

SLAVS AT MUKDEN

DO NOT ANTICIPATE ATTACK ON THE PLACE.

JAP FORCES BEING INCREASED

Many Convalescents Returning to Duty—Russian Forces at Mukden Considered to Be Very Large and More Troops Being Added.

ST. PETERSBURG—The reports that General Kuroki is pushing on northeast of Mukden are not borne out by official telegrams that have been received here. According to the latest advices the Japanese forces continue to increase at Blanpuza and Yental. A decisive advance in the direction of Mukden is therefore not expected to occur for some days. Meanwhile, indications increase of the probability of the Japanese meeting with resistance. The Russian forces at Mukden are undoubtedly very large and every day's delay enables the commander-in-chief to perfect his defenses. A private dispatch from Mukden reports the arrival of an immense train filled with convalescents returning to duty. This may be regarded as good evidence of a large concentration of troops at Mukden. The same correspondent, describing the scenes at Tie Pass, notes extraordinary animation there. The great concourse of visitors there and the fact that theatrical performances and open air concerts are of daily occurrence, hardly indicate that the town is expecting an immediate attack.

Dispatches from Vladivostok and Sakhalin make no mention of developments there. The citizens of Vladivostok scout the idea of a siege and many are returning from their country villas. The long promised Japanese operations against Sakhalin and Vladivostok, which were expected to act as a diversion for General Kuroki's advance, are not yet in sight.

Neither the admiralty nor the foreign office is inclined to attach importance to charges of a breach of neutrality over the supply of Welsh coal by German steamers to Vice Admiral Rojestvensky's squadron and to Russian cruisers in the Baltic. It is declared that there can be no breach of neutrality in coaling Russian war ships outside of Russian territorial waters. This whole question was thoroughly discussed by eminent jurists at an earlier stage of the war and resulted in the admiralty's decision not to seek coaling facilities in neutral ports which might lead to implications, but to adopt the independent course of coaling war ships at sea. This course does not lay either Great Britain or Germany open to suspicion of favoring Russia, for, though German colliers were used on the occasion in question, the responsibility of the German government was not involved, as is shown by the semi-official note in the Allgemeine Zeitung and obviously Great Britain is unable to follow up every departing collier. If Japan feels aggrieved, officials here say, she has the remedy in her own hands and can send out war ships to intercept the colliers.

The repair ship Kamchatka has left Cronstadt to join the fleet of Vice Admiral Rojestvensky at Libau.

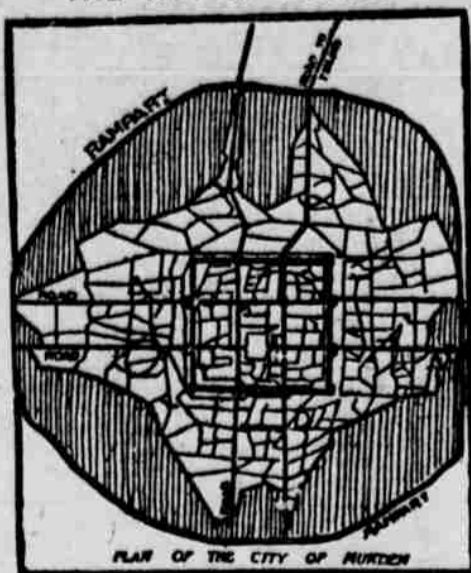
Expect Early Developments.

MUKDEN—The armies having recovered from the effects of the recent fighting before Lalo Yang, an early development of the situation may be expected. A mysterious movement eastward is on foot on the part of bands of Chinese suitable for military service.

Marconi in New York.

NEW YORK—William Marconi arrived in New York from Europe. In an interview as to the reason for his visit he said: "My present trip is made to inspect the service of the Cunard steamers and the Cape Breton station."

THE CITY OF MUKDEN.



