

AMERICANS TO LEARN SOMETHING

Washington, Dec. 26.—If the South American countries view with awe and surprise the great fighting fleet now bearing down along the eastern coast, the officers and men of the powerful naval aggregation, alike likely will open their eyes at the wonders of the South American shores. For the greatest squadron of modern battleships the world ever saw will find safe anchorage in harbors worthy of its reception. Instead of the shallow indentations in the coast line, Admiral Evans will turn the noses of his sixteen engines of destruction into deep-water ports in which they may ride at ease.

The cruise thus will be one of education for Americans, as well as furnishing evidence to the world at large that this nation is capable of upholding its honor on the high seas. There is a rooted idea in the minds of people of the United States generally that South America is a benighted country, with small enterprises and fewer ambitions. The impression is entirely wrong.

It was brought prominently to the attention of the American people this month that the Latin countries of the Western Hemisphere are in many ways outstripping the United States. John Barrett, director of the Bureau of American Republics, in the course of an address before the recent convention of the National Rivers and Harbors Congress here, said:

"The one central thought I wish to bring out in this address is both remarkable and surprising, but entirely true. It is that our sister republics of Latin America, which we have been in the habit of neglecting as unimportant and regarding carelessly as the home of revolutions, are spending more money and following a more systematic plan at this moment for the permanent improvement of their rivers and harbors than is the United States. In other words, five of our twenty sister nations, namely, Brazil, Uruguay, Argentina, Chile and Mexico, have now under way harbor and channel construction for which direct appropriations of not less than \$100,000,000 have been made, and these same governments announce that they have only begun a vast scheme of improvements which they contemplate."

At Rio Janeiro, the capital of Brazil and boasting a population of 850,000, the Brazilian government is spending \$25,000,000 in making harbor improvements and constructing concrete basins and docks that will surpass anything in this country. Brazil also is spending at Para, near the mouth of the Amazon, \$12,000,000; at Santos, a swampy port, has been transformed into a splendid harbor at a cost of \$15,000,000, and at Rio Grande do Sul work is going forward on harbor improvements to cost another \$12,000,000.

This activity is not confined to Brazil. Argentina is equally active. Its harbor at Buenos Ayres is the pride of the country and cost \$50,000,000, but the government is preparing to spend \$15,000,000 additional in improvements. Rosario, several hundred miles from the sea, on the River Parana, is a splendid seaport, because of improvements to the river and the construction by the government of docks costing \$10,000,000, at which the largest steamers load and unload.

The expenditures made by this government for waterway improvements seem paltry beside these figures. The National Rivers and Harbors Congress has been insisting for several years that not less than \$50,000,000 annually should be expended

by the United States in such work. The sorry condition, and one that is growing worse every day, of the railroads renders absolutely imperative the development of some additional means of transportation.

JAPAN NOT READY FOR WAR.

Washington, Dec. 26.—Ambassador Aoki's recall to Japan, coming almost at the same moment as the departure of the fleet for the Pacific, has started fresh rumors afloat as to the imminence of a violent break in the friendly relations between the United States and the Mikado's empire. On the other hand, representatives of both countries assert unofficially that the situation is better than it has been for months past. Officially of course it is not recognized that there has ever been a crisis in the relations of the two countries, but the very fact that officials are willing to admit that the situation was at one time decidedly strained is regarded as the best indication that the acute stage is past and that the authorities see a clear understanding ahead.

Another phase of the situation is presented by Adachi Kinnesuka, the well-known Japanese writer, in the exceedingly frank article in the January Appleton's, which has aroused much interest here in diplomatic and administration circles. According to Mr. Kinnesuka, Japan does not want war, because she is too much concerned in securing the absolute commercial mastery of the Pacific by the rapid expansion of her merchant fleets. She is straining every nerve to accomplish this before the United States wakes up to the importance of building and operating commercial vessels in the Pacific. That the Land of the Rising Sun will be ready to fight to maintain her advantage when her conquest is secure, Mr. Kinnesuka does not say, but it may be inferred from what he tells of his country's past policy.

The rapid expansion of Japan's shipping interests in the period following the war with China, the extension of ship yards and the building of ships, says Mr. Kinnesuka, was for the one purpose of preparing for war with Russia. At the present time the expansion is much greater and the ships that are being turned out are larger and more important. In 1903 the total tonnage of Japan's merchant fleet, according to the figures given in the Appleton article, was 657,269 tons, made up of steamers. At the present time the tonnage is over 1,200,000. The Nippon Yusen Kaisha, the largest of the Japanese companies, has a greater tonnage than any ocean steamship company in the United States and is adding new lines and new steamships every year. A significant undertaking is the establishment of a new Japanese company which is to operate a hundred vessels from the beginning, covering practically all Pacific ports.

