the actions of these subordinates that he thinks should be held to account. Equally bitter is his feeling toward the city officials, who, he believes, failed in their duty in permitting the erection of the ill fated place in violation of the city ordinances.

### Held Under \$10,000 Bonds.

Messrs. Davis, Powers and Williams were arraigned and held under bonds of \$10,000 each. The hearing of the case was set for Jan. 12.

Twenty men arrested in connection with the Iroquois theater tragedy were arraigned before Justice Caverly in the Harrison street police court on a charge of manslaughter. Five of the defendants were members of the chorus of the "Mr. Bluebeard" company and were defended by Attorney Thomas Hogan.

No testimony was given in court and it was immediately agreed that a continuance be granted. Most of the time was devoted to an effort by the attorney to have the bonds of his clients reduced from the \$5,000 in which they had been held.

In the end the bonds in each case were reduced to \$1,000 and the cases placed on the calendar for hearing Jan. 11.

Attorney Hogan told the magistrate that his clients had nothing to do with the management, construction or handling of the scenery. Those who will be arraigned before Justice Caverly Jan. 11 are:

Edward G. W. Wines, Victor Bozart, Samuel Bell, William Slack, John J. Russell and E. T. Mora.

The other defendants will have a hearing before Justice Caverly shortly. They are:

W. D. Kerr, William McMullen, William Plunkett, Max Mazzonivitch, A. Bernard, Edward Engle, William McQueen, William Olsen, E. Poland, William Carlton, J. Jandraw and F. P. Nolan.

Their bonds were placed at \$5,000 each.

### CAUSE OF CHICAGO FIRE.

#### Heat From "Flood" Light the Alleged Reason.

Chicago, Jan. 4.—William McMullen, manager of the "spot" light, which is alleged to have caused the fire in the

Iroquois theater, testified before the investigation hearing that the spot light had nothing to do with it. He said the fire was caused by the heat from the "flood" light above the spot light. The flood light is a big light used to "flood" the theater. McMullen said his spot light was turned out when the fire started. He said he was looking up at the flood light and saw the flimsy border blow directly over the flood light. The heat from this light, he alleged, caused the fire.

The city electrician followed with testimony that the heat from the flood light was sufficient to cause the fire.

### DEAD NUMBER 586.

#### Total Bodies Recovered From Chicago Theater Fire.

Chicago, Jan. 4.—The total number of corpses recovered from the Iroquois theater fire stands at 585. Of these thirty remain unidentified.

Another unidentified body, that of a woman that had been overlooked, was found at Jordan's morgue during the day. A ticket was found on the body, "Detroit to Chicago."

A thorough analysis of the composition of the asbestos curtain of the Iroquois is being made by the city chemists. The curtain was consumed by the flames although the ordinance requires a fireproof curtain, such as genuine asbestos material.

### A DAY OF FUNERALS.

#### Scores of Victims of Chicago Disaster Laid to Rest.

Chicago, Jan. 4.—Church bells tolling, business activity checked, many celebrations postponed and long lines of funerals making their way to the outlying districts where the cemeteries are situated—these circumstances evidenced Chicago's outward grief for the victims of the Iroquois theater disaster. Priests and ministers of the gospel went from funeral to funeral. The unidentified dead will be kept as long as possible at the morgues. If no one then comes to lay claim to the bodies they will be buried at the city's expense. By common assent of the clergy "Lead, Kindly Light," the hymn written by Cardinal Newman, is being sung at all the funerals.

The city hall, except absolutely necessary departments, was closed. The board of trade closed an hour earlier than usual and a number of mercantile and manufacturing establishments also closed early. The large retail dry goods stores were a notable exception. The managers concluded that the extraordinary demand for mourning goods would work a hardship to the bereaved friends of the dead should these stores close. The banks were open as usual.

Thirty-four teachers in the public schools are known to have lost their lives in the fire.

### MAYOR ISSUES ORDER.

#### Nineteen Chicago Theaters Closed by Authorities.

Chicago, Jan. 4.—Mayor Carter Harrison has taken steps to provide as far as possible against a repetition of Wednesday's horror at the Iroquois theater. As a result of an investigation made at his orders and lasting only a few hours nineteen theaters and museums were ordered closed, some of them being among the leading and most popular playhouses in Chicago. The action of the mayor was based on one single violation of the ordinances which are intended to protect patrons of theaters from just such an occurrence as that which cost so many lives on Wednesday. This was that every one of these places had failed to supply an asbestos curtain.

### Passenger Train Runs Into an Open Switch.

Carlisle, Pa., Jan. 4.—A passenger train on the Cumberland Valley railroad ran into an open switch near Newville. The coaches left the rails, tearing up the track for 400 feet and the rear coach rolled over an embankment. Fourteen passengers were injured and one of these died shortly afterward. Four others are believed to be fatally injured.

### Imported Men Run Cars.

Bloomington, Ill., Jan. 4.—Twenty men imported from Chicago by the Bloomington and Normal Street Railway company to take the places of the striking employes are manning four cars placed in operation during the morning. The employes have made no move toward a settlement, but are watching the work of the strangers without making any demonstration.

### Quarter of a Million Loss.

Quebec, Jan. 4.—The destruction by fire of Morin's wholesale drug house and McHall, Shebyn & Co.'s wholesale dry goods house caused a loss of \$250,000. The two firms mentioned are the principal sufferers, but a few smaller concerns suffered small losses. The loss is about covered by insurance.

## O'LEARY and BOWSER

BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA.

### We Did Not Consider the Cost

When we arranged for our Pre-Inventory Sale. These sales have been a feature of our business for over a dozen years, and have always been inaugurated with the same end in view—to reduce stock without regard to the cost of goods.

### Misses' and Children's coats at 1-3 off from our regular price. Furs, our entire stock of ladies', children's and men's furs at a great reduction.

Ladies silk petticoats in black and cardinal, our \$15 quality, sale price **\$10.50**



ODDS and ENDS in Ladies' underwear at one-half of the Regular price. Men's, Boy's and Children's clothing at three-fourths of our regular price. MEN'S FLANNEL SHIRTS—Ten dozen Men's flannel shirts worth from \$1.00 to \$1.25 for 69 cents each. Limit, one to a customer.

Ladies' walking skirts \$2, for \$1.50, \$5 skirts for \$3.75, \$10 skirts for \$7.95.

Ladies' suits, \$10 and \$11 suits for \$7.75, \$14 and \$15 suits for \$9.75, \$20 suits for \$14.50.

Ladies' coats, our entire stock at less than it cost to make them.