As fortified by the Chinese two walls surround the town of Mukden. The outer is composed of mud and is fifteen to twenty-five feet in height. The inner wall is constructed of stone, freely embrasured for the use of cannon. Little is known as to the additional fortifications the Russians have built since it became evident to them last spring that they might be compelled to fight for possession of the city. It has one defense, however, that is highly important. This is the Hun river, which skirts the town about three miles south of the outer walls. From Mukden to Tieling is thirty-five miles, and from Mukden to Harbin 800 miles. Mukden is the capital of Manchuria and the birthplace of the Manchu dynasty. It contains the tombs of many Chinese emperors, which are held in the highest veneration.

Behind in Sanitation.

A doctor writes in the London Lancet that as regards sanitation and ventilation the English churches retain the custom of the middle ages.

PRINCE BISMARCK IS DEAD.

Son of Famous Iron Chancellor Passed Away Sunday Morning. FRIEDRICHSDORF—Prince Herbert Bismarck died Sunday morning at 10:15 o'clock. The end was painless.

Since he ceased to be foreign minister on retirement of his father in 1890 Prince Herbert Bismarck had taken part in public affairs only as a member of the Reichstag. His attitude had been that of a man not appreciated by his sovereign and who was waiting in the background for an opportunity to resume his career. From 1884 to 1887 the deceased was a member of the German Reichstag and also from 1893 to the time of his death. He was married in 1892 to Countess Margaret Hoyes of the Hungarian nobility and after the death of his father he inherited the title of prince. The deceased had only one sister, who is the wife of Count von Rentzau. His brother William died in 1901.

FIFTY EMPLOYEES DISMISSED

Philippine World's Fair Board at St. Louis Cuts Expenses \$7,500.

ST. LOUIS—Announcement was made Wednesday at the office of the Philippine World's fair board that more than fifty employes of the government exhibit, including several high officials, had been dismissed for reasons of economy. The order will go into effect formally tomorrow.

The highest in rank of those whose services will be dispensed with is J. S. Felder, executive officer of the Philippine reservation, who was engaged at a salary of \$6,000 a year. Albert C. Newell, chief of exploitation salary \$4,000 a year, and J. F. Compton, chief auditor and accountant have been notified that their services will no longer be required.

The reduction in the executive force of the Philippine exhibit was made by Auditor A. T. Lawshe of the Philippine board who recently arrived in St. Louis. It is said that saving of \$7,500 a month will result from the reductions.

YIELD ONE POINT

RUSSIA FAVORABLE TO THE RIGHTS OF NEUTRALS.

WHAT IS CONTRABAND OF WAR

The Consignment of Goods to Private Parties Does Not Always Prove that They Are Not Intended for the Belligerents.

ST. PETERSBURG—Russia's reply to the representatives of the United States and Great Britain regarding contraband of war was communicated to their respective embassies this afternoon. It is understood that Russia recognizes the principle that provisions are not contraband when consigned to private parties, but only contraband when intended as military or naval stores.

Russia in Count Lamsdorff's response to Ambassador Hardinge, in principle meets the views of the American and the British governments regarding foodstuffs and coal and other fuel as being conditional contraband of war, distinctly placing them in the category of articles susceptible of uses both in war and in peace, and as such only confiscable when consigned to blockaded ports or destined for military or for naval forces of the enemy.

Shipments in the ordinary course of trade by private persons or firms, even to an enemy's port, may be regarded prima facie not contraband, but on this point distinct reservation is made.

The simple fact of consignment to private persons does not preclude the possibility that the articles are not ultimately destined for belligerent forces, and Russia insists that it be not necessarily regarded as conclusive evidence of the innocent character of the goods. In other words, irregular ship's papers or other suspicious circumstances might vitiate the assumption of innocent character, but where such suspicion is raised the burden of proof to warrant legal seizure is to rest upon the captor. Count Lamsdorff pointed out, however, that captains of merchantmen also owed a duty in such cases.