"Against all this Nippon activity," says the writer, "what has the United States done to cover the Pacific? The merchant tonnage of the United States on the Pacific does not seem to be one-half that of Nippon. One can figure it in many ways, but this is the best he can say of it. When it comes to the trans-Pacific service the showing is much worse. We have heard from Mr. Hill; he is not going to replace the Dakota. We cannot see why he should. Offers have been made and, there is reason to believe, are being made now by Nippon companies for the purchase of the ships of the Pacific Mail Steamship company and those of the Oceanic Steamship company."

As showing that Japan is thoroughly in earnest in her determination to control the Pacific, Mr. Kinnesuka quotes the Japanese subsidy law which gives from 12 1/2 to 30 cents a ton for every 1,000 miles sailed by a ship owned in Japan. It also grants a bounty of \$6 to \$12 a ton and \$5 a horse power on every ship built in Japanese yards.

The conclusion reached from reading the statements of this outspoken Japanese writer is that Japan will not fight now because she is not ready. When she has secured the commercial mastery of the Pacific and when, as seems likely, the American flag has entirely disappeared from that ocean, there may be a different story to tell.

Rheumatism.

When pains or irritation exist on any part of the body, the application of Ballard's Snow Liniment gives prompt relief. E. W. Sullivan, Prop. Sullivan House, El Reno, O. T., writes, June 6, 1902: "I take pleasure in recommending Ballard's Snow Liniment to all who are afflicted with rheumatism. It is the only remedy I have found that gives immediate relief." 25c, 50c and \$1.00. Sold by D. J. Fry.

ALBANY PEOPLE HELP UP

A dispatch from Albany yesterday says:

Returning home from the Christmas eve church services at Kingston, to be held up by a masked madman at the point of a revolver, was the terrible experience of Mr. and Mrs. William Follis, who reside on a farm about a quarter of a mile from Kingston. The presence of mind of Mrs. Follis, who escaped from the house and ran to the nearest neighbors, informing them of what was occurring, perhaps saved the lives of both herself and husband.

When Mr. and Mrs. Follis reached home after attending the Christmas exercises they were surprised to find that the front door of their residence was open. Entering in the darkness, Mr. Follis struck a match and was about to light a lamp standing in one corner of the room, when he found the wick was turned down into the oil. Telling his wife that he would get another lamp that was in an adjoining bedroom, he opened the door to enter, when he was brought to a sudden stop by the sharp command, "Hands up," enforced by a revolver leveled at his head.

"Just walk back where you came from and keep quiet," continued the voice. Too frightened to speak, Follis obeyed with hands held high.

In the meantime, Mrs. Follis, who had been standing within a few feet of her husband when the order to throw up his hands was given, quietly hastened from the room and out of the front door left standing open and ran toward town to give the alarm. Owing to the darkness in the room the holdup man did not see the woman leave.

"Where's your wife?" queried the masked figure. "I heard her just a moment ago."

Follis looked about but not seeing her answered that he supposed she had fainted in the kitchen. Guiding his prisoner before him, the man with the gun entered the room designated by Follis, and when no trace of Mrs. Follis was found, immediately surmised where the woman had disappeared to. In the half light, Follis recognized the "holdup" as a tramp who had worked for him some days previous. He accused his captor of being the man formerly in his employ.

Suddenly changing his demeanor, the man assumed a confidential tone and admitted that it was true.

"Say, I have \$10,000," he continued, "and I will give you \$500 if you will keep this matter quiet." The

man appeared to be frightened, and in some haste backed toward the door, still, however, keeping his revolver pointed toward Follis. Reaching the front door he repeated his offer to Follis, who had not replied, and with a quick movement turned and ran out into the night, disappearing in the thick underbrush alongside the road. Follis, after his harrowing experience, ran up the road toward Kingston, where he met a party of men who were hastening to the house in response to the alarm given by Mrs. Follis.

According to the statements of residents of Kingston the man who did the holdup act, and admitted to having worked for Follis, had been around Kingston for a little over a week previous to Christmas eve's occurrence. He is said to have told Mr. Follis that he had been in Lyons for a number of weeks. Apparently the man gave no name.

There is some suspicion that the man may have been connected with the murder of the Casteel family and the hired man Montgomery, which occurred a few weeks ago at Macleay near Salem, as information obtained last night by Sheriff Smith, of Linn county, from Lyons, indicates that a man answering the holdup's description was in Lyons until a few days before the murder of the Casteels. This man left Lyons on the Friday preceding the murder, and residents of Lyons say he intimated that he was going to Salem.