Count Lamsdorff's reply was not presented in written form, but was communicated verbally to Ambassador Hardinge. It will not involve public amendment of Russian contraband and prize regulations, but in effect it becomes an official interpretation of the original regulations made by the commission composed of representatives of the ministries of foreign affairs, marine, war and justice, which considered the subject in connection with the objection raised by the United States and Great Britain, and as such will hereafter govern naval commanders and prize courts, which thus far in the war have classed all articles enumerated in article six of the Russian regulations as absolute contraband.

In this way Russia preserves its dignity by not making an open surrender at the same time consenting to the interpretation asked for by the United States and Great Britain in the rights of neutral commerce.

EXTRADITING AN EMBEZZLER.

Official to Be Brought Back From Mexico.

EL PASO, Tex.—The Mexican state department notified the United States district attorney here that the court order extraditing Vance Fulkerson had been approved. Fulkerson, while inspector and appraiser in the United States customs service here, embezzled funds, it is alleged, and a grand jury returned indictments in forty counts against him. He left at once for Mexico, where he was later arrested. He will now be returned to El Paso for trial.

This is the first instance on record of the return of a government official from Mexico for embezzlement by the Mexican authorities.

SHE MUST DISARM.

Large Guns of Russian Ship to Be Taken Off.

WASHINGTON—Acting Secretary of State Adee on Thursday gave out the following statement regarding the Russian ship now at San Francisco:

"The president has today issued an order, through the acting secretary of state, directing that the Russian armed transport Lena, now at San Francisco, be taken into custody by the naval authorities of the United States and disarmed. The main features of the condition prescribed are that the Lena be taken to the Mare Island navy yard and there disarmed by removal of small guns, breech locks of large guns, ammunition and ordnance stores and such other dismantlement as may be prescribed by the commandant of the navy yard; that the captain give a written guarantee that the Lena shall not leave San Francisco until peace shall have been concluded; that the officers and crew may be paroled, not to leave San Francisco until some understanding as to their disposal may be reached between the United States and the belligerents. After the disarmament the vessel may be removed to a prize dock for such reasonable repairs as will make her seaworthy and preserve her in good condition during her detention. She may be so repaired at the navy yard if the Russian commander should so elect; that while at a private dock, the commandant of the navy yard at Mare Island shall have custody of the ship, and the repairs shall be overseen by an engineer officer to be detailed by the commandant, and that when so repaired, if peace shall not then have been concluded, the vessel shall be taken back to the Mare Island navy yard and be there held in custody until the end of the war."

This action has been taken upon the written request of the commander of the Lena, addressed to Rear Admiral Goodrich, setting forth that, as the vessel is incapable of putting to sea without needful repairs, she must disarm, and asking that needful repairs be permitted after disarmament.

The secretary of the navy has telegraphed the president's order to San Francisco and given instructions to Admiral Goodrich and to Captain McCalla, the commandant at the Mare Island navy yard, to carry out its provisions.

REPUBLICANS OF NEW YORK.

The Ticket That They Have Placed in the Field.

SARATOGA, N. Y.—The republican state convention adjourned Thursday after nominating unanimously the following ticket:

For Governor—Frank W. Higgins of Cattaraugus.

For Lieutenant Governor—M. Linn Bruce of New York.

For Secretary of State—John F. O'Brien of Clinton.

For Attorney General—Julius M. Mayer of New York.

For Comptroller—Otto Kelsey of Livingston.

For State Treasurer—John G. Wallenmeier of Erie.

For State Engineer and Surveyor—Henry A. VanAlstyne of Columbia.

For Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals—Edgar M. Cullen (dem.) of Kings county.

For Assistant Justice of the Court of Appeals—William E. Warner of Monroe.

Big Fire at Juarez, Mexico.

EL PASO, Tex.—The city of Juarez, Mex., across the river from El Paso, is threatened with destruction by fire. Already one block of the best business houses has burned and all efforts of the fire department have thus far been futile. The loss is heavy.

Japs Near Mukden.

MUKDEN—The Japanese army is within twenty-one miles of Mukden. There is no indication of their advance.