Sheriff Smith this morning left for Kingston, and will make a thorough inquiry into the affair, and will attempt to find some trace of the missing man, who is believed by Kingston residents to be insane. They say his actions while he worked around Kingston were those of a crazy man. The entire population around Kingston is much excited over the incident, and yesterday a searching party of men scoured the woods adjacent to the Follis home, but could find no trace of the man.

When to Go Home.

From the Bluffton, Ind., Banner: "When tired out, go home. When you want consolation, go home. When you want fun, go home. When you want to show others that you have reformed, go home and let your family get acquainted with the fact. When you want to show yourself at your best go home and do the act there. When you feel like being extra liberal go home and practice on your wife and children first. When you want to shine with extra brilliancy go home and light up the whole household." To which we would add, when you have a bad cold go home and take Chamberlain's Cough Remedy and a quick cure is certain. For sale at Dr. Stone's drug store.

An Appeal for Aid.

The following letter has been received by The Journal:

Dear Sir—At Monongah, West Virginia, five miles from Fairmont, at 10:30 a. m., Friday, December 6, 1907, an explosion in mine No. 6 and mine No. 8 of the Fairmont Coal Company occurred, resulting in the death of approximately 350 employees.

Monongah is a mining town of about 3000 inhabitants. This disaster has destroyed almost one-half of its bread-winners. The other half is composed of the employees of two other mines of the same company, and of the usual stores, etc., which go to make up a purely mining community.

Fully 250 widows and 1000 children are left without any means of support. The most of these families live in the company's houses at Monongah, the remaining ones in various countries of Europe. The company has generously declared that the families occupying these houses may remain until other provision is made for them, but operations cannot be resumed at the damaged mines until the houses are available for the new force. Many of the resident families no doubt will want to return to their relatives in their native countries in Europe. The other resident families must seek a community in which they can earn a livelihood.

Aid must be given these families to reach their new abodes and to help them establish themselves; and the families living abroad must be provided for until they can adjust themselves to their new conditions.

As near as can be determined at this time almost \$50,000 from all sources has been subscribed. Upon the basis of \$300 for each widow and \$100 for each child under 16 years of age, \$175,000 will be required. At least \$25,000 additional will be needed to provide, on relatively the same basis, for the aged dependents of the unmarried victims, the many now unborn children and the undoubted accession to the married victims' list when complete information has been received.

The committee feels that a basis lower than the above will not be adequate to properly care for the needs of the bereaved ones, and a total of \$200,000 will therefore be required to carry out the relief work on this basis.

The immediate needs of the resident families are being amply met by the company and a committee of women from Fairmont and Monongah.

The committee begs to express its profound gratitude for the contributions already so generously made, and to earnestly appeal for the further assistance that it feels is so badly needed.

The magnitude of this disaster is

too great for West Virginia to alone render all the help required. It commands national attention, and the committee feels assured that its appeal will be heard, and responded to by the nation.

All checks should be made payable to the Monongah Mining Relief Committee, J. E. Sands, treasurer, Fairmont, W. V., and they and all cash contributions should be sent to him. Yours very truly,

SUBSCRIPTION COMMITTEE

It tones and vitalizes the system; makes life worth living; no matter what your station. Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea is the surest prevention known against diphtheria, whooping cough, croup, and other respiratory ailments. For sale at Dr. Stone's store.

ROAD WILL REDUCE WAGES

(United Press Leased Wire.)

New York, Dec. 27.—Following the lead of the Erie railroad, the New York Central has announced a reduction of 10 per cent in the wages of its 25,000 employees. It is expected that the other railways will announce reductions in the same schedules.

An official of the New York Central made the statement that the reduction might be offset by the charge of newer employees to the company. The cut is justified by the railroad officials on the ground of monetary stringency and outlook for reduced earnings.

A Real Wonderland.

South Dakota, with its rich mines, bonanza farms, wide ranges and strange natural formations, is a veritable wonderland. At Mount Clapp, in the home of Mrs. J. C. Clapp, a wonderful case of healing has lately occurred. Her son, near death with lung and chest trouble, "Exhausting coughing spells occurred every five minutes," writes Mrs. Clapp, "what I began giving Dr. King's New Discovery, the great medicine, that cured his life and completely cured him. Guaranteed for coughs and colds, throat and lung trouble. J. C. Perry druggist. 50c and \$1.00 Trial bottle free.

Constipation and bad blood, twins, kill people inch by inch, we life away. Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea relieves constipation and bad blood. 35c, Tea or Tablets. For sale at Dr. Stone's store.



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They pay by check, because it is the easiest way. The simplicity and convenience of a check account appeals to every one who knows its advantages. If you are not familiar with the details, we ask you to call at the bank, we'll be pleased to explain to you personally, and tell you how you will be benefited.

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